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## • Better Regulation Reforms – Ag & Vet Chemicals Legislation introduced into Parliament

The Federal Government has introduced the legislation required for the better regulation reforms into the Parliament.

[Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment Bill 2012](#). Introduced 28 Nov 2012.

Media release: [Safe, modern, agvet chemical regulation](#).

Details of the proposed changes to associated regulations **are currently available for comment**. The regulations are necessary to implement aspects of the reforms that do not need primary legislation or which accompany measures in the Bill. The details of the proposed Regs are at:

[www.daff.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0014/2202431/details\\_of\\_proposed\\_regulations\\_final-25a.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/2202431/details_of_proposed_regulations_final-25a.pdf) (36 pages)

*Comments on the details of proposed regulations can be provided at any time up until **21 December 2012** to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry at [agvetreform@daff.gov.au](mailto:agvetreform@daff.gov.au), ph: 02-6272-3363*

From: [www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/ag-vet-chemicals/better-regulation-of-ag-vet-chemicals](http://www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/ag-vet-chemicals/better-regulation-of-ag-vet-chemicals)

## Hazmat & Environment Notes are prepared by:

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Hazardous Materials Consultant

Editor & Publisher

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. If you need more information contact details / website / etc are provided.

I encourage all readers to make comment on draft regulations, codes and standards.

Screen

ISSN: 1441-5534

## Hazardous Substances

- **Patty's Toxicology, Sixth Edition, July 2012**

This edition now includes an Index Volume, and the latest toxicological data for industrial compounds, from metals to synthetic polymers, to physical agents.

New subjects include nanotechnology, flavourings and the food industry, reactive chemical control, to comprehensive chemical policy, metal-working fluids, and pharmaceuticals. Expanded chapters address benzene, aromatic compounds, smoke and combustion products from fires, mercury, radio-frequency and microwave radiation (cell phones) and wood dust. Data have been updated on both non-cancer and carcinogenic risk assessment.

There is a [free on-line trial](#) available.

*In Print:* ISBN: 978-0-470-41081-3

*Hardcopy Cost (6 volumes):* US\$2295, Aus\$2730 until 31 Dec 2012, then prices increase 15% on 1 Jan 2013.

*Available Online:* ISBN: 978-0-471-12547-1 (1 person business US\$720/yr or a price \$4785), then +15% 1 Jan 13

*From:* <http://au.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-811499.html>

*And:* <http://au.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470410817.html>

- **Sax's Dangerous Properties of Industrial Materials  
5 Volume Set, 12th Edition, September 2012.**

Provides extensive data on approximately 28,000 substances, with the addition of nearly 2,400 new substances. Each entry includes a DPIM code, hazard rating, entry name, CAS number, DOT number, molecular formula, molecular weight, line structural formula, description of material and physical properties, and synonyms. The book also contains Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) levels for approximately 1,000 chemicals.

*Hardcover:* ISBN: 978-0-470-62325-1 5862 pages. Cost AU\$710. *Hardcover & CD:* ISBN: 978-1-1183-5692-0 5862 pages. Cost AU\$1065

<http://au.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-047062325X.html>

- **Wiley Discount Offer for Patty & Sax References**

Hazmat & Environment Notes readers have been offered a special deal to purchase either of these Patty or Sax print titles and the CD (and CD/Print package) for Sax only.

The offer is 20% off the AU\$ price. There will be a one-off \$7.50 handling charge per order, regardless of what is ordered or where it is sent.

The promo Code will be PSX13 and will last until 30th June 2013. The reader enters the Discount Code when completing the Shopping cart transaction on [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

- **ECHA Registry of Intentions  
for Substances of Very High Concern**

Dossiers for identification of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC).

The aim of the public registry of intentions is to allow interested parties to be aware of the substances for which the authorities intend to submit dossiers and therefore facilitates timely preparation by the interested parties for commenting later in the process.

Registry of current Harmonised Classification and Labelling intentions: 36 chemicals

<http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/registry-current-classification-and-labelling-intentions>

Registry of submitted Harmonised Classification and Labelling intentions: 192 chemicals

<http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/registry-of-submitted-harmonised-classification-and-labelling-intentions>

Registry of current SVHC intentions: 18 chemicals

<http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/registry-of-current-svhc-intentions>

Registry of current Restriction proposal intentions: 2 chemicals

<http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/registry-of-current-restriction-proposal-intentions>

*From:* <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/addressing-chemicals-of-concern/registry-of-intentions>

- **USA EPA Reg Action on PFAS/LCPFAC Cpds**

Analysis of the structure of PFOS and PFOA compounds indicates that the results of those studies may be applied to a larger category of Perfluoroalkyl Sulfonate (PFAS) and Long-Chain Perfluoroalkyl Carboxylate (LCPFAC) chemicals. The USA EPA believes that the chemical similarity between PFOS and PFAS raises the likelihood that health and environmental concerns are present for PFAS, and that LCPFAC compounds may degrade to PFOA.

**Proposed Rule: Aug 2012** under the USA TSCA to:

- Require companies to report 90 days in advance of all new uses of Long-Chain Perfluoroalkyl Carboxylic (LCPFAC) chemicals as part of carpets or to treat carpets, including the import of new carpet containing LCPFACs.
- Add seven PFAS chemicals to the existing PFAS SNUR (40 CFR 721.9582), and amend that SNUR to include "processing" in the definition of significant new use for PFAS chemicals.

From: [www.epa.gov/oppt/pfoa/pubs/pfas.html#proposed](http://www.epa.gov/oppt/pfoa/pubs/pfas.html#proposed)

## • ECHA C&L Inventory Update

27 Sept 2012: With this update, ECHA has successfully addressed concerns expressed by users that for some substances, not all classifications were published, leading to a skewed image. Now, the Inventory shows all notifications for substances for which there is at least one notification classifying it as hazardous according to Article 119(1) of REACH. In addition, all notifications for substances on the EC inventory are also now provided.

To facilitate the further consolidation of classifications, ECHA is currently developing a web-based discussion platform, which will be released during the course of 2013. This is to stimulate Industry to make every effort to come, as close as possible, to agreed entries when self-classifying substances.

The current version of the inventory contains approximately 5.3 million notifications relating to 120 000 substances.

ECHA Classification & Labelling Inventory: <http://echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals/cl-inventory>

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/ced40168-dbed-4222-bc28-0df305d9b838](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/ced40168-dbed-4222-bc28-0df305d9b838)

## • NSW Safety Alert: Cleaning Solvents & Thinners

August 2012: This NSW Workcover Safety Alert WC03824 is about the adverse health effects of volatile solvents and thinners. All volatile solvents have the potential to cause a person to lose consciousness, and suffer a cardiac arrhythmia and possibly death when used in an enclosed or poorly ventilated area. Toluene, Xylene, Hexane, Methyl Ethyl Ketone, Naphthalene, and other petroleum-based solvents have been implicated in deaths. Other chemicals present in proprietary thinners can greatly increase skin absorption causing or exacerbating toxic effects.

From: [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/formspublications/publications/Documents/cleaning\\_solvents\\_and\\_thinners\\_3824.pdf](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/formspublications/publications/Documents/cleaning_solvents_and_thinners_3824.pdf) (2p)

## • Classification of Carbon Nanotubes: Human Health Hazard Assessment

The report on "Human Health Hazard Assessment and Classification of Carbon Nanotubes", which was prepared by NICNAS for Safe Work Australia, recommends that Multi-Walled Carbon Nanotubes should be classified as hazardous unless toxicological or other data for specific types implies otherwise.

The report recommends that all MWCNTs should be considered as hazardous and classified for carcinogenicity as follows, in accordance with:

Approved Criteria Classification: Carcinogen Category 3, Harmful (Xn). Risk Phrase: R40 Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect, or

GHS Classification: Carcinogen Category 2. Hazard Statement: Suspected of causing cancer.

Report: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/725/Human\\_Health\\_Hazard\\_Assessment\\_and\\_Classification\\_of\\_Carbon\\_Nanotubes.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/725/Human_Health_Hazard_Assessment_and_Classification_of_Carbon_Nanotubes.pdf) (118p)

An information sheet provides a summary of the key findings from the report on Human Health Hazard Assessment and Classification of Carbon Nanotubes, and discusses implications for manufacturers, importers, persons in control of a business or undertaking and workers manufacturing or using products containing carbon nanotubes.

Info Sheet: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/726/Classification\\_of\\_Carbon\\_Nanotubes\\_as\\_Hazardous\\_Chemicals.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/726/Classification_of_Carbon_Nanotubes_as_Hazardous_Chemicals.pdf)

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/human-health-hazard-assessment-and-classification-of-carbon-nanotubes](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/human-health-hazard-assessment-and-classification-of-carbon-nanotubes)

## • ACTRA Workshop on Combined Exposures to Multiple Chemicals (17 July 2012)

The Australasian College of Toxicology & Risk Assessment (ACTRA) organised a one day workshop on combined exposure to multiple chemicals. There are two articles about this workshop, one by Therese Manning and one by Dr Daniella Leonte, on p7 of the Spring 2012 ACTRA e-newsletter.

From: [www.actra.org.au/images/ACTRA%20eNewsletter%20-%20Spring%202012.pdf](http://www.actra.org.au/images/ACTRA%20eNewsletter%20-%20Spring%202012.pdf)

## • Asbestos Still a Killer: Bill Shorten MP

The Federal Member for Maribyrnong and Minister for Workplace Relations, Bill Shorten, said he is concerned that people living in Melbourne's West may be exposed to asbestos lying dormant in homes and buildings, when undertaking renovations.

Asbestos is found not only in old fibre cement sheeting, but eaves, fake brick cladding, water heaters, garden sheds, roofing and behind tiling.

"It's estimated that asbestos is in 1 in 3 Australian homes on average."

"Asbestos was used widely as a building material from 1921 through to 1987, but it wasn't completely banned until 2003. Any homes built or renovated during that period may contain asbestos.

"That material is safe so long as it isn't disturbed, but if it is cut, sanded or exposed to the environment, it will pose a danger to your long term health and that of your family."

Mr Shorten said that it's wrong to believe that the worst is over in terms of asbestos deaths.

"The reality is that asbestos-related deaths are not expected to peak until 2020, and that tragically, we are expecting another 30-40,000 people to be diagnosed with asbestos-related diseases in the next 20 years."

The brochure "Identifying Asbestos in Your Home", may be found at: [www.comcare.gov.au/news\\_and\\_media/news\\_listing/identifying\\_asbestos\\_in\\_your\\_home](http://www.comcare.gov.au/news_and_media/news_listing/identifying_asbestos_in_your_home) (2 pages).

Also Qld: [www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/resources/pdfs/asbestos-home-renovators-trades-guide.pdf](http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/resources/pdfs/asbestos-home-renovators-trades-guide.pdf) (24 pages)

From: <http://billshorten.com.au/asbestos-still-a-killer>

## • Health Fears for Toxic Lead Town: Esperance

The Australian News: 17 Nov 2012: "A senior clean-up worker said there were "serious flaws" in the project & spoke out because he fears for "my kids and the kids of Esperance".

He claimed: • Crews only cleaned half the roof spaces of a local primary school; • Many businesses did not opt in for decontamination because they did not want the inconvenience; • Many homeowners did not opt in, so decontamination was piecemeal across town; • Other buildings were bypassed for cleaning so the project deadline could be met; • The clean-up was divided into 12 zones around town but only 11 were completed because of budget constraints.

From: [www.theaustralian.com.au/news/health-fears-for-toxic-lead-town/story-e6frg6n6-1226518805775](http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/health-fears-for-toxic-lead-town/story-e6frg6n6-1226518805775)

## • Chemical Testing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

The USA Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) have developed a series of webpages as a resource for understanding new chemical testing approaches being used by the USA EPA.

[Chemical testing in the 21st century: a primer](#): This has 8 webpage Sections.

[Chemical testing in the 21st century: webinar series](#): This has 3 extensive 57 min, 72 min, & 64 min Webinars.

From: [www.edf.org/health/chemical-testing-21st-century](http://www.edf.org/health/chemical-testing-21st-century)

## Chemical Management

### • Jurisdictional Progress on the Model WHS Laws

South Australia and Tasmania will implement the Model Work Health and Safety (WHS) laws from the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2013. Both Victoria and Western Australia have delayed their implementation dates, plus the ACT has not implemented the Hazardous Chemicals aspects of the Model WHS laws.

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/model-whs-laws/pages/jurisdictional-progress-whs-laws](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/model-whs-laws/pages/jurisdictional-progress-whs-laws)

*Editor's Comment:* All businesses in Australia should be in the process to implement the GHS based Hazardous Chemicals part of the Model laws. In particular businesses in Vic and WA need to do this, otherwise they will end up completely out of step with other State / Territories, and also with most countries overseas, such as the EU, USA, China, Japan and New Zealand.

### • Expiring Work H&S Transitional Arrangements

The first round of transitional arrangements for the Work Health and Safety legislation in NSW, Qld, NT, ACT and Commonwealth Authorities will expire on 1 January 2013. A Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) should assess whether their current practices would meet compliance under the new legislation and make changes as necessary.

[www.worksafe.nt.gov.au/Legislation/New%20Work%20Health%20and%20Safety%20Laws/Pages/Transitional-Arrangements.aspx](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au/Legislation/New%20Work%20Health%20and%20Safety%20Laws/Pages/Transitional-Arrangements.aspx) (NT)

[www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/law/whslaws/topics/transition/index.htm](http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/law/whslaws/topics/transition/index.htm) (Qld)

[www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/newlegislation2012/whstransitionalarrangements/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/newlegislation2012/whstransitionalarrangements/Pages/default.aspx) (NSW)

## • Model Code of Practice - Abrasive Blasting

October 2012: The Safe Work Australia model Code of Practice was developed to provide practical guidance for persons conducting a business or undertaking on how to manage health and safety risks associated with abrasive blasting under the WHS Act and Regulations. This Code applies to all workplaces where abrasive blasting is carried out and to all persons involved in these activities.

Code: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/701/Abrasive-Blasting.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/701/Abrasive-Blasting.pdf) (38 pages)

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/abrasive-blasting](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/abrasive-blasting)

## • Model Code: Spray Painting & Powder Coating

October 2012: The Safe Work Australia model Code of Practice was developed to provide practical guidance for persons conducting a business or undertaking on how to manage health and safety risks associated with spray painting and powder coating under the WHS Act and Regulations. This Code applies to all workplaces where spray painting and powder coating are carried out and to all persons involved in these activities.

Code: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/702/Spray-Painting-and-Powder-Coating.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/702/Spray-Painting-and-Powder-Coating.pdf) (46 pages)

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/spray-painting-and-powder-coating](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/spray-painting-and-powder-coating)

## • Chemical Weapons Convention

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is an international treaty that bans the development, production, possession or use of chemical weapons, and requires the destruction of existing weapons.

A number of chemicals produced or used for normal industrial, medical or research activities, such as Triethanolamine (TEA), can also have applications in the manufacture of chemical weapons. Moreover, the types of chemical processes involved in the production of chemical warfare agents are also very commonly used in the legitimate production of commercial chemicals.

The Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (ASNO), in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, is the National Authority responsible for administering the Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act 1994 which is the primary implementing legislation for the CWC. ASNO issues import permits for Scheduled chemicals, including TEA.

Further information regarding the CWC and its impact on industry (e.g., permit and notification requirements for producers, users and importers of chemicals) can be found at: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/cwco/>

Provided by: the CWC Implementation Section

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • Proposal to Adopt AS/NZS 2012 Sunscreen Std

*Consultation on Regulatory Impacts – December 2012*

The purpose of this paper, derived from the TGA's Regulatory Impact Statement on its adoption of the revised Sunscreen Standard 2012 for therapeutic sunscreen products, is to obtain feedback on the regulatory impacts on business, community and government to inform a Government decision on the proposed adoption of the revised Sunscreen Standard (AS/NZS 2604:2012) in the Cosmetics Standard 2007. If adopted in the Cosmetics Standard 2007, the revised Sunscreen Standard 2012 would be applicable to all cosmetic sunscreen products regulated by NICNAS.

As NICNAS is currently under review by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Finance and Deregulation, the current consultation only proposes the minimum changes to the Cosmetics Standard 2007 necessary to give full effect to the revised Sunscreen Standard 2012.

If the revised Sunscreen Standard 2012 was also adopted by NICNAS, higher-performing broad spectrum cosmetic sunscreen products could be allowed onto the Australian market labelled as such, and there would be a consistent application of the revised Sunscreen Standard 2012 across products regulated by NICNAS and the TGA.

Paper: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Consultations/Proposal\\_To\\_Adopt\\_Sunscreen\\_Standard/Public\\_Consultation\\_Paper\\_Adoption\\_Revised\\_Sunscreen\\_Standard\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Consultations/Proposal_To_Adopt_Sunscreen_Standard/Public_Consultation_Paper_Adoption_Revised_Sunscreen_Standard_PDF.pdf) (23p)

Further Info: Dr Harjit Deol, NICNAS, ph: 02-8577-8843, email: [Harjit.Deol@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Harjit.Deol@nicnas.gov.au).

Comment Closes: 25 January 2013. Please complete & return the questionnaire sheet with your comments/opinions.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Consultations/Proposal\\_To\\_Adopt\\_Sunscreen\\_Standard.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Consultations/Proposal_To_Adopt_Sunscreen_Standard.asp) and the Paper.

## • NICNAS Matters – October 2012

It includes:

a/ NICNAS's new Inventory Multi-tiered Assessment and Prioritisation (IMAP) Framework commenced operating on 1 July 2012. On 19 July, it was the subject of a NICNAS forum.

b/ Dr Brian Richards' appointment as Director, NICNAS was announced by Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing, Hon Catherine King MP on 13 September 2012.

c/ The NICNAS 2012-13 Business Plan can be downloaded at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/About\\_NICNAS/Business\\_And\\_Regulatory\\_Plans/Business\\_Plan\\_2012\\_13\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/About_NICNAS/Business_And_Regulatory_Plans/Business_Plan_2012_13_PDF.pdf).

d/ A companion volume, the NICNAS's *Strategic Plan 2012-*

14 is available at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/About\\_NICNAS/Business\\_And\\_Regulatory\\_Plans/NICNAS\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2012\\_2014\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/About_NICNAS/Business_And_Regulatory_Plans/NICNAS_Strategic_Plan_2012_2014_PDF.pdf)

e/ Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS) ... changes to the public section and to related AICS features.

f/ Transfer of certain cosmetic ingredients in products previously regulated by TGA onto AICS ... all 62 chemicals are now in process or have been transferred.

g/ Nanotechnology at NICNAS: NICNAS is preparing health hazard information on four nanomaterials potentially used in industrial applications, including cosmetics. The first of these, Titanium Dioxide, will be published shortly.

h/ NICNAS committee reports: Nanotechnology Advisory Group (NAG); Cosmetic Advisory Group (CAG); Community Engagement Forum (CEF); Industry Government Consultative Committee (IGCC); Legislative amendments to implement the Cost Recovery Impact Statement 2012-2016 (CRIS) outcomes passed by Parliament.

The CRIS has introduced an extra tier for companies required to be registered with NICNAS at \$100,000, which will keep participation costs low for the 0-\$100K businesses.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters/NICNAS\\_Matters\\_OCT12\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters/NICNAS_Matters_OCT12_PDF.pdf)

## • Review of NICNAS – Draft likely by early Feb 13

The Office of Chemical Safety, Dept of Health & Ageing, has been Reviewing the National Industrial Chemicals Notification & Assessment Scheme in 2012.

In July 2012 there were 46 submissions in response to the Discussion Paper, and 43 are available on the Dept of Health and Ageing website. *Submissions:* [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-nicnas-submissions-2012](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-nicnas-submissions-2012)

Since then there have been a workshop in October with stakeholders and those who made submissions to clarify the key issues and prepare a draft proposal document for public comment in early 2013.

To find out when the draft proposed changes that we might have for NICNAS, in early February 2013 go to: [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp\\_nicnas\\_review.htm](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp_nicnas_review.htm)

## • Accel. Assessment & Prioritisation of Chemicals Stage One – 1<sup>st</sup> Tranche available for comment

As part of the reform regarding assessment of Existing Chemicals, NICNAS is implementing a new framework for the assessment and prioritisation of previously unassessed chemicals that are listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

The new Inventory Multi-tiered Assessment and Prioritisation (IMAP) Framework is being implemented in a staged manner, with a focus on a subset of chemicals on the AICS meeting characteristics confirmed through stakeholder consultation (around 3000 existing chemicals).

The first tranche of assessments for the Stage One chemicals were published on the 6 Dec 2012 at:

[www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing\\_Chemicals/Chemicals\\_On\\_AICS/IMAP%20Assessments\\_Public\\_Comment.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing_Chemicals/Chemicals_On_AICS/IMAP%20Assessments_Public_Comment.asp) with two Low Concern to Human Health group assessments:

### [Identification of Chemicals of Low Concern to Human Health](#)

e.g. D-Glucose; L-Ascorbic Acid, Silica Gel, Urea, Zinc Oxide;

### [Identification of Polymers of Low Concern to Human Health](#)

e.g. Ethanol, Homopolymer; Ethene, Chloro-, Homopolymer; Urea, Polymer with Formaldehyde, Butylated;

and 8 chemicals assessed as Tier II Individual Evaluations

<a href="#">79-21-0</a>	Ethaneperoxoic Acid	(11p)	<a href="#">77-78-1</a>	Sulfuric Acid, Dimethyl Ester	(11p)
<a href="#">99-54-7</a>	Benzene, 1,2-Dichloro-4-Nitro-	(10p & amdt)	<a href="#">100-37-8</a>	Ethanol, 2-(Diethylamino)-	(12p & Tier III)
<a href="#">112-25-4</a>	Ethanol, 2-(Hexyloxy)-	(11p)	<a href="#">2807-30-9</a>	Ethanol, 2-Propoxy-	(11p)
<a href="#">55406-53-6</a>	Carbamic Acid, Butyl-, 3-Iodo-2-Propynyl Ester	(16p & amdt)			
<a href="#">120-80-9</a>	1,2-Benzenediol	(12p & amdt)			

Amdt means an addition or change to the HSIS is proposed.

Please comment on the draft IMAP assessment reports by Thurs 31 Jan 2013 to email: [imap@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:imap@nicnas.gov.au)

*Note:* Comments are sought where information, that has potential to affect the outcome of an assessment, has not been considered in the assessment. Comments provided should be evidence-based and the relevance highlighted.

For Information on IMAP ph: 02-8577-8870,  
email: [imap@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:imap@nicnas.gov.au)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au) Dec 2012 Chemical Gazette and  
[www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing\\_Chemicals/Chemicals\\_On\\_AICS.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing_Chemicals/Chemicals_On_AICS.asp).

## Scheduled Medicines & Poisons

### • Lead in Cosmetics, Pencil Cores, Crayons, etc

At the RACI Environmental Chemical Hazards symposium in Melbourne, in August 2012, the last speaker highlighted that Lead Acetate solutions were still used to darken hair, in Singapore. This surprised the symposium audience.

When I checked the SUSMP the next day, I was further surprised to discover that Lead Compounds in Cosmetics, Pencil Cores, Finger Colours, Showcard Colours, Pastels, Crayons, Poster Paints / Colours or Coloured Chalks, are still allowed to have up to 100 mg/kg (100 ppm) of Lead in them;

*and:* Lead Compounds can be used in Australia, in preparations for use in hair cosmetics, S5 Schedule Poisons.

Cosmetics, Pencil Cores, Crayons, etc are all used by our children, where they are applied directly to lips or easily sucked on or eaten, so I was concerned to discover this allowance for Lead Compounds, considering the general community is assuming such items contain NO Lead at all!

For Paints, which are covered by the SUSMP Appendix I, the Uniform Paint Standard Lead is limited to 0.1% (which is 1000 mg/kg). Where paints are not chewed and sucked on by the average kindergarten and primary school child, they do use Cosmetics, Pencil Cores, Crayons, etc, which may cause Lead to be accumulated by them, due to these direct contact sources.

I have made a submission to the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling, suggesting that it is time, that the allowed Lead levels in Cosmetics, Pencil Cores, Crayons, etc, be lowered to the **NIL level** (and never >1 mg/kg).

*Note by Jeff Simpson, Haztech Environmental*

## Food Chemical Issues

### • EU Adopts New List of Authorised Flavourings

On 1 October 2012 the European Commission adopted two new regulations on flavourings. The list of flavourings authorised for use in foods in the EU is a milestone for consumer protection that also brings clarity to industry.

From: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/FAEF/flavouring/flavouringsubstance\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/FAEF/flavouring/flavouringsubstance_en.htm)

*Regulation EU 872/2012* (161 pages) Contains a **new EU list** (p8-160) of **flavouring substances** which can be used in food in the EU. It entered into force on 22 October 2012 and will apply as of 22 April 2013.

There is also an [on-line database](#) of authorised flavouring substances.

The following substances have been removed from the EU register as toxicologically unacceptable when used as flavouring:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| – 4-Allyl-1,2-Dimethoxybenzene;                        | 1-Allyl-4-Methoxybenzene; |
| – N-(4-Hydroxy-3-Methoxybenzyl)-8-Methylnon-6-enamide; |                           |
| – Propyl-4-Hydroxybenzoate;                            | Pentane-2,4-Dione;        |
| – Acetamide;   | 2-Methylbuta-1,3-diene.   |

Found via: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/monitoringandsurveillance/monitoringofemergingissuesnewslett/ermoei/](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/monitoringandsurveillance/monitoringofemergingissuesnewslett/ermoei/)

### • Update on Acrylamide Levels in Food

The European Food Safety Authority has published an update on Acrylamide levels in food in their *Scientific Report*: [www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/2938.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/2938.pdf)

In 2010, middle bound mean Acrylamide values ranged from 31 µg/kg for 'other processed cereal based foods for infants and young children' to 1350 µg/kg for 'Coffee Substitutes'. The highest 95<sup>th</sup> percentile value of 8044 µg/kg Acrylamide was reported for 'Instant Coffee'.

The trend analysis showed only few changes in Acrylamide levels from 2007 to 2010.

From: [www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2938.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2938.htm)

- **Bisphenol A (BPA) Reproductive Risks in Rhesus Monkeys**

A US study has demonstrated a possible link between BPA and sex cell formation in rhesus monkeys. The study has [prompted calls for additional research](#) by the Herald Sun 24 Sept 2012. Meanwhile, [Health Canada has announced a reaffirmation of the safety of BPA](#) in updating its 2008 assessment of BPA dietary exposure.

Gestational exposure to the estrogen-mimic BPA altered the developing mammary glands of female nonhuman primates in a comparable manner to that observed in rodents. *From the Abstract in the Published Paper "Bisphenol A Alters the Development of the Rhesus Monkey Mammary Gland".*

<http://211.144.68.84:9998/91keshi/Public/File/44/109-21/pdf/8190.full.pdf> (6 page published report PNAS 22 May 2012)

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/September\\_2012.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/September_2012.pdf)

- **Nano-Polyphenols may have Reversed Effects: Researchers Warn - Size matters**

The beneficial effects attributed to antioxidant effects of green tea polyphenols could be reversed when they are used in nano-forms, according to new research.

[www.nutraingredients.com/Research/Size-matters-Researchers-warn-nano-polyphenols-may-have-reversed-effects](http://www.nutraingredients.com/Research/Size-matters-Researchers-warn-nano-polyphenols-may-have-reversed-effects), Sept 2012.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/September\\_2012.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/September_2012.pdf)

- **Application A1039 - Low THC Hemp as a Food**

The Application sought to amend Standard 1.4.4 to permit the use of the seed and seed products of C. Sativa, with low levels of delta 9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), as food.

This assessment addressed only hemp seeds and foods derived from hemp seeds. The use of other parts of the hemp plant for food was not considered by FSANZ.

Approval Report – 8 Nov 2012:

[www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/A1039\\_AppRL.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/A1039_AppRL.pdf)

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodstandards/applications/applicationa1039lowt4708.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodstandards/applications/applicationa1039lowt4708.cfm)

## Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

- **Pesticides: Rotterdam Convention Potential Listing**

At the 28 April to 11 May 2013 Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure Conference 3 pesticides will be considered for listing in Annex III.

1. Azinphos-Methyl;
2. Trichlorfon; and
3. Severely hazardous pesticide formulations of Paraquat Dichloride (only emulsifiable concentrate and soluble concentrate liquid formulations of 276 g active ingredient/L or above, corresponding to Paraquat ion at 200 g/L or above).

The export of chemicals currently listed in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention requires written permission from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). For information go to:

[www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/ag-vet-chemicals/stockholm-rotterdam](http://www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/ag-vet-chemicals/stockholm-rotterdam)

Feedback was requested by 14 Dec 2012 by the Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC) to assess how Australian companies would be impacted by export obligations that would apply if these chemicals are listed under the Convention and inserted into Australian legislation.

APVMA, Pesticides Contact Officer, Pesticide Program,  
ph: 02-6210-4748, email: [Pesticides@apvma.gov.au](mailto:Pesticides@apvma.gov.au).

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2012/23/gazette\\_20121120.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2012/23/gazette_20121120.pdf) (p26)

- **NZ Guidance Material for Vet Meds & Ag Actives**

The New Zealand EPA recently issued four new Group Standards to provide a new means of approval for formulated Veterinary Medicines and Active Ingredients used in the manufacture of Agricultural Compounds.

The Group Standards, came into force on 29 Nov 2012, and remove the need to apply for individual approvals, making it easier for industry to meet the required regulations, while managing the risks to human health and the environment.

A "Veterinary Medicine Group Standards" document has been prepared to help industry to understand and meet the requirements of the new Group Standards. It provides practical advice on how to assign a substance to a Group Standard, as well as outlining the scope and conditions of the new standards.

[www.epa.govt.nz/Publications/Veterinary%20Medicine%20Group%20Standards%20guidance.pdf](http://www.epa.govt.nz/Publications/Veterinary%20Medicine%20Group%20Standards%20guidance.pdf) (6 pages)



There are 3 Group Standards for Veterinary Medicines for formulated substances that are imported or manufactured for use as veterinary medicines. There are four Site and Storage Conditions for this Group Standard, and a Labelling document.

[www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/approvals/group-standards/Pages/Veterinary-medicines.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/approvals/group-standards/Pages/Veterinary-medicines.aspx)

There is one Group Standard is for Active Ingredients that are for use in the manufacture of Agricultural Compounds (excluding vertebrate toxic agents). There are four Site and Storage Conditions for this Group Standard, and a Labelling document.

[www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/approvals/group-standards/Pages/Active-ingredients-used-in-the-manufacture-of-agricultural-compounds.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/approvals/group-standards/Pages/Active-ingredients-used-in-the-manufacture-of-agricultural-compounds.aspx)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/news/erma-media-releases/Pages/Veterinary-Medicine-Group-Standards.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/erma-media-releases/Pages/Veterinary-Medicine-Group-Standards.aspx)

## • NZ EPA Review of Insecticides

Submissions are called for the reassessment of a group of 29 Organophosphate and Carbamate active ingredients, or formulations containing these active ingredients, that are used for plant protection purposes.

The formal NZ EPA application includes a number of recommendations for these substances, including recommendations either to revoke, phase-out or retain some approvals.

The active ingredients covered are:

Bendiocarb, Benomyl, Carbofuran, Carbosulfan, Chlorpyrifos-Methyl, Dichlofention, Ethion, Fampur, Isazofos, Omethoate, Phoxim, Pyrazophos.

Acephate, Dimethoate, Fenamiphos, Methamidophos, Oxamyl, Phorate, Pirimicarb, Prothiofos and Terbufos.

Carbaryl, Chlorpyrifos, Diazinon, Dichlorvos, Fenitrothion, Maldison (Malathion), Methomyl and Pirimiphos-Methyl.

The reasons for undertaking the reassessment of this whole group, rather than individual active ingredients are:

- to avoid perverse outcomes where active ingredients with greater risks remain available while uses are restricted, or approvals revoked for less hazardous substances;
- to establish consistent risk management controls across the group of substances;
- to provide greater certainty about pesticide availability in the medium term;
- to direct development of long-term solutions or alternatives to the use of some substances; and
- to ensure a more efficient use of industry & EPA resources by undertaking the reassessment process fewer times

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?applID=APP201045#](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?applID=APP201045#)

There are 42 Documents. I have provided links to 4 of them.

Crop Summary for Four Organophosphate Submissions:

[www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045\\_Crop%20Summary%20for%20Four%20Organophosphate%20Submissions%2023%20Sept%202011.pdf](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045_Crop%20Summary%20for%20Four%20Organophosphate%20Submissions%2023%20Sept%202011.pdf)

Application - Organophosphate and Carbamate Plant Protection Insecticides: [www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045\\_Application%20OPC%20reassessment%201%202011%2012.pdf](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045_Application%20OPC%20reassessment%201%202011%2012.pdf)

OPC Reassessment Consultation Report: [www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045\\_Consultation%20Report.pdf](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045_Consultation%20Report.pdf)

Peer review of industry economic benefit data:

[www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045\\_Sapere%20Peer%20Review%20Report.pdf](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP201045_Sapere%20Peer%20Review%20Report.pdf)

There are also links to Summary & Analysis documents for 38 types of crops, where these insecticides may be used.

Submissions close 22 Jan 2013. For HSNO Submission info:

[www.epa.govt.nz/about-us/have-your-say/Pages/make-submission.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/about-us/have-your-say/Pages/make-submission.aspx)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/consultations/hazardous-substances/Pages/review-of-insecticides.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/consultations/hazardous-substances/Pages/review-of-insecticides.aspx)

## • iPhone Application: APVMA PUBCRIS Database

The APVMA announced on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2012 the release of an iPhone application, called "APVMA", which makes information about agricultural and veterinary chemicals registered in Australia instantly accessible to people with an iPhone. It is also compatible with iPad.

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/apvma/id564121943>

The tool will enable access to a searchable database of the 10,500 agricultural and veterinary chemicals approved for use in Australia. Searches will be able to be saved and shared with others.

It will also provide information on products that have been suspended, cancelled, stopped or archived. This ability is not currently available on the parent database [PUBCRIS](#).

It is expected to be used by farmers and by environmental managers needing chemical tools to tackle environmental weeds and pests.

Versions of the search app, suitable for Android devices will also be developed.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2012/mr2012-11.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2012/mr2012-11.php)

## • Diuron Product Registrations Affirmed BUT with Significant Use Changes

28 Nov 2012: The registration of most Diuron products has been affirmed by the APVMA, but with significant changes to their conditions of use. Diuron is a herbicide used for the control of agricultural weeds and weeds and algae in and around water bodies.

APVMA restrictions are very specific for individual crops, and in the case of sugarcane and pineapple, additional seasonal 'no-spray windows' apply for Diuron.

Some uses, including industrial applications, use in non-agricultural situations; use in citrus, apples and pears, ornamental plants and tropical crops such as tea, coffee and pawpaw will no longer be approved for Diuron.

Some uses have been restricted significantly for Diuron, including reduced rates of application, application on relatively flat land, no spraying when heavy or persistent rain is forecast and spray drift buffer zones.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2012/mr2012-13.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2012/mr2012-13.php)

## • Restriction of Some Fenthion Uses

Fenthion is a broad spectrum Organophosphorus insecticide. Fenthion is used to control insect pests in agricultural, commercial and domestic situations and external parasites on cattle. Fenthion is also used to control pest birds in and around buildings.

The APVMA has suspended a number of uses of Fenthion, a chemical used to control fruit fly and other insects, following release of a new report showing there is potential for short-term dietary exposure of young children to be at levels above the relevant public health standard.

The review of Fenthion was conducted in two parts:

- [Part 1](#) considered the active constituent Fenthion and products that are used in non-food producing situations. The APVMA has since received new dermal absorption data that indicates that Fenthion is more readily absorbed than previously understood. This data may lead to further regulatory action for Part 1 of the review.

- [Part 2](#) considered Fenthion products used on food-producing plants and animals. This assessment found that use of Fenthion on certain crops could lead to consumers being exposed to levels of Fenthion above the public health standard (the Acute Reference Dose).

New label instructions reduce the amount of Fenthion that can be used on some crops, and prohibit its use on specific fruits and vegetables, which mitigates the potential health risks identified in the residues report. The new instructions also prohibit the use of Fenthion on all fruit and vegetables grown in the home garden.

To [View the list of suspended uses](#), click here.

Note: Fenthion is not registered for use on food plants in the European Union, USA, Canada or New Zealand.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2012/mr2012-09.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2012/mr2012-09.php),

Also: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2012/mr2012-12.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2012/mr2012-12.php)

and

[www.apvma.gov.au/products/review/current/fenthion.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/products/review/current/fenthion.php)

## • New Agricultural Active Constituents (1)

APVMA, Pesticides Contact Officer, Pesticide Program,

ph: 02-6210-4748, email: [Pesticides@apvma.gov.au](mailto:Pesticides@apvma.gov.au).

**Penflufen:** is a new Carboxamide fungicidal active ingredient which is proposed for use as a seed treatment of both barley and wheat.

Chemical Name: N-[2-(1,3-Dimethylbutyl) Phenyl]-5-Fluoro-1,3-Dimethyl-1H-Pyrazole-4-Carboxamide; CAS Number: 494793-68-8; Minimum Purity: 950 g/kg; Formula: C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O; MW: 317.41; Chemical Family: Alkylamide Fungicide; Mode of Action: Inhibition of mitochondrial respiration by blocking the electron transport in the respiratory chain of Succinate Dehydrogenase (Complex II – SDH inhibitor).

Included in Schedule 5 of the SUSMP.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2012/21A/gazette\\_20121031.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2012/21A/gazette_20121031.pdf) (p4-6)

## Dangerous Goods

### • Victorian Dangerous Goods (S&H) Regs 2012

The updated Victorian Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations 2012 commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2012.

My concern over the definition of C1 Combustible Liquids has not been addressed, where I suggested the Regulation use the term "GHS Combustible Liquids", and so we now have TWO definitions in Australia of what is a "C1 Combustible Liquid", either the original AS1940 definition of Flash Point >60°C to 150°C, OR the uniquely Victorian definition of Flash Point >60°C to 93°C, so this flash point range will now cover the GHS Combustible Liquids flash point range (Flammable Liquids Category 4 to the GHS Criteria).

Also an SDS will not be required for these "C1 Combustible Liquids Flash Point >60°C to 93°C", even though under the Workplace Health & Safety Regulations (in most States & NT) an SDS for the GHS Combustible Liquids WILL be required.

I am concerned that such a situation has been allowed to occur by a Victorian Government Authority, where businesses will now have to rely on good practice to get their GHS Combustible Liquids right in Victoria and provide SDSs to their customers for them.

The 2012 Regulations are available at:

<http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/> select "Vic Statute Book",

For Regs select "Vic Statutory Rules by Title" (on the left side)

Select "2012", scroll to "Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2012", Stat Rule No. 132 and select the "Authorised Version". A bookmarked version is also available.

Via: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/safety-and-prevention/health-and-safety-topics/dangerous-goods](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/safety-and-prevention/health-and-safety-topics/dangerous-goods)

### • Victorian Dangerous Goods (S&H) Draft Code

As a stakeholder, due to my Dangerous Goods Advisory Group role, I submitted comment on the initial draft Code.

The initial draft Code had quite a bit of confusion around C1 Combustible Liquids Flash Point >60°C-93°C, and when Combustible Materials are mentioned, the initial draft code overlooked the C1 Combustible Liquids to AS1940 Flash Point >93°C-150°C. I submitted my concern about the definition and the overlooked combustible materials.

I have also verbally suggested that 2 persons actually working in industry to the Regulations and Code, should each be paid 1-2 day's income to read and correct the obvious errors, before the Draft Code comes out for Public Comment in February 2013.

From: *Editor's Comment.*

### • WA Licensing for Storage & Transport of DGs

This information sheet assists in identifying the licensing requirements for storage and transport activities associated with Dangerous Goods in Western Australia.

There are exemptions for the storage and transport of small quantities of some low-risk Dangerous Goods commonly used within the community for personal purposes, while the storage and transport of large quantities and higher-risk Dangerous Goods require licensing.

Info Sheet: [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Factsheets/DGS\\_IS\\_TransportStorageLicensingReqs.pdf](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Factsheets/DGS_IS_TransportStorageLicensingReqs.pdf) (4p Oct 2012)

From: <http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/12367.aspx>

### • Amdts to WA Dangerous Goods Transport Regs

The Amendments include: WA to limited licensing of vehicles to tanker vehicles only as these require specific Dangerous Goods safety design features, whereas ordinary trucks do not and the safety of these (e.g. brakes, stability control) is regulated by WA Main Roads. All the other normal DG requirements still apply when transporting placard loads.

However, WA have allowed ordinary trucks to be licensed in case they travel interstate (where they will require a licence). Overall WA expect to stop licensing up to 1,500 vehicles.

Rather like the MHF classification issue, WA are challenging the safety value of licensing vehicles for nothing.

Info Sheet: [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Factsheets/DG\\_IS\\_AmendmentsToTheDangerousGoodsSafetyRegulations2007\\_3Aug2012.pdf](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Factsheets/DG_IS_AmendmentsToTheDangerousGoodsSafetyRegulations2007_3Aug2012.pdf) & from Philip Hine, WA Dept Mines&Pet.

### • Research Labs - Experimenting with Danger: USA Chemical Safety Board Video

Hazards associated with conducting research at chemical laboratories in academic institutions. Three types incidents are discussed: 1/ Pyrophoric 2/ Poisoning 3/ Explosion.

The need to carry out detailed risk assessments is emphasized and to document near misses and all incidents.

From: [www.csb.gov/videoroom/detail.aspx?VID=61](http://www.csb.gov/videoroom/detail.aspx?VID=61)

- **Inherently Safer: The Future of Risk Reduction  
USA Chemical Safety Board (CSB) Video**

The USA CSB strongly urges companies to implement the four main approaches to Inherent Safety: Minimise, Substitute, Moderate and Simplify, throughout the entire life cycle of hazardous chemicals processes.

From: [www.csb.gov/videoroom/detail.aspx?vid=66&F=0&CID=1&pg=1&F\\_All=y](http://www.csb.gov/videoroom/detail.aspx?vid=66&F=0&CID=1&pg=1&F_All=y)

- **RR936 - Liquid Flow and Vapour Production:  
Buncefield Investigation - 2012**

This report on the liquid flow from the overfilled tank leading to the formation of flammable vapour in the Buncefield Incident was prepared for the HSE incident investigation. The purpose of the work was to provide a connection between the loss of containment and the formation of a flammable vapour cloud.

The work involved the construction of a full scale replica of a section of top of the tank involved at Buncefield and also a full height section of the tank wall. Liquid flow experiments were carried out.

Report: [www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr936.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr936.pdf) 42 pages.

From: [www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr936.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr936.htm)

- **RR937 - Flammable Vapour Cloud Risks  
from tank Overfilling Incidents - 2012**

This report documents research undertaken in 2007 and 2008 to examine the important factors affecting the production of flammable vapour in incidents where large storage tanks of volatile liquids are overfilled. This is an important output from the Buncefield response program.

The analysis describes how different tank designs are likely to behave in an overflow situation, and the impact on the production rate of flammable vapour. It also contains the results of some early Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) modelling studies into the vapourisation of volatile components of multi component hydrocarbon mixtures.

Report: [www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr937.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr937.pdf) 66 pages

From: [www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr937.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr937.htm)

- **RR916 - VCE Scenario in an Aerosol Warehouse:  
Risk Assessment - 2012**

The HSE funded Atkinson 2007 review of the risks from fires in large aerosol stores concluded that the greatest risk to people from such fires was from explosions, not from the fire itself. It was postulated a vapour cloud explosion (VCE) mechanism, whereby a fire of material elsewhere in the warehouse from the aerosols could give rise to a hot air layer close to the ceiling. Aerosols stored close to the ceiling could then fail and release their flammable contents, but not be immediately ignited by the fire.

The objectives of the current RR916 work are to consider the likelihood and hence the risk of the VCE scenario at a large aerosol store.

Report: [www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr916.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr916.pdf) 54 pages

From: [www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr916.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr916.htm)

## Environmental Notes on Chemicals

- **Doha Climate Change Conference Decisions**

BBC News: "The summit established for the first time that rich nations should move towards compensating poor nations for losses due to climate change."

"The deal, agreed by nearly 200 nations, **extends to 2020 the Kyoto Protocol**. It is the only legally-binding plan for combatting global warming. The deal covers Europe and Australia, whose share of world greenhouse gas emissions is less than 15%."

From: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-20653018](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-20653018)

The Decisions adopted by Conference of the Parties (COP 18) and Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 8) are on the website <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>.

For the Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol - 8 Dec 2012:  
<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/cmp8/eng/l09.pdf> (12p).

From: <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

## • Destruction of Waste ODSs & SGGs program

27 November 2012: Public consultation is called for destruction of waste Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) & Synthetic Greenhouse Gases (SGG) program.

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. Environment Standards Branch, Ozone and Synthetic Greenhouse Gases—International & Industry Policy Team, is seeking public comment on the Australian Government's proposed Destruction of Waste Ozone Depleting Substances & Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Program.

The Destruction of Waste ODS and SGG Program is intended to provide incentives to recover ODS and SGGs for destruction, when they are not suitable for reuse, recycling or reclamation.

The Department has prepared a consultation paper and is seeking comment on how a government funded destruction program might operate. Comments provided in response to the paper will inform the structure and design of the future Destruction of Waste ODS and SGGs Program.

This is part of the Clean Energy Future Plan, the Australian Government announced that, from 1 July 2013, incentives would be provided for the destruction of waste SGGs, Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) and ODS. Most of these gases are used in refrigeration, although SF6 is used primarily in electricity transformers.

Key considerations for the design of the Program detailed in this paper include:

1. eligibility criteria for destruction providers and destruction facilities to be approved as participants in the Program
2. implementation processes, including the conditions for obtaining destruction incentives
3. options for determining the rate of destruction incentive payments
4. the level of financial incentives in influencing destruction and reclamation practices.

*All written submissions must be provided to the Department by Friday 21 December 2012.*

*For the Nov 2012 consultation paper & information go to:*

[www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/destruction-program/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/destruction-program/index.html) (38 pages) Hardcopies: 1800 803 772

*Email your comment to:* [ozone@environment.gov.au](mailto:ozone@environment.gov.au)

*From:* [www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/destruction-program/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/destruction-program/index.html) and <http://www.fpa.com.au/>

## • Orica Pleads Guilty to Further Pollution Charges

Orica Australia Pty Ltd has now pleaded guilty to an additional three charges brought by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in relation to three separate pollution incidents.

The three charges relate to:

- an incident on 27 Sept 2011 when Mercury vapour was emitted from Orica's Botany plant,
- an incident on 9 Nov 2011 when Ammonia gas was discharged into the air from Orica's Kooragang Island plant; and
- an incident on 7 Dec 2011 when about 17 cubic metres of weak Ammonia Nitrate solution overflowed and soaked into the surrounding soil at Orica's Kooragang Island Plant.

*From:* [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia12113001.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia12113001.htm)

## • Industrial Air Emissions for the NSW GM Region

The Technical Report No. 5, Air Emissions Inventory for the Greater Metropolitan Region in New South Wales, 2008 Calendar Year Industrial Emissions: Results, Executive Summary, August 2012, was released as part of the Air emissions inventory for the Greater Metropolitan Region in NSW in the October 2012 Publications

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/air/120049AEITR5IndustrialES.pdf> (15 pages)

*From:* [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/20120049AEITR5Industrial.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/20120049AEITR5Industrial.htm)

*And from:* [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/publications/](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/publications/) where the other Technical Reports 1 to 7 available

*Cont. next column*

**NSW EPA Brochure:** Tracking sources of air pollution in NSW communities: Air emissions inventory for the Greater Metropolitan Region of NSW. August 2012.

The major task of developing the new inventory started in 2009 and took over 2 years to complete. The results are now available and are being used to shape the way we improve air quality in NSW.

*From:* [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/air/120404AEIbrochure.pdf](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/air/120404AEIbrochure.pdf) (12 pages)

## • Vic EPA Draft Separation Distances: Odour & Dust

The revised draft Guidelines replace the 1990 version. Comment has closed.

Draft from: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/en/our-work/publications/publication/2012/october/1506](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/en/our-work/publications/publication/2012/october/1506)

[www.epa.vic.gov.au/~media/Publications/1506.pdf](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/~media/Publications/1506.pdf) (19p)

The Guideline provides advice on recommended separation distances for odour and dust emitting industries from sensitive land uses. It is written for planning authorities, consultants, developers & the community, to be used during strategic land use planning, and during the assessment of works approvals and planning permit applications.

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2012/october/22/epa-victoria-revamps-separation-distance-guidelines](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2012/october/22/epa-victoria-revamps-separation-distance-guidelines)

## • Fugitive Coal Seam Gas Methane Emissions

ABC Radio National Background Briefing 9 Dec 2012: Missing Emissions.

"The claim that coal seam gas is 50% cleaner than coal is coming under renewed scrutiny as more science comes in. The government is now reviewing the situation, but in the meantime investors are getting the jitters over the real carbon exposure. So why hasn't the Government insisted on better science?" Reporter Wendy Carlisle.

"There hasn't been any real world research into leaks in Australian methane fields."

"2 years ago the USA EPA upgraded its estimates of fugitive emissions" of Methane to 20 times higher than previously thought. Australia still uses the old USA EPA estimate.

"The Federal Government is now reviewing the way in which it calculates fugitive emissions."

Southern Cross University, Lismore, in 2012 measured fugitive Methane, at the Tara CSG field in Southern Qld. Their preliminary findings were extremely high Methane levels in the atmosphere over the Tara CSG field.

The highest concentrations were over 3 times the background levels outside the field. But as there was no baseline data, it is possible these were natural fugitive Methane emissions.

CSG – Coal Seam Gas

MP3 File: [http://mpegmedia.abc.net.au/rn/podcast/2012/12/bbg\\_20121209\\_0805.mp3](http://mpegmedia.abc.net.au/rn/podcast/2012/12/bbg_20121209_0805.mp3) (16.9 Mb)

A Transcript of the program is also available.

From: [www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/backgroundbriefing/2012-12-09/4409502](http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/backgroundbriefing/2012-12-09/4409502)

Editor: I've added the Fact Sheet page from Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA) but the issue of Fugitive Methane Emissions does not have an explicit Fact Sheet covering fugitive emissions in Australia.

See: [www.appea.com.au/csg/about-csg/fact-sheets.html](http://www.appea.com.au/csg/about-csg/fact-sheets.html)

## • Pilot Environmental Management Wizard

PACIA has arranged a pilot free on-line service to help companies minimise risk, manage compliance and improve performance for environmental management. This is available to all businesses (but is of direct relevance to Victorian businesses) via their PACIA website.

Businesses who use, store or transport chemicals and plastics in Victoria will find the pilot Wizard useful to review your current environmental management program. The Wizard helps you self-assess your environmental management steps, such as waste management, licensing requirements and emissions to air, and better understand your environmental obligations.

PACIA engaged Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) with support and funding from the Environment Protection Authority of Victoria (EPA), to develop and pilot the Wizard. Participants in the pilot can also request free helpdesk support and register for a free site visit (in Victoria) also delivered by ERM.

The Wizard does not provide legal advice nor a measure of compliance. Participation in the support program is voluntary and is confidential. Companies should make their own independent determination to utilise the program and appoint ERM.

To access the Pilot Env Mgt Wizard go to:

[www.ozbackup.com.au/pacia/?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1](http://www.ozbackup.com.au/pacia/?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1)

From: [www.pacia.org.au/programs/environmentalmanagementwizard](http://www.pacia.org.au/programs/environmentalmanagementwizard)

## Standards & Codes

### • Standards – [www.saiglobal.com/shop](http://www.saiglobal.com/shop)

[BS ISO 13073-1:2012](#): Ships and Marine Technology. Risk Assessment on Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships. Marine environmental risk assessment method of biocidally active substances used for anti-fouling systems on ships. ISBN: 978 0 580 69828 6. Published: 30 Nov 2012. 62 pages. \$311.71 hardcopy.

### • Drafts – [www.saiglobal.com/shop](http://www.saiglobal.com/shop)

Note: The method for submission of comment on draft documents is to register & fill in an online form via Standards Hub Website. Instructions and examples of comment submission are available on the website. Use the link

<https://www.hubstandards.org.au/hub/public/listOpenCommentingPublication.action>

*Note: Comment must be via Hub, any emails or forms sent to Standards Australia by fax or mail will not be considered by the Committee when it reviews the Public Comment received.*

No relevant Draft Standards.

## Seminars, Conferences

- **Reports from ChemCon – The Americas Dec 2012**

Ed 1: Next REACH hurdle approaches fast

[www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon\\_daily/chemcon\\_daily1.pdf](http://www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon_daily/chemcon_daily1.pdf)

Ed 2: Gaining public confidence in nano Regulation

[www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon\\_daily/chemcon\\_daily2.pdf](http://www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon_daily/chemcon_daily2.pdf)

Ed 3: Chemicals hazard data: the new global currency

[www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon\\_daily/chemcon\\_daily3.pdf](http://www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon_daily/chemcon_daily3.pdf)

Ed 4: Korea-REACH on the cards for 2013

[www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon\\_daily/chemcon\\_daily4.pdf](http://www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon_daily/chemcon_daily4.pdf)

Ed 5: Getting to grips with hazardous chemicals in China

[www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon\\_daily/chemcon\\_daily5.pdf](http://www.chemcon.net/americas/chemcon_daily/chemcon_daily5.pdf)

From: ChemCon – The Americas <http://www.chemcon.net/>

- **Safety in Labs AS/NZS 2243 & AS/NZS 2982**

11-13 Feb 2013: CSIRO, Bayview Avenue, Clayton, VIC

For info: Dr [Neale.Jackson@rmit.edu.au](mailto:Neale.Jackson@rmit.edu.au)

From: [www.sia.org.au/calendar/event.asp?ContentID=event20130211](http://www.sia.org.au/calendar/event.asp?ContentID=event20130211) and [www.rmit.edu.au/browse:ID=zgggtziggqiw0z](http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse:ID=zgggtziggqiw0z)

- **Safety In Action, 19-21 March 2013, Melbourne**

From: [www.safetyinaction.net.au/](http://www.safetyinaction.net.au/)

- **Qld Work Health & Safety in Chemistry & Eng**

12<sup>th</sup> April 2012, Boggo Rd Ecoscience Precinct, Qld

Members: RACI, Engineers Australia & IChemE \$75.

Non-Members: \$100. Concession is available

Registrations open mid-January 2013 at: [www.raci.org.au/divisions/health-safety-environment-division](http://www.raci.org.au/divisions/health-safety-environment-division)

If you are a HazMat & Env Notes newsletter subscriber - please mention "Jeff Simpson HazMat & Env Notes" to the email [RACI.OHS@gmail.com](mailto:RACI.OHS@gmail.com) & we will offer member rates.

- **Hazards AP Symposium, 16-18 Apr 13, Malaysia**

Organised by IChemE and the Chemical Industries Council of Malaysia (CICM).

Themes include: asset integrity; operational safety; process safety management; challenges of regulatory compliance; learning from major hazard incidents; process safety design and analysis; management of abnormal operations

From: [www.icheme.org/hazardsap2013](http://www.icheme.org/hazardsap2013)

- **HazMat 2013, 1-2 May 2013, Sydney**

HazMat 2013 Conference & Exhibition will be held in Sydney on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2013. The HazMat 2013 Conference Exhibition Booth & Sponsorship brochure is available at: [www.fpaa.com.au/events/?events=hazmat](http://www.fpaa.com.au/events/?events=hazmat).

The HazMat Program will be available by early Feb 2013.

Please contact Events Department, FPAA,  
ph: 03-9890-1544 Email: [Events@fpaa.com.au](mailto:Events@fpaa.com.au).

- **PACIA Conference 2013, 4-6 June, Melbourne**

Theme: "Adding Value: The Next Decade for Chemicals and Plastics in Australia".

From: [www.pacia.org.au/events/nationalconference](http://www.pacia.org.au/events/nationalconference)

- **ALCAS Conference, 14-18 July 2013, Sydney**  
"Pathways to Greening Global Markets"

An LCA and Carbon Footprinting Conference hosted by the Australian Life Cycle Assessment Society

From: <http://conference.alcas.asn.au/>

- **ChemCon – Asia 2013: 9-13<sup>th</sup> Sept, Sth Korea**

A key chemical regulations and trade Conference.

From: [www.chemcon.net](http://www.chemcon.net) **Haztech Environmental:** Chemical Hazard Classifications done & reviewed. MSDSs prepared & reviewed. Labels prepared & reviewed. Chemical Control & Safety Regulatory Compliance: checked for NICNAS, TGA, FSANZ, TGA; prepared & reviewed for Dangerous Goods & Combustible Liquids, Workplace Hazardous Substances, Environmentally Hazardous Substances, Scheduled Poisons, and other Chemical and Physical Hazards.

*I can come and work in your office, which provides better access to data with improved security, plus good technical contact with relevant personnel. This allows the work to be done more quickly and comprehensively. I also work from my home office, in Ashburton, Victoria, where I maintain an extensive reference library, developed over 22 years whilst preparing these Notes.*

**Contact:** Jeff Simpson, Hazardous Materials & Regulatory Affairs Consultant, Haztech Environmental, 18 Laurel St, Ashburton 3147, Australia, 61-(0)3-9885-1269, 61-(0)403-072-092, [Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au](mailto:Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au)

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