



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION
TO THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

**Establishment of the European Bureau for
Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
at the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies
of the Joint Research Centre**

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Communication of the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament

In the frame of Council Directive 96/61/EC, the Commission has established the European Integrated Pollution and Prevention and Control Bureau (EIPPCB) at the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS), Seville, of the Joint Research Centre (JRC). The Bureau provides scientific and technical support to the implementation of the Directive. It commenced operations in January 1997.

The aim of the Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from major industrial installations based on the concept of Best Available Techniques (BAT). In particular, Article 16 of the Directive requires the Commission to organise an exchange of information between Member States and the industries concerned on BAT, their development and associated monitoring, and to publish the results of the exchange of information every three years.

The main responsibilities of EIPPCB are the development and management of the European information exchange system on integrated pollution prevention and control and the drafting of technical BAT documents for the industrial activities listed in Annex I of the Directive. These technical documents on BAT will be used by the competent authorities in the Member States as a basis for the determination of pollutants emission limit values in the permits for operation of industrial installations.

EIPPCB is a joint initiative of the Directorate General for Environment, Nuclear Safety and Civil Protection and the Joint Research Centre. It was established at IPTS, which hosts the European Science and Technology Observatory, with a view to exploit the synergies with IPTS mission of technology watch.

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