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My approach is to provide a short, succinct note on each hazardous chemical 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 Chemicals

### • Tianjin China Warehouse Explosions

17 August 2015: Two massive explosions in the Port of Tianjin, northern China, have killed more than a hundred people, left hundreds more injured and devastated large areas of the city.

They took place at a warehouse at the port which contained hazardous and flammable chemicals, including Calcium Carbide, Sodium Cyanide, Potassium Nitrate, Ammonium Nitrate and Sodium Nitrate.

There have been suggestions that water sprayed on some of the chemicals could have led to the blasts. Calcium Carbide, known to be at the site, reacts with water to create the highly explosive acetylene.

Chemical experts suggest an Acetylene blast could then have detonated the other chemicals for a much larger blast.

23 Aug 2015: Age Editorial: "Hopefully, the thundering fireballs and devastation at Tianjin have shocked China's authorities – and others in the world – out of complacency, because when the environment is sacrificed for economic growth and safety standards are wantonly abandoned for profit, we all suffer."

27 Aug 2015: China has accused 11 government and port officials of negligence over the massive explosions that killed 139 people in Tianjin earlier this month.

Wikipedia: As of 12 Sept 2015, the official casualty report was 173 deaths, 8 missing, and 797 non-fatal injuries.

30 Aug 2015: China is to relocate almost 1000 chemical plants in wake of the Tianjin blasts. China's industry minister, Miao Wei, said local governments were finally moving ahead to implement plans to relocate and upgrade chemical plants.

From: [www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-33844084](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-33844084) & [www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-34014314](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-34014314) & [www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-34070601](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-34070601) & [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2015\\_Tianjin\\_explosions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2015_Tianjin_explosions) & [www.theage.com.au/comment/the-age-editorial/tianjin-blast-must-trigger-real-change-in-china-20150817-gj19t1.html](http://www.theage.com.au/comment/the-age-editorial/tianjin-blast-must-trigger-real-change-in-china-20150817-gj19t1.html) & [www.theguardian.com/world/2015/aug/30/china-relocate-chemical-plants-tianjin-blasts-miao-wei-pollution](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/aug/30/china-relocate-chemical-plants-tianjin-blasts-miao-wei-pollution)

*Editor: There have been significant changes in China regarding import of hazardous chemicals, plus export of hazardous chemicals has also been affected, particularly for those chemicals destroyed by the various explosions.*

### • Poison Canister Warning: AMSA 17 Sept 2015

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is warning members of the public of the potential dangers posed by toxic canisters that have been reported washing up on Australian beaches.

Since February 2012, emergency services have received reports from the public of small unlabelled canisters washing up along the coast in the Torres Strait, Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. In the last few months reports have been received of canisters washing up in the Western Cape York region and in Yeppoon in Central Queensland.

The canisters contain a rat poison known as 'Aluminium Phosphide', a white to grey solid which is hazardous to humans. When the canister is opened, the powder reacts with moisture in the air to release Phosphine gas, which is also highly toxic to humans.

The gas has a strong odour that can smell like garlic, rotting fish or urine, but it can quickly dull the sense of smell.

Exposure can cause symptoms such as headaches, nausea, vomiting, difficulty breathing, dizziness, tightness of the chest, diarrhoea, fluid in the lungs, liver/kidney damage, and in severe cases, death.

The gas is also flammable and can spontaneously ignite causing burns or small explosions.

Canisters should NOT be moved or opened and any sightings should be reported to Emergency Services on 000.

*Editor:* The photos in the Warning show the canisters are about 22 cm high and 12 cm in diameter with a screw in lid.

*From:* [http://amsa.gov.au/media/documents/17092015\\_Poison\\_Canister\\_Warning.pdf](http://amsa.gov.au/media/documents/17092015_Poison_Canister_Warning.pdf) (2 pages)

*Alerted at the Oct 2015 DGAG meeting by Cmdr Frank Besanko, Dangerous Goods Manager, MFB*

### • Chemical Release Animation: DuPont La Porte

30 Sept 2015: USA **CSB Animation** of the Chemical Release at DuPont's La Porte Facility.

15 Nov 2014: The accident at DuPont's facility, located east of Houston, killed four workers and injured a fifth when Methyl Mercaptan, a toxic chemical used in the company's insecticide and fungicide manufacturing process, was released.

Video URL: <https://youtu.be/pbFzuS8Bdhw>

[CSB Background](#) for this release on the 15 Nov 2014.

CSB: [DuPont La Porte Interim Recommendations](#) (48p pdf)

*From:* [www.csb.gov/videos/animation-of-chemical-release-at-duponts-la-porte-facility/](http://www.csb.gov/videos/animation-of-chemical-release-at-duponts-la-porte-facility/)

### • Nanomaterials: New OECD Data Available

New data on 11 commercially viable nanomaterials was made available in June 2015 as part of a seven-year testing programme by the OECD.

"The OECD testing programme has made it possible to release an unprecedented volume of nano-specific data to the public," says Jenny Holmqvist, coordinator of nano activities in ECHA and Chair of the OECD steering group on the Testing and Assessment of Manufactured Nanomaterials. The aim of the programme was firstly, to assess whether the existing test guidelines for substances need to be adapted to consider nano-specific issues, and secondly, to respond to the growing need for nano-specific data.

The data available confirms that, in general, the existing test methods used for conventional substances are also applicable for nanomaterials. "It is reassuring to be able to conclude this. However, there may still be a need to look further into the details of the testing guidelines to capture the potential challenges of testing nanomaterials compared to other chemicals," Ms Holmqvist stresses.

**Nanomaterials data:** Fullerenes; Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes; Multi-Walled Carbon Nanotubes; Silver; Gold; Dendrimers; Silicon Dioxide; Nanoclays; Cerium Dioxide; (plus Titanium Dioxide; & Zinc Oxide are both forthcoming).

*Editor:* To download these Dossiers go to:

[www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/nanosafety/dossiers-and-endpoints-testing-programme-manufactured-nanomaterials.htm](http://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/nanosafety/dossiers-and-endpoints-testing-programme-manufactured-nanomaterials.htm)

*From Sept 2015 ECHA Newsletter:*

[http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/4\\_15\\_nanomaterials-new-data-available](http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/4_15_nanomaterials-new-data-available)

## • Alert: Asbestos in Imported Building Products

Workcover NSW Safety Alert (11 Aug 2015):

A Prohibition Notice has been issued to a building site in Sydney, following the discovery of Asbestos in fibrous building panels imported to construct a residential building.

The panels were imported from China and were thought to be Asbestos-free, but subsequent testing by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) has shown they contain Chrysotile Asbestos.

The Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) panels have been cut, and therefore significantly damaged on-site, with the builder ordered to engage a Licensed Asbestos Removalist to remediate the site and remove the remaining panels.

From: [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/news/safety-alert/asbestos-in-imported-building-products](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/news/safety-alert/asbestos-in-imported-building-products)

## • Asbestos in Wax Crayons

Traces of asbestos have been found in the following wax crayon products after being alerted in July 2015:

- [Dora the Explorer Personalized 32 pack crayons](#) (Figure 1)
- [Dora the Explorer Jumbo crayons](#) (Figure 2)
- [Arti Crafti 16 piece crayons](#) (Figure 3)
- [Peppa Pig 8 wax crayons](#) (Figure 4).
- [Disney 'Frozen' Jumbo Crayons](#) (Figure 5)
- [Disney 'Mickey Mouse and Friends' Crayons](#) (Figure 6).

The ACCC is continuing to test products that could contain asbestos and will share any further information with suppliers and the community as it comes to light.

The ACCC does not believe that traces of Asbestos in crayons presents a safety risk to consumers because the asbestos is fixed within the crayon wax, which removes the risk of inhalation or ingestion.

The presence of **Asbestos in crayons at any level is unacceptable** because **Asbestos is a prohibited import** and its presence means the product is not of acceptable quality. Also, the presence of Asbestos triggers certain workplace safety obligations.

Because of triggering the Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities (HWSA) Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group Rapid Response Protocol, the HWSA are contacting suppliers about their obligation to remove existing stock from workplaces and establish collection points for consumer returns.

From: <https://www.accc.gov.au/update/accc-statement-on-asbestos-in-crayons>

Also from: <https://www.facebook.com/NTN> Sept 10 & Sept 11 after the ACCC action.

Editor: This situation was alerted to the ACCC in July 2015 by the National Toxics Network after testing a couple of Australian wax crayon products, following up a USA article. See: <https://www.facebook.com/NTN> July 9

## Is your Child Colouring with Asbestos?

[www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2015/jul/asbestos-children-crayons-toys-cancer-lungs-imports](http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2015/jul/asbestos-children-crayons-toys-cancer-lungs-imports)

The USA Environmental Health News found Asbestos in Amscan Crayons, Disney Mickey Mouse Clubhouse crayons, Nickelodeon Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Crayons, Saban's Power Rangers Super Megaforce crayons, EduScience Deluve Forensics Lab Kit (black fingerprint powder), and Inside Intelligence Secret Spy kit (white fingerprint powder).

## • Toxic Legacy of Coal Gasification Trials in Qld Linc Energy: Secret Report reveals toxic legacy of Coal Gasification Trials near SE Queensland town of Chinchilla

A study commissioned by Queensland's Environment Department says an experimental plant operated by mining company Linc Energy at Chinchilla, west of Brisbane, is to blame for hundreds of square kilometres of prime agricultural land in southeast Queensland being at risk from a cocktail of toxic chemicals and explosive gases; which have already caused "irreversible" damage to strategic cropping land.

From: [www.abc.net.au/news/2015-08-10/linc-energy-secret-report-reveals-toxic-chemical-risk/6681740](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-08-10/linc-energy-secret-report-reveals-toxic-chemical-risk/6681740)

## • Microbeads: California to Protect Marine Life

California Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation on Thursday 8 Oct 2015, requiring California, USA, to phase out the use of microscopic exfoliating beads in personal care products sold in the state starting in 2020 to protect fish and wildlife.

The tiny plastic beads found in soap, toothpaste and body washes are so small that they are showing up in the bodies of fish and other wildlife after passing through water filtration systems without disintegrating.

The bill, AB888, seeks to drastically restrict all use of the non-biodegradable beads.

From: [www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/09/california-bans-microbeads-to-protect-marine-life](http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/09/california-bans-microbeads-to-protect-marine-life)

Alerted by NTN Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NTN>

30 July 2015: The Canadian Government is also planning on developing regulations to prohibit plastic microbeads in personal care products.

From: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1011609&tp=1>

## Chemical Management

### • Sixth Revised Edition of the GHS: Changes

The 6th pdf edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification (GHS) was published on 25 Sept 2015

The 6.5Mb pdf edition is available from: [www.unece.org/tra ns/danger/publi/ghs/ghs\\_rev06/06files\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/tra ns/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev06/06files_e.html)

The list of amendments are in [ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.3](#) Report (32 pages), downloadable from the UN ECE website at: [www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dqcomm/ac10rep.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dqcomm/ac10rep.html)

It includes, *inter alia*, a new hazard class for desensitized explosives and a new hazard category for pyrophoric gases; miscellaneous provisions intended to clarify the criteria for some hazard classes (explosives, specific target organ toxicity following single exposure, aspiration hazard and hazardous to the aquatic environment); additional information to be included in the Safety Data Sheets (section 9); revised and further rationalized precautionary statements and a new example (a glass ampoule) in Annex 7 addressing labelling of small packagings.

From: [www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs\\_welcom e\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_welcom e_e.html)

Editor: The additional information to be included in the Safety Data Sheets (section 9) is very extensive (about 7 pages have been added since the 5<sup>th</sup> revised and earlier editions) and provides useful Remarks and Guidance in the three added Tables

Table A4.3.9.1: Basic physical and chemical properties

Table A4.3.9.2: Data relevant with regard to physical hazard classes (supplemental)

Table A4.3.9.3: Further safety characteristics (supplemental)

## • CEFIC Example for GHS Fold-Out Labels

For labelling a metal container with 100 ml capacity, in a 150 mm long, 30 mm diameter cylinder.

The example for fold-out labels has been further refined to take into account the suggestions made during the 29th session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, in June 2015.

A fold-out label is securely affixed to the immediate container (i.e. the fold-out label is attached so that it remains affixed during the foreseeable conditions and period of use). The fold-out label is produced in such a way that the front part cannot be detached from the remainder of the label.

[www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2015/dgac10c4/S-T-SG-AC10-C4-2015-14e.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2015/dgac10c4/S-T-SG-AC10-C4-2015-14e.pdf) (10 page pdf)

From: *UN GHS Sub-Committee Working Documents for the December 2015 meeting*  
at: [www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dgsubc4/c42015.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dgsubc4/c42015.html)

## • Labels: So Much Information, So Little Space

Mixtures being placed on the EU market had to be reviewed by 1 June 2015 to comply with the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation. This meant, in many cases, that mixture producers had to re-classify their products and include more information on the product label than before. The increased amount of information has proven to be challenging, especially for products sold in small packages.

Editor: *A range of labelling solutions are discussed in the Sept 2015 ECHA Newsletter.*

From: [http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/4\\_15\\_so-much-information-so-little-space](http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/4_15_so-much-information-so-little-space)

## • Use of Non-Animal Health Hazard Testing Methods

Use of non-animal testing methods for the classification of health hazards. Transmitted by the experts from the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, for the December 2015 meeting.

Document: [www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2015/dgac10c4/ST-SG-AC10-C4-2015-13e.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2015/dgac10c4/ST-SG-AC10-C4-2015-13e.pdf) (8 pages)

This document shares some of the practical challenges that have been faced in applying non-animal testing methods (read-across and in-vitro test methods) for the classification of health hazards. Both read-across approaches and the in vitro test methods are mentioned in the GHS as possible ways to classify substances and mixtures based on the given criteria, but in practice this is not possible in many cases. In this document, they address several issues that may need further thought and thorough discussion.

From *ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2015/13* at: [www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dgsubc4/c42015.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dqdb/dgsubc4/c42015.html)

Editor: A very interesting discussion, particularly relevant to those of us who classify Hazardous Chemicals, and also relevant to those who write SDSs, etc.

## • Getting Started with EU Chemicals Legislation

2 Sept 2015: ECHA has published new support pages and an Introductory Guide helping companies which are not yet familiar with the European chemicals legislation to understand their obligations. There is also information for companies using biocides or trading hazardous chemicals.

The Introductory Guide is especially useful for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. It gives an overview of the EU Chemicals Legislation and how to get started in understanding it and complying with it.

The [Getting Started Webpage](#) covers: [Manufacturer](#); [Importer](#); [Only Representative](#); [Distributor](#); [User of Chemicals](#); [Manufacturer outside the EEA](#); [Trader in Very Hazardous Chemicals](#); [Biocides Supplier Or User](#); [Am I exempt?](#)

[Chemical Safety in Your Business](#) – Introduction for SMEs (60 page pdf Introductory Guide)

From: [http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal\\_content/title/how-to-get-started-with-eu-chemicals-legislation](http://echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/how-to-get-started-with-eu-chemicals-legislation)

## • NZ Hazardous Substances Update – 21 Sept 2015

### NZ EPA New Role in Hazardous Substance Management:

The NZ Health and Safety Reform Legislation has now passed. The NZ Health and Safety Reform Bill has made important changes to the law that will reshape the NZ EPA's work, and its role in managing hazardous substances in New Zealand.

One change is that the NZ EPA can now issue the first "EPA Notices", which are a new legal tool for setting rules for hazardous substances.

WorkSafe New Zealand will be in charge of the rules for using hazardous substances at work.

The NZ EPA will continue to receive Applications for hazardous substances, assess their risks and decide whether they should be approved for use in New Zealand.

The NZ EPA will also set the controls that apply no matter where the substance is used, such as labelling and packaging requirements, and controls to protect public health and the environment.

### Get NZ Group Stds Notifications Updates in your Inbox:

Send the NZ EPA your contact details if you'd like to receive notifications about changes to selected Group Standards, or you can select to receive updates on all Group Standards:

[Group Standards subscription page](#)

[www.epa.govt.nz/publications-resources/subscribe/Pages/Group-Standards.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/publications-resources/subscribe/Pages/Group-Standards.aspx)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-September-2015.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-September-2015.aspx)

## • SWA: Guide to Handling Isocyanates

9 July 2015: This Safe Work Australia (SWA) 14 page Guide provides information on how to manage health and safety risks associated with the manufacture, storage, handling, generation and use of Isocyanates in the workplace.

Isocyanates are widely used in manufacturing materials like polyurethane foams, rubbers, plastics, varnishes, adhesives and paints.

Cont.

Guide: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/912/guide-to-handling-isocyanates.pdf](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/SWA/about/Publications/Documents/912/guide-to-handling-isocyanates.pdf)

From: [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/guide-to-handling-isocyanates](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/guide-to-handling-isocyanates)

## • NZ: Staying Safe with Household Chemicals

The NZ EPA monitoring shows that 'home' is a dangerous place – about half the people who are injured by hazardous substances say it happened at home. That's why it's important to arm people with information to help them safely use, store and dispose of common hazardous substances.

The NZ EPA provides specific advice for 12 different types of hazardous substances on this website.

[Household cleaners](#)      [Gardening products](#)  
[Petrol](#)      [Cosmetics and toiletries](#)  
[Liquefied petroleum gas \(LPG\)](#)      [Aerosols](#)  
[Poisons for pest animals](#)      [Paints and thinners](#)  
[Pet products](#)      [Painting boats](#)  
[Fireworks](#)      [Spa and pool chemicals](#)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/at-home/Pages/Staying-safe-with-hazardous-substances.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/at-home/Pages/Staying-safe-with-hazardous-substances.aspx)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-October-2015.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-October-2015.aspx)

## • SafeWork NSW partly replaces Workcover NSW

1 Sept 2015: Workcover NSW has been replaced by 3 Authorities: **SafeWork NSW** covers Work Health and Safety Regulation. **State Insurance Regulatory Authority** covers workers compensation regulation. **Insurance and Care NSW** covers workers compensation insurance.

In the interim still go to the [WorkCover website](#) for H&S info.

From: [www.safework.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/)

## • ACCC: Paint Product Stewardship Proposed Levy

The ACCC proposes to authorise the Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation, Paint Stewardship Limited and certain paint manufacturers to introduce a 15 cents per litre levy to support a National Paint Product Stewardship Scheme.

The ACCC proposes to grant authorisation until 1 June 2021 and will seek submissions from interested parties before making a final decision.

From: [www.accc.gov.au/media-release/accc-proposes-to-authorise-levy-for-national-paint-product-stewardship-scheme](http://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/accc-proposes-to-authorise-levy-for-national-paint-product-stewardship-scheme)

## • USA OSHA Quick Takes e-News: Aug-Oct 2015

I've scanned through the 17 Aug-1 Sept 2015 e-News and listed items about Hazardous Substances / Chemicals.

**17 Aug 2015:** 1/ USA OSHA issued long-awaited [Proposed Rule](#), on 7 Aug 2015, to protect workers from beryllium exposure; labor-industry collaboration is key; 2/ Illinois construction companies exposed foreign-born workers to known asbestos hazards, now face nearly \$2 million in fines; 3/ USA NIOSH offers [Guidance on Preventing Diacetyl Exposure](#) (40 pages) which risks persons developing severe lung disease, plus a webpage for finding publications in multiple languages. These Guidelines can be applied to reduce exposures to Diacetyl Substitutes as well, such as 2,3-Pentanedione and other alpha-Diketones.

**2 Sept 2015:** No chemical related issues.

**15 Sept 2015:** 1/ Texas company fined \$114K for failing to protect workers from chemical exposures when it failed to

conduct a hazard analysis prior to processing a batch of highly hazardous chemicals including flammable and highly reactive [Ethylene Oxide](#); 2/ One-fifth of chronic lung disease in construction workers linked to asbestos, silica and other on-the-job exposures.

**1 Oct 2015:** 1/ USA EPA updates its [Agricultural Worker Protection Standard](#) to better protect America's farmworkers from pesticide exposure and for the first time, sets a minimum age of 18 for those who work with pesticides; 2/ USA OSHA Guide available on new [Confined Spaces In Construction Standard](#) for protecting construction workers from hazards in confined spaces.

From: [www.osha.gov/as/opa/quicktakes/](http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/quicktakes/)

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • 15<sup>th</sup> Tranche IMAP Assessments due 26 Oct 2015

Tranche 15 reports will be published during the week beginning 26 October 2015.

Comment on the assessment outcomes of IMAP—Tranche 15 reports, will be invited within the following eight weeks, ending in the week before Christmas.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments/public-comment](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments/public-comment)

### • Amended IMAP Assessment Recommendations

30 Sept 2015: NICNAS has updated the amended IMAP Assessment Recommendations based on public comment on Tranches 10 to 14. The revised Reports (for all Tranches) can be viewed on the NICNAS website by clicking on the hyperlinked CAS Registry number or Group Assessment name below.

*Editor:* I've included some examples (but not Editorial ones):

Tranche 14 143-33-9 [Sodium Cyanide](#)  
 Tranche 14 151-50-8 [Potassium Cyanide](#)  
 Tranche 13 7439-96-5 [Manganese](#)  
 Tranche 10 [1309-64-4](#) Antimony Oxide (Sb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)  
 Tranche 10 [7440-48-4](#) Cobalt

Other Cobalt based entries from Tranche 9 are also amended: [Carbonic Acid, Cobalt \(2+\) Salt \(1:1\)](#); [Cobalt \(II\) Hydroxide](#); [Cobalt Chlorides and Citrates](#); [Cobalt Mixed Oxide Pigments](#); [Cobalt Nitrate](#); [Cobalt Oxide](#); [Cobalt \(III\) Oxides](#); [Cobalt Salts of 2-Ethylhexanoic Acid and related Compounds](#); [Cobalt Salts of Organic Acids](#);

Tranche 9 various [Diisononyl Phthalates and Related Compounds](#)  
 Tranche 8 various [Selected Refined Base Oils](#)  
 Tranche 6 various [Nickel Chloride](#)

Other Nickel based entries from Tranche 6 are also amended. [Nickel Nitrate and Nickel Fluoride](#); [Nickel Sulfate](#); [Soluble Nickel Compounds \(Group 1\)](#)

Tranche 4 [75-01-4](#) Ethene, Chloro-  
 Tranche 4 various [Lead Phthalates](#)  
 Tranche 4 various [Long Chain Ca Phenol Derivatives](#)  
 Tranche 3 [811-54-1](#) Formic Acid, Lead (2+) Salt  
 Tranche 3 various [Lead Salts of Selected Synthetically Produced Fatty Acids](#)  
 Tranche 2 various [Lead Salts of Selected Fatty Acids](#)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments/public-comment/overview-of-public-comment-received-for-imap-assessments](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments/public-comment/overview-of-public-comment-received-for-imap-assessments)

## • NICNAS Future Tranches Publication Dates

Tranche 15: Late October 2015    Tranche 16: January 2016  
 Tranche 17: April 2016            Tranche 18: June 2016

From: NICNAS Bulletin 4 Aug 2015 at [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au)

## • GTL Base Oil - Revised NICNAS Classification

NICNAS was provided with new data for reassessment of the Hazard Classification of GTL Base Oil. Distillates (Fischer-Tropsch), Heavy, C18-50, Branched, Cyclic and Linear; CAS 848301-69-9.

This chemical was assessed in 2008 as a new chemical for use as a base stock for lubricants. Imported as bulk oil to be formulated into automatic transmission fluid for passenger cars or low viscosity multigrade passenger car engine oils.

Revised classifications for GTL base oil fractions with kinematic viscosity of <4.0 cSt at 100°C (<18 cSt at 40°C):

GHS Category 4 – Harmful if inhaled; GHS Category 1- May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways.

From the NICNAS September 2015 Bulletin at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/the-nicnas-bulletin](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/the-nicnas-bulletin)

## • Current NICNAS Priority Existing Chemicals

Chemical	CAS No.	Declar'n Date
Decabromodiphenyl Ether	1163-19-5	June 2005
Pentabromodiphenyl Ether	32534-81-9	January 2006
Tetrabromobisphenol A	79-94-7	June 2005

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/pec-assessments/pec-declarations](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/pec-assessments/pec-declarations)

## • NICNAS Secondary Notification

CAS 68990-47-6: Fatty Acids, Tall-Oil, Reaction Products with Diethylenetriamine, Maleic Anhydride, Tetraethylenepentamine and Triethylenetetramine

The original assessment ([LTD/1640](#) 16 pages) was completed in August 2014 with: GHS H402: Harmful to aquatic life. H412: Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

As no toxicity data were provided, the notified chemical could be classified according to the GHS.

Halliburton Australia Pty Ltd, Perth needed to provide the Secondary Notification data by 30 Sept 2015.

From the NICNAS September 2015 Bulletin at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/the-nicnas-bulletin](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/the-nicnas-bulletin)

## • NICNAS needs an Extra Community Organisation

On 28 Aug 2015, the Assistant Minister for Health, Senator the Hon Fiona Nash, announced the [establishment of the Strategic Consultative Committee](#) (the Committee) for the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).

Minister Nash had approved four industry organisations and four community organisations to be represented on the Committee.

Following the late withdrawal of an approved Community Organisation, expressions of interest were sought from organisations with an interest in contributing to Industrial Chemicals Regulation through representation on this Committee. Expressions of interest closed Friday 9 Oct 2015.

The organisation approved by the Minister will be invited to nominate a representative as a member of the committee. Members are appointed for a three-year term.

Details on the [Revised NICNAS Consultative Arrangements](#) are available.

Queries: [NICNAS.Secretariat@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:NICNAS.Secretariat@nicnas.gov.au)  
 Phone: (02) 8577 8800 or 1800 638 528

From the NICNAS September 2015 Bulletin at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/the-nicnas-bulletin](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/the-nicnas-bulletin)

## • NICNAS Reforms: Implementation Plan

**Purpose:** Part A - **1/** provides contextual information about NICNAS and the need for reform; **2/** describes the Government's decision in relation to the reforms; **3/** describes the proposed approach for implementing the Government's decision; **4/** describes the consultation that will inform implementation of the reforms; and **5/** details the implementation timeframes.

**Context:** Part B - The reforms include: **1/** rebalancing pre- and post-market regulatory requirements to match the indicative risk profile of a new chemical; **2/** streamlining the existing risk assessment process for new and existing chemicals; **3/** greater utilisation of international assessment materials; and **4/** more appropriate compliance tools.

**Benefits of the Reforms:** Part E – **1/** the faster introduction of lower risk new chemicals provides an incentive to introduce safer industrial chemicals. This could lead to public health, worker and environmental benefits, if these chemicals are introduced and subsequently replace more hazardous existing chemicals; **2/** the realignment of regulatory effort towards chemicals with a higher risk profile will lower the costs to businesses and consumers using lower risk chemicals; **3/** the number of new chemicals that are subject to pre-market assessment is expected to decrease by more than 70% compared to the current arrangements; **4/** the ability to impose conditions of use on new high-risk chemicals, or even refuse approval, if risks are unable to be managed effectively by other risk managers; and **5/** improved compliance powers will help NICNAS to manage non-compliance more effectively in order to maintain current levels of health and environmental protection.

**Proposed Changes to the NICNAS Legislation:** Part G – **1/** It is proposed that the legislation will be outcomes-focused and principles-based; **2/** It will be drafted such that: a/ a broad principles-based framework will be described in the Act; and b/ much of the detail will be in delegated legislation (Regulations) and supporting materials.

**Proposed Changes to the NICNAS IT System:** Part H – The new IT system and changes are intended to: **1/** streamline notification and assessment processes for introducers; **2/** include an integrated online payments system; **3/** create both internal and external portals for users to access the system, e.g. enable introducers to track their applications and overseas companies to directly input confidential data; **3/** provide a platform to better enable targeted and risk-based assessments and compliance activity; **4/** integrate with other systems such as the Department of Health IT system (*Editor: and I assume Customs*).

**Proposed changes to guidance materials, application forms, standard operating procedures and other**

**supporting materials:** Part I – As a consequence of the changes to the legislation and the IT systems, new guidance materials, forms, and supporting materials will be required.

**Consultation on the NICNAS Reforms:** Part J – It is proposed that at least **4 Consultation Papers** will be released (for a minimum four-week consultation period and, where possible, six weeks) prior to finalisation of the legislation for introduction into Parliament in the Spring sitting of 2016 (subject to agreement by Government) in:

October 2015; January 2016; March 2016; and May 2016.

It is expected that **Consultation Paper 1 (late October 2015)** will describe: **1/** the criteria proposed to distinguish new chemicals in classes 1, 2 and 3; **2/** For Class 2 chemicals, the proposed notification requirements and process (noting that the data required to support categorisations of a chemical as Class 2 will be discussed in subsequent Discussion Papers); **3/** for Class 3 chemicals, detailed information about the assessment process.

### Further Details about the Proposed NICNAS Reforms: Attachment A –

Government has agreed the following: There will be three classes of new chemicals based on risk:

Class 1: Very Low Risk Chemicals

Class 2: Low Risk Chemicals

Class 3: Medium-High Risk Chemicals

**For Class 1 Chemicals** there will be automatic market entry and post-market compliance checks by NICNAS.

**For Class 2 Chemicals**, introducers will be expected to self-assess against criteria set by NICNAS, notify NICNAS of proposed introductions (pre-market notification) and complete an annual compliance declaration. NICNAS will undertake a post-market audit/assessment of approximately 10% of the chemicals introduced under Class 2.

**For Class 3 Chemicals**, pre-market assessment will be undertaken by NICNAS, a summary of the assessment will be published on the NICNAS website and targeted post-market audit/assessment by NICNAS will also occur. The pre-market assessment process will be streamlined and will better utilise international information, where appropriate.

**Timeframe:** The reforms will be rolled out progressively between 1 September 2016 and 1 September 2018.

**The Cost of the Reforms:** will be recovered from the regulated industry. The NICNAS reforms will cost \$12.4 million to implement (\$5.4 million non-capital for operational expenses associated with the implementation and \$7 million capital for new IT systems).

It is proposed the first **Public Workshops** will be held in Sydney (3<sup>rd</sup> week in Nov) and Melbourne (4<sup>th</sup> week in Nov) (and other cities, if requested), and in future, about 2-3 weeks after the release of each Consultation Paper.

**Stakeholders may register** for the Consultation Papers and Public Workshops and also provide advice or comments to NICNAS by email to: [NICNAS.reforms@health.gov.au](mailto:NICNAS.reforms@health.gov.au)

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/about-nicnas/nicnas-reforms/implementation-of-the-reforms/plan](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/about-nicnas/nicnas-reforms/implementation-of-the-reforms/plan)

## Scheduled Medicines & Poisons

### • Poisons Standard (SUSMP) 9 – 1 Oct 2015

Chemical Substances amended & new entries:

**Chemicals:** 2-Hydroxyethyl Methacrylate; 4,7-Methano-1H-Indene-5-Acetaldehyde, Octahydro-; 4-Aminopropiophenone; Ammonium Cocoyl Isethionate; Babassuamidopropyl Betaine; Flupyradifurone; Metofluthrin.

**Ag & Vet Chemicals:** Pyriofenone; Dinotefuran

From: <https://www.tga.gov.au/reasons-scheduling-delegates-final-decisions> (23 July 2015 entry covers the changes for both chemicals and medicines in the Poisons Standard)

Pdf Version: <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015L01534/ea4091be-0925-448c-bbc7-8e9958cf6e29> (639 pages, which still includes a 282 page index!)

From: [www.tga.gov.au/publication/poisons-standard-susmp](http://www.tga.gov.au/publication/poisons-standard-susmp) & <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015L01534>

### • Retail Storage of Schedule 6 & Sched. 7 Poisons

11 Sept 2015: National Guideline for Retail Storage of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 Poisons (Webpage only).

**The Objective** of this Guideline is to provide:

Guidance on achieving a consistent safety standard for the retail storage of Schedule 6 poisons that is commensurate with the risk of accidental ingestion by a child; and

Practical interpretation of the mandatory requirements for the retail storage of Schedule 7 poisons that are commensurate with the risk of accidental or intentional ingestion, exposure to or misuse of these highly toxic poisons.

**The Scope** of this guideline is limited to the retail storage of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 poisons.

For the purposes of this guideline:

Retail storage is defined as the keeping of Schedule 6 poisons and Schedule 7 poisons in any location including vehicles, where they are displayed or offered for retail sale, and;

Retail sale includes hawking, peddling or supplying or distributing for free products or product samples.

*Note:* Hawking or the distribution of product samples of Schedule 7 poisons is prohibited. This interpretation does not replace or alter any requirements under the relevant jurisdictions' Dangerous Goods legislation.

The Guideline then goes on to provide details on:

– **Risk Management Considerations**

– **Guidance for Retail Storage of Schedule 6 Poisons**

– **Practical Interpretation of the Mandatory Requirements for Retail Storage of Schedule 7 Poisons**

From: [www.tga.gov.au/publication/national-guideline-retail-storage-schedule-6-and-schedule-7-poisons](http://www.tga.gov.au/publication/national-guideline-retail-storage-schedule-6-and-schedule-7-poisons)

### • Scheduling Delegate's Final Decisions, July 2015

23 July 2015:

[Summary of Delegate's Final Decisions](#) referred to the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling.

[1.1 2-Hydroxyethyl Methacrylate](#) (new Sched 5 entry)

[1.2 4,7-Methano-1H-Indene-5-Acetaldehyde, Octahydro-](#)

[1.3 4-Aminopropiophenone](#) (new Sched 7 entry)

[1.4 Ammonium Cocoyl Isethionate](#) (new Sched 6 entry)

[1.5 Babassuamidopropyl Betaine](#) (new Sched 6 entry)

[1.6 Flupyradifurone](#) (new Sched 6 entry)

[1.7 Metofluthrin](#) (amended Sched 5 entry)

[Summary of Delegate-Only Final Decisions](#) on 2 agricultural chemicals not referred to an expert advisory committee

[2.1 Pyriofenone](#) (fungicide in the Aryl Phenyl Ketone chemical family)

[2.2 Dinotefuran](#) (insecticide in the Neonicotinoid class)

From: [www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-decision-final/final-decisions-and-reasons-decisions-delegates-secretary-department-health-july-2015-chemicals](http://www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-decision-final/final-decisions-and-reasons-decisions-delegates-secretary-department-health-july-2015-chemicals)

## • Codeine Scheduling Proposal

Proposal to delete the Schedule 3 entry for Codeine, and reschedule all current Schedule 3 Codeine to Schedule 4 due to issues including morbidity, toxicity and dependence.

Consideration could include whether all current Schedule 3 preparations should be rescheduled to Schedule 4, or whether any rescheduling to Schedule 4 should only apply to combination analgesic products containing Codeine.

Consideration could include whether the Schedule 2 entry for Codeine should also be amended.

### Some of the Reasons for the Proposed Changes:

- Risks of medication misadventure through polymorphic metabolism, deliberate misuse/abuse combined with the relative lack of efficacy compared to safer products.
- OTC supply is intended for management of Acute Self-Limiting Pain, however, there is inappropriate use for Chronic Pain.
- Codeine shares the properties of other Opioid analgesics and is potentially capable of producing dependence and, in overdose, respiratory depression and reduced level of consciousness.
- Misuse of OTC Codeine products including deaths resulting from hepatic injury, gastrointestinal perforations, hypokalaemia and respiratory depression.
- Genetic influence on Codeine's action complicates risk and benefit decisions, and leads to questions regarding the role of Codeine in clinical practice.

### Pre-meeting public submissions:

60 submissions were received. 29 submissions supported. 25 submissions opposed. 6 submission neither supported nor opposed. <https://www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-submission/public-submissions-scheduling-matters-referred-acms-15-august-2015> (6 Oct 2015 docs)

**The Delegate's Interim Decision:** is to delete the current Schedule 2 and 3 entries for Codeine and amend the current Schedule 4 and 8 entries to reflect this change.

The proposed implementation date is 1 June 2016. This date will allow time for education of consumers, pharmacists and medical practitioners regarding pain management and alternative analgesia available.

From: <https://www.tga.gov.au/interim-decisions-matters-referred-expert-advisory-committee-11#codei>

*Editor: I included this proposal as it is of general interest to everyone who works in our hazardous chemicals field.*

OTC: Over the Counter

Schedule 2: **PHARMACY MEDICINE**

Schedule 3: **PHARMACIST ONLY MEDICINE**

Schedule 4: **PRESCRIPTION ONLY MEDICINE**

**One of the opposed submissions (from a rural pharmacist) suggested:** A real time monitoring system (such as Project Stop used to record Pseudoephedrine sales) as a solution. The benefits were suggested to be two-fold - allowing pharmacists to see a Codeine sales history for their customers, would mean they could identify those who need referral to their doctors for a pain management review, but also allow detection of those that may be struggling with Codeine addiction. This approach was suggested as better, much lower cost way of looking after the community.

## • MIT & MCI Scheduling Public Submissions

Accord, APMF, ASMI and one other, made public submissions on the Chemical Scheduling Proposal on:

**Methylisothiazolinone (MIT);** and

**Methylchloroisothiazolinone (MCI).**

<https://www.tga.gov.au/sites/default/files/public-submissions-scheduling-matters-referred-joint-accsacms-11-august-2015.pdf> (24 pages 3.76 Mb)

From: <https://www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-submission/public-submissions-scheduling-matters-referred-joint-accsacms-11-august-2015> (1 Oct 2015)

*Editor: These submissions contain useful information on the use of MIT and MCI/MIT (3:1) and the issue of skin sensitisation under various scenarios. The is also comment how BIT has anti-fungal properties at 100 ppm.*

*A key issue is that MIT does not work as a biocide at <50 ppm, even under the best manufacturing set up, so reducing MIT to ≤15 ppm would mean it would have no biocidal action. For MCI/MIT (3:1) there seems to be some scope for ≤15 ppm for rinse off products and ≤7.5 ppm for leave on products where all the biocidal action is due to the MCI, and MIT is an impurity that does not contribute.*

*Editor: It will be interesting to see what the Scheduling Committees and the Delegate decide to do. As a minimum we need the same 15 ppm MCI/MIT (3:1) cut-of as for industrial products, above which skin sensitisation needs to be labelled for domestic products.*

## • 2-Hydroxyethyl Methacrylate Scheduling Proposal

Noting the Chemical Delegate's interim decision to create a new Schedule 5 entry, 2-Hydroxyethyl except when included in dental restorative preparations for therapeutic use or in nail preparations when labelled "Avoid contact with skin".

This has raised the following questions for the ACMS:

- 1/ Should therapeutic and/or dental use of this substance be exempt from scheduling or have a cut-off of strength?
- 2/ IF a cut-off of strength is to be applied, is the previously proposed implementation date of 1 February 2016 appropriate for therapeutic and/or dental use?

From: <https://www.tga.gov.au/interim-decisions-matters-referred-expert-advisory-committee-15-18#metha>

## • Proposed Amendments to Poisons Standard

9 Oct 2015: Proposed amendments referred by the Delegate for Scheduling advice for consideration by the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling (ACCS).

**1,3-Dichloropropene** (exempt its presence in biocidal formulations at less than 0.3%); **1,5-Naphthalenediol** (create a Schedule 6 entry with a cut-off %); **1-Naphthalenol** (create a Schedule 6 entry with a cut-off %); **2,6-Dimethoxy-3,5-Pyridinediamine** (create a Schedule 6 entry with a cut-off %); **2,7-Naphthalenediol** (create a Schedule 6 entry with a cut-off %); **Amisulbrom** (create a Schedule 6 entry); **Azo Dyes (CAS 3564-09-8; 75627-17-7; 85186-64-7; 85186-66-9)** that may release potentially carcinogenic Aromatic Amines by Azo reduction: (create new entries in Schedule 7 or Appendix C to restrict public access); **C.I. Direct Orange 1** (add to the existing entry for BENZIDINE-BASED AZO DYES in Schedule 7); **Isethionate (2-Hydroxyethanesulfonic Acid)** (add entry in Schedule 5); **Musk Ambrette** (create a new Schedule 10 entry to prohibit its use in cosmetic and domestic products); **Phenol, 4-Amino-3-Nitro** (create a Schedule 6 entry with a cut-off %); **p-Methylaminophenol** (create a Schedule 6 entry with a cut-off %); **Topramezone** (create a Schedule 6 entry).

**Oxathiapiprolin** (create a new Appendix B entry – Substances considered NOT to require control by Scheduling);

**Labelling of Paints & Tinters** (Amend 1.5.8 so the requirements of Section 1.3 do not apply when labelled in accordance with the "Labelling of Workplace Hazardous Chemicals - Code of Practice - Dec 2011" (or as amended).

Electronic Submissions should be emailed to [Chemicals.Scheduling@health.gov.au](mailto:Chemicals.Scheduling@health.gov.au) with the cover sheet.

Consultation closes **Thursday 29 Oct 2015**.

From: [www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposed-amendments-poisons-standard-accs-and-acms-meetings-november-2015](http://www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposed-amendments-poisons-standard-accs-and-acms-meetings-november-2015)

## Food Chemical Issues

### • Coconut Milk Drink Recalls: Due to Dairy Allergy

Sept 2015: FSANZ has urged consumers with a dairy allergy to be aware of recent recalls. In these recalls dairy products were present in the product but were not declared on the product label, as required under the Food Standards Code. FSANZ is aware of two reported cases of anaphylactic reactions associated with the consumption of coconut milk drinks.

As a precautionary measure, the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture is inspecting all imports of the recalled products, to ensure the labels now declare the presence of allergens, and is working to identify and inspect other imported coconut milk drinks. IF milk products are not declared on the label, samples will be sent for testing to determine whether an undeclared allergen is present and further recalls may be possible.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/safety/Pages/Coconut-milk-drinks.aspx](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/safety/Pages/Coconut-milk-drinks.aspx)

*Editor:* I included this due to serious nature of an undeclared hazardous ingredient that has serious consequences for persons allergic to dairy. Also that testing has had to be put in place for coconut milk products.

### • FSANZ: Nanotechnology and Food

FSANZ Sept 2015: There is little evidence to suggest nanotechnologies are being used in the food industry on a wide scale, although a lot of research is being undertaken on potential applications. Future applications of

nanotechnologies could include nanostructured food products, nanoscale or nano-encapsulated food additives, or food packaging with improved properties.

There are, however, certain foods including food additives that naturally contain nanoscale particles. Food is naturally composed of nanoscale Sugars, Amino Acids, Peptides and Proteins, many of which form organised, functional nanostructures.

For example, Proteins are in the nanoscale size range, and milk is an emulsion of nanoscale fat droplets. Humans have consumed these particles in foods throughout evolution without evidence of adverse health effects related to the nanoscale size of the materials.

Humans are also exposed to ultrafine and nanoscale particles such as smoke, dust, ash, and fine clays through the air, food and water. Scientists estimate that we may inhale millions of nanoscale particles in every breath.

FSANZ has adopted a range of strategies to manage any potential risks associated with nanotechnologies in foods, with the aim of ensuring public health and safety is protected. The [Application Handbook](#) has been amended to ensure any application to approve the use of nanotechnology in food provides appropriate information for FSANZ to conduct a thorough risk assessment.

To date FSANZ has not received an application to amend the Food Standards Code in relation to a new or novel nanotechnology.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/foodtech/nanotech/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/foodtech/nanotech/Pages/default.aspx)

*Editor:* "Milk is an emulsion of nanoscale fat droplets" has only been the case since around the 1960s, when homogenized milk was introduced into Australia, where the homogenized fat no longer separated from the water based milk layer. Nanoscale fat droplets can go through membranes in the body that the non-homogenized fat can't go through.

### • P1031 – Allergen Labelling Exemptions

The purpose of this Proposal is to allow for specific exemptions from allergen declarations for Glucose Syrups from Wheat Starch, Fully Refined Soy Oil, Soy Derivatives (Tocopherols and Phytosterols), and Distilled Alcohol from Wheat or Whey.

FSANZ is proposing to exempt certain foods and ingredients derived from allergenic foods from mandatory declaration of allergens where available evidence indicates the production methods used remove or reduce allergenic proteins to levels that are of negligible risk to allergic consumers.

[Call for submissions 12 August 2015 \(pdf 228 kb\)](#) (20 pages)

Comment closed 23 Sept 2015.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/P1031Allergenlabellingexemptions.aspx](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/P1031Allergenlabellingexemptions.aspx)

### • A1111 – Bacteriophage S16 & F01a Processing Aid

The purpose of the Application is to seek approval for a preparation of two Bacteriophages (S16 and FO1a) (Salmonex™) (subsequently called Salmonella phage in the report) as a processing aid to reduce & control Salmonella spp. contamination during post-slaughter processing of fresh meat & poultry products.

[Call for submissions - 25 Sept 2015 \(pdf 616 kb\)](#) (16 pages)

Comment by 6 Nov 15: [submissions@foodstandards.gov.au](mailto:submissions@foodstandards.gov.au).

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1111BacteriophageS16-F01asPA.aspx](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1111BacteriophageS16-F01asPA.aspx)

• **A1117 - Food Additive L-Cysteine: Use Extension**

The purpose of this Application is to extend the use of the food additive, L-Cysteine, to limit enzymatic browning of cut avocado and banana and so extend the shelf life.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1117-L-cysteineasaFA.aspx](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1117-L-cysteineasaFA.aspx)

**Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals**

• **Roadmap for Insect Pollinator Risk Assessment in Australia**

The guidance [Roadmap for insect pollinator risk assessment in Australia](#), proposes that recommendations for label statements are built into the risk assessment framework. Section 10 of the document addresses hazard-based label statements (i.e. statements which provide an indication of how toxic the product might be to bees), risk-based statements (even though a substance may be toxic to bees, a particular use may be acceptable if exposure is unlikely to reach hazardous levels after that use), and risk management statements (if both a hazard and a potential risk to bees—adults and/or colony—have been identified, risk management statements will be required).

The APVMA recognises that ecotoxicity test methods are still being developed and that Insect Pollinator Risk Assessment Methodology is likely to be further extended and refined over the next several years. This guidance will be updated as new test protocols to better assess effects (hazard) of pesticides on bees and the exposure of bees to pesticides become available. For more information see: [Overview report on Neonicotinoids and Honeybee health in Australia released](#).

Comment is sought on:

- the risk assessment guidance outlined in the document [Roadmap for Insect Pollinator Risk Assessment in Australia](#)
- proposed pollinator protection statements for product labels.

Consultation closes Wed 4 Nov 2015

Email: [Enquiries@apvma.gov.au](mailto:Enquiries@apvma.gov.au) Phone: +61-2-6210-4701

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/18531>

• **Dimethoate: Ag Chem Products still Suspended**

The APVMA has continued the suspension of the registrations and label approvals for eleven agricultural chemical products containing Dimethoate.

The suspension of Product Registrations and Label Approvals are now in effect until 5 Oct 2016.

The dietary exposure concerns that formed the basis of the original suspension of label approvals and product registrations have not altered for the listed products.

The APVMA has decided that the instructions on the previously approved labels associated with those products may no longer be adequate as they do not have appropriate instructions for the circumstances under which the product should be used, the frequency of use of the product and the withholding period after the use of the product for specific use patterns and crop types.

Enquiries: Chemical Review Officer, Scientific Assessment and Chemical Review, APVMA, Phone: +61-2-6210-4749, email: [ChemicalReview@apvma.gov.au](mailto:ChemicalReview@apvma.gov.au)

APVMA 6 Oct 15 Gazette p32 <http://apvma.gov.au/node/18671>

• **APVMA Active Constituent: Dinotefuran**

Dinotefuran is used in products as a systemic insecticide for controlling a range of sucking insects on plants, and for controlling external parasites on dogs.

Common Name: Dinotefuran; Chemical Name: *N"-methyl-N-nitro-N"-[(tetrahydro-3-furanyl)methyl]guanidine*; CAS No: 165252-70-0; Minimum Purity: ≥990 g/kg; Formula: C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>; MW: 201.21 g/mol; Chemical Family: Nitroguanidine; Mode of Action: Agonist of the Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor.

The Delegate of the Secretary of the Dept of Health has made a decision on Dinotefuran to list it in **Schedule 5** of the SUSMP, with no exemptions or cut-offs, with an implementation date of 1 Oct 2015.

Enquiries: Director, Chemistry & Manufacture Section, Scientific Assessment & Chemical Review Program, APVMA. Phone: 02 6210 4936, Email: [chemistry@apvma.gov.au](mailto:chemistry@apvma.gov.au)

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 28 Aug 2015 p18.

<http://apvma.gov.au/node/18406>

• **NZ EPA: Dichlorvos Insecticide Use Restricted**

24 Sept 2015: NZ EPA approval has been retained for the active ingredient Dichlorvos and three Dichlorvos-containing substances, with significant restrictions. Those restrictions for commercial use will be phased in over the next five years.

Initial restrictions include no aerial spraying, prohibition on application in sensitive areas, & additional record keeping.

Decision:

[www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?appID=APP202097](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?appID=APP202097)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/Dichlorvos-reassessment-decision.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/Dichlorvos-reassessment-decision.aspx)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-October-2015.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-October-2015.aspx)

• **NZ Reassessing: Carbaryl, Chlorpyrifos & Diazinon**

The NZ EPA called for submissions on its reassessment of some Organophosphates and Carbamates (OPCs) substances containing Carbaryl, Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon, used as active ingredients in veterinary medicines or in substances used as non-plant protection insecticides (in and around buildings, on hard surfaces, and in industrial situations). Comment closed 6 Oct 2015.

[Organophosphates & Carbamates Reassessment](#) (33p pdf)

[Use of Diazinon as a Veterinary Medicine in NZ](#) (39p pdf)

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?appID=APP202098](http://www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?appID=APP202098) and

From: [www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-September-2015.aspx](http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/Read-the-Hazardous-Substances-Update-September-2015.aspx)

**Dangerous Goods**

• **NTC: Limited Quantities of DGs – Submissions**

[Transporting Limited Quantities of Dangerous Goods RIS - June 2015](#) 25 June 2015 (56 pages).

12 Submissions were received by 14 Aug 2015:

[Western Australia Department of Mines Petroleum Resource Safety](#) - Peter Drygala; [Toll Group](#) - Debra Kirk;

**PACIA** - Nick Zovko; [Australian Logistics Council](#) - Michael Kilgariff; [Aerosol Association](#) - Philip Fleming; [EPA NSW](#) - Craig Lamberton; [National Retail Association](#) - Trevor Evans; [Australian Government Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development](#) - Marcus James; [Accord Australasia](#) - Rachael Linklater; [AFAC](#) - Paul Turkington; [Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner](#) - Melanie O'Brien; [Direct Selling Association of Australia](#) - Daniel Hoenig

From: [www.ntc.gov.au/submissions/history/?rid=87565&pid=1163](http://www.ntc.gov.au/submissions/history/?rid=87565&pid=1163)

For information contact: Tania Wilson, Senior Policy Analyst, National Transport Commission, Melbourne ph: (03) 9236 5018 email: [TWilson@ntc.gov.au](mailto:TWilson@ntc.gov.au)

*Editor:* It is particularly interesting to read the hands-on regulator responses, vs the hands-off regulator response, vs the Industry Associations and Logistic industries responses, vs the Emergency Services response.

So in my opinion, we should go at least for a partial solution where all LQs up to 2000kg (or L), be allowed, and the complexity of Retail Distribution Loads can then be dropped. Then the next step to Options 3 or 4 will occur once there are several further years of no LQ incidents of consequence in AU, the EU and the USA.

The issue of consolidation of Line Haul loads could be partially addressed by allowing Placarded LQ >2000 kg or L (up to 8000 kg or L) on each transport unit, and where the LQ Diamond, as an additional transport unit placard, is used to alert the Emergency Services to the presence of LQ.

## • Emergency Response Guide Update

*Editor:* SAA/SNZ HB 76 Initial Emergency Response Code has NOT been updated to match ADG Code Version 7.3.

Several Dangerous Goods specialists have followed the suggestion to modify and use the Canutec Emergency Response Guidebook to create a free downloadable pdf version. This is expected to be available by early 2016.

In the interim you may view ERG2012 at: [www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-menu-227.htm](http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-menu-227.htm), which is about to be updated to ERG2016. The Canutec ERG was the document from which HB 76 was originally cloned for the ADG Code 6th Edition in 1998.

HB76 is already not used by the WA Fire Service. They instead use ERG2012 because it is up-to-date, less expensive and also has metric units.

## • 19th Revised Ed. UN Orange Book: DG Changes

Amendments to the Eighteenth Revised Edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations. These changes create the 19th Revised edition of the UN Orange Book:

The list of amendments are in [ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.1](#) Report (37 pages), downloadable from the UN ECE website at: [www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgcomm/ac10rep.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgcomm/ac10rep.html)

The 19th Edition is now available as two pdf volumes 1 & 2 (7.5 Mb & 4.3 Mb) at:

[www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev19/19files\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev19/19files_e.html)

Via: [www.chcs.org.uk/email-forum.htm](http://www.chcs.org.uk/email-forum.htm) email Q&A Forum & [www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev13/13nature\\_e.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev13/13nature_e.html)

## • Updating Listed Substance DG Classifications

The 19th Edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations now includes:

2.0.0.2 A consignor who has identified, on the basis of test data, that a substance listed by name in column 2 of the Dangerous Goods List in Chapter 3.2 meets classification criteria for a hazard class or division that is not identified in the list, may, with the approval of the Competent Authority, consign the substance:

- Under the most appropriate generic or not otherwise specified (N.O.S.) entry reflecting all hazards; or
- Under the same UN number and name but with additional hazard communication information as appropriate to reflect the additional subsidiary risk(s) (documentation, label, placard) provided that the primary hazard class remains unchanged and that any other transport conditions (e.g. limited quantity, packaging and tank provisions) that would normally apply to substances possessing such a combination of hazards are the same as those applicable to the substance listed.

NOTE: When a Competent Authority grants such approvals, it should inform the United Nations Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods accordingly and submit a relevant proposal of amendment to the Dangerous Goods List. Should the proposed amendment be rejected, the competent authority should withdraw its approval."

From: the 19<sup>th</sup> Edition Volume 1 page 51.

*Editor:* Now that we are reclassifying to the GHS Criteria this process is identifying misclassified specific substance. This paragraph allows those listed substances with additional hazards to be reviewed by the UN.

## • GHS Pictograms on DG Transport Containers

The latest 6<sup>th</sup> Revised Edition of the GHS now includes:

**1.4.10.4.4 Use of GHS pictograms in transport.** In transport, a GHS pictogram not required by the UN Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations should only appear as part of a complete GHS label (see 1.4.10.5.4.1) and not independently.

There is now a **proposal is to include a similar Note into the UN Model DG Regulations** at the end of Consignment Procedures Chapter 5.1 General Provisions, as follows:

"NOTE: In accordance with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), a GHS pictogram not required by the UN Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods should only appear as part of a complete GHS label and not independently. See GHS 1.4.10.4.4."

This proposal will be discussed at the 30 Nov - 9 Dec 2015 UN meeting.

A concern by a key Dangerous Goods colleague in Australia is that he believes "the spread of GHS labels is diluting the effect of transport labels, however (he) believes **the proposed wording will actually imply that full GHS labelling will be welcome on transport vehicles.**" He would prefer to "keep transport labels and placards for the container of goods being transported and encourage no use of TDG labels on inners."

*Editor:* What do you think? Please give feedback to the Australian Representative on the UN Committee.

[Asa.Masterman@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Asa.Masterman@infrastructure.gov.au), Dangerous Goods Policy Unit, Surface Transport Policy, Department of Infrastructure & Regional Development, ph: 02 6274 6750.

[Caroline.VonLichtan@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Caroline.VonLichtan@infrastructure.gov.au) Policy Officer, ph: +61 2 6274 6598.

## • Polymerizing Substances & Mixtures (Stabilized)

The latest 6<sup>th</sup> Revised Edition of the GHS now includes:

### 2.4.2.5 Division 4.1 Polymerizing substances and mixtures (stabilized)

#### 2.4.2.5.1 Definitions and properties

*Polymerizing substances* are substances which, without stabilization, are liable to undergo a strongly exothermic reaction resulting in the formation of larger molecules or resulting in the formation of polymers under conditions normally encountered in transport. Such substances are considered to be polymerizing substances of Div'n 4.1 when:

(a) Their self-accelerating polymerization temperature (SAPT) is 75 °C or less under the conditions (with or

without chemical stabilization as offered for transport) and in the packaging, IBC or portable tank in which the substance or mixture is to be transported;

(b) They exhibit a heat of reaction of more than 300 J/g; and

(c) They do not meet any other criteria for inclusion in Classes 1 to 8.

A mixture meeting the criteria of a polymerizing substance shall be classified as a polymerizing substance of Division 4.1.

2.4.2.5.2 Polymerizing substances are subject to temperature control in transport if their self-accelerating polymerization temperature (SAPT) is:

(a) When offered for transport in a packaging or IBC, 50 °C or less in the packaging or IBC in which the substance is to be transported; or

(b) When offered for transport in a portable tank, 45 °C or less in the portable tank in which the substance is to be transported.

2.4.2.5.3 Polymerizing substances that also meet the criteria of 2.9.3 shall be consigned under the appropriate polymerizing substance entry.”

*From: the 19<sup>th</sup> Edition Volume 1 page 94.*

## • Additional Criteria for Polymerizing Substances

DG Working Document [ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2015/36](#) (5 pages), for the Dec 2015 Meeting.

‘Polymerizing (Stabilised) Substances’ have been introduced into Division 4.1 of the [UN Model Regulations](#), 19<sup>th</sup> Edition.

CEFIC proposes to insert Section 5.2 - Substances which may be polymerizing substances (Division 4.1) in Appendix 6 (Screening Procedures) of the [Manual of Tests and Criteria](#), as follows:

The classification procedure for polymerizing substances need not be applied if:

(a) The chemical structure of the substance contains no double or triple bonds or strained rings;

(b) Or, the compounds contains double or triple bonds or strained rings, but the molecular mass M(CHON) counting only the elements C, H, O and N is more than 150;

(c) The compound is solid with a melting point above (50 °C).

CEFIC also proposes renumbering existing sections 5.2 to 5.3 and 5.3 to 5.4

## CEFIC’s discussion proposal (2 extracts):

7. In informal document INF.27 it was shown that the ability to polymerize is generally linked to the existence of unsaturated (i.e. double or triple) bonds or strained rings in the molecule. The mere presence of such functional groups, however, does not necessarily establish that a substance will be able to polymerize; rather, the ability and tendency to undergo a chain reaction decreases rapidly with increasing size of the molecule due to energetic and kinetic reasons. Further, evidence was given that polymerisation cannot occur in the solid state.

12. An intriguingly simple alternative approach (*to molecular mass or molecular volume*) is looking at the elements that form the “backbone” of the organic molecule, i.e. carbon and hydrogen (C, H), oxygen (O) and nitrogen (N). As already mentioned in section 9 of this paper, their contribution to the molecular mass is roughly 14 g/mol. In other words: Counting the contributions to the molar mass of these elements provides an excellent criterion for the size of the “backbone” of an organic molecule. For the sake of brevity, this figure is henceforth referred to as M(CHON).

*From: [www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsub3/c32015.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsub3/c32015.html)*

*Editor: What do you think? Please give feedback to the Australian Representative on the UN Committee.*

[Asa.Masterman@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Asa.Masterman@infrastructure.gov.au), Dangerous Goods Policy Unit, Surface Transport Policy, Department of Infrastructure & Regional Development, ph: 02 6274 6750.

[Caroline.VonLichtan@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Caroline.VonLichtan@infrastructure.gov.au) Policy Officer, ph: +61 2 6274 6598.

## • WA D.Goods Reportable Situations & Incidents 2014

[Overview of Dangerous Goods Reportable Situations and Incidents 2015](#) (June 2015, 15 pages)

“The quantity of Dangerous Goods being stored, handled and transported across the State continues to increase with economic activity. Looking at 20 years of data, the total number of reported incidents, excluding Major Hazard Facility (MHF) incident reports, has remained relatively constant over the period.” “There were no fatalities in 2014. Several injuries received were serious but the majority were minor.”

Simon Ridge Chief Dangerous Goods Officer.

*From: [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/12367.aspx](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/12367.aspx)*

*Editor: This continues to be a very useful Report. It would be great if other States & Territories also prepared such Reports.*

## • WA: Unwanted Marine Distress Flares

From the 2 page pamphlet:

[Abandoned and unwanted explosives and flares](#) at: [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Pamphlets/DGS\\_P\\_AbandonedExpFlares.pdf](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Pamphlets/DGS_P_AbandonedExpFlares.pdf)

### What do you do about Unwanted Marine Distress Flares?

Flares can be dangerous and must be disposed of appropriately by qualified people.

Unwanted marine distress flares should be disposed of properly and in a safe manner. Do not dispose of them in a rubbish bin, at a rubbish tip, at sea or in the bush. It is also illegal to discharge a flare when not involved in an

emergency, unless authorised by the Department of Transport – Marine Safety.

The flares should be handed to a nominated collection point or arrangements made for their disposal by a commercial operator. Some commercial pyrotechnic or fireworks contractors are qualified to dispose of marine distress flares.

From: [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/12367.aspx](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/12367.aspx)

## • Dangerous, Haz. & Harmful Cargoes Handbook

The Third Edition of the AMSA Dangerous, Hazardous and Harmful Cargoes Handbook is nearly complete.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2011) of the Handbook has been produced as an information resource for those involved in the transport of Dangerous Goods intended to be shipped by sea. It is also designed as a training text incorporating and updating the DG compendium contained in IMO Model course 1.10. It includes a guide to the training required for each function described in Chapter 1.3 of the IMDG code for this reason.

For information or to order, phone: 02-6279-5955, or email: [DangerousGoods@amsa.gov.au](mailto:DangerousGoods@amsa.gov.au). (3<sup>rd</sup> edition: wait until 2016)

From: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/vessels/ship-safety/cargoes-and-dangerous-goods/#handbook>

Editor: A very useful reference to help us all to effectively use the IMDG Code books.

Note: The IMDG Code 2014 is fully in force from 1 Jan 2016

## • AMSA Accepted IMDG Code Training Courses

AMSA accepted training courses suitable for the training required to be provided to shore based personnel who undertake any of the following functions:

- 1/ Packing of Dangerous Goods, [including those that supervise the packing of Cargo Transport Units];
- 2/ Marking, labelling or placarding of Dangerous Goods; and
- 3/ Preparing and signing Transport Documentation [Shipper and Container packing declarations].

Queries: [DangerousGoods@amsa.gov.au](mailto:DangerousGoods@amsa.gov.au)

From: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/vessels/ship-safety/cargoes-and-dangerous-goods/cargoes-training-providers/index.asp>

## Environmental Notes on Chemicals

### • USA EPA: Flame Retardant Clusters

13 Aug 2015 – USA EPA [has issued problem formulation documents](#) for three flame retardant clusters: 1/ Chlorinated Phosphate Esters cluster 2/ Cyclic Aliphatic Bromides cluster, 3/ Tetrabromobisphenol A. cluster Additionally, EPA released a data needs assessment for the 4/ Brominated Phthalates cluster which identifies critical gaps in toxicity, exposure, and commercial mixtures data.

Americans are often exposed to flame retardant chemicals in their daily lives. The chemicals are widely used in products such as household furniture, textiles, and electronic equipment. Many flame retardant chemicals can persist in the environment, and studies have shown that some may be hazardous to people and animals.

– [Fact Sheet on Flame Retardant Clusters](#)

The USA EPA is seeking input. The Docket ID No.s are provided in Q7 in the Fact Sheet.

From: <http://www2.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/assessments-tsca-work-plan-chemicals>

### • Vic EPA Fines: Clayton Landfill Licence Breach

30 Sept 2015: EPA Vic fined the City of Boroondara more than \$7500 for breaching a condition of its licence to control gas emission levels at the Clayton Regional Landfill site.

EPA Vic's inspection found that gas emission levels exceeded EPA's best practice guidelines and were in breach of the site's licence conditions

EPA also issued the Council with three Pollution Abatement Notices requiring it implement measures to manage landfill gas levels.

*There is a public waste forum is on Tuesday, 20 Oct 2015 at 6pm at 'Balook' Learning Centre, Westall Secondary College, 88 Rosebank Ave, Clayton South.*

Report suspected pollution to the EPA on 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842) or via its website: [www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au).

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2015/september/30/epa-fines-clayton-landfill-over-licence-breach](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2015/september/30/epa-fines-clayton-landfill-over-licence-breach)

### • Vic EPA: Movement of Prescribed Industrial Waste

17 Aug 2015: Updated guidance for producers, consigners, transporters and receivers of prescribed industrial waste (PIW) on the movement of PIW from Victoria to other Australian states and territories.

[Movement of prescribed industrial waste from Victoria](#) (publication IWRG832 8 pages)

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2015/august/iwrg832-1](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2015/august/iwrg832-1)

### • Vic EPA: Perfluorinated Chemicals

26 Aug 2015: Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) have been historically used in firefighting foams and other industrial and consumer products for many decades. Certain PFCs are being phased out around the world because they are not easily broken down in the environment and can be toxic. EPA Victoria is working with other government agencies to identify and resolve issues related to PFC contamination associated with CFA Regional Training Centres.

There are currently NO Australian criteria for PFOS & PFOA. EPA Vic is a member of the working group that is in the process of establishing Australian criteria for these chemicals.

Hence, when EPA Victoria does an environmental assessment for these chemicals, the EPA Victoria refers to international standards.

Community Information [Fact Sheet 1611](#)

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2015/august/1611](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2015/august/1611)

### • Vic EPA: Underground Petroleum Storage Systems

13 Aug 2015: The Design, Installation and Management Requirements for Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS) Guideline.

The updated Guideline has been developed in response to concerns about leakage from UPSS, and the need for clear and comprehensive guidance to owners/operators on the level of performance required for UPSS.

[Publication 888.4](#) (24 pages) replaces 888.3 July 2014.

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2015/august/888-4](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2015/august/888-4)

- **NSW EPA NSW Air Quality Video: Air Pollution**

This short animation (on YouTube), simply titled Air Pollution, explains the complex workings of air pollution in the Sydney Basin by describing the key sources of particle and ozone pollution, and how geography and weather influence the concentration and dispersion of air pollution.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28aYt-d\\_3NI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28aYt-d_3NI)

From: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epaconnect/Issue3Sept15.htm](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epaconnect/Issue3Sept15.htm)

- **NSW Pest Management Technicians & Fumigators**

From 1 Sept 2015, the Licensing arrangement for Pest Management Technicians and Fumigators has been transferred from WorkCover NSW to the EPA NSW, which means that all existing WorkCover NSW certificates of competency, renewals and applications for new licences will be administered by the EPA NSW.

The EPA NSW will be issuing Licences, rather than Certificates of Competency, for pest management technicians and fumigators.

WorkCover NSW will continue to regulate pest management technicians and fumigators on work health and safety matters. Call WorkCover NSW on 131 050.

From: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/pest-fumigator-licence.htm](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/pest-fumigator-licence.htm)

- **Environmental Treatment Solutions: \$67000 Fine**

2 Oct 2015: The judgment was handed down in the NSW Land and Environment Court on Friday 2 Oct 2015. Environmental Treatment Solutions Pty Ltd (ETS) had previously entered a plea of guilty to a charge of failing to carry out a licenced activity in a competent manner in breach of its NSW Environment Protection Licence.

On 27 Feb 2014, employees carried out a waste treatment process called acid-alkali neutralisation. The process involved mixing about 8000 litres of acidic waste with various alkaline wastes to create a more benign waste.

During the activity, two ETS employees erroneously mixed about 100 kilograms of Sodium Hydrosulphide with acidic material. This produced Hydrogen Sulphide gas, a highly toxic and potentially lethal gas.

Seven ETS employees were hospitalised as a result of the incident, including three employees that lost consciousness.

Prior to this incident, in Feb 2014, the EPA NSW required an independent audit of the premises which recommended that a waste identification and labelling system be put in place to ensure all pallets are appropriately labelled on arrival at the premises.

Since the incident the company has implemented a pallet numbering and colour coding system to improve the management of waste onsite. It has also implemented improved processes for providing instructions to employees and supervising employees.

From: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia15100702.htm](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia15100702.htm)

- **NSW EPA: Aerial Spraying Incident: two \$800 fines**

The EPA NSW has issued two fines totalling \$800 each to Upper Macquarie County Council (UMCC) and aerial spray contractors Commercial Helicopters for failing to gain approval from neighbours prior to commencing aerial spraying within 150 metres of the neighbour's house.

The EPA NSW investigated a complaint on the 19 Feb 2015 and concluded that Commercial Helicopters sprayed pesticides at a point on the target property 125m from the neighbour's house without obtaining written consent.

The EPA NSW considered that UMCC, as the Control Authority for noxious weeds in the Central West of NSW and whose core business is to use and supervise the application of pesticides, must lead by example and always be in full compliance with the pesticides legislation.

From: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia15100103.htm](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia15100103.htm)

- **Williamtown RAAF Base PFOS & PFOA residues**

3 Sept 2015: The NSW Government has been made aware by the Dept of Defence, that legacy fire-fighting chemicals PFOS & PFOA, have been found in some surface water, groundwaters and in small numbers of fish around the Williamtown RAAF Base and Newcastle Airport.

Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) are substances that were historically used in fire-fighting foams. They were used at RAAF Williamtown in fire-fighting training and operations prior to a change in Defence policy issued in 2008.

PFOS and PFOA have been used in firefighting and fabric treatments around the world and are stable chemicals that do not break down in the environment and persist for a long time.

In keeping with a precautionary approach the NSW Government has advised potentially impacted residents (see [Williamtown Map](#) (1 page pdf 2.8 Mb)) to not drink bore water and to not eat fish caught in the nearby area or eggs from backyard chickens that have been drinking bore water in the area.

16 Sept 2015: [NSW Govt Ministerial Media Release](#) (2 pages) Two review processes have been put in place.

From: [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia15090301.htm](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia15090301.htm)

## Standards & Codes

- **Stds – [www.saiglobal.com/search-publications/](http://www.saiglobal.com/search-publications/)**

No relevant new standards published since mid August 2015.

- **Drafts – [www.saiglobal.com/search-publications/](http://www.saiglobal.com/search-publications/)**

[DR2 AS 2252.5:2015](#): Controlled Environments - Cytotoxic Drug Safety Cabinets (CDSC) - Design, construction, installation, testing and use. Published 9 Oct 2015, 35 pages, pdf (copy/paste): Free, Hardcopy: Not Available.

[ISO/DIS 16975-1.3](#): Respiratory protective devices - Selection, use and maintenance - Part 1: Establishing and implementing a respiratory protective device programme. Published 28 Aug 2015, 78 pages, pdf (personal use) \$89.07, hardcopy \$98.97.

[ISO/FDIS 18158](#): Workplace air – Terminology. Published 18 Aug 2015, 30 pages, pdf (personal use) \$211.92, hardcopy \$235.47.

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

*Note: Comment must be via the 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.*

## • NFPA News (Codes Newsletter)

### Public Input is Currently being Accepted on:

[NFPA 36](#): Standard for Solvent Extraction Plants

[NFPA 55](#): Compressed Gases and Cryogenic Fluids Code

[NFPA 56](#): Standard for Fire and Explosion Prevention During Cleaning and Purging of Flammable Gas Piping Systems

[NFPA 59A](#): Standard for the Production, Storage, and Handling of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)

[NFPA 269](#): Standard Test Method for Developing Toxic Potency Data for Use in Fire Hazard Modeling

[NFPA 385](#): Standard for Tank Vehicles for Flammable and Combustible Liquids

[NFPA 655](#): Standard for Prevention of Sulfur Fires and Explosions

[NFPA 1150](#): Standard on Foam Chemicals for Fires in Class A Fuels

[NFPA 1992](#): Standard on Liquid Splash-Protective Ensembles and Clothing for Hazardous Materials Emergencies

### Recently updated NFPA Standards:

[NFPA 33](#): Standard for Spray Application Using Flammable or Combustible Materials

[NFPA 652](#): Standard on Fundamentals of Combustible Dusts

### NFPA Committees Seeking Members (via NFPA News):

Classification & Properties of Haz. Chemical Data: [NFPA 704](#)

Combustible Dusts—Fundamentals: [NFPA 652](#)

Gas Process Safety: [NFPA 56](#)

LP-Gases at Utility Gas Plants: [NFPA 59](#)

Manufacture of Organic Coatings: [NFPA 35](#)

Solvent Extraction Plants: [NFPA 36](#)

Transportation of Flammable Liquids: [NFPA 385](#)

All NFPA documents are at: [www.nfpa.org/aboutthecodes/list\\_of\\_codes\\_and\\_standards.asp?list=publicinput](http://www.nfpa.org/aboutthecodes/list_of_codes_and_standards.asp?list=publicinput). Those open for input / comment are found at: [www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?status=publicinput](http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?status=publicinput) & [www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?status=publiccomment](http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?status=publiccomment) or by checking the latest NFPA News. As part of its commitment to enhancing public safety, NFPA makes its codes & standards available for free online.

Newsletter: [www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/nfpa-news](http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/nfpa-news)

## Seminars, Conferences, Courses

### • Chemicals of Concern Seminar, 21 Oct, Melb

Organised by the RACI HS&E Division with RMIT University 4pm-9pm at RMIT Uni Melbourne.

Cost \$70 non-members, \$60 members, \$25 non-member students, \$20 member & RMIT students.

Includes a standup networking nibbles & drinks break.

Go to: <http://www.raci.org.au/events> and select 21 Oct.

### • Planning for Improvements in Transport of DG

Tuesday 27 Oct 2015, 12 to 1pm, South Wharf, Melb

Natalie Higgins (Dangerous Goods Advisor, WorkSafe Vic) will provide practical advice on how to comply, and outline WorkSafe Vic's current collaborative efforts with industry, other regulators and agencies to address the many issues and challenges that drivers, vehicle owners, prime-contractors

and consignors need to manage in the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

From: [http://worksafeweek.worksafe.vic.gov.au/events\\_listing/planning-for-improvements-in-the-transport-of-dangerous-goods](http://worksafeweek.worksafe.vic.gov.au/events_listing/planning-for-improvements-in-the-transport-of-dangerous-goods)

### • Safety in Design: Risk Assessment, 27 Oct, Melb

Benefits from Risk Assessments in Safety in Design

**Speaker:** Barry is the Director of Miller Impact Engineering. A multi-disciplinary consultancy specialising in fire safety risk engineering, building services engineering, fire services engineering and expert witness representation.

Cost \$30, EA and RES Members: Free

From: <https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/portal/event/safety-design-benefits-risk-assessments-design>

### • PACIA 2015 National Conference: 27-29 Oct, Melb

The October 2015 PACIA National Conference, in Melbourne, **Global Ambition Starts Here: Strengthening value chains through Australian chemistry**, will focus on new ways of growing Australia's global presence through chemistry.

Full Registration Non-Member \$1730.

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

### • Lab Mgmt & Design Conference 16-19 Nov 15, Melb

Building a SMART laboratory.

Plus a **GHS Workshop** on 16 Nov 15, Melbourne.

**Program Brochure:** Non-members: \$1925. GHS Workshop: \$850. Also has Lab Tours.

From: [www.labmanagers.org.au/](http://www.labmanagers.org.au/)

### • Chem Eng for Non-Chemical Engineers, Nov, Perth

Perth, 18-20 Nov 2015. An introduction to some of the main subject areas involved in Chemical Engineering disciplines, to broaden the technology base of participants, with a view to promote improved communication with chemical engineers.

Cost: Non-Members \$2940, IChemE Members \$2415.

Email: [austcourses@icheme.org](mailto:austcourses@icheme.org), ph: 03-9642-4494

[Download the course flyer \(4 page pdf\)](#)

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

### • AIOH Conference 2015, 7-9 Dec, Perth

The theme is **iGiene** and is set around three key principles, **iNspire**, **iNtegrate** and **iNform**. Full cost: \$1760.

There are Continuing Education Seminars on Sat & Sun prior.

[AIOH2015 Registration Brochure and Preliminary Program](#)

From: <http://aioh.cvent.com/events/aioh2015c-igiene/event-summary-d23bc7cfba0c4c0a80d82638ce781345.aspx>

### • Fire Australia + HazMat 2016, 4-5 May 16, Melb

**"Risk, Liability, Exposure: Delivering Positive Outcomes"**

In May 2016 the Fire Australia Conference will include the HazMat Conference, meaning even more attendees, speakers and exhibitors on offer from across the spectrum of Fire Protection and Emergency Response, Special Hazards and Dangerous Goods.

From: [www.fpa.com.au/events/fire-australia](http://www.fpa.com.au/events/fire-australia)

**Haztech Environmental:** Chemical Hazard Classifications done & reviewed. SDSs 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 Chemicals / 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 23 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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