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• **Draft Hazardous Chemicals Regs & Codes**

The Draft Hazardous Chemicals Regulations and Codes of Practice as part of the *Model Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act and Regulations*, were released for comment by Safe Work Australia on 7 Dec 2010.

This new framework utilises the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) as the basis for hazard classification and hazard communication elements on labels and material safety data sheets (MSDS).

Comment is to be made Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011. The package must then be finalised so it may be signed off at the June 2011 COAG meeting, for implementation in January 2012. [Also see Page 3](#) where I have provided additional information.

Available at: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Pages/PublicComment.aspx](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Pages/PublicComment.aspx)

I wish you all Peace and

Happiness for Christmas and the New Year

**Hazmat & Environment Notes**

are prepared by:

Jeff Simpson

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.

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Screen

## Hazardous Substances

### • New Version of the OECD eChemPortal

A new version of the eChemPortal has been launched by OECD. It provides free public access to information for over 600,000 records on chemical substances.

Users can now search for chemical using properties criteria such as physical chemical properties, environmental fate and behaviour, ecotoxicity and toxicity, in the participating databases that can offer direct searching of endpoint data.

The information on existing chemicals, new industrial chemicals, pesticides and biocides is being made available by 19 participating databases gathering information prepared for government chemical review programs at national, regional, and international levels. This includes the GHS classification of approximately 1,500 chemicals stored by the Japanese government.

Link to eChemPortal: [www.echemportal.org/](http://www.echemportal.org/)

Help on how to use the eChemPortal

[www.echemportal.org/echemportal/page.action?pageID=7](http://www.echemportal.org/echemportal/page.action?pageID=7)

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201012/pr\\_10\\_25\\_echemportal\\_20101207\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201012/pr_10_25_echemportal_20101207_en.asp)

### • ECHA: Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC)

Eight substances will be included in the 'Candidate List' after a decision on their inclusion has been taken by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). These eight SVHCs are: Chromium Trioxide, acids generated from Chromium Trioxide and their oligomers, Cobalt(II) Sulphate, Cobalt(II) Dinitrate, Cobalt(II) Carbonate, Cobalt(II) Diacetate, 2-Methoxyethanol and 2-Ethoxyethanol, which are either carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic (CMR) substances.

The Member State Committee (MSC) agreed with ECHA that the following eight SVHCs should be subject to Authorisation: Di-Isobutylphthalate (DIBP), Diarsenic Trioxide, Diarsenic Pentaoxide, Lead Chromate, Lead Sulfochromate Yellow (C.I. Pigment Yellow 34), Lead Chromate Molybdate Sulphate Red (C.I. Pigment Red 104), tris(2-Chloroethyl) Phosphate (TCEP) and 2,4-Dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT). The MSC also agreed with ECHA that there are no grounds to recommend exemptions from Authorisation for these substances.

Candidate List of SVHCs for authorisation:

[http://echa.europa.eu/chem\\_data/authorisation\\_process/candidate\\_list\\_table\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data/authorisation_process/candidate_list_table_en.asp)

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201012/pr\\_10\\_24\\_msc\\_20101203\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201012/pr_10_24_msc_20101203_en.asp)

### • USA EPA Screens 1000 Chemicals Using ToxCast

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ToxCast screening program has entered a new phase, screening 1,000 chemicals for potential toxicity to people and the environment. ToxCast is designed to determine how chemical exposures impact the human body and how the exposures are most likely lead to health effects. When fully implemented, ToxCast will be able to screen thousands of chemicals in fast, cost-effective tests that provide people with relevant information.

ToxCast integrates advances in molecular biology, chemistry and computer science to quickly and cost-effectively screen chemicals. This approach to chemical toxicity testing allows the USA EPA to start predicting potential toxicity to human health and the environment instead of just describing the toxic effects that occur after chemical exposure.

Only a small fraction of the tens of thousands of chemicals in commerce have been adequately assessed for potential risks to human health and the environment. ToxCast is reducing EPA's reliance on slow and expensive animal toxicity tests, enabling the agency to screen chemicals more quickly and to predict and identify potential health risks.

From: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/73ec2518e34bc93d852577eb0060d7c!OpenDocument>

### • USA EPA & Testing for Endocrine Disruption

The USA EPA has identified a list of 134 chemicals that will be screened for their potential to disrupt the endocrine system. Endocrine disruptors are chemicals that interact with and possibly disrupt the hormones produced or secreted by the human or animal endocrine system, which regulates growth, metabolism and reproduction.

After public comment and review, EPA will begin issuing test orders in 2011 to pesticide registrants and the manufacturers of these chemicals to compel them to generate data to determine whether their chemicals may disrupt the oestrogen, androgen and thyroid pathways of the endocrine system.

Overview of the 2<sup>nd</sup> List of Chemicals for Tier 1 Screening: [www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/prioritysetting/list2facts.htm](http://www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/prioritysetting/list2facts.htm) & [www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/prioritysetting/draftlist2.htm](http://www.epa.gov/endo/pubs/prioritysetting/draftlist2.htm)

From: [http://www.epa.gov/agingepa/press/epanews/2010/2010\\_1116\\_1.htm](http://www.epa.gov/agingepa/press/epanews/2010/2010_1116_1.htm) and [www.epa.gov/endo/](http://www.epa.gov/endo/)

## • **First REACH Registration Deadline Outcome**

By the REACH deadline of 30 November 2010, 24,675 registration dossiers were successfully submitted for 4,300 substances, including nearly 3,400 phase-in substances. The final number of registrations and substances, including a breakdown of 'phase-in' and 'non phase-in' will be available when all submitted dossiers have been processed in the coming weeks. ECHA's website will regularly update the numbers of phase-in registrations and registered phase-in substances.

The highest percentage of registrations were from Germany at 23%, 12% from the United Kingdom. Then the Netherlands 9%, France 9%, Belgium 8%, Italy 7% and Spain 6%, with other countries at 3% each or less.

ECHA received registrations for nearly 400 substances which are listed as CMRs and more than 150 as R50-532 from Annex VI of the CLP regulation. Of those, 27 are already on the Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern.

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201012/pr\\_10\\_23\\_registration\\_deadline\\_20101201\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201012/pr_10_23_registration_deadline_20101201_en.asp)

And: [http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/press\\_memo\\_20101201\\_en.pdf](http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/press_memo_20101201_en.pdf)

## • **Call for Info on Chemicals (Acids & Gases): As Chemicals of Potential Security Concern**

In Nov 2010 NICNAS had a call for information (until 6 Dec) on behalf of the Australian Government Attorney General's Department (AGD). The information will primarily be considered to a part of risk assessments on these chemicals of potential security concern.

The call was directed at resellers, formulators and end users of the 5 bulk chemicals:

Ammonia (Anhydrous)	CAS 7664-41-7	Chlorine Gas	CAS 7782-50-5	Hydrochloric Acid	CAS 7647-01-0
Hydrogen Chloride Gas	CAS 7647-01-0	Sulphuric Acid	CAS 7664-93-9		

Information: [Phillip.Sharp@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Phillip.Sharp@nicnas.gov.au) ph: 02-8577-8820.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing\\_Chemicals/AGD/Web\\_Notice\\_DS\\_Users\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing_Chemicals/AGD/Web_Notice_DS_Users_PDF.pdf)

## • **USA EPA Review on Hexavalent Chromium**

The USA EPA is conducting a peer review of the scientific basis supporting the human health hazard and dose-response assessment of Hexavalent Chromium that will appear on the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) database.

Deadline for comments is 29 December 2010.

From: [http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris\\_drafts/recordisplay.cfm?deid=221433](http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris_drafts/recordisplay.cfm?deid=221433)

There is also an article from the American Chemistry Council that considers the USA EPA to have acted prematurely.

From: [www.americanchemistry.com/s\\_acc/sec\\_news\\_article.asp?CID=206&DID=11392](http://www.americanchemistry.com/s_acc/sec_news_article.asp?CID=206&DID=11392)

## • **Asbestos Alert: Safe Work Australia**

Since March 2010, Customs and Border Protection has been targeting imported goods at risk of asbestos contamination.

Asbestos has now been detected in a wide range of goods used in heavy industry, including gaskets, jointing materials in flues, furnaces, ducts, pipe spools, flash vessels, valves, heating equipment and pressurised hoses. Asbestos has also been detected in packaging materials for these goods.

To date, over 1,000 imported items have been confirmed as containing asbestos. In some cases, items of equipment have contained numerous components containing asbestos.

Asbestos has primarily been detected in a range of pre-assembled or pre-manufactured goods sourced from South East Asia and Eastern bloc countries. However, importers should be aware that asbestos has also been found in goods shipped via other countries, such as Italy and New Zealand.

Customs and Border Protection's experience is that certifications from overseas manufacturers and suppliers that goods are asbestos free are not always reliable.

Importers who suspect they may already have imported goods that contain asbestos should notify Customs and Border Protection on 1300 363 263, or via email at [community.protection@customs.gov.au](mailto:community.protection@customs.gov.au).

For information to Australian Customs & Border Protection Services Prohibited or Restricted Imports website: [www.customs.gov.au/site/page4369.asp](http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page4369.asp).

For Alert updates go to Australian Customs Notices [www.customs.gov.au/site/page4408.asp](http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page4408.asp)

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/559/SafeWorkAustralianIssue5December2010.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/559/SafeWorkAustralianIssue5December2010.pdf)

And: [www.customs.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/ACN2010-45.pdf](http://www.customs.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/ACN2010-45.pdf). Australian Customs Notice No. 2010/45

- **Removing Asbestos before Demolition or Refurbishment: Worksafe Vic Guidance Note**

This Oct 2010 information sheet provides advice about identifying and removing fixed or installed asbestos before demolition or refurbishment work is carried out in a workplace, or on plant or machinery.

The sheet explains what people with management or control of a workplace or plant must do when identifying and removing fixed or installed asbestos before demolition or refurbishment work. *Note:* There are also duties on employers and self-employed persons who conduct demolition or refurbishment works.

From: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fb569480447ce0aaa53cef7feb6a3dd3/101028+GN+Removing+asbestos+before+demo+or+refurb+WEB+FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fb569480447ce0aaa53cef7feb6a3dd3/101028+GN+Removing+asbestos+before+demo+or+refurb+WEB+FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES) (2 pages, October 2010)

- **More Information About Asbestos Worksafe Vic Guidance Note (Nov 2010)**

This information sheet provides information about the risks and requirements of working with or removing asbestos, and where to get further advice.

From: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/1b27f90044cf457d99bedff3b504acde/101125+More+information+about+asbestos+FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/1b27f90044cf457d99bedff3b504acde/101125+More+information+about+asbestos+FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES) (2 pages)

## Chemical Management

- **Draft Model Work Health & Safety Regulations (wrt Hazardous Chemicals)**

The Issues Paper, Draft Model WHS Regulations and Draft Model Codes of Practice were released for public comment on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011. A Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement will be released by the end of 2010.

The timeline is unchanged. Once comment is received, these documents then need to be adjusted for sign off at the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting in June 2011. The States & Territories will then enact them in late 2011, for starting on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012.

*Editor:* There are no Transitional Time Provisions in the Regulations from the current Regulations at this time.

As part of this set of documents the Hazardous Chemicals Regulations (which will bring together the current Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling Regulations) will include all the supporting documents such as the Criteria, SDS, & Labelling documents.

Available at: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Pages/PublicComment.aspx](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Pages/PublicComment.aspx)

Model Work Health and Safety Act revised draft 26 November 2010:

[www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Pages/ModelWorkHealthandSafetyAct26.1.10.aspx](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Pages/ModelWorkHealthandSafetyAct26.1.10.aspx) (215 pages).

The Act uses the term: **substance** means any natural or artificial substance, whether in the form of a solid, liquid, gas or vapour.

Model Work Health and Safety Regulations draft 7 Dec 2010:

[www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Documents/Model%20work%20health%20and%20safety%20public%20comment%202010/Draft%20Model%20WHS%20Regulations%20public%20comment/ModelWorkHealthAndSafetyRegulations.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Documents/Model%20work%20health%20and%20safety%20public%20comment%202010/Draft%20Model%20WHS%20Regulations%20public%20comment/ModelWorkHealthAndSafetyRegulations.pdf) (582 pages)

The Regulation further clarifies that: **substance** in Part 7.1, means a chemical element or compound in its natural state or obtained or generated by a process:

- (a) including any additive necessary to preserve the stability of the element or compound and any impurities deriving from the process; but
- (b) excluding any solvent that may be separated without affecting the stability of the element or compound, or changing its composition.

**hazardous chemical** means a substance, mixture or article that:

- (a) satisfies the criteria for a hazard class in the GHS (including a classification referred to in Schedule 7); or
- Note: The Schedule 7 tables replace some tables in the GHS.
- (b) is dangerous goods under the ADG Code; or
- (c) is a C1 combustible liquid,

BUT does NOT include a substance, mixture or article in the following hazard classes as listed in:

- (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m) or (n)

*Editor:* (d) to (n) cover classifications we are already aware of.

**dangerous goods** means:

- (a) dangerous goods under the ADG Code; or
- (b) a C1 combustible liquid.

**Note:** Dangerous goods under the ADG Code include goods too dangerous to be transported.

**mixture** in Part 8.1, means a combination of, or a solution composed of, 2 or more substances that do not react with each other.

Highly relevant Parts to Hazardous Chemicals are Part 4.3 p77; Part 4.6 p132; Part 7.1 Hazardous Chemicals p248; Part 7.2 p298; Part 7.3 p313; Chapter 8 Major Hazard Facilities p373; Sch 7 – Classification of Mixtures Sensitisers, Carcinogens, Reproductive Toxicants, Specific target Organ Toxicants, p489-491; Sch 8 – Disclosure of Ingredients p493-496; Sch 9 – Labelling Requirements p497; Sch 10 p503; Sch 11 p507; Sch 12 p507; Sch 13; Sch 14 p524; Sch 15 p528; Schedules 16, 17, 18 p537-547.

Relevant Codes are available as both pdf and doc files:

[How to Manage Work Health and Safety Risks](#)

[Managing the Work Environment and Facilities](#)

[Confined Spaces](#)

[How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace](#)

[Labelling of Workplace Hazardous Chemicals](#)

[Preparation of Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals](#)

Submissions: [submissions@safeworkaustralia.gov.au](mailto:submissions@safeworkaustralia.gov.au) 4Apr11

**Meetings:** In order to initially look at the Hazardous Chemicals parts of these drafts they will be the main topic at the next Dangerous Goods Advisory Group meeting on **Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2011** in Port Melbourne from 6-8.30pm (to start the process). I will then run a Chemical Hazards Communication Network meeting on **Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011** in Port Melbourne (just prior to comment closing) to share concerns. Please email me if you would like to attend either.

## • Prepare 2030: Key Themes and Directions

This [Report](#) presents the key themes and directions identified through the Workshop Forum. Prior to the forum, all participants were provided with a thought piece titled [Passport to Your Future](#), which was designed to help stimulate thinking and broaden participant's views beyond the short-term and towards 2030.

Together these documents describe the key drivers for change and those threats and opportunities identified by participants of the shifts required in policy, regulations and programs for government, industry and society.

The Prepare 2030 Program, and in particular the Workshop Forum on 22 April 2010, plays an important role in identifying issues Australia will need to deal with on the way to 2030.

Obtain copies of these 2 documents from the PACIA website.

From: [www.pacia.org.au/Content/Prepare2030.aspx](http://www.pacia.org.au/Content/Prepare2030.aspx)

## • Victoria: Precursor Supply Regs 2010: from 1 Jan 11

Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances (Precursor Supply) Regulations 2010. S.R. No. 130/2010.

The objectives of these Regulations are: (a) to prescribe precursor chemicals and precursor apparatus; and (b) to prescribe other matters that need to be prescribed for the purposes of Part VB of the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981. These Regulations come into operation on 1 January 2011.

They specify prescribed category 1 & 2 precursor chemicals and prescribed category 3 precursor apparatus.

They prescribed the particulars for end user declarations for the supply of each of the above categories.

From: [www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web\\_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/b05145073fa2a882ca256da4001bc4e7/971E3806082D993ECA2577C800140182/\\$FILE/10-130sr.pdf](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/b05145073fa2a882ca256da4001bc4e7/971E3806082D993ECA2577C800140182/$FILE/10-130sr.pdf)

For practices to be followed, see Part VB - Precursor Chemicals and Apparatus, p172-179: *Note:* the supply of precursor chemicals mixed with other substances is excluded.

[www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web\\_Notes/LDMS/LTObject\\_Store/LTObjSt5.nsf/DDE300B846EED9C7CA257616000A3571/652E75AD1B785534CA257789000756C4/\\$FILE/81-9719a091.pdf](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/LTObject_Store/LTObjSt5.nsf/DDE300B846EED9C7CA257616000A3571/652E75AD1B785534CA257789000756C4/$FILE/81-9719a091.pdf)

For help meeting these new requirements see the [Code of Practice for Supply Diversion into Illicit Drug Manufacture](#) at <http://www.pacia.org.au/Content/PACIACodes.aspx>. This 18 page booklet prepared by PACIA and the Science Industry Association has been the model for these regulations.

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • NICNAS Definition of Industrial Nanomaterials

NICNAS has amended one of the notes to the working definition to increase clarity following feedback from stakeholders. This clarification is highlighted in below:

“... industrial materials intentionally produced, manufactured or engineered to have unique properties or specific composition at the nanoscale, that is a size range typically between 1 nm and 100 nm, and is either a nano-object (i.e. that is confined in one, two, or three dimensions at the nanoscale) or is nanostructured (i.e. having an internal or surface structure at the nanoscale)”

Notes to the working definition:

- intentionally produced, manufactured or engineered materials are distinct from accidentally produced materials
- 'unique properties' refers to chemical and/or physical properties that are different because of its nanoscale features as compared to the same material without nanoscale features, and result in unique phenomena (e.g. increased strength, chemical reactivity or conductivity) that enable novel applications.
- aggregates and agglomerates are considered to be nanostructured substances
- where a material includes 10% or more number of particles that meet the above definition (size, unique properties, intentionally produced) NICNAS will consider this to be a nanomaterial.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical\\_Gazette/Chemical\\_Gazette\\_December\\_2010.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical_Gazette/Chemical_Gazette_December_2010.asp)

*Editor's comment:* The key issues are **size, unique properties, and intentionally produced**. One area I am concerned about, is where very fine pigments have been manufactured for many years with “unique properties” and we now find there is 10% or more number of nanoparticles. Should these nanoparticles be considered as intentionally produced or accidentally produced in these pigments?

I recommend that it is time for everyone to ask their manufacturers of pigments to provide a clear statement of what % (as number of nanoparticles) is <100nm or is near nanoparticle size at <200nm. *Note: % by number of particles may be very different to % by weight of particles, e.g. 10% by number may well be 1% or less by weight.* Then if found to be present at significant %s, are the particles of this size important to the function of the pigment so that this might mean “unique properties” and “intentionally produced”?

For NICNAS this is only relevant to new chemicals not on the AICS. **However your customers for existing very fine pigments have now been alerted** to the issue and are interested have the same information for the very fine pigments they are and have been using.

### • NICNAS New Chemicals Process: Nanomaterials

The adjustments, outlined in the December 2010 NICNAS Chemical Gazette (and in Hazmat & Env Notes Aug to Oct 2010), only apply to nanomaterials that are **new** (not on the AICS) chemicals.

Additional information may be required on the nano-specific characteristics of chemical. For example, where the nanomaterial is introduced as a solid / powder or as a dispersion, and is insoluble or known to be biopersistent, then as a minimum requirement for the primary particle size distribution (by number) of the nanomaterial will be required.

Further additional data may be required such as surface area, impurity profile and surface properties (such as charge and coatings), on a case-by-case basis.

Introducers who advise NICNAS of introductions under the Exemption categories will be required to declare that their chemicals are not nanomaterials, according to the NICNAS working definition.

*Information:* [Nicola.Hall@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Nicola.Hall@nicnas.gov.au), ph: 02-8577-8871.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical\\_Gazette/Chemical\\_Gazette\\_December\\_2010.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical_Gazette/Chemical_Gazette_December_2010.asp)

*Editor's Comment:* For new chemicals that use exemptions, we all need to have a close look at the chemicals we currently report annually on. Some chemicals may need a primary particle size distribution (by number) done, before you can declare them as NOT nanomaterials.

### • Use of Nanomaterials: From 2008 Call for Info

The 2008 call for information was voluntary and directed to all persons who manufactured or imported nanomaterials or products (mixtures) containing nanomaterials for commercial development purposes in the calendar year 2008 in volumes greater than 100g of any individual nanomaterial.

Three companies reported manufacturing nanomaterials and five companies reported importing nanomaterials.

NICNAS's informal market research has identified that there is an inconsistency between market information and the results of the voluntary call for information.

*Information:* [Nicola.Hall@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Nicola.Hall@nicnas.gov.au), ph: 02-8577-8871.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Information\\_Sheets/General\\_Information\\_Sheets/NIS\\_Results\\_Call\\_for\\_Information\\_2008\\_Nov\\_2010\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Information_Sheets/General_Information_Sheets/NIS_Results_Call_for_Information_2008_Nov_2010_PDF.pdf)

## • NICNAS Training & Awareness Sessions

Free sessions which are open to all interested stakeholders, e.g. registered chemical introducers & regulatory consultants.

Three sessions will be held on each day with approximate running times as follows:

Session 1 – “Introduction to NICNAS”: 0915 – 1115      Session 2 – “Cosmetics – Reg Obligations”: 1130 – 1330

Session 3 – “Industrial Nanomaterials”: 1415 – 1530

The training session dates and closing dates for Expression Of Interest (EOI) are:

Brisbane: 24 February 2011 – EOI: 28 January 2011      Sydney: 10 March 2011 – EOI: 11 February 2011

Melbourne: 5 May 2011 – EOI: 8 April 2011

Queries – ph: 02-8577-8800, Freecall 1800- 638-528, email: [Outreach@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Outreach@nicnas.gov.au)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical\\_Gazette/Chemical\\_Gazette\\_December\\_2010.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical_Gazette/Chemical_Gazette_December_2010.asp)

## • Request for Information on Cosmetic Ingredients

Specific information is being sought on chemical entities (i.e. single substances) and products containing these chemicals. NICNAS needs your assistance in providing further information that will be used to determine whether these chemicals were ingredients in eligible listed, registered or exempt products that were regulated by TGA during September 2004 – September 2007, and are currently regulated as cosmetics by NICNAS. There are 63 ingredients in List 1 and 6 ingredients in List 2.

Eligible product types include:

- Secondary sunscreen skin products with sun protection factor (SPF) less than 15;
- Primary sunscreen skin products with SPF less than 4.
- Antiperspirants that derive their antiperspirant properties from inorganic salts of aluminium, zinc or zirconium only;
- Unmedicated anti-acne preparations having only a cleansing action or purpose;
- Anti-dandruff lotions or shampoo;
- Anti-bacterial skin products.

Specific information sought:

- For chemicals on this list that were ingredients in eligible listed or registered TGA products on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG), please provide the Australian Approved Name (AAN); [List 1]
- For chemicals on this list that were ingredients in TGA-exempt products, please provide proof in the form of product labelling, product packaging, packing slips, invoices or advertising material. They must clearly show the name of the chemical(s) in Attachment 1 as being an ingredient of the product and evidence that the date of trade was some time during the period Sept 2004 – Sept 2007. [List 1]
- The full chemical name in the form of a Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) name and CAS registry number (except where not required). [List 1 & List 2]

The information is to be provided by **7<sup>th</sup> March 2011**.

Information, Dr Matthew Gredley by ph: 02-8577-8873, email: [Matthew.Gredley@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Matthew.Gredley@nicnas.gov.au).

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical\\_Gazette/Chemical\\_Gazette\\_December\\_2010.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical_Gazette/Chemical_Gazette_December_2010.asp)

## • Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Scientific Review: Identifying Key Research Needs

103 page Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) Report prepared by the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) and the Office of Chemical Safety and Environmental Health (OCSEH) November 2010.

The aim of this review was to examine current scientific research on MCS and to identify priority areas for further study to inform and engage the clinical and scientific research community.

The report examined evidence about:

- Identifying MCS, symptoms and triggers;
- Mode(s) of action for chemical interactions within MCS;
- Approaches to clinical diagnosis and treatment of MCS.

The report highlights research efforts and further activities that would enhance diagnosis, treatment and better clinical management practices of MCS in Australia.

MCS is the most common term used to describe a condition presenting as a complex array of symptoms linked to low level chemical exposures. The underlying mode(s) of action of MCS, i.e. the biological mechanisms by which the chemical sensitivity occurs, remain uncertain.

A common theme reported by individuals is experiences of heightened responsiveness to chemicals at extremely low exposure levels. The agents linked with MCS symptoms in susceptible individuals are numerous and chemically diverse. They include individual chemicals and chemical products encompassing air pollutants, workplace and domestic chemicals, agricultural chemicals, therapeutics and foods.

Similarly, the symptoms experienced by individuals from exposures are diverse and involve multiple organ systems. Although non-specific neurological symptoms are common, overall there is no characteristic symptom profile that identifies MCS. Nevertheless, reported symptoms can, in some cases, be debilitating.

Numerous modes of action have been postulated for MCS. These include immunological changes, respiratory / neurogenic inflammation, limbic sensitisation, elevated NMDA receptor activity, altered metabolism as well as behavioural conditioning and psychological disorders.

Presently, a diagnosis of MCS is based commonly on self-reported symptoms and chemical exposure histories. The symptom profile of MCS is indistinguishable from other multi-symptom disorders. No laboratory tests currently exist for diagnosing MCS. Different case definitions and the lack of a characteristic symptom profile and objective laboratory biomarkers for MCS have impeded recognition of the disorder as a distinct clinical entity.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/MCS\\_Final\\_Report\\_Nov\\_2010\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/MCS_Final_Report_Nov_2010_PDF.pdf)

## • Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Report: Revisions

Several respondents commented that the report is now more comprehensive and that the revision of the draft report has been responsive to concerns. Views were expressed also that the report fairly assesses the current situation on medical issues, provides a good appraisal of the literature and identifies some important research needs. Others noted improvement over the previous draft, but considered the report still flawed and misleading.

3 pages of Changes to Specific Sections are summarized.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/MCS\\_Summary\\_Of\\_Revisions\\_Nov\\_2010\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/MCS_Summary_Of_Revisions_Nov_2010_PDF.pdf) 30 Nov 2010

## • Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Report Summary of Submissions - Oct 2010

37 submissions were received and 30 are available on the web via the pdf below. Some of the longer submissions are:

Allergy and Environmental Sensitivity Support and Research Association Inc. (28 pages)

[http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/Submissions\\_2010/AESSRA.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/Submissions_2010/AESSRA.pdf)

Allergy, Sensitivity and Environmental Health Association Qld Inc (ASEHA Qld Inc) (11pages)

[http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/Submissions\\_2010/ASEHA.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/Submissions_2010/ASEHA.pdf)

MCS Society of Australia (16 pages):

[http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/Submissions\\_2010/MCS\\_Society\\_of\\_Australia.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/Submissions_2010/MCS_Society_of_Australia.pdf)

Professor Martin Pall, Oregon USA (21 pages):

[http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/Submissions\\_2010/Martin\\_Pall.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/Submissions_2010/Martin_Pall.pdf)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS/Submissions\\_Draft\\_Report\\_Oct\\_2010\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS/Submissions_Draft_Report_Oct_2010_PDF.pdf)

## • NICNAS Annual Report 2009-2010

The NICNAS Annual Report for 2009-2010 (140 pages) has good overview of its activities. Some bits that caught my attention are:

**Improved Science** (p15): NICNAS continues to build the capacity to apply Quantitative Structure Activity Relationship (QSAR) models, particularly the software developed in the Laboratory of Mathematical Chemistry in Bourgas, Bulgaria.

This type of QSAR provides a level of accessibility to empirical data and databases that exceeds that of other predictive models, and takes into account the metabolism of chemicals.

**Cosmetics Ultraviolet Filters** (p27): NICNAS also began compiling a legally enforceable list of permitted ultraviolet filters for use in cosmetics, based on the ultraviolet filters and their associated controls used in sunscreens under the TGA.

The Australian Government Solicitor advised NICNAS on possible legal mechanisms for creating such a list. The implications of this advice are being considered, with NICNAS planning consultation and regulatory impact analysis so that the task can be completed in 2010-11.

**Hard Surface Disinfectant Regulation** (p27): In 2009-10 NICNAS and the TGA invited industry comment on a Regulatory Impact Analysis of the expected effects on business of this preferred option of transferring exempt hard surface disinfectants to NICNAS.

Some stakeholders submissions were concerned that the net benefits of the proposed transfer to NICNAS of responsibility for regulating hard surface disinfectants could not be properly evaluated without also knowing what options the Government might propose for reforming hard surface disinfectants that remain under TGA regulation.

By late 2009-10, NICNAS and the TGA were considering the implications of this consultation; as a result, NICNAS has postponed addressing detailed regulatory transfer issues until 2010-11.

**Screening & Prioritising AICS: 2009-10 & Beyond** (p32): Key features include:

- two phase process to maximise efficiency
- maximum use of hazard data from overseas industrial chemicals regulatory programs to reduce duplication & cost
- early outcomes for high volume chemicals, and
- use of certain industry information on chemicals currently used in Australia at an early stage of prioritisation to deliver risk based priorities.

The use of read-across approaches and predictive modeling will be critical in dealing with chemicals for which sufficient safety data are not publicly available.

During 2010-11 a trial hazard evaluation will be conducted of 1000 randomly chosen AICS-listed chemicals. This will be accompanied by further exploration of the costs and issues associated with the provision of information by industry

**Monitoring New Chemicals Exempt from Notification (p57)** Over 5,800 reports were provided during 2009-10 for chemicals introduced under the exemption provisions of the legislation by 122 introducers.

A sample of randomly selected 30 chemicals, revealed 3 chemicals known to be classified as hazardous.

Additional screening of the 10 most commonly introduced chemicals across all exemption categories revealed numerous instances of introduction of a chemical more likely to be considered a therapeutic good, rather than an industrial chemical, in its mode of action. NICNAS is liaising with the TGA regarding these chemicals.

**App. 06: Progress Implementing Recommendations of Existing Chemicals Program Review** (p103): Provides an overview of 21 recommendations and their progress.

**App. 10: Ecologically Sustainable Development** (p124): The proportion of safer chemicals assessed – based on their hazard and risk profile – rose from 72 per cent in 2007-08 to 76 per cent in 2008-09 to 81 per cent in 2009-10.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Annual\\_Reports/AR\\_2009\\_2010\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Annual_Reports/AR_2009_2010_PDF.pdf)

## • NICNAS CRIS Review Written Submissions

There are 20 submissions on the NICNAS website to the NICNAS Cost Recovery Impact Statement – Discussion Paper. The feedback report from the Stakeholder CRIS Workshops (8 pages) is also available.

Information Kate Liddell ph: 02-8577-8894. Michele Jenkins ph: 02-8577-8803, email [CRIS@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:CRIS@nicnas.gov.au).

*Editor's Comment:* These submissions raise significant concerns, from a broad range of perspectives, and all want to ensure a fair and equitable system.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/CRIS/Discussion\\_Paper.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/CRIS/Discussion_Paper.asp)

## • NICNAS Matters – November 2010

Issues that caught my attention in the 14 page newsletter (that I have not already covered).

**"Household chemicals in the sights of terrorists"** (p5). The July 2005 London terrorist attacks used homemade explosives fashioned from Hydrogen Peroxide – a chemical easily available in most pharmacies, beauty retailers or pool shops. In 2006 in Mumbai, terrorists attacked the suburban railway using bombs made from Ammonium Nitrate – a chemical commonly used in fertiliser. Report suspicious chemical activity to the National Security Hotline (NSH) on 1800 123 400. Information: [www.chemicalsecurity.gov.au/](http://www.chemicalsecurity.gov.au/)

**"Secondary Sunscreen Audit"** (p12). NICNAS randomly purchased an 'audit sample' of 22 skincare and 15 face and nail cosmetic products containing secondary sunscreen.

Potential non-compliance issues NICNAS noted included:

- a number of new chemicals were identified
- non-compliance with AS/NZ 2604:1998, and
- Scheduled Poison ingredients present in products (e.g. ingredients restricted or prohibited for use in cosmetics).

NICNAS will update relevant cosmetics guidance documentation to reflect the non-compliance issues raised.

*Cosmetics:* 02-8577-8877, email: [cosmetics@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:cosmetics@nicnas.gov.au)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters/NICNAS\\_Matters\\_Nov\\_2010\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters/NICNAS_Matters_Nov_2010_PDF.pdf)

## Scheduled Poisons

- **Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling**

Under revised scheduling arrangements, which took effect on 1 July 2010, two expert advisory committees were established, the Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling (ACMS) and the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling (ACCS).

Under the new arrangements only applications for rescheduling, or contentious new applications, need be referred to the Advisory Committees.

Processes for the scheduling of agricultural, veterinary, industrial and domestic chemicals are being developed by the Office of Health Protection (OHP), the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority and the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme.

The expertise that ACCS members are required to have is listed on the website.

The ACCS is expected to hold three face to face meetings annually (February, June and October).

From: [www.tga.gov.au/ndpsc/scheduling-revised.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/ndpsc/scheduling-revised.htm)

And from: [www.tga.gov.au/committee/acmcs.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/committee/acmcs.htm)

Scheduling Policy Framework for Medicines and Chemicals by the National Co-ordinating Committee on Therapeutic Goods. This includes the Scheduling Factors to help us all understand the basis for Scheduling. (35 pages).

<http://www.tga.gov.au/pdf/scheduling-policy-framework.pdf>

- **Applications to Amend the Poisons Standard**

### **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals**

Applications for the scheduling of new agricultural and veterinary chemicals, or the rescheduling of an existing agricultural and veterinary chemical, are made directly to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). *Application and information requirements are contained in the [Manual of Requirements and Guidelines](#) published by the APVMA.*

From: [www.tga.gov.au/regulation/scheduling-revised-factsheet.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/regulation/scheduling-revised-factsheet.htm)

### **Domestic and Industrial Chemicals**

This template is to be used for applications to change the [Poisons Standard](#) made independently of any associated product application that may be made to the TGA or the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority. Use of this template will ensure that applications are in an acceptable format and will help avoid possible delays in their consideration. The template contains notes throughout each part to aid the applicant.

Applications are submitted to: The Secretary, Medicines and Poisons Scheduling Secretariat, [ndpsc@health.gov.au](mailto:ndpsc@health.gov.au)

[Application to amend the Poisons Standard \(rtf, 110kb\)](#)

From: [www.tga.gov.au/regulation/scheduling-template.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/regulation/scheduling-template.htm)

## Food Chemical Issues

- **Tutin Limits in Honey: Proposal P1009**

Tutin is a naturally-occurring toxin produced by the tutu bush, a plant native to New Zealand. Honey produced in New Zealand may contain unsafe levels of Tutin as a result of bees foraging on honey dew excreted by passion vine hopper insects that have fed on the tutu bush. Tutin is a potent neurotoxin in animals and humans.

Symptoms in humans may include dizziness, vomiting, seizures and coma. Reported cases of honey poisoning go back to the 1880s. There have been several deaths, the last fatality being in 1917. In the most recent poisoning episode (March 2008) twenty two people were reported to have been affected, some requiring hospitalisation.

Temporary maximum limits for Tutin in honey (2 milligrams per kilogram) and comb honey (0.1 mg/kg) are due to expire on 31 March 2011. FSANZ is recommending an extension of the maximum limits for two years.

*Proposal P 1009 Assessment Report (12 Oct 2010):*

[www.foodstandards.gov.au/\\_srcfiles/P1009%20Tutin%20in%20Honey%20AR%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/_srcfiles/P1009%20Tutin%20in%20Honey%20AR%20FINAL.pdf)

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/newsroom/mediareleases/mediareleases2010/11102010fsanzplanstw4959.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/newsroom/mediareleases/mediareleases2010/11102010fsanzplanstw4959.cfm)

## • Regulation of Caffeinated Energy Drinks

The Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council noted that concerns continue to be raised about Caffeine and caffeinated energy drinks, in particular for young people. More recently the practice of mixing caffeinated energy drinks with alcohol is emerging. The Ministerial Council agreed the issue of RTDs and combining Alcohol with caffeinated beverages would be referred to the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy for consideration.

For non-alcoholic caffeinated energy drinks the Food Regulation Standing Committee has been asked to undertake scoping work & provide advice on possible areas for action & report back at the next Ministerial Council meeting.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/newsroom/mediareleases/mediareleases2010/3december2010jointco5006.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/newsroom/mediareleases/mediareleases2010/3december2010jointco5006.cfm) (6 Dec 2010).

## Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

### • Better Regulation of Ag and Vet Chemicals

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has released an initial policy discussion paper on the better regulation of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

The Council of Australian Governments has requested the development of a single, national scheme to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the regulation of agricultural and veterinary chemicals. This includes the assessment and registration functions currently undertaken by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, as well as regulations controlling the use of chemicals, for which the States and Territories currently have responsibility.

In conjunction with the development of a single national scheme, the Government is developing reforms aimed at:

- providing a more efficient way to look at 'chemicals of concern', putting the onus on industry to justify registration against contemporary standards;
- fully using the science and studies from overseas,
- providing a comprehensive risk framework; and
- establishing an independent science panel; to report progress with reviews and registrations.

This paper outlines the proposed reforms and how they might be implemented in order to enable industry and community stakeholders to inform the government of the nature, implementation and likely impacts of the reforms. Information that stakeholders provide will be used to refine the proposed approaches and will aid the development of a regulation impact statement (RIS) to inform the government's decision-making about the implementation of the reforms.

Discussion Paper: [www.daff.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/1853973/agvet-chemicals-discussion-paper-191110.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1853973/agvet-chemicals-discussion-paper-191110.pdf)

Some Extracts from the 11 page Discussion Paper:

1/ The APVMA and its regulatory partners would be required to develop and publish all relevant risk manuals, standards and methodologies which guide decisions about the level of risk of a particular product or active ingredient. This would add issues such as public health; occupational health; chemistry and manufacture; residues and trade; and efficacy and safety components to the environmental component, which has already been developed by SEWPaC, to form a risk framework for AgVet chemicals.

3/ It is proposed to introduce a new requirement to ensure that all AgVet chemical approvals and registrations, including labels, are periodically checked against contemporary standards. This would put the onus on chemical companies to prove at regular intervals that their products remain safe.

4/ This reform aims to change the legislation to encourage the APVMA and its regulatory partners to make more effective use of work conducted by comparable overseas agencies, which have applied a compatible approach, to the extent possible considering Australian conditions.

6/ Replacing the APVMA Advisory Board with Expert Advisor(s) who would be able to review issues and provide recommendations to the APVMA's CEO as required. The advisor(s) would be utilised by the APVMA's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on an 'as needs' and flexible basis, from a pool of suitable candidates who have a range of appropriate expertise (e.g. health, environmental, economic, industry and community representatives) on AgVet chemical issues.

It is anticipated that draft legislation will be developed in the first half of 2011 and that stakeholder views will be sought on this in mid 2011. Passage of the necessary legislation and regulations is anticipated to occur in 2012.

DAFF is seeking comment from stakeholders on this discussion paper at this initial stage until 25 Jan 2011, but would **prefer comments** to be received **by 20 Dec 2010**.

Submissions to: AgVet Chemicals

– Early Harvest & APVMA Reforms Team, ph: 02-6272-3363,

Agricultural Productivity Division, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, email [agvetreform@daff.gov.au](mailto:agvetreform@daff.gov.au).

As Responses come in, they are [posted](#) on the website.

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

- **Serious Breach of Pesticide Laws by WA Company**

Gemax Pty Ltd (a Western Australian chemical import and distribution company) pleaded guilty to the importation of an unregistered agricultural chemical product and was fined \$10,000. Gemax was also ordered to pay substantial additional costs incurred by the APVMA for chemical analysis.

The court found that Gemax Pty Ltd had illegally imported a fungicide product that contained a higher concentration of the active constituent than had previously been assessed and approved by the experts at the APVMA.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2010/mr2010-14.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2010/mr2010-14.php)

- **Crackdown on Unapproved Insecticide Baits**

Cooperative effort between the APVMA and suburban Sydney councils has led to a major crackdown on stores selling unapproved insecticide baits. APVMA inspectors seized 6600 units of baits.

These seizures led to the issue of [26 compulsory notices](#) (on the stores) requiring the recall and destruction of the products at considerable cost to the stores that had been selling them.

The products concerned - *Miraculous Insecticide Chalk* and *Wanhoulou Cockroach and Ant Bait* - had been illegally imported into Australia.

The APVMA will seek the support of the Commonwealth Department of Public Prosecutions in prosecuting individuals or companies responsible for endangering the public through wide scale supply of unregistered or poorly labelled insecticide products.

It is essential importers, wholesalers and distributors realise a significant obligation rests with them to only deal in registered chemical products.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2010/mr2010-13.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2010/mr2010-13.php)

- **Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals and the APVMA**

Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) are substances in the environment that can alter the way hormones produced within the body carry signals between cells and tissues. This may affect metabolism, reproduction, development, and/or behaviour of the whole organism.

Endocrine disruption is but one part of a spectrum of effects that chemicals can cause if animals or humans are exposed to levels which overwhelm normal metabolism and excretion processes. Endocrine disruption is, therefore, not considered to be an adverse end-point *per se*, but rather a mode or mechanism of action of a chemical that can potentially lead to adverse toxicological or eco-toxicological outcomes in the whole organism, such as reproductive, developmental, carcinogenic or ecological effects.

Before any new pesticide or veterinary medicine can be approved for sale in Australia, the assessment process requires extensive toxicological and eco-toxicological testing with specific elements capable of identifying chemicals with endocrine disrupting potential. These processes, similar to those used by comparable overseas regulators, have ensured that regulatory settings have been conservative and protective in nature.

There is ongoing international work, particularly through the OECD Test Guidelines program, to further refine the methods used to identify the risks and to develop even more sensitive assessment methods.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/community/2010-16\\_endocrine.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/community/2010-16_endocrine.php) (7 Dec 2010)

- **Guidelines for Stock Foods & Stock Food Additives**

**Updated Management: 18 October 2010**

Registrants of stock foods, medicated stockfoods, medicated premixes, medicated blocks and licks, and unmedicated blocks and licks should note that the APVMA has made changes to how these products are to be managed.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/publications/guidelines/gl7\\_stockfeed.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/publications/guidelines/gl7_stockfeed.php)

- **Some Label Content May be Contrary to RLPs?**

It is an offence to supply a Market Product Labels (MPL) that contains content that is contrary to the approved Relevant Label Particulars (RLPs), or that otherwise negates or minimises the significance or effect of an RLP. In general the APVMA will consider contrary content to be any information that contradicts any RLP, confuses or affects the meaning of any RLP, or otherwise directly or indirectly provides instruction for the handling or use of the product in a manner which is inconsistent with that for which it has been approved.

The Relevant Label Particulars (RLPs) include information on the label that identifies the product, how it is to be used, stored and disposed, and what to do in case of poisoning, as well as other information set out in the legislation and regulations.

A list of the RLPs for agricultural and veterinary chemical products, as currently set out in the legislation and regulations, is provided in [Appendix I](#) and [Appendix II](#) respectively. Specific details as to the content for each of the RLPs can be obtained from Chapter 2 in the respective Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Labelling Codes.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/about/legislation/amendments\\_2010.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/about/legislation/amendments_2010.php)

## • APVMA Review of Thiophanate-Methyl Completed

Thiophanate-Methyl is a systemic fungicide used in Australia to control soil borne diseases in ornamental plants.

Thiophanate-Methyl breaks down in plants and the environment to form Carbendazim and the use of Thiophanate-Methyl can lead to residues of Carbendazim in treated commodities.

The review found that:

- Thiophanate-Methyl did not induce birth defects in animal studies. While Thiophanate-Methyl breaks down in the environment to form Carbendazim, in mammals Thiophanate-Methyl appears to undergo only very limited metabolic conversion to Carbendazim;
- the use of products containing Thiophanate-Methyl in accordance with amended label instructions would not be likely to have a harmful effect on human health;
- the existing safety directions, poison scheduling and personal protective equipment (PPE) for Thiophanate-Methyl products remain appropriate, apart from minor label changes. In addition, the re-entry interval and first aid instructions require minor changes to the product label;
- the restraint "DO NOT use this product in the home garden" should be added to all product labels to clarify that Thiophanate-Methyl products are for professional use only.

Based on the above the APVMA affirmed the active constituent approval and product registrations and varied product labels to carry additional instructions. Old product labels have been cancelled.

APVMA Report: [Thiophanate-Methyl Preliminary Review Findings Report \(PDF, 725kb\)](#), August 2010, 36 pages.

Contact: [chemicalreview@apvma.gov.au](mailto:chemicalreview@apvma.gov.au) ph: 02-6210-4749.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/news/2010/2010-11-09\\_thiophanate\\_methyl.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/news/2010/2010-11-09_thiophanate_methyl.php)

## • Amended Standard - Paraquat Dichloride

The APVMA invites comment from 8 Nov 2010 to **11 Jan 2011** on the proposed changes to the standard for Paraquat Dichloride.

Draft: [www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/paraquat\\_dichloride\\_draft\\_standard.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/paraquat_dichloride_draft_standard.php)

Contact: [John.Hughes@apvma.gov.au](mailto:John.Hughes@apvma.gov.au), ph: 02-6210-4936.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/paraquat\\_dichloride.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/paraquat_dichloride.php)

## • New Agricultural Active Constituents (1)

APVMA, Chemistry Evaluation Manager, Pesticides Program, Mr John Hughes, ph: 02-6210-4936, fax: 02-6210-4840, email: [John.Hughes@apvma.gov.au](mailto:John.Hughes@apvma.gov.au)

### 1/ Metrafenone

Metrafenone, is an Aryl Phenyl Ketone fungicide for use in grapevines and cucurbits for the control of powdery mildew.

Chemical Name: 3'-Bromo-2,3,4,6'-tetramethoxy-2',6-dimethylbenzophenone; CAS Number: 220899-03-6; Minimum Purity: ≥975 g/kg; Formula: C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BrO<sub>5</sub>; MW: 409.28. Mode of Action: Systemic Fungicide

An Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) of 0.25 mg/kg bw/day is recommended based on a No Observable Effect Level (NOEL) of 24.9 mg/kg bw/day in a 24-month rat study and using a 100-fold safety factor.

The National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee (NDPSC) has agreed that (i) the benign liver tumours in Metrafenone - administered mice and rats are unlikely be encountered in humans considering the proposed product use pattern, and (ii) Metrafenone has low acute toxicity, it is non-irritating to eyes and skin, and has no skin sensitization potentials. Therefore, the NDPSC recommended to include Metrafenone in Schedule 6, with a cut-off to Schedule 5 for preparation containing 50 percent or less of Metrafenone, in the Std for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines & Poisons.

The APVMA accepts these findings and recommendations.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2010/03/gazette\\_2010-02-16.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2010/03/gazette_2010-02-16.php)

## Dangerous Goods

- **NTC Review of the Implementation of ADG 7**

In Nov 2010 the NTC asked for feedback from organisations and individuals on the implementation of ADG 7, on:

- Whether you or your organisation has been impacted by inconsistencies in implementation and administration of ADG 7 in state and territory law,
- Any concerns regarding the regulatory outcomes produced by the implementation of ADG 7, or the legislation by which ADG 7 was implemented.

In my feedback (which I have already circulated to you) I added we need to urgently consider how we to prepare ADG 8 as Australia will be fully out of sync with the IMDG Code by Jan 2012. There has been significant comment sent to NTC.

From: <http://www.ntc.gov.au/viewpage.aspx?AreaId=35&DocumentId=1147>

- **Chemical Loss in Tasmanian Train Derailment**

23 Nov 2010: A container of chemicals dislodged from a derailed freight train near Penguin, Tasmania, was unpacked under the supervision of the Tasmania EPA and the Tasmania Fire Service.

The 2,200L consignment included 800L of Potassium Hydroxide and 1400L of a Sodium Hydroxide and Potassium Hydroxide mix. Less than a third – 500L of Potassium Hydroxide and 140L of the mixed product - was lost into Bass Strait.

The amount lost was considered unlikely to have any serious effect on marine life The EPA's water sampling on the day of the spill and since then has shown a slightly elevated pH, but well within acceptable limits.

From: [www.epa.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=141&intlD=2109](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=141&intlD=2109)

- **Purchasing the IMDG Code and the IATA Regs**

1/ The International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code 2010 (Amdt 35-10) becomes available to use on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan 2011 and the 2008 Code can be used until the end of 2010.

The IMDG Code 2010 and Supplement 2010 (which includes Packing Procedures, etc) can be ordered in Australia from: Boat Books Australia Pty Ltd, [www.boatbooks-aust.com.au](http://www.boatbooks-aust.com.au), Sydney ph: 02- 9439-1133, Melbourne ph: 03-9525-3444, Brisbane ph: 07- 3229-6427, e: [boatbooks@boatbooks-aust.com.au](mailto:boatbooks@boatbooks-aust.com.au).

The IMDG Code 2010 can be ordered direct from:  
[www.imo.org/Publications/Pages/JustPublished2010.aspx](http://www.imo.org/Publications/Pages/JustPublished2010.aspx)

2/ The International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations 2010, which is used from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan 2011, are available in Australia from: Marair Freight, [www.marair.com.au](http://www.marair.com.au), email: [Admin@marair.com.au](mailto:Admin@marair.com.au) Melbourne ph: 1800-677-721 or 03-9335-2699.

The IATA DG Regs 2010 can also be ordered direct from: [www.iata.org/ps/publications/dgr.htm](http://www.iata.org/ps/publications/dgr.htm).

## Standards & Codes

- **Standards – [www.saiglobal.com/shop](http://www.saiglobal.com/shop)**

[DD ISO/TS 80004-1:2010](#): **Nanotechnologies. Vocabulary. Core terms.** Pub: 31 Oct 2010. 16 pages. \$67.69 hardcopy.

[PD 6699-3:2010](#): **Nanotechnologies. Guide to assessing airborne exposure in occupational settings relevant to nanomaterials.** Pub: 30 Nov 10. 34 pages. \$218.46 hardcopy.

[ISO 10801:2010](#): **Nanotechnologies - Generation of metal nanoparticles for inhalation toxicity testing** using the evaporation/condensation method. Published 2 Dec 2010. 22 pages. \$104.58 pdf, \$116.20 hardcopy.

[ISO 10808:2010](#): **Nanotechnologies - Characterization of nanoparticles in inhalation exposure chambers for inhalation toxicity testing.** Published 2 Dec 2010. 18 pages. \$90.77 pdf, \$100.86 hardcopy.

[NFPA 35:2011](#) **Manufacture of Organic Coatings.** To be published by the USA National Fire Protection Association. 25 Feb 2011. 35 pages. Supersedes 2005 edition. Hard copy only. *Note: May also be obtained from [www.FPAA.com.au](http://www.FPAA.com.au).*

[ISO 10890:2010](#): **Paints and Varnishes - Modelling of biocide release rate from antifouling paints by mass-balance calculation.** Published 18 Oct 2010. 7 pages. \$57.23 pdf, \$63.58 hardcopy.

[UNE EN 12472:2006](#): **Method For The Simulation Of Wear And Corrosion For The Detection Of Nickel Release From Coated Items.** Re-issued with AMD 2010 17 Nov 2010. 16 pages. \$49.87 pdf, \$55.41 hardcopy.

*Editor: Now coming in Mid 2011: AS/NZS 5026: The Storage & Handling of Class 4 Dangerous Goods.* This draft standard will follow a risk assessment protocol in order to manage the large range of different reactive hazard Dangerous Goods, covered under Division 4.1 Flammable Solids; Division 4.2 Spontaneously Combustible and Self Heating Solids; and Division 4.3 Dangerous When Wet. *There will a presentation at HazMat 2011 by two members of the Standards Committee.*

- **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 us by fax or mail will not be considered by the Committee when it reviews the Public Comment received.

**ISO/DIS 12219-1: Indoor air of road vehicles - Part 1: Whole vehicle test chamber - Specification and method for the determination of volatile organic compounds in cabin interiors.** Published 11 Oct 2010. 23 pages. \$65.12 pdf, \$72.35 hardcopy.

**10/30212804 DC: BS 8417. Preservation of wood. Code of practice.** Pub: 29 Oct 2010. 26 pages. \$30.77 hardcopy.

**10/30197389 DC: BS ISO 12025. Nanomaterials. Quantification of nano-object release from powders by generation of aerosols.** Published 8 Nov 2010. 36 pages. \$30.77 hardcopy.

**ISO/DIS 16495: Packaging - Transport packaging for dangerous goods - Test methods.** Published 4 Nov 2010. 73 pages. \$65.12 pdf, \$72.35 hardcopy.

## Seminars, Conferences

- **Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition, 9-1 Mar 11**

Australian Technology Park, Sydney NSW.

Climate change imperatives; Water cycle sustainability; Waste and resource recovery; Land and groundwater remediation; Communication and engagement.

From: [www.ecoforum.net.au/2011/](http://www.ecoforum.net.au/2011/)

- **Life Cycle Assessment, 9-10 Mar 2011, Melbourne**  
**'LCA - Revealing the Secrets of a Green Market'**

Will cover: Application of LCA in business strategies; Supply Chain Management; LCA case studies; Life Cycle Impact Assessment methods; & Carbon Footprinting. Poster: [www.conorg.com.au/library2011/Poster%20LCA%202011.pdf](http://www.conorg.com.au/library2011/Poster%20LCA%202011.pdf)

From: [http://conference.alcas.asn.au/web/index.php?option=com\\_frontpage&Itemid=1](http://conference.alcas.asn.au/web/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1) & [www.alcas.asn.au](http://www.alcas.asn.au)

- **Industrial & Commercial Waste Recycling 2011:**  
**The Future, Melbourne 21-23 March 2011**

What can be achieved? 2 day Conference cost: \$2195.

From: [www.ibrc.com.au/product\\_details.php?product=waste\\_recycling\\_2011](http://www.ibrc.com.au/product_details.php?product=waste_recycling_2011)

- **Greenhouse 2011, 4-8 April 2011, Cairns**

From: [www.greenhouse2011.com](http://www.greenhouse2011.com)

- **Safety In Action, 5-7 April 2011, Melbourne**

From: [www.safetyinaction.net.au/safety-in-action-melbourne](http://www.safetyinaction.net.au/safety-in-action-melbourne)

- **EnviroTox 2011, 17th - 20th April, Darwin**

Envirotox 2011 aims to promote the sharing of knowledge to gain a better understanding of the environmental risks, impacts and management of contaminants to ensure a healthier environment. Cost \$1092.

From: [www.envirotox2011.org/](http://www.envirotox2011.org/)

- **HazMat 2011, Sydney, 11-12<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

HazMat 2011 will be held at the Sydney Showgrounds, on 11&12<sup>th</sup> May 2011. The HazMat 2011 Conference Exhibition Booth & Sponsorship brochure is available at: [www.fpa.com.au/events/?events=hazmat](http://www.fpa.com.au/events/?events=hazmat).

The HazMat Program will be available by late January 2011.

Contact [Events@fpa.com.au](mailto:Events@fpa.com.au), ph: 03-9890-1544.

**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 20+ 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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