

# Hazmat & Environment Notes April - June 2011

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## • Risk Assessments: Dangerous Goods Installations

Dr Peter Drygala, Chief Dangerous Goods Adviser, Resources Safety Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum Western Australia, presented at the HazMat 2011 Conference on Risk Assessments for Dangerous Goods Installations and Compliance with Approved Codes of Practice.

The desired outcome of any risk assessment is a successful risk control strategy that reduces the risk to as low as is reasonably practicable. Resources Safety Division focuses on the implementation of successful controls and not on the risk assessment deliberations. The process of achieving successful controls is best short-circuited by making maximum use of approved codes of practice. This way the safety aims are maximised and the required effort by industry and regulator is minimised.

WA is the only jurisdiction in Australia to operate a dangerous goods site licence for all classes of dangerous goods. This licence strategy involves an active government inspection program. Just as importantly, it involves a **review of the dangerous goods risk assessment** as a pre-requisite to the issue of the site licence. Most risk assessments are developed by **accredited dangerous goods consultants**.

To obtain a copy of [Risk Assessment for Dangerous Goods - Guidance Note S02/09](#) go to:  
[www.dmp.wa.gov.au/6651.aspx](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/6651.aspx)

Approved Codes of Practice are at:  
[www.dmp.wa.gov.au/6680.aspx](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/6680.aspx)

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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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## Hazardous Substances

### • Mercury – Progress to a Global Instrument

Report of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury on the work of its second session.

From: [www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Negotiations/INC2/INC2Report/tabid/3485/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Negotiations/INC2/INC2Report/tabid/3485/Default.aspx)

Technical Briefing Presentations from 23 January 2011 at Chiba Japan, covering: Mercury Emissions (3); Gold Mining (2); Storage and Waste (3); are available at [www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Negotiations/INC2/INC2TechnicalBriefingPresentations/tabid/29793/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/Negotiations/INC2/INC2TechnicalBriefingPresentations/tabid/29793/Default.aspx)

### • New Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs)

The new substances identified as SVHCs to be added to the Candidate List are:

2-Ethoxyethylacetate; Strontium Chromate; 1,2-Benzenedicarboxylic Acid; Di-C7-11 branched & linear Alkyl Esters (DHNUP); Hydrazine; 1-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone; 1,2,3-Trichloropropane; Di-C6-8-Branched Alkyl Esters, C7-rich (DIHP).

These substances are either carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic (CMR) substances. DHNUP and DIHP will complement the Candidate List with two additional Phthalates.

In addition, as a result of the procedure for identification as SVHC a new identification basis (toxic for reproduction) will be added for Cobalt Dichloride that is already on the Candidate List because of its carcinogenic hazards.

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201105/pr\\_11\\_13\\_msc\\_identify\\_seven\\_new\\_svhc\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201105/pr_11_13_msc_identify_seven_new_svhc_en.asp)

For the Candidate List as of 15 December 2010 go to:

[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)

For the 38 substances that were included in the Candidate List by 1 Dec 2010, the notifications for these Candidate List SVHC Substances had to be submitted by 1 June 2011.

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/enews/2011\\_06/20110601.html](http://echa.europa.eu/enews/2011_06/20110601.html)

### • ECHA Info on Registered Substances: Update

ECHA has made a large amount of information on thousands of registered substances freely accessible on its dissemination web section. This includes information from registration dossiers for 95% of all phase-in substances registered by the 2010 deadline. As of the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2011 the database contained 4071 records. Please be aware that ECHA does not verify the information before dissemination. eChemPortal now also searches on ECHA Chem database and if you want to look at the data brings you to ECHA.

The number of substances for which information is available in the database will increase over time as companies submit more registrations dossiers. For further information about the content of the database, please read the [Questions and Answers](#) at: [http://echa.europa.eu/chem\\_data/registered\\_substances\\_faqs\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data/registered_substances_faqs_en.asp).

e.g. The separate submission of data may result in the display of several entries in the database.

From: <http://apps.echa.europa.eu/registered/registered-sub.aspx>

*Editor's Comment:* There may be more than one entry (e.g. Formaldehyde 50-00-0 has 2, and Acetone 67-64-1 also has 2). The amount of data available can be quite different (as occurs for the two 50-00-0 entries). At this stage I don't understand why there must be more than one entry for a CAS No. I assume with time (years), there will be a sorting out of this sort of duplication. I've been told that there may be up to 10 entries against a particular CAS No. / EINECS entry. Using the database is very clumsy as you must go in and out of each part of the record within the database to look at the data.

### • Durability of Carbon Nanotubes and their Potential to cause Inflammation

The University of Edinburgh, the Institute of Occupational Medicine (Edinburgh), and the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation (Australia) have collaborated to determine the durability of Carbon Nanotubes in simulated biological fluid and subsequent fibre pathogenicity, compared with well-characterised fibre controls.

The 66 page Report was published 11 May 2011.

The results support the view that Carbon Nanotubes can be durable but may also be subject to bio-modification in a sample-specific manner. They also suggest that if they are of sufficient length and aspect ratio, pristine Carbon Nanotubes can induce Asbestos-like responses in mice, but that this may be mitigated if the Nanotubes are of a less durable nature.

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Pages/DurabilityCarbonNanotubes.aspx](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Pages/DurabilityCarbonNanotubes.aspx) and

[www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/582/DurabilityOfCarbonNanotubesAndTheirPotentialToCauseInflammation.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/582/DurabilityOfCarbonNanotubesAndTheirPotentialToCauseInflammation.pdf)

### • Fatality at Laverton's Nufarm Chemicals

A 54 year old man died on Thursday 19 May 2011, at the Nufarm site after he was exposed to toxic material (*informed to be Phenol*) while working on a pipe. Nufarm is required to comply with the improvement notices.

From: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternetworksafe/sitetools/news/nufarm+issued+with+notices+following+fatality](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternetworksafe/sitetools/news/nufarm+issued+with+notices+following+fatality) 27 May 2011 and

[www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternetworksafe/sitetools/news/man+dies+after+chemical+exposure+at+laverton+north](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternetworksafe/sitetools/news/man+dies+after+chemical+exposure+at+laverton+north) 19 May 2011.

It is understood the man was exposed to a fatal dose of molten Phenol, a chemical used in the manufacturer of farm pesticides at the Pipe Rd plant.

Police said the man was working on an exterior pipeline when the pipe connection failed, spraying him with the toxic chemical about 11.15am.

During an attempt to wash the chemicals off in a shower the man collapsed. He was pulled from the shower, but attempts by fellow workers and emergency crew failed to revive him.

From: [www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/man-dies-after-chemical-exposure-at-laverton-north-factory/story-fn7x8me2-1226058858220](http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/man-dies-after-chemical-exposure-at-laverton-north-factory/story-fn7x8me2-1226058858220)

### • TEDX List of Potential Endocrine Disruptors

TEDX (The Endocrine Disruption Exchange, Inc.) is an organization (founded by Dr Theo Colburn, Professor Emeritus, University of Florida) that focuses primarily on the human health and environmental problems caused by low-

dose and/or ambient exposure to chemicals that interfere with development and function, called endocrine disruptors.

The TEDX List of Potential Endocrine Disruptors is a database of chemicals with the potential to affect the endocrine system.

Every chemical on the TEDX List has one or more verified citations to published, accessible, primary scientific research demonstrating effects on the endocrine system. These are in a downloadable Excel Spreadsheet with 1327 entries (as at 12 June 2011).

From: [www.endocrinedisruption.com/endocrine.TEDXList.oveview.php](http://www.endocrinedisruption.com/endocrine.TEDXList.oveview.php) which was alerted by the National Toxics Network.

## • Exposure to Biological Hazards: National Hazard Exposure Worker Surveillance Report

The 33 page Report covers exposure to biological hazards and the provision of controls against biological hazards in Australian workplaces. It focuses on the exposure to biological hazards and the control measures that are provided in workplaces that eliminate, reduce or control worker exposure to biological hazards. Published 3 March 2011.

Biological hazards are organic substances that pose a threat to the health of humans and other living organisms.

Biological hazards include viruses e.g. HIV, Hepatitis, Avian influenza, pathogenic micro-organisms, toxins, spores, fungi and bio-active substances. Biological hazards can also be considered to include biological vectors or transmitters of disease e.g. human blood or tissue, live animals.

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/580/SafeWorkAustraliaIssue6May2011.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/580/SafeWorkAustraliaIssue6May2011.pdf) page 29, and

[www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Pages/NHEWS-biological.aspx](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Pages/NHEWS-biological.aspx)

33 page Report: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/571/NHEWS\\_BiologicalMaterials.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/AboutSafeWorkAustralia/WhatWeDo/Publications/Documents/571/NHEWS_BiologicalMaterials.pdf)

## Chemical Management

### • NSW Bill to Enact Model Health & Safety Legis'n

On 4 May 2011, the NSW Government introduced a [Bill to enact the national model work health and safety legislation](#). The Bill was passed by the NSW Parliament on 1 June 2011.

There are currently nine different work health and safety (WHS) laws across Australia and all jurisdictions have committed to working towards uniform safety standards across Australia.

Key reasons for the new work health and safety laws are:

- reduce compliance costs and red tape for employers
- maintain NSW's strong work, health and safety framework
- keep businesses accountable
- make laws easier to understand while protecting workers.

What is New for NSW in these laws is covered at:

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

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

*Editor's Note: The major part of the Model Legislation is to cover chemicals management.*

### • ECHA: Avoiding Unnecessary Animal Testing

ECHA call for information to avoid unnecessary animal testing.

The table on their website presents the substances, hazard endpoints, deadlines for submitting information and links to the submission format for which ECHA is currently requesting "scientifically valid information" from third parties.

If you want to submit such information, please use the links to the submission format given in the table by the Deadline.

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/test\\_proposals/test\\_prop\\_cons\\_en.asp?consultations\\_status=current](http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/test_proposals/test_prop_cons_en.asp?consultations_status=current)

### • ECHA to Publish more Info on Chemical Substances

Certain information from the registration dossiers that is contained in the Safety Data Sheet, including the names of registrants, will be published on the ECHA dissemination web section in the future, however, companies will be able to keep this information confidential, provided that a valid justification is given and accepted by ECHA.

This extension of ECHA's dissemination practice follows a legal interpretation by the European Commission Services and the advice of its Management Board. The opinion of the Commission Services states that in particular the name of a registrant is part of the information to be disseminated by the Agency, as it is contained in the Safety Data Sheet.

Registrants of hazardous substances can claim confidentiality to protect their commercial interests, provided they give a valid justification and pay the corresponding fee. ECHA will then assess the confidentiality claims. The names of registrants of non-hazardous substances will be published on a voluntary basis.

This extension of the information to be published requires significant technical revisions to IUCLID and REACH-IT. Therefore, the dissemination of the additional information cannot be released in the immediate future. Registrants need to be given adequate time to adjust to the changes & add confidentiality claims to their dossiers if appropriate.

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr201105/pr\\_11\\_09\\_ECHA\\_to\\_publish\\_more\\_info\\_on\\_chemicals\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr201105/pr_11_09_ECHA_to_publish_more_info_on_chemicals_en.asp)

### • Hazardous Substances Risk Management DVD

WorkSafe WA has produced a new Work Health and Safety DVD on: "Hazardous Substances Risk Management".

Cost \$11 each. Contact WorkSafe WA ph: 08-9327 8775.

From: [www.commerce.wa.gov.au/WorkSafe/PDF/General/WorkSafe\\_news.pdf](http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/WorkSafe/PDF/General/WorkSafe_news.pdf)

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • NICNAS & USA FDA Confidentiality Commitments

On 8 March 2011, Dr. Murray Lumpkin, Deputy Commissioner for International Programs of the United States Food and Drug Administration (USA FDA), and Dr. Marion Healy, Director, NICNAS exchanged confidentiality commitments permitting them to exchange and receive non-public information covering Cosmetics.

The new agreement complements a similar agreement between NICNAS and the USA Environmental Protection Agency (signed December 2008). Since the establishment of that Agreement there have been over 12 exchanges of new chemicals notifications under the bilateral arrangements.



The NICNAS / USA FDA agreement is available at: [www.fda.gov/InternationalPrograms/Agreements/ConfidentialityCommitments/ucm247450.htm](http://www.fda.gov/InternationalPrograms/Agreements/ConfidentialityCommitments/ucm247450.htm)

From *NICNAS Matters* April 2011

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters.asp)

## • ECHA and NICNAS Start Working Together

The aim is to strengthen the scientific dialogue between the European Union and Australia and to increase co-operation on technical matters and other issues of common interest including the hazards and emerging risks of chemical substances, risk management tools, scientific collaboration and information exchange.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011 by the Director of NICNAS, Dr Marion Healy, and the Executive Director of Chemicals Agency (ECHA), Geert Dancet.

One of the anticipated areas of collaboration will be exchange of information. For example, the Memorandum of Understanding will promote the exchange of non-confidential information on hazards, uses and identity of chemical substances between ECHA and NICNAS. The agencies will also be sharing information on ways to more efficiently address chemicals of concern.

The 4 page memorandum of understanding is available at: [http://echa.europa.eu/doc/ECHADocuments/echa\\_australia\\_mou\\_20052011.pdf](http://echa.europa.eu/doc/ECHADocuments/echa_australia_mou_20052011.pdf)

From *ECHA Press, Helsinki, 20 May 2011:*

[http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201105/pr\\_11\\_12\\_mou\\_austria\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/news/pr/201105/pr_11_12_mou_austria_en.asp)

Also from: [www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr11-ck-ck017.htm](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr11-ck-ck017.htm)

*The Scope from the MoU above covers the following areas:*

- scientific collaboration and information exchange, in particular with regard to the registration (i.e., inventory) as well as hazard and risk assessment of chemical substances;
- exchange of operational experience as well as experience in strengthening regulatory capacities, for instance through training programmes; - communication activities;
- active dissemination of public information and publications related to each other's activities;
- information exchange on matters of common interest, including emerging risks from chemical substances or guidance development; and
- sharing information and experience on risk identification, risk assessment and risk management tools and other similar products and related expertise.

## • NICNAS's Existing Chemicals Reform Program

All developments in reforms to NICNAS's ECP, to May 2011, are detailed in a 3 page 2010-2011 pdf document at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/About\\_NICNAS/Reforms/Review\\_Of\\_The\\_Existing\\_Chemicals\\_Program/ECP\\_Review\\_%202010\\_11\\_Developments\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/About_NICNAS/Reforms/Review_Of_The_Existing_Chemicals_Program/ECP_Review_%202010_11_Developments_PDF.pdf), which covers their 6 streams.

Implementation of the recommendations of the ECP Review currently concentrates on:

- Establishing a risk based framework for assessing and prioritising chemicals listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS), taking health and environmental criteria and exposure indicators into account;

- Finalising the framework for new assessment products and associated mandatory powers to gather information through consultation and appeal provisions; and
- Streamlined secondary notification conditions.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/About\\_NICNAS/Reforms/Review\\_Of\\_The\\_Existing\\_Chemicals\\_Program.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/About_NICNAS/Reforms/Review_Of_The_Existing_Chemicals_Program.asp)

## • Customs Broker Seminars on NICNAS

Tailored training and awareness seminars for customs brokers will be held around Australia during 2011 as part of NICNAS's commitment to raising industry awareness.

These 9.00am to 11.30am sessions are free and aim to equip participants with a greater understanding of the NICNAS legislation & how it impacts both the broker & their clients.

Sydney:	15 July 2011	EOI: 17 June 2011
Melbourne:	23 Sept 2011	EOI: 19 Aug 2011
Darwin:	28 Oct 2011	EOI: 23 Sept 2011
Perth:	14 Dec 2011	EOI: 16 Nov 2011

EOI: Expression of Interest date

The following topics will be covered:

- NICNAS Legislation
- NICNAS Registration
- Cosmetics Introducers
- International Treaties and Conventions
- Exemptions and New Chemicals
- Industrial Nanomaterials

To attend please provide your name; industry/company; number of attendees; preferred city and sessions, and email to [outreach@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:outreach@nicnas.gov.au)

Further queries about industry training, ph: 02-8577-8800, Freecall 1800-638-528, or email [outreach@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:outreach@nicnas.gov.au)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Compliance/Training/NICNAS\\_Customs\\_Broker\\_Training\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Compliance/Training/NICNAS_Customs_Broker_Training_PDF.pdf)

## • Eumulgin & Lankromark to be removed from AICS

Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) has informed NICNAS that the CAS Numbers and names for these chemicals have been deleted from the CAS Registry. Based on information from CAS, the Director has concluded that the chemicals listed below are generic terms covering a number of specific Eumulgin and Lankromark subclasses, and were wrongly included in the AICS.

Current Entries:

Eumulgin	CAS 12751-09-6
Lankromark	CAS 76600-44-7

If the Director receives a statement from a person by 3 August 2011, giving reasons why the chemical should not be removed, the Director must reconsider the proposed removal in the light of the statement.

Email to: [AICS-Officer@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:AICS-Officer@nicnas.gov.au)

*Editor's Comment:* It is important that the chemicals within either of these products are included on the Inventory as these two chemical CAS No.s clearly cover existing chemicals in Australia which are in these chemical products at the time the Inventory (AICS) was set up.

There used to be an extensive list of chemical products as part of the AICS (many of which came out of the aerospace industry), because technical persons at the time the inventory was set up had no access to all of the chemicals in each product, and so this "chemical products" list created the reality that the actual chemicals within them did exist at the time the inventory was set up.

**• Is This a New Chemical or an Existing One?**

*Editor's Comment:* In the April 2011 Chemical Gazette, NICNAS has Phosphoric Acid, Potassium Salt (2:1) Summary Report Ref No: STD/1381. CAS 14887-42-4. H3-O4-P.<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>K. The ChemID and ESIS databases both agreed with the Chemical Name, CAS No. and Formula

I was surprised to see this entry in the Chemical Gazette as there is an existing CAS No. on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (CAS 16068-46-5 for Phosphoric Acid, Potassium Salt Formula: H3O4P.xK) that clearly covers ALL ratios of Phosphoric Acid to Potassium Salt. The ChemID and ESIS databases both agreed with the Chemical Name, CAS No. and Formula.

In the Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989 (at: [www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2011C00204/Html/Text#\\_Toc290454943](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2011C00204/Html/Text#_Toc290454943)) the meaning of "Inventory" the AICS is given in Part 2 and the requirement for a CAS No. is not included here in the Act (just that the Inventory is in the Prescribed Form). "Chemical" is the key entity in the Act.

Act 11 (3): If a chemical is included in the Inventory, the chemical may be imported into Australia, or manufactured in Australia, without obtaining an assessment certificate or permit. *Editor:* This does not say the Inventory shall have the specific CAS No. on it.

The Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Regs 1990 at: [www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2010C00477](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2010C00477) covers the Prescribed form of Inventory which (in brief) consists of: the Chemical Name; the CAS No. or alternate number and the Molecular Formula.

Then we run into the situation where a chemical already exists on the inventory covered by a CAS No. such as 16068-46-5 which covers all ratios of Phosphoric Acid to Potassium Salt under the formula, but now there is a specific formula CAS No. 14887-42-4 for H3-O4-P.<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>K.

On this basis I regard that where there is an exact formula and a specific CAS No. for that formula that this CAS No. should be just added to the Inventory by NICNAS (as the chemical already exists under the generic formula, as in the above example).

This problem also arises for where we have a CAS No. for a mixture of chemicals (which means that all of the Chemicals in the mixture already exist in Australia) but that now a specific CAS Number for one of the chemicals in the mixture has now been provided since the mixture is now chemically separated and sold as the individual chemical.

If we agree to the NICNAS approach that seems to regard that every CAS No. is a different chemical, then there are many entries on the current Inventory where there will be specific CAS No.s for particular chemicals within the scope of that entry that are NOT on the Inventory.

This approach was not my understanding (nor others) when the Act was set up around 1990. If we had known that the above situation would occur we would have tried to ensure every single CAS No. covering all the specific chemicals under a general entry would have been included.

This situation needs to be URGENTLY clarified as we are all checking the Inventory and confirming whether an Inventory listing covers the chemical(s) we are checking. This different interpretation by NICNAS may mean your chemical is not covered. Please send any comments to [Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au](mailto:Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au) and copy comments directly to NICNAS to [AICS.Officer@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:AICS.Officer@nicnas.gov.au).

**Scheduled Poisons****• Diethylhexyl Phthalate to be Prohibited in Cosmetics**

DEHP is a Benzenedicarboxylic Acid Ester of Phthalic Acid [a chemical class commonly referred to as Phthalates]. The chemical name for DEHP is Bis(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate]. DEHP is one of the most extensively used phthalates worldwide. In the USA, approximately 97 per cent of DEHP is used as a plasticiser in Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC).

DEHP is not currently a scheduled poison. There has been a NICNAS Priority Existing Chemical evaluation done which requested that DEHP be listed in Appendix C of the SUSMP to limit the potential exposure of the public to DEHP from use in cosmetics. The EU and the USA have restricted the use of DEHP to less than 0.1 per cent (by weight) of the plastic used in any type of toys and childcare articles and Canada was in the process of implementing a similar restriction.

In March 2010, the ACCC enforced an interim ban (effective until 2 September 2011) restricting the supply of certain children's plastic products, including toys, childcare articles, and eating vessels and utensils that contain, or have a component that contains, more than 1 per cent by weight DEHP. The ban applied to those products that could readily be sucked and/or chewed and were intended to be used by children up to and including 36 months of age.

The potential risks from cosmetic use were related to long term exposure through repeated dermal contact use, especially of leave-on products, such as nail polish and face cream. Inhalation exposure was also possible from products applied as aerosols.

Undiluted DEHP, for occupational purposes, is classified as a reproductive toxicant Category 2 requiring the Risk phrases R60: May impair fertility and R61: May cause harm to the unborn child; which applies to products containing more than 0.5 per cent DEHP.

The Expert Advisory Committee recommended that the use of DEHP in cosmetic products be prohibited by inclusion in Appendix C, and they recommended an implementation period of six months after the delegate's final decision.

The Expert Advisory Committee additionally recommended that the delegate advise TGA of the need to review concerns from the potential leaching of DEHP when used in some medical devices.

The delegate confirmed that use of Diethylhexyl Phthalate in cosmetic products be included in Appendix C of the SUSMP. The delegate also confirmed an implementation date of 1 January 2012.

From: [www.tga.gov.au/pdf/scheduling/scheduling-decisions-1106-final.pdf](http://www.tga.gov.au/pdf/scheduling/scheduling-decisions-1106-final.pdf) pages 12-27, June 2011.

**Food Chemical Issues****• Review of Caffeinated Energy Drinks**

The Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council, on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2011, ordered a comprehensive review of the Policy Guideline on the *Addition of Caffeine to Foods*. This follows the increased number of energy drinks on the market containing Caffeine and other exotic ingredients.

In 2001 a Standard for regulating caffeinated energy drinks was introduced. Since 2003, when the Policy Guideline was issued, the presence of Caffeine in the food supply has

changed substantially and the number of products containing Caffeine has increased as has, in some cases, the level of Caffeine in products.

This full review will take into consideration global developments in caffeinated products and regulatory approaches being taken in comparable markets.

The Ministerial Council is also waiting on advice from the Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs on how it plans to respond to the issue of mixing Alcohol with caffeinated energy drinks.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/newsroom/mediareleases/mediareleases2011/australiaandnzzeala5154.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/newsroom/mediareleases/mediareleases2011/australiaandnzzeala5154.cfm)

## • Food Allergen Review

FSANZ has reviewed the regulatory management of food allergens in Australia and New Zealand. Rigorous declaration requirements are considered the most appropriate risk management option for food allergens since even small amounts of the allergen may trigger allergic reactions.

The prevalence of food allergy in Australia and New Zealand is not known but it is estimated that 1-2% of the adult population and 4-6 % of the paediatric population are affected. Clinical data suggest that food allergy has increased in Australia, as in other countries, in the last decade.

The [allergen review paper](#) presents findings on six issues, including: 1/ New food allergens; 2/ Label information; 3/ Food exempt from bearing a label; 4/ Labelling requirements for the current list of allergenic foods; 5/ Exemption of ingredients derived from allergenic foods; 6/ Allergen thresholds (level that triggers an allergic reaction).

Recommendations for future action include:

- Establishment by FSANZ of a Scientific Committee to advise FSANZ on food allergy related issues;
- Development by FSANZ of a Proposal to consider whether an amendment to the Code to include lupin is justified;
- Establishment of a label monitoring program specifically designed to track improvements in allergen labelling practices with a particular focus on 'source' and precautionary labelling; and
- To consider the communication of regulatory obligations to food businesses and to provide access to educational initiatives

The Allergen Review Paper "[Review of the Regulatory Management of Food Allergens](#)", Dec 2010, is available at: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/Review%20of%20the%20Regulatory%20Management%20of%20Food%20Allergens-FSANZ%20Dec%202010.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/Review%20of%20the%20Regulatory%20Management%20of%20Food%20Allergens-FSANZ%20Dec%202010.pdf), 60 pages.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/publications/allergenreview.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/scienceandeducation/publications/allergenreview.cfm)

## • Nanotechnology and Food: Recent Publications

The UK Food Standards Authority has published a 41 page report capturing consumer views on the use of nanotechnology in food and food packaging, 21 April 2011. The core questions were: Why are we doing this? Who will benefit? Is it worth it? <http://bit.ly/idLQ3O>

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has published an 81 page report of the outcomes from its public consultation on the risk assessment in relation to the applications of nanoscience and nanotechnologies to food and feed. It

includes a summary of the comments and considerations made, 10 May 2011. <http://bit.ly/jpP6Nt>

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has also published a 36 page guidance opinion on the application of nanoscience and nanotechnologies in the food and feed chain. It provides guidance on the physico-chemical characterisation requirements and testing approaches, 10 May 2011. <http://bit.ly/jiLIAA>

From: *Food Standards – Monitoring of Emerging Issues Newsletter 13 April -10 May 2011.*  
[www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/9MoEI%2013%20April%202011\\_10%20May%202011.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/9MoEI%2013%20April%202011_10%20May%202011.pdf) and a the reports.

## • Nutrient database: NUTTAB 2010

NUTTAB 2010 contains nutrient data for 2668 foods available in Australia and up to 245 nutrients per food.

The new version, includes for example: 1/ new Iodine, Sodium, Fat and Fatty Acid data; 2/ new beef, lamb, mutton, veal and pork data; 3/ new game meat data e.g. buffalo, venison, emu, rabbit, ostrich; 4/ separate files for Indigenous foods, Vitamin D and Amino Acids; 5/ Trans Fatty Acid data, reported for the first time in NUTTAB; 6/ New data on liquids reported on a per 100 mL basis.

Searchable on-line and also downloadable from: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumerinformation/nuttab2010/](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumerinformation/nuttab2010/)

## • A1048 - Co-extruded Polystyrene & PVPP as a Processing Aid

A new processing aid which is a co-extrudate of Polystyrene and Polyvinyl Pyrrolidone (PVPP) (resin).

This resin removes particulates including microorganisms, and haze material (Polyphenols and Polyphenol-Protein complexes) from beverages. It is intended to be used primarily in beer manufacture as an alternative treatment to replace the filtration step, usually performed by diatomaceous earth, and the adsorption step, usually performed by permitted processing aids such as PVPP.

**The Decision was:** To approve the draft variation to the Table to clause 6 of Standard 1.3.3 – Processing Aids, to permit the use of the resin co-extruded Polystyrene and Polyvinyl Pyrrolidone, as a clarifying, filtration and adsorbent agent & draft variations to Standard 1.3.3 & to clause 5 of Standard 4.5.1 – Wine Production Requirements to replace the maximum permitted level for PVPP with GMP for consistency.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodstandards/applications/application1048coex4892.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodstandards/applications/application1048coex4892.cfm) & from the Approval Report: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/A1048%20Extruded%20Polystyrene%20&%20PVPP%20as%20a%20PA%20AppR%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/A1048%20Extruded%20Polystyrene%20&%20PVPP%20as%20a%20PA%20AppR%20FINAL.pdf).

## Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

### • Ag Vet Chemicals Regulation Reform: Preliminary

In an Australian Federal Government post-budget breakfast speech on Wednesday 11 May 2011, Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry provided initial details of the reform to agvet chemical regulation in Australia. He gave an insight into three of the reform outcomes:

1/ **Implementing complete risk frameworks for agvet chemicals assessment and review**



A comprehensive, publicly available risk framework will be introduced. This will increase transparency in the system and further allow industry and the APVMA to target risk using limited resources, more effectively.

## 2/ Improving the quality and efficiency of agvet chemical assessment and registration processes

The Government will establish clear legislated timeframes for the completion of assessments and reviews to provide certainty to business and the community about review periods. The Government will also look at ways to strengthen data protection for new applications.

## 3/ Enhancing the agvet chemical review arrangements

A re-registration system will be introduced. The process will be commenced by releasing draft legislation for consultation in the coming months. This will propose a three-staged approach to re-registration, which will ensure resources within industry and the APVMA are focused on those chemicals with the highest risk. Improved data protection will also be provided under the re-registration system.

*For background information go to: "APVMA arrangements to respond to the Better Regulation Partnership reforms" at: [www.apvma.gov.au/about/work/better\\_regulation/resourcing.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/about/work/better_regulation/resourcing.php), 22 Dec 2010.*

*Contact: Agvet Chemicals – Early Harvest & APVMA Reforms Team, DAFF, ph: 02-6272-3363, email: [AqVetReform@daff.gov.au](mailto:AqVetReform@daff.gov.au)*

*From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/news/2011/2011-05-13\\_prelim\\_agvet\\_reform.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/news/2011/2011-05-13_prelim_agvet_reform.php)*

### • Farm Chemical Fears Prompt Call for More Research

*ABC News 24 May 2011:* The National Toxics Network says government funding is urgently needed for more studies into the possible side effects of farm chemicals and pesticides.

Network co-ordinator, Jo Immig, says she was disappointed by a recent Health Department study that found a cluster of the rare birth defect Gastroschisis around Lismore was likely to be a random event. She says that investigation should be ongoing, and expanded to cover cases of early-onset Parkinson's Disease.

"The more you look into the research the more you find papers that are pointing to potential relationships between pesticide exposure and certain diseases," Ms Immig said.

*From: [www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2011/05/24/3225124.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2011/05/24/3225124.htm)*

### • Permanent Restrictions on Carbendazim Use Proposed by the APVMA

*10 May 2011:* Carbendazim is a fungicide registered in Australia for control of a wide range of fungal diseases such as mould, mildew, rot and blight in a variety of crops. There are currently 15 Carbendazim products registered in Australia.

Carbendazim is currently being reviewed because of OH&S, residues in food and public health concerns.

Some uses of Carbendazim products, as currently labelled, may pose an undue risk to the public or workers using the chemical. The APVMA proposes that previously suspended uses on grapes, cucurbits, citrus fruit custard apple, pome fruit, stone fruit and turf will become permanently discontinued.

The APVMA is also proposing to withdraw other registered uses on bananas, strawberries, sugarcane setts, ginger seed pieces, red clover and subterranean clover due to a

lack of adequate data to enable residue risks to be further evaluated. It is proposed that use on roses will also be withdrawn because of OH&S concerns.

Current uses on macadamia nuts and pulses will remain, subject to amended label instructions.

Obtain the Carbendazim Preliminary Review Findings Report from: [www.apvma.gov.au/products/review/docs/carbendazim\\_prf.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/products/review/docs/carbendazim_prf.pdf).

For information and Public Comment by 5 August 2011, ph: 02-6210-4749, [ChemicalReview@apvma.gov.au](mailto:ChemicalReview@apvma.gov.au).

*From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2011/mr2011-01.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2011/mr2011-01.php) and from [www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/prf\\_carbendazim.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/prf_carbendazim.php) and *Ag & Vet Gazette 10 May 2011, p17-19* [www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2011/09/gazette\\_2010-05-10\\_page\\_17.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2011/09/gazette_2010-05-10_page_17.pdf)*

### • Quintozene Approvals & Registrations Suspended

As of 12 April 2010, the APVMA has suspended for 12 months, all approvals and registrations for the agricultural chemical Quintozene and its products after undeclared Dioxin impurities were found in Quintozene products at levels that may present health risks to workers who frequently apply them.

Dioxins are chemical compounds that have been linked with a number of cancer and non-cancer health effects including reproductive effects and suppression of the immune system.

Quintozene is a fungicide previously registered for use in Australia as a seed dressing, as a seedling drench, a pre-plant soil-applied fungicide for vegetables, cotton and ornamentals, and as a pre-emergence fungicide for cotton. It is also used to control fungal diseases on bowling greens and golf greens and for a small number of post-emergence uses on lettuce, peanuts, apples and ornamentals.

*From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2010/mr2010-06.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2010/mr2010-06.php) and for more information go to: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/chemicals/quintozene.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/chemicals/quintozene.php)*

### • All label Approvals: New Statutory Conditions Apply

Recent amendments to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations 1995* (the Regulations) developed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry now impose several new conditions on all label approvals. These amendments came into effect on 18 March 2011 and apply to all existing approved labels, not just to those approved after this date. These changes complement [amendments made to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 in 2010](#) that took effect on 15 July 2010 and changed the way APVMA approves labels.

The APVMA web page below summarises the requirements imposed by these conditions. Full details on these regulations can be found in [18B to 18I of the Regulations](#) at: [www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2011C00163](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2011C00163).

*From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/news/2011/2011-04-05\\_label\\_conditions.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/news/2011/2011-04-05_label_conditions.php)*

*Continued.*

## • APVMA Action Against Naphthalene Flakes

The APVMA has taken action to stop supply of some Naphthalene loose flake products in retail outlets. These products are generally used in the home to protect clothing, blankets and other stored items from moths and silverfish.

Packaging and warning statements on the listed products may not be adequate to protect sensitive people and young children exposed to treated fabrics from inhalation and ingestion risks.

Four products will not be available for sale until further notice: Mosom Pure White Naphthalene Flakes; Hovex Naphthalene Flakes; Recochem Naphthalene Moth & Silver Fish Flakes; Recochem Naphthalene Flakes.

Naphthalene block and ball products are not impacted by this decision.

[Background for this decision on Naphthalene](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/chemicals/naphthalene.php) is at: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/chemicals/naphthalene.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/chemicals/naphthalene.php).

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/news\\_media/media\\_releases/2011/mr2011-02.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/news_media/media_releases/2011/mr2011-02.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)

### Mandipropamid

Mandipropamid is for use in grapes to control downy mildew. In other countries it is used on potatoes, and in the USA on a range of vegetables.

Chemical Name: 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-[2-[3-Methoxy-4-(Prop-2-ynyloxy)phenyl]ethyl]-2-(Prop-2-ynyloxy)Acetamide; CAS Number: 374726-62-2; Minimum Purity: 930 g/kg; Formula: C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>Cl-NO<sub>4</sub>; MW: 411.9; Chemical Family: Amide Fungicide; Mode of Action: Non-systemic insecticide with contact, stomach, and respiratory action.

An Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) is 0.05 mg/kg bw/day.

The National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee (NDPSC) has considered Mandipropamid to be appropriate for inclusion in Schedule 5 in the Std for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines & Poisons.

The APVMA accepts these findings and recommendations of its advisers on these criteria.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2011/10/gazette\\_2011-05-4\\_page\\_10.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/publications/gazette/2011/10/gazette_2011-05-4_page_10.pdf) and

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/prs\\_mandipropamid.php](http://www.apvma.gov.au/consultation/public/prs_mandipropamid.php) and

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/registration/assessment/docs/prs\\_mandipropamid.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/registration/assessment/docs/prs_mandipropamid.pdf) (55 page public release summary)

## Dangerous Goods

### • Deepwater Horizon Joint Investigation Team Releases the US Coast Guard Preliminary Report

The USA Coast Guard findings, which comprise Vol. I of the Joint Investigation Team Report, cover five aspects of the disaster – including the explosions on the Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) Deepwater Horizon; the resulting fire; evacuations; the flooding and sinking of the Deepwater Horizon; and the safety systems of the MODU and its owner, Transocean. The findings, released on 22 April 2011, do not

include an analysis of what led to the loss of well control or other aspects of the investigation that fall under Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation & Enforcement (BOEMRE) jurisdiction.

USA Coast Guard Findings Volume I can be found online at: <http://marineinvestigations.us/> under the “Marine Casualty Reports” section. Its 288 pages details 61 conclusions, 54 safety recommendations and nine administrative recommendations. A review and response to these recommendations will be completed in the coming months.

For the USA Coast Guard Volume 1 findings go to: [www.deepwaterinvestigation.com/go/doc/3043/1071207/](http://www.deepwaterinvestigation.com/go/doc/3043/1071207/)

And directly for the Findings: [http://homeport.uscg.mil/cgi-bin/stportal/uscg\\_docs/MyCG/Editorial/20110422/FINAL%20REDACTED%20VERSION%20DWH.pdf?id=ca711b94d8c5afbb0d38e5017cea66312514545f](http://homeport.uscg.mil/cgi-bin/stportal/uscg_docs/MyCG/Editorial/20110422/FINAL%20REDACTED%20VERSION%20DWH.pdf?id=ca711b94d8c5afbb0d38e5017cea66312514545f)

And for the Deepwater Horizon Joint Investigation website: [www.deepwaterinvestigation.com/go/site/3043/](http://www.deepwaterinvestigation.com/go/site/3043/)

### • Lubricant Plant Fire, Dandenong South, 19 May

Firefighters contained a monster blaze involving 700,000 litres at an oil product manufacturing plant in Melbourne's southeast. Country Fire Authority firefighters were joined by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade to try to bring the blaze measuring 1800sqm under control. The fire is thought to have started in the office. The factory made products such as petroleum-based oil, motor oil and lubricant.

**YouTube Video:** [www.youtube.com/watch?v=r\\_FKMOqBB4Q&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_FKMOqBB4Q&feature=player_embedded)

**Photo Gallery:** [www.cfaconnect.net.au/index.php?option=com\\_joomgallery&func=viewcategory&catid=2722&Itemid=11](http://www.cfaconnect.net.au/index.php?option=com_joomgallery&func=viewcategory&catid=2722&Itemid=11)

*Editor's Comment:* Note the flowing oil fire in the photo gallery “The Burning Oil runs across” and the next photo 3 minutes later “The crews work on the fire until it is too”.

Info via: Don Johnston.

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/DangerousGoods>

### • Cutting Metal Drums with an Angle Grinder

**Worksafe WA Safety Alert:** Sparks igniting residual vapours.

a/ A worker died when a 205 litre metal drum he was cutting with an angle grinder exploded. The drum had previously contained methylated spirits and had both bungs in place.

b/ A worker at a chemical disposal plant sustained serious burn injuries to both forearms and an injury to his right wrist after being instructed to use an angle grinder to cut holes in the tops of 205 litre metal drums to prepare the drums to be crushed for recycling.

1. Angle grinders, or any other heat producing equipment, should not be used to cut metal drums that have contained flammable or combustible liquids or gases, or where there is any doubt about the previous contents of the drum.

2. Empty drums should be recycled through specialist cleaning companies.

3. All drums should be labelled and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) should be available for all hazardous substances at the workplace.

4. Adequate training and instruction must be provided in a way that ensures that all workers, including those with limited understanding of English, understand the MSDS information and risks associated with the work to be performed.

From: [www.commerce.wa.gov.au/WorkSafe/PDF/Safety\\_alerts/2011/02-2011\\_Cutting\\_drums.pdf](http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/WorkSafe/PDF/Safety_alerts/2011/02-2011_Cutting_drums.pdf)



## • Fact Sheet: Cutting Drums Explosion Hazard

Investigations into explosions reveal that:

- drums were not cleaned properly
- bungs were not removed when the drums were cleaned
- drums were used as trestles to support other steelworks – e.g. during oxyacetylene cutting work
- knowledge of the hazard associated with cutting drums was lacking.

Controls & Checklist are given in the NSW/Qld/Vic Fact Sheet.

[www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/formspublications/publications/Documents/factsheet\\_cutting\\_fuel\\_drums\\_and\\_empty\\_containers\\_explosion\\_hazard\\_2074.pdf](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/formspublications/publications/Documents/factsheet_cutting_fuel_drums_and_empty_containers_explosion_hazard_2074.pdf)

## • Explosives Guidance Notes – Worksafe Victoria

Safe Distances When Using Explosives 10 May 2011

From: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsintern/et/worksafe/home/forms+and+publications/guidance+notes/safe+distances+when+using+explosives](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsintern/et/worksafe/home/forms+and+publications/guidance+notes/safe+distances+when+using+explosives)

Blast Management Plans 10 May 2012

From: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsintern/et/worksafe/home/forms+and+publications/guidance+notes/blast+management+plans](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsintern/et/worksafe/home/forms+and+publications/guidance+notes/blast+management+plans)

## • Emergency Action Code List 2011

Emergency Action codes (EACs), also known as Hazchem codes, are for the use of the emergency services in conjunction with Emergency Action Code Cards. EACs indicate to the emergency services actions that may be necessary, during the first few minutes of an incident involving dangerous goods, should the officer in charge of the incident deem it necessary to take immediate actions.

The 200 page pdf is downloadable from:

<http://the-ncec.com/assets/Resources/EAClist2011.pdf>.

From: <http://the-ncec.com/the-dangerous-goods-emergency-action-codes-list-2011>

*Editor:* It will be interesting to compare the changes to our ADG7 List of Hazchem Codes.

## • NSW Hazardous Materials Register of Suppliers

NSW Hazmat register contains information about providers that offer resources, equipment, products & advice to minimise the environmental effects of hazardous materials incidents.

The information in this register has been submitted to the EPA by the providers, inclusion in the register is not to be regarded as EPA endorsement of their capacity and expertise.

From: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/hazmat/register.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/hazmat/register.htm)

## • WA Dangerous goods 2010 Incidents Overview

The low rate of 79 reports was commended by Resources Safety's Director of Dangerous Goods Safety Philip Hine.

"Given there are more than 3,000 licensed Dangerous Goods sites in Western Australia, thousands of smaller sites where Dangerous Goods are stored and used, and many hundreds of thousands of tonnes of Dangerous Goods transported around the State every year, this is a low rate of incidents," he said.

*Note:* The overall increase in incidents in recent years is attributed to improved levels of reporting of explosives incident, not an increase in incidents.

WA Resources Safety's main tools for trying to reduce incident rates include:

- Assessing new proposals and licence amendments to ensure Dangerous Goods facilities are properly designed and constructed;
- Providing information and guidance to users of Dangerous Goods through its website and media;
- Investigating serious accidents and incidents; and
- Inspecting and auditing licensed sites.

[http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/7105\\_12499.aspx](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/7105_12499.aspx) 20 April 2011

and: [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Reports/RSD\\_DGS\\_IncidentLogs\\_2010.pdf](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Reports/RSD_DGS_IncidentLogs_2010.pdf) for the 12 page DG Incidents Report.

## Environmental Notes on Chemicals

### • The Environmental Impact of Fire Fighting Foam Assessing and Mitigating these Impacts

Dr Roger Klein, MA, PhD, MB, BChir, CSci, CChem, FRSC, MIFireE, United Kingdom gave his Keynote presentation at HazMat 2011 in May on this topic.

Summary:

- All Fluorosurfactant-containing foams, whether PFOS or fluorotelomer-based, produce environmentally highly persistent degradation products;
- Degradation products may show a range of toxicity and bio-accumulative potential – nonetheless no effect-levels (NOELs) will be passed sooner or later;
- Avoid dispersive use of Fluorosurfactant-based products such as Class B fire fighting foams;
- Use alternative Fluorine-free technology where appropriate.

To develop and implement a sound and viable foam policy one must take account of:

- **Strategic** considerations – what: to do & equipment to use
- **Tactical** considerations – how to do it
- **Legal** considerations – what not to do!

He informed us about EU Directive 2006/122/EC:

- All stocks of PFOS-based fluorosurfactants, must be destroyed by 27 June 2011
- No further use of PFOS is allowed after 27 June 2011

*His detailed presentation is available by purchasing the HazMat 2011 Conference CD from the FPAA for \$77, ph: 03-9890-1544, email: [events@fpaa.com.au](mailto:events@fpaa.com.au).*

### • Implementation and Effectiveness of NEPMs, 2009-2010 Reports by NEPC Members

Annual report by the National Environment Protection Council on the overall assessment on the implementation and effectiveness of National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs) for the year ended 30 June 2010. You can also download the NEPMs grouped for each jurisdiction.

Go to the bottom of the webpage for these reports from each State & Territory that actually have technical information.

For all Jurisdiction NEPM Reports in one 183 page pdf go to: [www.ephc.gov.au/sites/default/files/annual\\_reports/2010/AR\\_Jur\\_All\\_NEPMs\\_09-10.pdf](http://www.ephc.gov.au/sites/default/files/annual_reports/2010/AR_Jur_All_NEPMs_09-10.pdf). For jurisdictions click the left row, or for an individual NEPM select it in the top line.

From: [www.ephc.gov.au/annual\\_report#nepm\\_imp](http://www.ephc.gov.au/annual_report#nepm_imp)

## • Product Stewardship Bill 2011

The Product Stewardship Bill 2011 was introduced into the Federal Parliament on 23 March 2011. This legislation provides the framework to effectively manage the environmental, health and safety impacts of products, and in particular those impacts associated with the disposal of products. The framework includes voluntary, co-regulatory and mandatory product stewardship.

It aims to reduce hazardous substances, avoid and reduce waste, and increase recycling and resource recovery.

“Product stewardship is about everyone involved in the production, supply and use of products, sharing responsibility for the environmental impacts throughout a product’s life – from production through to disposal,” Senator Farrell Parliamentary Secretary for Sustainability and Urban Water said.

Televisions and computers will be the first products to be covered under the legislation. The framework legislation will allow a broad range of products to be regulated over time and to tailor schemes to suit changing international, social, environmental and economic conditions.

From: [www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy/index.html) and [www.environment.gov.au/minister/farrell/2011/mr20110323.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/farrell/2011/mr20110323.html)

*Editor’s comment: The scope of what the Bill covers is very broad so it is worthwhile to read and understand the scope. As currently worded, even some raw material products could be captured in the future, should this be required.*

## • Australian Waste Classifications: Roles in Decision Making

The 15 page report describes the waste classifications used in Australian States and Territories. It has been prepared to support work being done to develop and introduce a new national system for the definition and classification of waste.

Most Australian jurisdictions use waste classifications in permitting and licensing, and to determine treatment and disposal methods. Beyond these common uses, jurisdictions can vary significantly in their primary uses of waste classifications.

For example, Victoria’s approach focuses primarily on Prescribed Industrial Waste (known elsewhere as ‘hazardous waste’ or other terms) while Queensland’s classifications serve primarily to drive wastes toward specific treatment paths. New South Wales’ classifications primarily affect disposal options for specific wastes and incorporate a risk-based approach. In Western Australia and South Australia, waste classifications are used primarily to direct wastes to specific disposal facilities best suited for those classes of waste. Western Australia has also taken more of a management-based approach than the risk-based approach common in other jurisdictions.

These approaches to classification may vary from the classifications used for reporting requirements utilised by the jurisdictions.

Even where jurisdictions adopt comparable approaches to classifications, different terms may be applied to comparable wastes. For example, ‘hazardous waste’ is designated as ‘regulated waste’ in Queensland, ‘listed waste’ in South Australia, ‘controlled waste’ in Tasmania and Western Australia, and as ‘prescribed industrial waste’ in Victoria.

Go to: [www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy/publications/pubs/waste-classifications.pdf](http://www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy/publications/pubs/waste-classifications.pdf) for this 15 page report.

From: [www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy/publications/waste-classifications.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy/publications/waste-classifications.html)

## • Cranbourne Landfill Gas Migration Settlement

In March a settlement was reached in the Brookland Greens class action between City of Casey, EPA Victoria and residents of the Brookland Greens estate.

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/stevensonsRoad-Cranbourne-Landfill-gas-migration.asp](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/stevensonsRoad-Cranbourne-Landfill-gas-migration.asp) and

[www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/Ambient-AQ-Brookland-Green-estate.asp](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/Ambient-AQ-Brookland-Green-estate.asp)

## • Painting a Concrete Path Forward: Case Study

Chemsal, has found an alternative use for waste paint as a water replacement in concrete that delivers both environmental and commercial savings. Chemsal receives waste paint from both private industry and Victorian government programs such as ‘Detox your home’.

With Vic EPA HazWaste Funding, Chemsal undertook a trial to evaluate the reuse of the water based component of waste paints as a water replacement in concrete.

The trial demonstrated a reduction in water consumption in the concrete manufacturing process, as well as savings in the amount of natural resources used in the composite material. The separation of the water based paint from the solvent based paint also meant a better liquid fuel product for the cement kilns.

From: [http://epanote2.epa.vic.gov.au/EPA/publications.nsf/2f1c2625731746aa4a256ce90001cbb5/2b426f5d524470aac2577d00079b11d/\\$FILE/1376.pdf](http://epanote2.epa.vic.gov.au/EPA/publications.nsf/2f1c2625731746aa4a256ce90001cbb5/2b426f5d524470aac2577d00079b11d/$FILE/1376.pdf) June 2011

## • NSW DECC changed to NSW OE&H on 4 Apr 11

The NSW Office of Environment & Heritage formed 4 April 11, covering most DECC functions & the Heritage Office functions.

Ph: 02-9995-5999, Email: [info@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@environment.nsw.gov.au)

## Standards & Codes

### • Standards <http://infostore.saiglobal.com/store/>

**ISO 27065:2011: Protective Clothing - Performance Requirements** for protective clothing worn by operators applying liquid pesticides. Published 7 April 2011. 18 pages. \$96.49 pdf (network), \$107.21 hardcopy. Also available as **BS ISO 27065:2011** Published 31 May 2011. 30 pages. \$188.74 hardcopy.

**ISO 7203-1:2011: Fire Extinguishing Media - Foam Concentrates - Part 1:** Specification for low-expansion foam concentrates for top application to water-immiscible liquids. Published 13 May 2011. 39 pages. \$142.64 pdf (network), \$158.49 hardcopy.

**ISO 7203-2:2011: Fire Extinguishing Media - Foam Concentrates - Part 2:** Specification for medium- and high-expansion foam concentrates for top application to water-immiscible liquids. Published 13 May 2011. 38 pages. \$142.64 pdf (network), \$158.49 hardcopy.

**JIS Q 14040:2010: Environmental Management - Life Cycle Assessment - Principles And Framework.** Published 1 May 2011. 24 pages. \$97.46 pdf, \$108.29 hardcopy.

**JIS Q 14044:2010: Environmental Management - Life Cycle Assessment - Requirements And Guidelines.** Published 1 May 2011. 50 pages. \$149.17.46 pdf, \$165.75 hardcopy.

Continued.

**AS/NZS 5026: The Storage & Handling of Class 4 Dangerous Goods.** *Editor: Now expected by end Sept 2011.* This 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.

• **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.*

**[11/30246792 DC: BS 8468-7. Respiratory protective devices for use against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear \(CBRN\) agents. Part 7. Closed-circuit breathing apparatus. Specification.](#)** Draft Published 27 April 2011. 16 pages. \$29.04 hardcopy.

**[11/30247683 DC: BS EN 14491. Dust Explosion Venting Protective Systems.](#)** Draft Published 19 May 2011. 40 pages. \$29.04 hardcopy.

**[11/30243100 DC: BS EN 13649. Stationary Source Emissions.](#)** Determination of the mass concentration of individual gaseous organic compounds. Active carbon and solvent desorption method. Draft Published 27 April 2011. 32 pages. \$29.04 hardcopy.

**[DR HB 203: Environmental Risk Management - Principles and Process.](#)** Draft Published 10 May 2011. 96 pages. Free pdf, \$36.55 hardcopy.

**[11/30242017 DC: BS EN ISO 15012-1. Health and Safety in Welding and Allied Processes.](#)** Equipment for capture and separation of welding fume. Part 1. Requirements for testing and marking of separation efficiency. Draft Published 14 April 2011. 22 pages. \$29.04 hardcopy.

## Seminars, Conferences

• **HazMat 2010 Conference Report**

I have prepared a detailed report of the HazMat 2011 Conference. A copy of my detailed report costs \$44. If you would like a copy, please email for a Tax Invoice to be sent for you to complete to: [Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au](mailto:Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au).

*Copies of the HazMat 2011 Conference presentations are available on CD from the FPAA for \$77, ph: 03-9890-1544, email: [events@fpaa.com.au](mailto:events@fpaa.com.au).*

**Note:** The next HazMat 2012 will be in Melbourne on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at the Darebin Arts Centre.

• **ChemCon Asia 2011, 27 June-1 July, Hong Kong**

International Conference on chemical control current & emerging legislation reporting and testing of new chemicals, chemical inventories, evaluation of existing chemicals, classification & labeling, risk management, hazard communication, product registration & trade aspects. €2200.

From: [www.chemcon.net/upcoming\\_conferences.html](http://www.chemcon.net/upcoming_conferences.html)

• **Epidemiology Studies in Reg Risk Assessment, 10Aug**  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> August 2011, ACT. Symposium by the Australasian College of Toxicology & Risk Assessment. Cost \$330 or \$385  
From: [www.actra.org.au/images/2011%20EPI%20Program.pdf](http://www.actra.org.au/images/2011%20EPI%20Program.pdf)

• **Risk Analysis and Mine Safety, 30-31 Aug, WA**

From: [www.informa.com.au/conferences/mining/operations/risk-analysis-and-mine-safety](http://www.informa.com.au/conferences/mining/operations/risk-analysis-and-mine-safety)

• **CleanUp 2011, 7-15<sup>th</sup> Sept, Adelaide**

CleanUp 2011 incorporates the 6th International Workshop on Chemical Bioavailability in the Terrestrial Environment (7–9 Sept 2011) cost \$1070; and the 4th International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference (11-15 Sept 2011) cost \$1305; Both \$2000. Ph: 08-8379-8222.

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

• **Chemeca 2011, 18-21<sup>st</sup> Sept, Sydney**

"Engineering A Better World" is hosted by the Institution of Chemical Engineers in Australia, Engineers Australia, the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, and the Institution of Chemical Engineers in New Zealand.

From: [www.chemeca2011.com/](http://www.chemeca2011.com/)

• **AIDGC Conference, Fri 23 Sept 2011, Sydney**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Darling Harbour, Sydney.

Go to [www.AIDGC.com.au](http://www.AIDGC.com.au) in July 2011 to download a program and registration form.

• **Basic Principles of Occupational Hygiene, 17-21 Oct**

Outlines the broad principles of Occupational Hygiene as the basis for anticipation, recognition, evaluation and control of hazards that can be encountered in the workplace. Ltd No.s.

Sydney, \$1700. P: 03-9336-2290 E: [admin@aioh.org.au](mailto:admin@aioh.org.au)

From: [www.aioh.org.au/downloads/events/BPCSeminarFlyerOctober2011Sydney.pdf](http://www.aioh.org.au/downloads/events/BPCSeminarFlyerOctober2011Sydney.pdf)

• **ACTRA 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting, 28 Oct, Melb**

Focus on: • Asbestosis; • Arsenic & Lead risk assessment;

• General & Regulatory Toxicology; • Change to Occupational Exposure Limits. E [secretariat@actra.org.au](mailto:secretariat@actra.org.au), P 02-9453-2210.

[www.actra.org.au/images/Early%20Meeting%20Notice.pdf](http://www.actra.org.au/images/Early%20Meeting%20Notice.pdf)

• **Lab Managers/Design Conference 15-17 Nov 2011**

Parramatta, NSW. Lab Managers Conference is 15-16 Nov, which overlaps with the Lab Design Conference 16-17 Nov. Program available by end of June. Register from late Aug.

From: <http://scienceindustry.squarespace.com/laboratory-managers-conference/> and

<http://scienceindustry.com.au/laboratory-design-conference/>

• **Green Chemistry 2011 Innovations 4-7 Dec 2011**

AOC-3, 4-7 Dec 2011, Melbourne. Provides a platform for interaction and exchange of ideas between practitioners in Green Chemistry, & to promote Green Chemistry in the Asia-Oceania region. Early Bird by Wed 31 Aug \$500. After \$600.

From: [www.greenoz2011.org](http://www.greenoz2011.org)

• **AIOH 2011 Conference, 3-7 Dec 2011, Brisbane**

*Looking Forward Looking Back:* Efforts must now be made to attack more intractable problems such as occupational cancers, asthma, & neurotoxic disease.

From: [www.aioh.org.au/conference.aspx](http://www.aioh.org.au/conference.aspx)



**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 21+ 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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