

Hazardous Substances 2

- Draft Code on the Preparation of MSDS 2
- NICNAS/NOHSC Chemical Safety Group Moves 2
- NOHSC Prohibition on Use of Chrysotile Asbestos 2
- Conducting a Risk Assessment - Asbestos in Buildings 2
- Biological Hazards & Incidents in the Workplace 2
- Ban on Silica for Abrasive Blasting in Victoria 2
- Controlling Exposure to Disinfectants 2
- New Zealand HSNO Draft Signage Code 3
- Amendments To National Workplace Exposure Stds 3

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)..... 3

- Triclosan (Antimicrobial Agent) Evaluation 3
- High Volume Industrial Chemical List 4
- NICNAS Seminars – High Vol. Ind. Chemicals 4
- Commercial Evaluation Category Permit Reform 4
- NICNAS Safety Information Sheets - More 4

Food Chemicals 4

- Genetically Modified Food Label Laws 4
- ANZFA Food Produced Using Gene Technology 4
- Soy Sauce and Oyster Sauce Products 5

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals.. 5

- Using Farm Chemicals Safely 5
- Proposed TGACs 5
- Reconsideration of Products 5

Scheduled Poisons..... 6

- SUSDP 16 Amendment No.2, 1st Dec 2001 6

Dangerous Goods..... 6

- SA Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Proposal 6
- Longford Disaster: Have MHFs Learnt? 6
- Qld Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 6

Environmental Notes on Chemicals... 6

- Air Toxics / Indoor Air Quality Report 6

Publications..... 6

- The Merck Index, 13th Edition, 2001 6
- Hazardous Building Materials 7

Standards 7

- AS 2809.5-2001 Road Tank Vehicles 7
- AS/NZS 2865-2001 Confined Space 7
- AS 2444-2001 Portable Fire Extinguishers 7
- AS 2508.2.007-2001 Liquefied Petroleum Gas 7
- AS/NZS 2927-2001/Amdt 1-2001: Chlorine Gas – 7
- AS/NZS 4801-2001 OH&S Mgmt Systems 7
- AS/NZS 4804-2001 OH&S Mgmt Systems 7
- DR 01341 CP Amdt 2 to AS/NZS 1596-1997 7
- DR 01364 Handling & Destruction of Drugs 7
- Packaging of Biological Products 7
- ISO 6529:2001: Protective clothing 7

Seminars, Conferences, Courses..... 7

- NICNAS Seminars – High Vol. Ind. Chemicals 7
- Standards Australia Seminars / Workshops 7
- HazMat 2002 Conference, 29-30th April 2002 8

Scientific Responsibility and the Public Perception of Risk

On Sunday 2 December 2001 Dr. Robert Hunter from the School of Chemistry at Sydney University looked at what worries us.

People are usually much happier to shoulder voluntary risk than to have risk thrust upon them. He decided to look into the huge disparity between the scientific evaluation of the risks of doing certain things, and the public perception of that risk. Later in the talk he raised the notion of the “Triple Bottom Line” as a promising initiative.

This is an idea which seems obvious in principle, but which has taken a long time to crystallise. It is the simple notion that in assessing the ‘value’ of a new product or process, it is not sufficient to consider only the economic bottom line, the benefit to the company and its shareholders. A responsible company must pay just as much attention to the other two bottom lines: the social value of the product or process and its short and long term effects on the environment.

But it will take more than talk to convince the great mass of the public that chemical companies always act in the public interest, especially if they perceive any threat to the future welfare of their children. That is what generates the dread response and once it surfaces it is very difficult to suppress. The public trust, once lost, is exceedingly difficult to regain.

From Radio National “Ockhams Razor” Broadcast 2nd Dec 2001 Transcript,
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/science/ockham/>

Hazmat & Environment Notes are prepared by:

Jeff Simpson

Hazardous Materials Consultant

Editor & Publisher

I work as a Hazardous Materials Consultant and have edited and published this newsletter since 1985.

Each year our community expects more controls to be in place to ensure our safety and our children's future. There is a significant move to have a common world system of controls. As a result there is a moving target of regulatory requirements to be met.

My approach is to provide a short, succinct note on each hazardous material issue, sufficient to allow you to make a decision of whether it is relevant to you. Contact details are provided so that you may then obtain the detailed information. I also encourage you to make input into the system of regulations and standards.

ISSN: 1441-5534

Hazardous Substances

• Draft Code on the Preparation of MSDS

Draft Australian National Code of Practice: has been distributed in early December to the stakeholders that participate at NOHSC Chemical Standards Subcommittee meetings, for comment by their members. They have been asked to comment on the committee draft by mid January 2002. This document is not open to public comment, but those who have submitted written comment might like to contact an industry association, such as PACIA, ACCI or union association, such as the ACTU or THC, and ask to obtain a copy for comment within the stakeholders group.

The draft code has been systematically reviewed and prepared so as to comply as fully as possible with the proposed 16 part Globally Harmonised MSDS, keeping Australian specific requirements to a minimum.

Contacts: PACIA ph: 03-9429-0670; ACCI ph: 03-9289-5289; ACTU ph: 03-9663-5266; THC ph: 03-9662-3511.

• NICNAS/NOHSC Chemical Safety Group Moves

The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) and NOHSC Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals Assessment - moved from Camperdown to Marrickville on 5 November 2001. Details:

Street address: 334-336 Illawarra Road, Marrickville NSW 2204

Postal address: GPO BOX 58, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia

Contact Numbers: freecall: 1800-638-528; ph: +61-2-8577-8800; fax: +61-2-8577-8888; email: info@nicnas.gov.au

• NOHSC Prohibition on Use of Chrysotile Asbestos

On 17 October 2001, NOHSC declared a prohibition on the use of chrysotile asbestos in Australia.

The prohibition will take effect simultaneously under regulations in each Australian OHS jurisdiction by no later than 31 December 2003. This action had been supported by the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council at its meeting on 21 September 2001. As required under the NOHSC Act, public comment was sought earlier this year on the prohibition proposal and all submissions were considered before the prohibition was declared.

The European Union (EU) has also banned most uses of chrysotile, with the exceptions subject to review by 1 January 2005. The Australian approach is similar.

From NOHSC Website, Media Releases Oct 2001, www.nohsc.gov.au

• Conducting a Risk Assessment - Asbestos in Buildings

Worksafe Victoria Guidance Note, Dec 2001:

Materials containing asbestos, which can be a serious risk to health, may be found in various buildings, structures and plant in Victoria constructed from the 1950s to the mid 1970s. It is possible these materials could also be found in some buildings constructed as recently as the 1980s.

The use of asbestos, mainly as insulation or as a fire retardant, was phased out during the 1970s and 1980s. Any building built after 1987 is unlikely to have asbestos materials used during construction or installed afterwards.

By law, employers or occupiers of a workplace must protect their employees from the risk of any asbestos in the workplace.

This Guidance Note provides advice about your obligations, likely materials, assessments, further actions etc.

From Worksafe Victoria Guidance Note website for 2001: <http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/vwa/alerts.nsf/GuideInter>

• Biological Hazards & Incidents in the Workplace

Recent incidents in the United States concerning anthrax spores being sent in letters and packages have resulted in a range of useful information and advice becoming available on various Government and other websites. This includes information and advice on the handling of mail and packages, as well as information on anthrax and other biological and chemical hazards. Links are provided to this information below as well as to various sites overseas.

More general information on biological hazards in the workplace and infectious disease control can be found on the web sites of the Australian State and Territory

[occupational health & safety agencies.](#)
[Telephone Numbers](#)
[Australia: Commonwealth Government Information](#)
[Australia: State & Territory Information](#)
[International Resources](#)

From NOHSC Website, Oct 2001, http://www.nohsc.gov.au/NewsAndWhatsNew/bio_hazards.htm

• Ban on Silica for Abrasive Blasting in Victoria

From 1 January 2002, the use of materials containing more than 1% crystalline silica for abrasive blasting is prohibited in all Victorian workplaces.

This means materials such as silica sand, river sand, beach sand and other white sands must not be used for abrasive blasting from 1 January 2002.

Blasting media that could be substituted include:

Garnet; Crushed Glass; Metal Shot; Steel Grit; Aluminium Oxide; Granulated Plastic; Some Metal Slags*

*metal slags may contain high levels of toxic metals such as lead and chromium which may cause other health and safety, and environmental risks.

Any use of sand or other materials containing more than 1% crystalline silica after 1 January 2002, will result in the issuing of prohibition notices and may be referred for investigation and possible prosecution.

From Worksafe Victoria, www.worksafe.vic.gov.au

• Controlling Exposure to Disinfectants used in the food and drink industries. UK HSE Food Information Sheet No. 29.

Disinfectants are generally classified as hazardous substances, and many can affect the skin, eyes or respiratory system and can be harmful if ingested in

sufficient quantity. The guidance advises employers in the food and drink industries on how to select and use disinfectants safely, without compromising food hygiene.

It also provides information on the actions and precautions required to ensure adequate control of disinfectants. Application procedures covered include clean-in-place systems, mist and foam spraying, fogging, soak tanks and manual disinfection.

Downloadable as a free 4 page pdf document from www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/foodindx.htm

From UK H&S Commission Newsletter, August 2001

• New Zealand HSNO Draft Signage Code Signage For Premises Storing Hazardous Substances And Dangerous Goods (Draft) October 2001

Downloadable in two parts from www.nzctic.org.nz/docs (The document has been split into two parts to allow for faster download.) [Part One](#); [Part Two](#)

Introduction:

It is intended to eliminate or minimise the risk associated with the management of hazardous substances.

The Draft Signage code represents a means of ensuring prescribed information about hazardous substances present on a site, is quickly and accurately conveyed to employees, the public and the emergency services.

Please note the following:

The Hazard Pictograms depicted in Annex A are contained in the Final Proposal of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in response to the proposed Harmonised Hazard communication tools required for the Globally Harmonised System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

The pictogram for 'Chronic Toxicity' (Annex A Diagram A27) has not yet been finalized but is likely to comprise two exclamation marks.

The Warning Signs shown in Annex B, B1-B11, have been developed to illustrate possible signage configurations applicable to sample site storage situations.

Submissions: have just closed. Comment was invited on the scope of the code; the practicality of the proposed symbols and format.

For details contact: Bill Birch, Project Leader
Email: nzcic@attglobal.net

• Amendments To National Workplace Exposure Stds

One stream of NOHSC's program to update National Exposure Standards (NES) involves expedited reviews of substances where the UK Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) Occupational Exposure Limits (OEL) are lower than Australia's NES (or where there is no NES). The objective is to:

- address the 'lag' between NES and standards adopted by comparable overseas OHS agencies;
- enable the efficient introduction of world's best practice health and safety measures into the Australian workplace; and
- further the goal of increased international consistency between Australia and its major trading partners.

The National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) reviews are undertaken in batches. The first batch resulted in a declaration by NOHSC on 17 October 2001 of amendments (formalised in the instrument [Amendments to Adopted National Exposures Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment \(Source A Updates Batch 1\) 2001](#) (PDF format)) that:

Lowered Existing NES for 8 Substances:

Substance	TWA		STEL	
	ppm	mg/m ³	ppm	mg/m ³
Acetaldehyde	20	36	50	91
Chloroform	2	10		
Cumene	25	125	75	375
Cyclohexane	100	350	300	1050
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	25	150	50	300
n-Hexane	20	72		
Lindane [Gamma-HCH-hexachlorocyclohexane]	0.008	0.1		
Mercury:				
- inorganic divalent compounds (as Hg)	0.003	0.025		
- elemental	0.003	0.025		

Established NES for 5 substances that had no NES:

Substance	TWA		STEL	
	ppm	mg/m ³	ppm	mg/m ³
Chlorosulphonic acid	0.209	1		
Dimethylaminoethanol	2	7.4	6	22
Dimethyl ether	400	760	500	950
N,N Dimethylethylamine	10	30	15	45
2, 2, Oxydiethanol [Diethylene glycol]	23	100		

From NOHSC Website, Nov 2001, www.nohsc.gov.au

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• Triclosan (Antimicrobial Agent) Evaluation Consultation On Proposed Assessment Of Triclosan As A Priority Existing Chemical. NICNAS is considering recommending 2'hydroxy-2,4,4'trichlorodiphenyl ether (Triclosan), CAS Number 3380-34-5, for assessment.

Prior to making any recommendations to the Minister, NICNAS is seeking comments from any person or organisation on the proposed assessment.

Triclosan is an antimicrobial agent widely used in consumer goods including cosmetics, toothpastes, hand washing agents, mouthwashes, plastics in toys, and kitchen utensils. It is also used in the manufacture of carpet underlay, PVC pool liners and textile fabrics. Health and environmental concerns have been raised and a full risk assessment (environment, public health and occupational health and safety) would be undertaken to address these concerns.

Written comments on the above proposal are required by 18 January 2002 and should be sent to: Deborah Willcocks, Team Leader, Existing Chemicals, GPO Box 58, Sydney

2001. To discuss the proposal call Ms Deborah Willcocks on ph: 1800-638-528, or ph: 02-8577-8890.

From Chemical Gazette, 4 Dec 2001

<http://www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/gazette/chemgazette/dec2001.htm>

• High Volume Industrial Chemical List

NICNAS is now collecting information on chemicals **imported** into Australia in high volumes (Stage II). NICNAS is calling for information on chemicals **imported** by a company in a quantity of 100 tonnes or more during one year (any year period (calendar or financial) from 1999 to 2001). A product screening threshold of 50 tonnes a year will apply to minimise the need to sum up ingredients from minor products. (**BUT** do not screen out products if you are aware that they contain major ingredients in common with other products).

The HVIC Response Form and HVIC Chemical Reporting Form are available from NICNAS. A single copy of the HVIC Chemical Reporting Form must be submitted for each reportable chemical that meets the threshold.

Guidance documents have been prepared to help companies determine the need to supply information in accordance with the Call for Information and to assist in the reporting of chemicals imported in mixtures. A list of these documents and frequently asked questions/answers is available from the NICNAS website, <http://www.nicnas.gov.au/obligations/highvolume/index.htm>

The reporting period is by **30 April 2002**.

For information, contact the HVICL Project Officers, Dr Meena Agrawal ph: 02-8577-8839, fax: 02-8577-8888, Email: meena.agrawal@nohsc.gov.au or Ms Niluja Thiruthaneeswaran ph: 02-8577-8884, fax 02-8577-8888, Email: niluja@nicnas.gov.au or Ms Debbie Willcocks (02) 8577 8890, Fax (02) 8577 8888, Email: deborah.willcocks@nicnas.gov.au

From Chemical Gazette, 4 Dec 2001

• NICNAS Seminars – High Vol. Ind. Chemicals

– Imported Chemicals (See under Seminars).

• Commercial Evaluation Category Permit Reform

The Commercial Evaluation Category (CEC) Permit provides a fast track mechanism for the introduction of new and innovative chemicals and evaluation in the market place.

NICNAS has compiled draft recommendations for change of the CEC Permit provisions. The recommendations aim to improve industry capacity to utilise the CEC Permit, while maintaining health and environmental safeguards for the community. **Key changes include:** increased chemical volumes; increased and more effectively used time periods for evaluation; and clearer user agreements.

Public comment is now invited on the Draft Public Discussion Paper *Reform of the Commercial Evaluation Category (CEC) Permit - National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme*.

This Package Comprises:

- Reform of the Commercial Evaluation Category (CEC) Permit - National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme. Draft Public Discussion Paper. (*For Comment*) - PDF 195K

- Report on Commercial Evaluation Practices for Industrial Chemicals. (*Background Information Only*) - PDF 348K

Send comments in writing to: NICNAS, CEC Review, GPO Box 58, Sydney NSW 2001; Email: info@nicnas.gov.au fax: 02-8577-8888. For details contact NICNAS ph: 02-8577-8800; Freecall: 1800-638-528; website

Closing date for comments is Thursday 28 February 2002

From NICNAS Website, Dec 2001.

http://www.nicnas.gov.au/news/draft_reformofcecp/dec2001.htm

• NICNAS Safety Information Sheets - More

They are based on the Priority Existing Chemical Assessment Reports: More are now available for –

No. 13	para-Dichlorobenzene (PDF)
No. 14	ortho-Dichlorobenzene (PDF)
No. 15	Triglycidylisocyanurate (TGIC) (PDF)
No. 16	Short Chain Chlorinated Paraffins (SCCPs) (PDF)
No. 17	Trisphosphates (PDF)
No. 18	For Hairdressers - Ammonium, Potassium and Sodium Persulfate (PDF)
No. 19	Tetrachloroethylene (PDF)

These fact sheets have been developed so as to be clear and concise for use on workplace bulletin boards. *Editors Comment:* The format can be used as a model for other chemicals you want on a bulletin board.

From the NICNAS Website. All the NICNAS Safety Information Sheets can be downloaded from: www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/#infosheets

Food Chemicals

• Genetically Modified Food Label Laws

Concern was expressed by consumer groups that the laws will allow foods that are derived from GM animal feed to pass unlabelled. Refined foods, such as sugar, are assumed to have been refined sufficiently to remove any GM organisms. There are also exemptions for accidental contamination of up to 1% processing aids of up to 0.1%.

ANZFA describes the laws as extremely stringent but also designed to minimise the financial burden on manufacturers. "GM Free" labels were not seen as practical due to the high cost to guarantee all ingredients used all the way through the food chain had not been contaminated.

From The Melbourne Age, News p8, 7th Dec 2001

• ANZFA Food Produced Using Gene Technology

Standard 1.5.2: Purpose - Division 1 of this Standard addresses health and safety requirements, regulating the sale of food produced using gene technology, other than additives and processing aids. The Standard prohibits the sale and use of these foods unless they are included in the Table to clause 2 and comply with any special conditions in that Table.

Division 2 of this Standard specifies labelling and other information requirements for foods, including food additives and processing aids, produced using gene technology.

The complete Standard is available from ANZFA at: <http://www.anzfa.gov.au/foodstandards/foodstandardscode/contents/standard15/standard152.cfm>

• Soy Sauce and Oyster Sauce Products

- Test Results for Chloropropanols, 12 October 2001.

There have recently been concerns raised in relation to possible contamination of soy and oyster sauce products with the chloropropanols 3-MCPD (3-monochloropropan-1,2-diol) and 1,3-DCP (1,3-dichloropropanol). The test results have now been published of a survey commissioned by ANZFA in July 2001 to gather more data on the levels of both chloropropanols in soy sauce products on sale in Australia.

Based on the current evidence, the ANZFA Board agreed in July 2001 that a limit of 0.2 mg/kg for 3-MCPD and 0.005 mg/kg for 1,3-DCP for soy and oyster sauces imported into or manufactured in Australia and New Zealand.

Three surveys in Australia and New Zealand found that a **significant majority** of the products tested had undetectable levels of chloropropanols or **levels below the proposed maximum limits** (Table 1 Limits Not Exceeded (53)). However Tables 2 & 3 list Products with Unacceptable Levels (21) and Recalled Products (14).

From ANZFA Fact Sheets 2001:

<http://www.anzfa.gov.au/mediareleasespublications/factsheets/factsheets2001/index.cfm>

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

• Using Farm Chemicals Safely

[Using farm chemicals safely - risk assessment report for spraying pesticides](#) can be downloaded from

Worksafe Victoria or go to www.worksafe.vic.gov.au and select "Safety Basics" then "Chemicals" then "Hazardous Substances" at the bottom of the page, then "General Checklists .." then "Pesticides" then "Using Farm Chemicals Safely".

This is a detailed tick box checklist to assist farmers and others who spray pesticides. It covers Mixing; Spraying; Thinning, Pruning, Picking. This also provides a sample of what detail is expected to go into a Hazardous Substances Risk Assessment Report. The Comments section should be used to describe the Risk Controls to be used.

Hardcopy is also available: from WorkCover Publications
ph: 03-9641-1333,
email: publications@workcover.vic.gov.au.

• Proposed TGACs

The NRA has applications for the approval of new technical grade active constituents (TGACs)

Methoxyfenozide

CAS 161050-58-4, IUPAC Name: 3-Methoxy-2-Methylbenzoic Acid 2-(3,5-Dimethylbenzoyl)-2-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)Hydrazide. Formula: C₂₂H₂₈N₂O₃

Novaluron

CAS 116714-46-6, IUPAC Name: (±)-1-[3-Chloro-4-(1,1,2-Trifluoro-2-Trifluoromethoxy-Ethoxy)Phenyl]-3-2,6-Difluorobenzoyl)Urea. Formula: C₁₇H₉ClF₈N₂O₄

Spiroxamine

CAS 118134-30-8, IUPAC Name: 8-tert-butyl-1,4-dioxaspiro[4,5]decan-2-ylmethyl(ethyl)(propyl)amine. Formula: C₁₈H₃₅NO₂

Thiacloprid

CAS 111988-49-9, IUPAC Name: N-{3-[(6-chloro-3-pyridinyl)methyl]-1,3-thiazolan-2-ylidene}cyanamide.

Azafenidin

CAS 68049-83-2, IUPAC Name: 2-[2,4-dichloro-5-(prop-2-ynloxy)-phenyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-a]pyridin-3(2H)-one. Formula: C₁₅H₁₃Cl₂N₃O₂

Oreganium Aetheroleum

CAS 8007-11-2, Oreganum oil.

Ramipril

CAS 87333-19-5, IUPAC Name: (2S,3aS,6aS)-1-[(S)-2-[(S)-1-Ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl]alanyl]-octahydrocyclopenta[b]pyrrole-2- carboxylic acid. Formula: C₂₃H₃₂N₂O₅.

Flutolanil

CAS 66332-96-5, IUPAC Name: □□□-Trifluoro-3'-isopropoxy-o-toluanalide. Formula: C₁₇H₁₆F₃NO₂

For all the above TGACs:

For details of the above TGACs contact Dr Paul Sethi, Chemicals & Residues Evaluation Section, NRA, ph: 02-6272-3987; fax: 02-6272-3551.

From NRA Ag&Vet Chemical Gazette, Nov & Dec2001, website: www.nra.gov.au/gazette/subpage_gazette.shtml

• Reconsideration of Products

Macrolide antibiotics: Kitsamycin, Oleandomycin and Tylosin.

The basis for this action is that the NRA is no longer satisfied that the use of products containing these antibiotics would not be likely to have an effect that is harmful to human beings. The reconsideration will assess both unpublished and published data, and any other relevant information, in order to obtain a realistic, scientifically based assessment of the risk that the use of products containing kitsamycin, oleandomycin or tylosin may contribute to the transference of antibiotic resistance to humans.

Written submissions are invited by 31st January 2002, email: chemrev@nra.gov.au

Sodium Fluoroacetate (1080).

Sodium fluoroacetate is widely used in vertebrate pest control and has been selected for reconsideration because of concerns regarding the poisoning of non-target animals either through the direct taking of baits or the consumption of poisoned animals. The key issue from an environmental perspective is to ensure that the baits are taken by the target species and that no more than the required dose is applied.

Written submissions are invited by 31st January 2002, email: chemrev@nra.gov.au

From NRA Ag&Vet Chemical Gazette, Nov & Dec2001, website: www.nra.gov.au/gazette/subpage_gazette.shtml

Scheduled Poisons

- **SUSDP 16 Amendment No.2, 1st Dec 2001**

A significant change for Hydrofluoric Acid:

• Schedule 5 – Amendment:

- *Hydrofluoric Acid* and admixtures that generate hydrofluoric acid, in preparations containing $\leq 0.1\%$ HF.

• Schedule 6 – Amendment:

- *Hydrofluoric Acid* and admixtures that generate hydrofluoric acid, in preparations containing $\leq 1\%$ HF.

This means that the Schedule 7 level of control has been extended down from $>10\%$ HF to $>1\%$ HF.

There are many cleaning products containing or generating HF that are sold by retail that will need to be withdrawn from the market.

Another change that caught my attention:

• Schedule 6 - New Entries:

- *Copper Compounds* (but now without a use limitation)

Dangerous Goods

- **SA Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Proposal**

SA Workplace Services developed a discussion paper (Sept 2001) and sought comment from industry and the community on the issues and implications associated with the *Dangerous Substances and Explosives Acts and Regulations*.

The purpose of the review is to ensure that the legislation is compatible with contemporary economic and social circumstances and does not impose an unnecessary regulatory burden on industry. It would adopt the NOHSC National Standard. Comment is now closed.

For more details go to:

http://eric.internode.on.net/legislation/dse_discussion_paper.htm or the document can also be found by searching <http://www.workcover.com/> and for "dangerous goods" then select "Hazards ..", the select "Chemical Hazards" then select "Dangerous Goods". It is a 223kB pdf file.

- **Longford Disaster: Have MHFs Learnt?**

"Have Australia's Major Hazard Facilities Learnt from the Longford Disaster? An Evaluation of the Impact of the 1998 ESSO Longford Explosion on Major Hazard Facilities in 2001", by James Nicol, IEAust Public Policy Unit Oct 2001. ISBN 085825 738 6.

"Unfortunately, according to the author of this report, the industry and the engineering profession have not learnt as much as they might have from the tragedy. Far more could be done to apply the lessons from Longford at facilities around Australia." *From the Forward to the report.*

Available as pdf files from the IEAust website:
Publications No. 20 (No appendices) & 21 (Complete)
<http://www.ieaust.org.au/policy/publications.html>

- **Qld Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001** commenced on 7th November 2001.

The Subordinate Act advises the parts that commenced (2 pages); the Explanatory Notes advises of the processes and outcomes for this Act (18 pages); and the Regulations (94 pages) which commence on the 7th May 2002; are now available.

They implement the National Standard for the Storage & Handling of Workplace Dangerous Goods in the Queensland environment. Major Hazard Facilities are included.

These 3 documents are all available to be downloaded as pdf files from the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel. Select "Search", then select Acts and Subordinate Legislation then enter "Dangerous Goods Safety Management".

<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/OQPChome.htm>

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

- **Air Toxics / Indoor Air Quality Report**

"The report has been prepared by Environment Australia, in cooperation with the States and Territories, as a major element of the *Living Cities - Air Toxics Program*. It brings together, for the first time, a broad range of information on air toxics and indoor air quality into a single volume." Robert Hill, Minister for the Environment & Heritage.

When in the Environment Australia website select "Air Toxics" to view their report; *State of Knowledge Report: Air Toxics and Indoor Air Quality in Australia, Sept 2001* which has finally been published. This 370 page report is also available in hardcopy, ISBN: 0-642-54739-4, and a community summary "A Status Report to the Community: *Living Cities - Air Toxics Program Report*" ISBN: 0-642-54738-6 is also available from Environment Australia, freecall: 1800-803-772; ph: 02-6274-1221; email: ciu@ea.gov.au.

<http://www.ea.gov.au/atmosphere/airtoxics/index.html>

Publications

- **The Merck Index, 13th Edition, 2001**

- **Hardbound Book** (ISBN 0-911910-13-1): It covers human and veterinary drugs, biologicals, natural products, agricultural compounds, commercial and laboratory chemicals, and environmentally significant compounds. The 10,000+ monographs have been extensively revised which include data covering chemical, common, generic and brand names; molecular weights and formulas; physical and toxicity data; descriptions of commercial and therapeutic uses; and pictures of chemical structures. The Derivative Compound data now mirrors the Title Compound Data. The section on Organic Name Reactions has been revised and updated with 21 new reactions. The Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry Number is now in every record. There is also a CAS No. access index as well as a comprehensive name index.

Available from the Australian Agent Mosby-Williams & Wilkins ph: 1800-263-951 for approx. \$160 plus postage and handling. It is also available from DA Information Services ph: 03-9210-7777.

- **CD-ROM Version** contains all of the information in the latest printed 13th Edition. The CD-ROM version has the advantage of powerful searching tools, including on

chemical structures, and is easy to access and transfer information from your computer than the book. Additionally, information that Merck & Co. is unable to maintain in print due to size restrictions will appear as part of the electronic editions.

Available CambridgeSoft.Com for US\$595 single user at <http://products.cambridgesoft.com/themerckindex.cfm>.

• Hazardous Building Materials

A Guide to the Selection of Environmentally Responsible Alternatives: 2nd Edition, 2002, ISBN 0-419-23450-0. By Steve Curwell and others, at the University of Salford, Manchester, UK. (Finally available). A detailed reference source of the use in residential buildings of materials which have been qualitatively assessed as to their health and environmental issues. Alternative materials are included and evaluated. The book considers - structure; windows & doors; roofing; insulation; finishes & fittings; pipes services and services equipment and are laid out as 59 "Building Data Application Sheets".

200 pages cost approx. Aust \$95. From DA Information, Mitcham Victoria, ph: 03-9210-7777; fax: 03-9210-7788, email: service@dadirect.com.au, website: www.dadirect.com.au.

Standards

• AS 2809.5-2001 Road Tank Vehicles

for Dangerous Goods – Tankers for Bitumen-Based Products. Specifies the design and construction of tankers transporting cutback bitumen, including bitumen sprayers. Details for both automatic burners and atmospheric burners and their use whilst the tanker is being normally driven. 20 pages \$38.94

• AS/NZS 2865-2001 Confined Space

- **Safe Working.** Requirements and guidance in eliminating the need to enter a confined space, also in avoiding hazards where entry is unavoidable. 45 pages \$55.44.

• AS 2444-2001 Portable Fire Extinguishers

& Fire Blankets - Selection and Location. Specifies the selection criteria. 29 pages, \$46.20

• AS 2508.2.007-2001 Liquefied Petroleum Gas

- **Safe Storage & Handling Information Card.** Also includes first aid and emergency procedures for dealing with leaks and fires. 2 pages \$11.22.

• **AS/NZS 2927-2001/Amdt 1-2001: Chlorine Gas – The Storage & Handling of Liquefied Chlorine Gas.** 1 page Free.

• AS/NZS 4801-2001 OH&S Mgmt Systems

- **Specifications with guidance for use.** The requirements may be used for auditing and certification purposes. 28 pages \$38.94.

• AS/NZS 4804-2001 OH&S Mgmt Systems

- **General guidelines on principles, systems and supporting techniques.** They are intended for use as a voluntary, internal management tool. 46 pages \$55.44.

• DR 01341 CP Amdt 2 to AS/NZS 1596-1997

- **Storage & handling of LP Gas.** The view is to align with AS 5601 & AG 601, Gas Installations. 7 pages Free.

• DR 01364 Handling & Destruction of Drugs

Proposes procedures for seizure, handling, storage and disposal and destruction of drugs and drug related materials. 20 pages Free.

• Packaging of Biological Products

which are Dangerous Goods – For Surface Transport. Health Committee HE-007. The objective is draft an Australian Standards to cover the design performance, manufacturing and marking of biological products that are Class 6.2 dangerous goods. This includes diagnostic specimens, infectious substances and clinical waste. Project 2859. Project Manager: Numani Weerasuriya.

• ISO 6529:2001: Protective clothing

- **Protection against chemicals** - Determination of resistance of protective clothing materials to permeation by liquids and gases with continuous contact. 21 pages *Hardcopy* \$151.65, *PDF File* \$136.48. Published 15 Oct 2001

Seminars, Conferences, Courses

• NICNAS Seminars – High Vol. Ind. Chemicals

Stage II – IMPORTED CHEMICALS

Date/Time	Venue
6 February 2002 10 am – 12 pm	Park Royal Parramatta, Samuel Marsden Room, 30 Philip St, Parramatta, Sydney
7 February 2002 10 am – 12 pm	Monash Conference Centre, Level 7 30 Collins St, Melbourne
8 February 2002 10 am – 12 pm	The Dept of Public Works, Meeting Room 3, 111 George St, Brisbane

Contact Ms Niluja Thiruthaneeswaran at NICNAS ph: 02-8577-8884 or email: niluja@nicnas.gov.au

• Standards Australia Seminars / Workshops

For information ph: 1300-656-529, website: www.events.standards.com.au

- **Hazardous Areas, February 2002,** 1 day seminar, held in Melbourne 11th Feb and Sydney 12th Feb.

- **Confined Space Seminars, March 2002,** Half day, held in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth.

- **Environmental Management Workshops, April 2002.** 3-day workshop, held in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane.

- **OH&S Dangerous Goods Workshops, May 2002.** 1 day, held in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

• **HazMat 2002 Conference, 29-30th April 2002**

Melbourne: Designed to provide current key areas information and future directions for chemical regulations compliance for companies handling chemicals. It will cover Dangerous Goods, Hazardous Substances, Global Harmonisation, Prescribed Waste Disposal, Emergency

Response, etc. There will be good networking opportunities with the speakers. *Cost <\$800, Fire Protection Association of Australia (FPAA) ph: 03-9890-1544, fax: 03-9890-1577, email: amym@fpaa.com.au website: www.fpaa.com.au*

These Notes are published as an information service and without assuming a duty of care. It contains summary information only and should not be relied on as a substitute for professional advice. Readers should not act solely on the basis of the material contained in this newsletter.

Copying Hazmat & Environment Notes: Copying these Notes in a limited and local manner is allowed, or where a person or company is interested in becoming a subscriber, provided that the copies acknowledge "HAZMAT & ENVIRONMENT NOTES, prepared by Jeff Simpson, Haztech Environmental 03-9885-1269". Magazines must contact me.

"Hazmat & Environment Notes" publication times are the end of: March, May, July, September, and November. Renewals are notified with your last issue. The date of your last issue of your subscription will be given on the top right corner of the envelope label, e.g. 09/01.

Haztech Environmental ABN: 27 630 291 348	18 Laurel St Ashburton, VIC 3147	TAX INVOICE Date 12th December 2001
Description of Supply		
Please start my subscription to Hazmat & Environment Notes from the March 2002 Newsletter.		
Subscription Costs for 5 bimonthly issues from March 2002 to Nov 2002 are: Circle the subscription type you want		
EMAILED to Australian destinations (Emailed as an Adobe Acrobat pdf file)	- \$49.50 (includes GST)	+ 2nd copy to same address + \$24.75 (includes GST)
POSTED to Australian destinations	- \$60.50 (includes GST)	+ 2nd copy to same address + \$30.25 (includes GST)
Note: The above price includes a 10% Goods & Services Tax (GST) for the supply.		
International destinations	- \$45 emailed	\$60 airmail (both with no GST to be added).
Second copy to same address	- \$22.50 emailed	\$30 airmail (both with no GST to be added)
(Up to a 3 year length of subscription can be accepted.)		
Enclosed is a credit card authorisation or a cheque payable to "Haztech Environmental" for 5 issues.		
Total Price Including GST (GST only applicable in Australia)	Payment Sent \$ _____	
Please keep a copy of this tax invoice for your records.		
Name Position		
Company Name		
Address Post Code		
Tel Nr Fax Nr Email		
Address to: Jeff Simpson, Haztech Environmental, 18 Laurel St, Ashburton VIC 3147, Australia		
11-12/01notes		

Credit Card Authorisation:

Please debit my VISA / MASTERCARD / BANKCARD Account for: \$

(circle one)

Card Number: Expiry Date:/.....

Cardholder's Name:
(as on card)

Signed: Date: