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Non-stick Cooking Spray

Non-stick cooking spray is a type of cooking oil that can be sprayed onto bakeware, pots, pans, and other cooking tools to keep food from sticking. Cooking spray uses an aerosol—a suspension of fine solid or liquid particles in a gas. There are several reasons some people prefer non-stick cooking sprays to other ways of preventing food from sticking:

- butter is high in calories and saturated fat, making foods cooked in butter less healthy.
- it is easier to coat a pan with a fine mist of non-stick cooking spray compared to oil from a bottle. This can mean the cook uses less oil, and again this can be a healthier way of cooking.
- non-stick spray does not have to be refrigerated and is easy and clean to use.
- it is easier to apply this non-stick spray to surfaces, such as grills, compared to oil.
- cooking sprays come in low to non-fat varieties, as well as butter-flavored.

The gas used as a propellant in cooking sprays is either chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) or hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC).

Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are sturdy metal containers filled with water or a material that will smother fire. When you squeeze the lever at the top of the container, the water or material is forced out by high pressure.

Fire extinguishers use a compound that manufacturers call "halon." Halon is made from bromine. Halon-type fire extinguishers are one of the best ways to put out electrical fires or fires caused by flammable liquids. For this reason, these fire extinguishers are used:

- on airplanes, which carry a lot of flammable gas, and thus may experience fires that need to be put out quickly.
- by the military, on ships, tanks, and planes, where fire danger is high and where fires must also be put out quickly.
- in computer rooms or rooms with a lot of electrical equipment.
- by the general public on boats, and in RVs (campers and trailers), cars, and trucks.

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Industrial Solvent

Some solvents are used as cleaners. Solvents can remove ink, paint, adhesives (sticky stuff—like labels) and other coatings. Methyl chloroform is a solvent that is good at cleaning metal. In electronics, such as circuit boards and computers, the metal surfaces need to be very clean and dust free. The electronics industry uses solvents because:

- they do not leave a film behind that could otherwise interfere with electrical currents.
- they do not cause metals to rust.

Dry Cleaning Solvent

Some solvents are used as cleaners. The cleaning agent used in dry cleaning is called methyl chloroform. Methyl chloroform is a chlorine-based cleaner used for cleaning clothing or other fabrics. The reason why methyl chloroform is so useful in dry cleaning is because:

- it is not absorbed into the fabric.
- it removes oil stains.
- it is odor free.
- it is not very toxic (poisonous).

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Refrigeration

Almost every home in the United States has a refrigerator. Refrigerators keep food and beverages cold. The substance that cools the refrigerator is a gas made of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC), hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC), or methyl chloride.

Before these coolants were invented, people used an icebox—a thick box that contained a large slab of ice inside. The ice was cut during the winter from a frozen lake and transported to icehouses, where it was kept cold using insulation, such as sawdust. People had blocks of ice delivered weekly, if they could afford it. Otherwise, people did not keep extra food on hand that could spoil. To preserve meat, they used salt or smoke, or dried it in the open air.

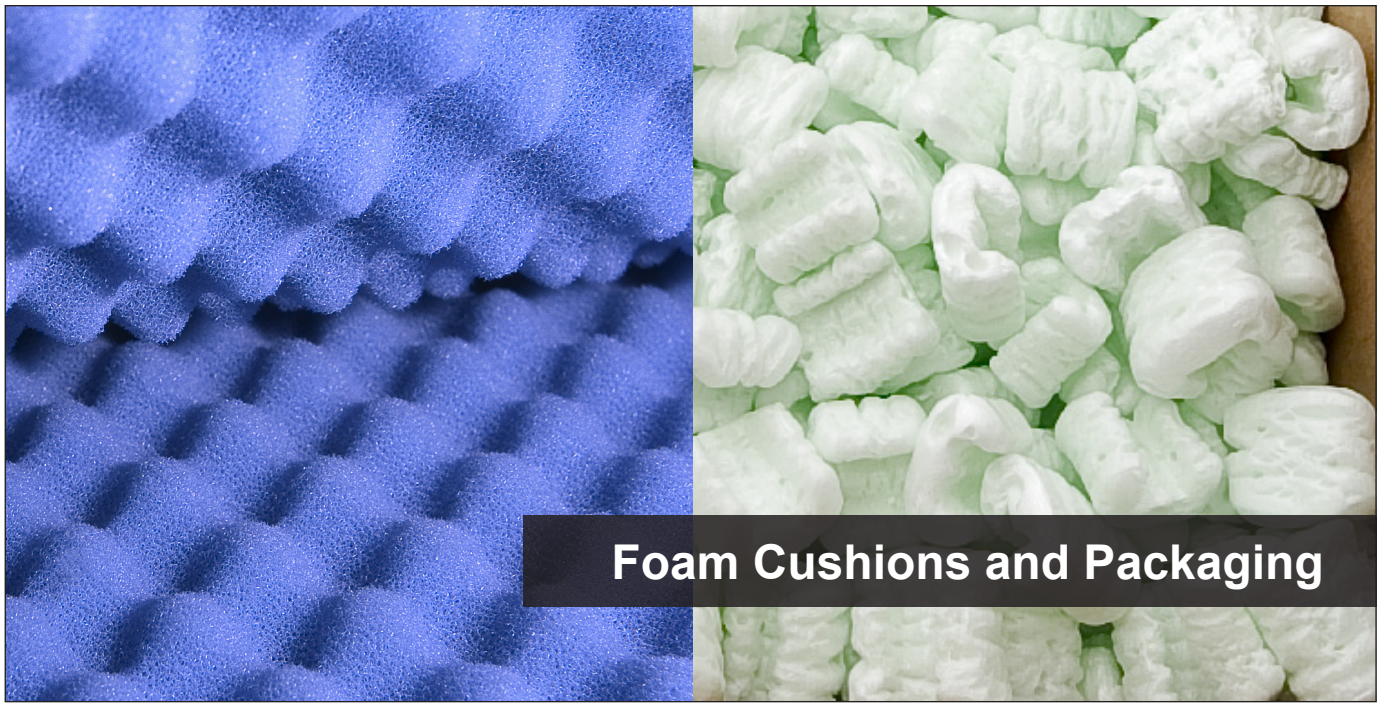
Some of the largest uses of commercial refrigeration today include:

- grocery stores
- food transportation, including trucks, trains, and ships
- restaurants
- ice arenas (Ice arenas use refrigeration to chill the ice.)

Pesticides

Methyl bromide is a chemical used to kill pests, such as insects, worms, weeds, mice, and rats. Farmers use methyl bromide to kill pests that eat their crops. As a result, farmers have higher crop production. Methyl bromide is also used to kill termites in homes and to kill pests in food processing warehouses. The United States Department of Agriculture uses methyl bromide to treat imported crates and pallets that might be infested with nonnative bugs or viruses. If these pests or viruses are left untreated, they could destroy native plants. People who use methyl bromide prefer it to other pesticides because:

- it kills bacteria that cause crops to get diseases.
- it is not poisonous to other wildlife or people.



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Foam Cushions and Packaging

Foam cushions make our furniture and car seats soft and comfortable. Foams are made of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) or hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC). Soft cushion foam material is used in:

- pillows
- bed mattresses
- upholstered furniture, such as sofas and chairs
- patio furniture
- seats in cars, buses, airplanes

Rigid foam is used in packaging to transport fragile items, such as glass or other breakables. Packaging comes in the form of sheets or “popcorn.”

Foam Insulators

Insulation helps keep things warm or cold, depending on how we use it. Hard foams used as insulators are made of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) or hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC).

Foam insulation is used:

- on houses and buildings as a “wrap” before construction workers put on the siding, brick, stucco, or other wall covering.
- between walls on the inside of a home or business to block or reduce noise.
- as a spray between walls of older homes as a way to add insulation.
- as inexpensive (oftentimes disposable) coolers in the transport of seafood or meats, or by the general public during picnics.

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Spray Paint

Aerosol spray paint uses a gas that forces the paint out in a fine mist. The gas used as a propellant is either chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) or hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC). Spray paint is useful because:

- it can be applied on all sorts of materials: metal, wood, plastic, ceramic, and fabric.
- it can be applied without any other tools, such as a paintbrush.
- it goes on smoothly, without brushstrokes.
- it can be sprayed in hard-to-reach places where a brush would not be useful.
- unused paint stays fresh in the can and can be used later.

Paint fumes can be harmful, so one should always use spray paints in a well-ventilated area.

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Metered-dose Inhaler

The metered-dose inhaler is the main treatment for people who have asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Asthma is a disease that affects the airways, which are the tubes that carry air in and out of your lungs. COPD is a lung disease in which the lung is damaged, making it hard to breathe. Inhalers use an aerosol propellant to push medication out of the inhaler in a fine mist that can be quickly absorbed by air passages. The gas used as a propellant is either chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) or hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC).

Metered-dose inhalers are useful because:

- they are small and portable, so they can be easily carried at all times.
- the medicine is released in the right dosage, so just the right amount is given.