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• Training Senior Chemical Regulatory Managers - The Next Step:

If you are interested in gaining some sort of formal qualifications in chemical regulatory management at a Senior level, please email me. Can you take part? See p4.

• Australian Govt Productivity Commission Research Report on Chemicals & Plastics Regs

This report is of great significance to how chemicals and plastics are regulated in Australia.

It is essential reading for all Regulatory, Senior and General Managers of companies handling chemicals in Australia. It is a comprehensive and well prepared report.

I have included the Recommendations I regard as 'key' into the appropriate Sections of this newsletter under Chemical Management or where they specifically fit. For some I have made Editorial comment.

The Appendices in the Research Report also make interesting reading: as they consider Compliance and Administration Costs; Funding Mechanisms for Chemicals and Plastics Regulatory Agencies; and Labelling Regulation and Effectiveness.

From: Productivity Commission Research Report July 08
www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

Hazmat & Environment Notes

are prepared by:

Jeff Simpson

Hazardous Materials Consultant
Editor & Publisher

My approach is to provide a short, succinct note on each hazardous material issue, sufficient to allow you to make a decision of whether it is relevant to you. If you need more information contact details / website / etc are provided.

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

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Hazardous Substances

• Why Xylitol is Prohibited by Australian Customs

I have had an email from Customs informing me:

“The control was first introduced in 1970 as the substance was deemed to be dangerous to health. At that time, Xylitol was distributed in Australia in the form of solution for intravenous infusion. A significant number of patients treated with Xylitol had suffered adverse reactions and in several cases had died.”

“These days it is typically used as an additive in drinks (purported to have a cooling effect) and in chewing gum, mint and hard sweets and dietary food bars. The substance appears to be safe when used as a sweetener in small amounts in oral preparations as supported by FSANZ.”

“The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has overall policy responsibility for this control. FSANZ also have policy responsibility for Xylitol when contained in food and drink preparations. Customs provides a control at the border on behalf of these agencies.”

“Customs has been consulting with TGA, FSANZ and the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) in relation to a review of a comprehensive range of substances contained in the Prohibited Imports (PI) Regulations. As part of this review, Xylitol has been 'earmarked' for removal from Schedule 8. However, there is no timeframe available as yet. Once the proposed amendments are finalised and approved, DoHA will request Customs to amend the PI Regulations.”

Editor's Comment: I am informed that the removal of Xylitol from the PI Regulations should take place within a year.

Chemical Management

• Productivity Commission - Policy & Governance

Recommendation 3.1: Subsequent to the COAG Ministerial Taskforce on Chemicals and Plastics Regulation Reform having completed its reference, the Commonwealth, States and Territories should establish a Standing Committee on Chemicals comprising representatives of all ministerial councils that have responsibility for chemicals regulation. It would:

- provide an ongoing forum for assessing:
 - the consistency of chemicals-specific policy settings across the various areas of concern, including public health, workplace and on-farm safety, transport safety, environment protection and national security
 - the effectiveness and efficiency of the overall chemicals-specific regulatory system
- oversee the consistent application of chemical hazard and risk-assessment methodologies and international standards such as the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
- support the coordinated development of regulatory proposals that have cross-portfolio implications, including the conduct of regulatory impact assessments
- make recommendations for specific actions by relevant ministerial councils
- be supported by a secretariat in the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• Aust Govt Productivity Commission - Public Health

Recommendation 5.3: Where a poison is adequately covered under workplace substances regulations and there is demonstrated compliance with those regulations, state and territory governments should exempt workplace users from poisons controls.

Recommendation 5.4: The ACCC and NICNAS should negotiate formal arrangements for cooperation on issues regarding chemicals in consumer articles. These arrangements should include the establishment of a more systematic research program to identify and deal with the risks of chemicals in consumer articles.

Recommendation 5.5: The Australian Government should transfer responsibility for the administration and enforcement of the Cosmetics Standard 2007 (Cwlth) from NICNAS to the ACCC.

Recommendation 5.6: The Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy should develop illicit drug precursor regulations for adoption by reference by all jurisdictions. The associated risk-based schedule of chemicals and apparatus, which are to be subject to the regulations, should be maintained by a committee of experts overseen by the Ministerial Council, and also be adopted by reference in each jurisdiction.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• Productivity Commission - Occupational Health & Safety

Recommendation 6.2: The Workplace Relations Ministers' Council should implement the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals in the workplace sector in Australia only when it can be shown that adoption of the new regime would produce net benefits.

The Australian Safety and Compensation Council should undertake a further regulatory impact assessment when some of Australia's key trading partners, such as China and the United States of America, have commenced implementation of systems of regulation for workplace chemicals that are based on the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

Editor's Comment: There is an urgent need to explicitly allow GHS classifications to be included into MSDSs to be used in Australia that will be coming into Australia from New Zealand and Europe. This will mean explaining to users the sort of differences in classifications to the current Hazardous Substances Information System they will be seeing.

There is a need for Authorities around the world to ask the UN GHS secretariat to publish the toxicological basis for their new classification cut-off percentages.

These are not available for us to review, even though our mixtures may be significantly affected for formulations designed to be classified with non hazardous or low hazardous health effects under our current system.

e.g. Currently a surfactant that classifies as R41 (Risk of serious damage to eyes) at >10%, and R36 (Causes eye irritation) between 5-10%, when formulated at 4% is "Not a Hazardous Health Effects Substance". Whereas under the GHS the Corrosive to Eyes classification is down to 3% and Eye Irritation is 1-3%. Also in New Zealand the Corrosive to Eyes ingredient must be disclosed with a CAS No. whilst in Australia only a generic chemical name is needed.

Recommendation 6.3: The Australian Safety and Compensation Council should conduct a regulatory impact

assessment of the proposal to require agricultural and veterinary chemical products that are also workplace hazardous chemicals to carry workplace hazardous chemicals labels.

Recommendation 6.4: The review of the operation of the body that replaces the Australian Safety and Compensation Council should assess its effectiveness and efficiency, including the impact of the tripartite structure of the body on the quality and nature of advice that it provides to the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council. The review should also consider the case for replacing the new body with a smaller, statutorily independent body comprised of experts in standard setting, rather than representatives of particular constituencies.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• COAG “Early Harvest” Reforms 3rd July 2008

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed on the 3rd July 2008 to an “early harvest” reform package based on the Chemicals and Plastics regulatory Reform:

Reforms that caught my attention include:

Reform 1: Nationally consistent implementation by all jurisdictions of the 7th edition of Australian Dangerous Goods Code and attendant regulation within a 12 month period.

Reform 2: The 7th edition of the Australian Dangerous Goods Code be made free on the Internet.

Reform 5: The Australian Govt should progress industry reforms for regulating water sanitisers for industrial use.

Reform 6: Access to high risk agricultural and veterinary chemicals is restricted to those with the necessary competencies in order to ensure that they are not misused and, as a result, withdrawn from the market.

Reform 7: Exclude certain agricultural and veterinary products that are currently regulated by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority from the National Registration Scheme on the basis of risk

Reform 8: Agricultural and veterinary chemical labelling reform – regulatory box.

Reform 10: Regulatory process for low risk agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

Reform 11: National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme to finalise low regulatory concern chemicals reforms.

Reform 15: National harmonisation of poisons scheduling regulation using template or model regulation; plus mutual recognition of decisions.

Reform 16: States and Territories uniformly implement Commonwealth scheduling of poisons.

Reform 18: The Australian Government should progress industry reforms for regulating hard surface disinfectants for hospital, industrial & domestic use & report progress to COAG.

From: www.coag.gov.au/coag_meeting_outcomes/2008-07-03/docs/COAG_taskforce_regulatory_reform.rtf

• Nanotechnology & Our Regulatory Frameworks

Review of Possible Impacts of Nanotechnology on Australia's Regulatory Frameworks, Sept 2007 (110 pages) was independently conducted by the Centre for Regulatory Studies at Monash University. It was released 11 July 2008.

The review found that whilst there is no immediate need for major changes to the regulatory regime, there are many

areas which potentially will need amending. The review identified six regulatory issues which may need addressing in the regulatory framework.

1. 'New' or 'Existing' substances or Products? The most significant potential gap concerns the uncertainty as to whether new nanoforms of conventional products will be considered as 'different' to traditional products.

2. Weight or volume. Many regulatory triggers currently exist on the basis of a threshold weight or volume. For nanomaterials such thresholds may not be meaningful.

3. Knowledge of presence or implications of presence of nanomaterials. In some instances appropriate regulation requires particular knowledge of either the presence of nanomaterials and/or the risks posed by nanomaterials.

4. Risk assessment protocols or conventional techniques. Australia's current regulatory regimes often rely on risk assessment protocols as a means of ensuring human or environmental safety of products or applications. However it is uncertain whether the current risk assessment methodologies being employed by various regulatory agencies are suitable for goods that contain nanomaterials.

5. Research and Development exemptions. There are some gaps relevant to research and development, which although not unique to nanomaterials may apply when there are regulatory exemptions for R&D purposes that are based on weight thresholds.

6. International documents. Many of our regulatory frameworks refer to international documents or documents sourced outside regulators. If these documents themselves do not adequately address health, safety and environment concerns raised by nanomaterials, this may lead to a further potential regulatory gap.

Senator Carr, the Minister for Innovation also issued the *Australian Government Approach to the Responsible Management of Nanotechnology (2 pages)*, which identifies three guiding objectives for nanotechnology management:

- protect the health & safety of humans & the environment;
- foster informed community debate, and
- achieve economic and social benefits from the responsible adoption of nanotechnology.

From: http://minister.innovation.gov.au/carr/Pages/SHAPIN_GUPTOTHENANOTECHNOLOGYCHALLENGE.aspx

For copies of these two reports go to:

www.innovation.gov.au/Section/Innovation/Pages/Australia_nOfficeofNanotechnology.aspx

On 4 August 2008, the Government released the "[Australian Community Attitudes Held about Nanotechnology – Trends 2005-2008](#)" report.

• WA SafetyLine July 2008 for OH&S Professionals

Item of interest:

MSDS in WA must now Comply to the National Code 2003

Under the WA Occupational Safety and Health regulations, manufacturers and importers preparing Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) in Western Australia had until 24 April 2008 to develop and provide MSDS which meet the content requirements of the 2003 National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets.

From: www.docep.wa.gov.au/WorkSafe/PDF/SafetyLine/safetyline_oshprofes.pdf

• EU REACH: Last Reminder to Pre-Register

REACH - Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals. The EU REACH process requires all existing chemicals to be reviewed, not just the new ones. This data gathering / creation process is intended to cover the missing hazardous effects data for chemicals (including as ingredients in chemical products) traded with >1t/a in Europe and so improve hazardous effects information in Safety Data Sheets.

From 1st Dec 2008, products imported into the EU must have all their ingredients registered under the REACH regulations (see the pre-registration process below). There is a pre-registration period from 1st June to 30th November.

International formulators or ingredient manufacturers may need be part of this process because European importers may want to pass their pre-registration obligations up the supply chain, to avoid having to manage a large number of ingredients as part of Substance Information Exchange For a.

You need to act on REACH:

1/ To know which of your products ingredients you and your customer(s) export to the EU in >1 tonne combined quantity for each ingredient.

2/ To decide who will pre-register the ingredients, to avoid the immediate full costs of registration after 1st December 2008. If outside the EU, you will need to set up a legal EU representative. The pre-registration process is then free.

3/ If you decide to not take part in the EU REACH process for some or all ingredients, ensure you advise your customers of the restriction that your non-pre-registered/non-registered ingredients cannot go into their chemical product being exported to the EU.

For REACH information go to the European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach_intro.htm

Also see the NICNAS 1 July 2008 Gazette article on REACH: www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/Chemical_Gazette/pdf/2008jul_whole.pdf#page=5

Editor's Comment: Due to my concern over this, I am informing you we now have an EU REACH Specialist in Melbourne.

Willi Muenninghof, Regulatory Affairs and EMDG Consultant, add-Chem, ph: 03-8772-2918, mob: 0433-601-433, email: willi@add-chem.com.au, web: www.add-chem.com.au

• Employing or Engaging a Suitably Qualified Person: WorkSafe Victoria Position

The Act requires employers to employ or engage persons who are suitably qualified in relation to occupational health and safety to provide advice. This WorkSafe Victoria Position provides definition around what 'suitably qualified' means.

An employer may decide they have enough OHS knowledge and expertise to control the risks in their workplace without needing to employ or engage a person to provide advice.

The test for what is reasonably practicable is an objective test and **is based on what a person ought to know**, not what they *actually* know.

Employers must consider whether it is preferable to employ and/or engage a suitably qualified person. WorkSafe Victoria has detailed what matters they will consider when deciding whether an employer has done what is reasonably practicable.

Who is a suitably qualified person?

'Suitably qualified' means having the **knowledge, skills and experience** to provide advice on the issues impacting

the health and safety of the employees of the employer. The advice must reflect the current state of knowledge on OHS issues so that the employer can rely upon this advice.

Public Comment period is from **Friday 22 August 2008** to close of business on **Thursday 18 September 2008**.

Comment: email worksafepositions@worksafe.vic.gov.au, fax: 03-9641- 1713, to: Manager, Information & Guidance Branch, WorkSafe Victoria. Enquiries to the Advisory Service ph: 1800-136-089 or 03-9641-1444.

From: www.workcover.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/WorkSafe/SiteTools/About+WorkSafe/Public+Comment/D_Public+Comment.

• Training Senior Chemical Regulatory Managers - The Next Step: (continued from April-June newsletter).

Do you have an interest to gain a certificate, degree, graduate diploma, or masters in the chemical regulations field so that you can continue to work and satisfy the need for recognised competence in your chemical regulatory advice?

Formal qualifications would provide a clear career path for young persons considering how they might work in our very interesting, challenging & satisfying chemical regulatory field.

This lack of formal qualifications in the chemical regulatory field at a Senior Manager level is not just an Australian problem, it has also been recognised as a problem that needs urgent attention at the UN Dangerous Goods Committee level.

Can all who are interested in gaining some sort of formal qualifications in chemical regulatory management at a Senior level, please email to: Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au. I will then include you in the process to set up such courses.

• HaSPA Newsletter – “proOHnews” June 2008

Newsletter of the Health and Safety Professionals Alliance. Two HaSPA newsletter items got my attention:

We never stop learning.... by Susanne Tepe, Associate Professor of OHS, RMIT University

OHS students will need to learn how to teach, how to learn, how to be change agents. OHS students have to learn to be systems thinkers.

From Practitioner to Professional - what's in a name?

A 'professional' is a person required to possess a large body of knowledge derived from extensive and formal academic study (usually tertiary) and training.

From: http://worksafevic.optin.com.au/worksafevic/issues/OHS%20newsletter_online.htm where you can subscribe.

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• Productivity Commission NICNAS Recommendations

Recommendation 4.1: The Australian Government should impose a statutory obligation on NICNAS to ensure that:

- the costs of chemical assessments are commensurate with the risks posed by the chemicals concerned
- its assessment priorities are directed to the most efficient management of the aggregate risk of all industrial chemicals.

Recommendation 4.2: The Australian Government should establish a technical advisory committee within NICNAS, as a statutory requirement.

Recommendation 4.3: The Australian Government should generally limit the role of NICNAS to the scientific assessment of the hazards and risks of industrial chemicals. The power to annotate the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances to ban or phase out chemicals, and the responsibilities for administering the Cosmetics Standard 2007, and for implementing the Rotterdam Convention, should be removed from NICNAS.

Recommendation 4.4: All relevant national standard setting bodies should be required to respond to NICNAS recommendations within defined time limits. NICNAS should maintain a public schedule of all responses.

Recommendation 4.5: The Australian Government should introduce a statutory timeframe for the technical screening of applications by NICNAS.

Recommendation 4.6: NICNAS should implement a program to greatly accelerate the assessment of existing chemicals that:

- screens all existing chemicals to develop a list of high-priority chemicals for assessment
- makes greater use of simulation techniques based on the hazards of chemical analogues
- reviews the scope for recognising the existing chemical assessment schemes of a range of other countries as 'approved foreign schemes'. Priorities should be the schemes operated by Canada, the European Union and the United States.

The Australian Government should meet the cost of screening all existing chemicals from budget funding. NICNAS should continue to recover the costs of subsequent assessment of chemicals of concern.

From: Productivity Commission Research Report July 08

www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

Editor's Comment regarding Recommendation 4.1. "the costs of chemical assessments are commensurate with the risks posed by the chemicals concerned".

Based on this premise, then no hazardous effects to the GHS full criteria should mean no NICNAS assessment cost and just a NICNAS administrative cost to list the chemical, track who is bringing it into Australia and keep a copy of each company's self assessment on file. Should the hazard status change in the future the companies can then be easily contacted.

This would then align significantly more closely with the New Zealand approach for non hazardous ingredients, whilst still retaining the control the Australian community expects.

• Triclosan Draft PEC Report Due in Late 2008

The Triclosan Draft PEC Report has been released only to Applicants in August (to correct errors). It should be available for public comment in Nov or Dec 2008.

The U.S. Pharmacopoeia has limits for Di-, Tri- and Tetra-ChloroDibenzoFuran and ChloroDibenzoDioxin impurities in Triclosan. In particular the Tetrachloro- impurities have a limit of 1 picogram per gram (or 1 part per trillion).

Editor's Comment: I would like to see NICNAS ask for samples of Triclosan currently being imported into Australia, to have an independent analysis for impurities done, to confirm if these limits are actually being met or not.

Editor's Comment: It raises the issue of how Persistent Organic Pollutant impurities (such as these) in Chlorinated chemicals (such as Triclosan) should be managed to meet our Stockholm Convention obligations.

• Uptake of NICNAS's PEC Recommendations by Government Chemical Management Bodies

Due to the large number (over 38,000) of existing chemicals in use in Australia, NICNAS assesses these chemicals in response to concerns about their health &/or environmental effects. Chemicals undergoing such assessment are referred to as Priority Existing Chemicals (PECs).

NICNAS has completed 72 PEC assessments and 8 Secondary notifications.

The time between release of the recommendation and final adoption varied greatly between recommendations, and ranged from 1 to 6 years.

e.g. The recommendations on Formaldehyde were made in November 2006 and work is ongoing 12 months later *. The recommendations on Short Chain Chlorinated Paraffins made in July 2004, were accepted. However differing views among the States and Territories on risk reduction measures, availability of baseline data on chlorinated paraffins other than the PEC, and information on availability of suitable alternative material required additional work before recommendation could be implemented.

(* at the time of the survey).

Some National Regulatory Agencies reported that the PEC recommendations were considered, but there was no need to take specific action, as these were addressed independently of the NICNAS reports.

In a number of cases (e.g. Formaldehyde) States indicated that the extent of their role was limited to publishing information for the industry on their websites.

Reasons for the lack of uptake of PEC recommendations by National co-ordinating bodies; National regulatory bodies; and States and Territories; is covered. The most common issues raised by States and Territories were priorities and resources.

The key "Way Forward" points (for the Editor) were:

- NICNAS review its formal linkages with the national coordinating bodies to ensure that these bodies are involved in priority setting for chemical review, in risk assessment and in the development of recommendations. NICNAS also engage with relevant National, State and Territory agencies during the assessment process and prior to finalisation, to ensure that NICNAS's recommendations are appropriate, relevant and meaningful in the context of their sector.
- When making recommendations that have a regulatory component, NICNAS recognise that the risk management frameworks differ within the different sectors and develop recommendations in consultation with bodies/agencies to meet the requirements of the sectors.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Existing_Chemicals/Report_Findings_of_PEC_Uptake_2008.pdf

• NICNAS Business Plan 2008-09

Mission: The integrated regulation of industrial chemicals for the protection of human health and the environment through scientific excellence and regulatory efficiency to deliver the safe and sustainable use of chemicals.

Key Strategic Direction: Protect human health and the environment through the safe and sustainable use of industrial chemicals and implementation of further reforms to the industrial chemicals regulatory scheme.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/About_NICNAS/Business_And_Regulatory_Plans.asp

Editor's Comment: Based on their Mission and Key Strategic Direction NICNAS should be actively working on how to bring to Australia, safer and more sustainable chemicals, where industry is currently not able to do so for low volume use or low profit chemicals, where the NICNAS & your own management / information costs for such new chemicals are uneconomic for years using the current scheme!

E.g. the current NICNAS cost for a Low Volume Chemical Permit is \$3457 and then \$683 every 3 years, with additional industry time & specialist time cost to apply for this. At a margin of 10% you have to sell \$50000+ of product before you even start making any profit!

Editor's Suggestions: Maybe we could have a HECS-like fee, so that we pay 20% upfront and then starting paying the other 80% only once we start generating a profit from that chemical, with half the profit going to NICNAS until their fee with interest is paid, OR that 20% of the original fee with all interest is paid initially and then each year and the renewal is then added as a yearly cost after 3 years?

• Notifiers' Update Meeting 3 Sept 2008

This meeting is to provide information on the latest activities in NICNAS New Chemicals & other Reform Projects.

If your not in Sydney and think that NICNAS is meant to be an Australia wide Authority, I suggest you contact them and ask for an update meeting in your State too!

Robyn Thomsen email: robyn.thomsen@nicnas.gov.au
ph: 02-8577-8815, or Julie Brown 02-8577- 8870.

• Proposed NICNAS Training Planner 2008-2009

- Sept/Oct 2008 - Low Regulatory Concern Chemicals
Nov 2008 – Introduction to NICNAS
- Cosmetics Regulations (Proposed)
- Notifiers Training (Syd/Melb/Other States)
Feb 2009 - Notifiers Update; Disinfectants (tentative)

Ph: 02-8577-8800, email: industrytraining@nicnas.gov.au

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/New_Chemicals/Works_hops.asp & from: www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/New_Chemicals/Workshops/NICNAS_Training_Planner_2008-09.pdf

Scheduled Poisons

• Productivity Commission – Ag & Vet Chemical Products

Recommendation 8.1: The Australian Government, in consultation with the states and territories, should impose a statutory obligation on the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority to ensure that:

- the costs of chemical assessments are commensurate with the risks posed by the chemicals concerned
- its assessment priorities are directed to the most efficient management of the aggregate risk of all AgVet chemicals.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• Poisons Standard 2008 Legislative Instrument

The SUSDP No. 23 June 2008 is now available on the Commonwealth of Australia Law website, www.comlaw.gov.au. Search with "Poisons Standard" or under "What's new" "Legislative Instruments" 19-08-2008. This 432 page (1.42 Mb approx) document is downloadable in various formats (the doc version may need you to add the Show All/Hide reverse icon "¶" to remove extra information).

Editor's Comment: This makes it easy for simple word searches for chemicals when checking this document, particularly for the community and those with only a small need to access the SUSDP.

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/ComLaw/Legislation/LegislativeInstrument1.nsf/all/whatsnew/7805D97A4580CDAFCA2574A5001B7144?OpenDocument>

Food Chemical Issues

• Nanomaterials & Nanotechnologies: FSANZ

Under the Australian Government's National Nanotechnology Strategy, FSANZ is working within a whole of government framework to ensure that any future potential health and safety issues regarding nanotechnology in food are addressed.

FSANZ has set up an in-house nanotechnology steering group to keep abreast of development and deal with future issues, particularly food contact nanomaterials. As part of this FSANZ is proactively gathering information from all available scientific sources and have established comprehensive networks and contacts for exchange of information on the use of nanotechnology both within Australia and internationally. For example, FSANZ funded and seconded an officer to the World Health Organization / Food and Agriculture Organization to undertake an international expert consultation on nanotechnology in food and agricultural products.

FSANZ also hosted a workshop on 6 June 2008 to share information across all the relevant regulatory bodies. Regulators will continue to meet and share information on regulatory risk assessments and risk based decision making.

From: [Food Standards News No. 65](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au)
At: www.foodstandards.gov.au

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

• Imtrade Australia Recall is Waiting on the Court

On Thursday May 29 the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) ordered a stay against the recall decision made by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) on 21 May 2008 that was taken against Imtrade Australia Pty Ltd, a Western Australian company that the APVMA has said has publicly acknowledged that it supplied false details in seeking registration of a range of agricultural chemical products.

From: www.apvma.gov.au/media/downloads/mr0806.pdf

On Wednesday July 23 the Federal Court of Australia reserved its decision in relation to the application made by the APVMA which was intended to test the validity of product approvals and registrations previously obtained by Imtrade Australia Pty Ltd, a Western Australian company that manufacturers and distributes chemicals to the agricultural, food processing and mining industries.

"Until the Federal Court announces its decision there are no restrictions on the sale or use of Imtrade's chemical products," Mr Neville Matthew, Program Manager, Regulatory Strategy and Compliance said.

From the APVMA Media Release 28 July 2008:
www.apvma.gov.au/media/downloads/mr0808_imtrade.pdf

Editor's Comment: The list of the 52 originally recalled Imtrade chemical products is no longer available to download.

• The APVMA and Nanotechnology

“It is not the existence of nanomaterials that is new, but rather the ability to engineer these products at the nano-scale that is new.”

“APVMA assessment of AgVet chemical products currently registered in Australia has not identified any that contain engineered nanomaterials. To date the APVMA has not received any applications for registration of AgVet chemical products that contain engineered nanomaterials. The APVMA is continuing to monitor developments of nanotechnologies in relation to AgVet products and is examining the need for any regulatory mechanisms that may need to be included in the AgVet Code.”

The Monash Report (see under Chemical Management) has identified four potential gaps in relation to health, safety and environment considerations and these are:

1. Lack of clarity as to whether existing substances that are reformulated at the nanoscale will be considered new substances;
2. Existing regulatory framework provides for a number of exemptions to the licensing conditions, including in relation to experimental use (R&D);
3. Inclusion in the existing framework is on the basis of the effect of product, and not the physio-chemical properties; and
4. The current risk assessment protocols are based on conventional methods that may not be suitable for nanomaterials.

The APVMA strategy for progressively assessing and addressing the potential gaps in the regulatory framework for AgVet chemical products includes:

- Publishing a ‘Call for Information – Nanomaterials in AgVet chemicals and AgVet products’ on the APVMA website and in the APVMA Gazette;
- Providing APVMA scientific staff with appropriate training in the science of nanomaterials;
- Continuing to be involved in national and international forums on the regulation of nanomaterials; and
- Publishing information on nanotechnology and providing the community and industry with information on any change to the regulatory process.

This 3 page (440 Kb) document is downloadable
From: www.apvma.gov.au/new/downloads/Nanotechnology.pdf

• Spray Drift Risk Principle – July 2008

Off-target spray drift that can accompany the application of pesticides is a concern that sometimes alarms the community and always challenges the agricultural industry to find ways to control it more effectively.

A risk assessment framework document – *APVMA Operating Principles in Relation to Spray Drift Risk* – describes the methods and scientific principles that the APVMA uses to assess and manage spray drift issues.

The methods and principles described will apply uniformly to both new applications and reconsiderations.

These risk assessment and risk management principles have been developed with four aims:

- Ensure that registration and review processes deal adequately with spray-drift-related risks to human health, the environment and international trade.

- Create and maintain a consistent and transparent process for making registration and review decisions in relation to spray drift risk assessment and risk mitigation.

- Harmonise the APVMA’s approach with the respective capacities of the States and Territories to enforce spray drift risk mitigation measures.

- Promote understanding among product registrants, chemical users & the community about how the APVMA makes regulatory decisions when there are spray drift concerns.

45 page (560Kb) document: www.apvma.gov.au/users/downloads/spraydrift_op_principles_July2008.pdf

From: www.apvma.gov.au/users/spray_drift.shtml

• Agricultural Adjuvant Draft Guidelines – June 08

Consultation Draft Guidelines for the Registration of Agricultural Adjuvant Products, June 2008.

An agricultural adjuvant is broadly defined by the APVMA as “any substance (other than water) that is added to an agricultural chemical product to alter its physico-chemical properties and/or improve its efficacy”.

Adjuvants are captured within the definition of an agricultural chemical product because they are substances or mixtures of substances that directly modify the effect of another chemical product, e.g. Herbicide, Fungicide, Insecticide, etc.

Adjuvants may be an ingredient included during the formulation process of an agricultural pesticide and contained in the registered agricultural chemical product, or a separate product added to the spray tank and mixed with a registered pesticide prior to application.

Where the Adjuvant is a separate (stand alone) product, the constituents giving the Adjuvant product its properties are considered to be active constituents as they are now primarily responsible for the modifying effect. This identifies the Adjuvant as an agricultural chemical product, and gives rise to the registration requirement for these products.

(1) Adjuvants which Enhance Product Efficacy: Wetters / Spreaders; Stickers; Penetrants; Extenders; Humectants.

The applicant must provide data showing that the Adjuvant product improves the efficacy of the pesticide with which it is to be mixed/used to support label claims.

(2) Adjuvants which Improve Ease of Application: Acidifying/Buffering Agents; Anti-foaming/De-foaming agents; Compatibility Agents; Drift Control Agents; Dyes; Water Conditioners.

Functional claims for a category (2) Adjuvant must be supported by trial data or scientific argument demonstrate that the claims are valid and consistent with the active constituent contained in the product.

The Adjuvant Draft Guideline is intended for inclusion in a later edition of the Manual of Requirements and Guidelines for registering agricultural products (Ag MORAG).

Send comment to: Jay Kottege, Principal Evaluator, Pesticides Program, APVMA, ph: 02-6210-4759; email: Jay.Kottege@apvma.gov.au

Obtain the 14 page 117 Kb pdf from: www.apvma.gov.au/new/downloads/adjuvant_products.pdf

• Adverse Experience Reporting Program – Ag Chem - Review of the Registrant Component.

Specific questions for manufacturers, registrants and other interested parties. In the implementation of the registrant component the APVMA made a series of assumptions. Are these assumptions valid? If these assumptions require reconsideration, the APVMA would need to change the approach to ensure that the Adverse Experience Reporting Program (AERP) is achieving its goals.

1. Assumption 1. That the agricultural industry will cooperate and provide information on adverse experience reports as required. Has this occurred?

2. Assumption 2. That promotion of the program will be adequate to make the general public aware that there is an avenue for reporting such information to the APVMA. Has Objective 3 To promote and maintain public confidence in the APVMA and the National Registration Scheme, been met?

3. Assumption 3. That people wish to report adverse experiences. If this assumption were inaccurate then it would impact on the effectiveness of any advertising or promotion. Is this a reasonable assumption and if so has the APVMA targeted its promotion to the most appropriate audience? Are there impediments to reporting? Are people reporting to registrants and is that information being forwarded to AERP Ag?

4. Objective 2 of the AERP is to ensure that the registration decisions being made by the APVMA are appropriate and effective. Is the management of AERs and action taken, timely and effective? Does AERP Ag impact on registration decisions?

5. Does the scheme increase compliance of registrants with the AgVet Code section 161?

6. Is the relevant legislation (AgVet Code section 161) considered to be effective?

7. Should we include reporting of off-label uses in the scheme?

From: www.apvma.gov.au/qa/downloads/aerp_ag_review.pdf

Register your interest at: aerpcoordinator@apvma.gov.au,

Written comments by 10 October 2008 to:

Dr Elvira Currie, Adverse Experience Reporting Program, Review- AERP Section, APVMA,

Email: Elvira.Currie@apvma.gov.au

• New Agricultural Active Constituent - Spinetoram

Spinetoram belongs to the Spinosyn chemical class of insecticides. Spinetoram is derived through the fermentation of a naturally occurring organism (*Saccharopolyspora spinosa*) followed by chemical modifications.

CAS No:

Major Component (*J form*): 187166-40-1

Minor Component (*L form*): 187166-15-0

Molecular Formula:

Major Component (*J form*): C₄₂H₆₉NO₁₀

Minor Component (*L form*): C₄₃H₆₉NO₁₀

Molecular Weight:

Major Component (*J form*): 748.02 g/mol

Minor Component (*L form*): 760.03 g/mol

Spinetoram ≥ 820 g/kg

Major Component (*J form*) 50-95 %

Minor Component (*L form*) 5-50 %

The Office of Chemical Safety of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing has considered the toxicological aspects of Spinetoram, and advised that there are no toxicological objections to the approval of this chemical.

SUSDP – Schedule 5

Dr Paul Sethi, Chemistry Manager, Chemistry and Residues Program, APVMA, ph: 02-6210-4821, fax: 02-6210-4840, email: paul.sethi@apvma.gov.au. From: www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/0808downloads/Aug_Gazette.pdf

Dangerous Goods

• Aust Govt Productivity Commission - Transport Safety

Recommendation 7.1: Jurisdictions should consistently adopt the Model Transport of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations and should uniformly reference the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.

In light of the risks of greater inconsistency in moving from template to model legislation for implementing the ADG7 package, the National Transport Commission should undertake a transparent public review of the consistency with which the new legislation, regulations and the ADG Code are adopted by jurisdictions.

The Australian Dangerous Goods Code should be available free on the internet and at avoidable cost for hard copies. The resultant revenue loss for the National Transport Commission should be offset by increased jurisdictional contributions.

Pricing of the Australian Explosives Code should also follow these principles.

Recommendation 7.2: Responsibility for policy development and monitoring should remain with the National Transport Commission, reporting to the Australian Transport Council.

Once proposed revised governance arrangements have become operational in the transport and workplace relations arenas, ... a public review, to determine the most appropriate forum for developing and implementing future national dangerous goods transport policy.

Editor's Comment: The ADG Code should not remain with the National Transport Commission as the whole process to create the ADG 7 was handled very poorly by the NTC and they do not have any Dangerous Goods specialists in their organisation. At several crucial times over the years it took to create ADG 7 the NTC lost key staff or key personnel, which caused unacceptable delays to getting the Code completed. From my public comment DR73 available at: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/submissions

Recommendation 7.4: The National Transport Commission should price all modes of provision of the Australian Dangerous Goods Code at avoidable cost, including free provision on the internet. The resultant revenue loss for the National Transport Commission, together with any compensation payable to the Code distributor, should be offset by increased jurisdictional contributions. Pricing of the Australian Explosives Code should also follow these principles.

Note: COAG has already agreed to free provision on the internet and it is likely to be available in December 2008.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• Aust Govt Productivity Commission – National Security

Recommendation 10.4: Commonwealth, state and territory governments should establish an agreed framework for assessing the security risks and appropriate control measures associated with chemicals of security concern. This framework should incorporate strong governance arrangements, underpinned by an intergovernmental agreement, that ensure control measures are implemented consistently across jurisdictions. Once established, this framework should be used to re-examine the controls on ammonium nitrate.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• Major Hazard Facilities – NSW: July 2008 Regs

Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Major Hazard Facilities) Regulation 2008.

Major hazard facilities (MHFs) are facilities such as oil refineries, chemical processing plants, large chemical and gas storage depots and large chemical warehouses that have dangerous goods in amounts that exceed specified threshold quantities.

WorkCover NSW published the Major Hazards Facilities Regulation in the NSW Government Gazette on 4 July 2008, which commenced on 14 July 2008.

Requirements for operators of MHFs include:

- Notification to WorkCover - this applies not only to MHFs, but also to other facilities that exceed 10% of the threshold quantities of dangerous materials that are set out in the regulation.
- Hazard identification and risk assessment specifically directed toward prevention of major accidents.
- Emergency plans and security plans.
- Provisional registration and (later) registration of MHFs.
- Preparation & submission to WorkCover of a safety report.

[Occupational Health and Safety Amendment \(Major Hazard Facilities\) Regulation 2008](#), Publ. No. 5527

[Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001 Major Hazard Facilities: Conditions and requirements of provisional registration and of registration](#), Publ. No. 5528
[Major Hazard Facility Guide 2008](#), Publ. No. 5584 .

From: www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/OHS/DangerousGoods/MajorHazardFacilities/default.htm.

• WA SafetyLine July 2008 for OH&S Professionals

Item of interest:

Do you Need a Dangerous Goods Security Card?

New WA dangerous goods safety legislation introduces new requirements for explosives and other substances considered to pose a security threat. This includes the security clearance of holders of licences for the storage, handling, transport, manufacture, sale, import and use of explosives and security risk substances (SRS), as well as people with unsupervised access to explosives and SRS.

The security clearance is initiated by lodging an application form for a dangerous goods security card.

Information on the dangerous goods security card is located in the dangerous goods FAQs section of the Resources Safety website www.docep.wa.gov.au/resourcessafety.

From: www.docep.wa.gov.au/WorkSafe/PDF/SafetyLine/safetyline_oshprofes.pdf

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

• Productivity Commission – Environment Protection

Recommendation 9.1: The Environment Protection and Heritage Council should examine the costs and benefits of mandatory environmental labelling of chemicals. Mandatory environmental labelling should only be introduced if there is a demonstrated net benefit to the community.

Page 251 – “The Commission considers that any new environmental labelling requirements for industrial chemicals would be best incorporated into the existing or proposed workplace labelling arrangements, in preference to creating a new scheme. This would simplify the requirements on firms in meeting their labelling obligations. However, it may require state and territory environment protection legislation to be amended to give legislative backing to inclusion of environment hazard classification and labelling in the workplace labelling scheme.”

Page 251 – “Any decision to apply environmental labelling to products targeted at households should be based on a demonstrated improvement in environmental outcomes that offset the additional cost.”

Recommendation 9.2: The Commonwealth, state and territory governments should negotiate an intergovernmental agreement to create an independent standard-setting body to manage the impact of chemicals on the environment. This body should:

- report to the Environment Protection & Heritage Council
- develop standards for the environmental risk management of chemicals and undertake regulatory impact assessment where appropriate
- comprise members who are experts in standard setting, and have the ability to appoint advisory bodies as necessary
- assess and respond to the NICNAS recommendations on the environment, with any other work to be agreed specifically by the EPHC
- meet only as required and be funded by jurisdictions.

The standards developed by this body should be submitted to the EPHC for consideration and approval, and adopted uniformly and automatically by the States and Territories by reference. Once adopted, any variation by a jurisdiction should, at a minimum, be reported to the EPHC and include a statement of reasons for the variation.

From: www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/chemicalsandplastics/docs/finalreport

• Garnaut Climate Change Review – July 2008

The Garnaut Draft Report generally does not make recommendations, although the tendency of policy analysis is clear. It is closest to recommendations on the design features of the emissions trading scheme, which require business and community discussion of the issues before the completion of the Final Report.

[Full Draft Report \(PDF, 10.12mb\)](#)

The Report proposes that half the proceeds from the sale of all permits is allocated to households, around 30 per cent provided for structural adjustment needs for business (including any payments to TEEIs), and the remaining 20 per cent allocated to research and development and the commercialisation of new technologies. (Media Release0

A Garnaut Supplementary Draft Report will be released around late August 2008.

From: www.garnautreview.org.au/CA25734E0016A131/pages/draft-report

And the 4th July 2008 Media Release:
[www.garnautreview.org.au/CA25734E0016A131/WebObj/Mediarelease_DraftReport_4July2008_Final/\\$File/Media%20release_Draft%20Report_4%20July%202008_Final.pdf](http://www.garnautreview.org.au/CA25734E0016A131/WebObj/Mediarelease_DraftReport_4July2008_Final/$File/Media%20release_Draft%20Report_4%20July%202008_Final.pdf)

• **Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper**

The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper canvasses options and preferred approaches on issues, such as which industry sectors will be covered and how emission caps will be set. It also includes ways to address the impacts on Australian households, emissions-intensive trade-exposed industries and other strongly affected sectors.

There are also two presentations that can be downloaded.

- [Green Paper Presentation](#) (35 slides as a pdf)
- [NGERS Presentation](#) (29 slides as a pdf) (National Greenhouse & Energy Reporting System)

The Green Paper July 2008 can be downloaded from:
<http://www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/>

The Green paper Summary can be downloaded from:
www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/summary/index.html

Submissions are due on or by **10 September 2008**. See:
www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/consultation/index.html

From: www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/

Editor's Comment: For this Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme to work without moving industry overseas, we will need to create a level playing field for all imported products on a per kg basis. This issue is hardly discussed in this document!

• **National Pollutant Inventory: What's New**

This is a useful webpage to track updates on the NPI. There are many new versions of NPI documents available. Key updates that got my attention that affect everyone are:

Estimating transfers of NPI substances in waste, <http://www.npi.gov.au/transfers/index.html> - July 2008, with a [Video: Overview and reporting changes to the NPI as a result of the variation to the program](#).

A new July 2008 version 4.2 of the NPI Guide (49 pages) www.npi.gov.au/handbooks/pubs/npiguide.pdf is available. Alterations to the NPI Guide are listed on pages 41 and 42.

There is a video Introduction to the National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) program. [Video: NPI - introduction to the program](#) – August 2008.

From: www.npi.gov.au/news/index.html

• **Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Guidelines**

From 1 July 2008 all controlling corporations must apply for registration with the Greenhouse and Energy Data Officer if their corporate group emits greenhouse gases or produces or consumes energy at or above the specified thresholds for a financial (reporting) year.

The guidelines outline each of the steps corporations need to take in order to apply for registration and report under the Act. Specifically, the guidelines cover the following:

- Chapter 1—'Determining participation'
- Chapter 2—'Registration'
- Chapter 3—'Reporting obligations'
- Chapter 4—'Record keeping'
- Chapter 5—'Deregistration'

Appendices provide details of reportable fuels and energy commodities and ANZSIC codes and classifications.

www.climatechange.gov.au/reporting/guidelines/pubs/nger-reporting-guidelines-aug08.pdf (52 page 1.8Mb pdf). From:
www.climatechange.gov.au/reporting/guidelines/index.html

• **Proposed New SA Law to Ban Plastic Bags 1 Jan 09**

From 1 January 2009 proposed new SA regulations will ban some plastic bags. Download Regs from website below.

Which bags are proposed to be banned? Light-weight plastic bags made of Polyethylene polymer with a thickness of less than 35 micrometre. These bags are generally used by supermarkets and take-away food outlets.

Which bags will not be banned?

- Barrier bags – the type dispensed from a roll to hold items such as loose fruit and vegetables
- Heavier style retail bags (boutique bags) – the type usually used by clothing and department stores
- Bags designed for multiple use such as 'green' bags
- Compostable bags that meet the Australian Standard and paper bags
- Bin liners for purchase

What about degradable bags? A range of bags claim to be degradable in different conditions. Some degradable bags are made partly or wholly of polyethylene. Only **compostable** biodegradable bags that meet Australian Standard AS 4736-2006 are excluded from the proposed ban. These bags are usually made of some form of starch or other compostable material.

From: www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au/prog_bags.php#which_bags

Publications

• **Goldfrank's Manual of Toxicologic Emergencies**

By: Robert Hoffman, Lewis Nelson, Mary Howland, Neal Lewin, Neal Flomenbaum, and Lewis Goldfrank.

ISBN13: 9780071443104, **ISBN10:** 007144310X, **Pub:** Apr-2007, **Pages:** 1150, **Edition:** 1, **Price:** A\$70 Incl. GST.

Condensed from the standard reference book of emergency toxicology: *Goldfrank's Toxicologic Emergencies*.

It has good information on the scientific principles that explain how toxins affect vital signs, neurotransmitters, metabolic processes, and organs and systems throughout the body. It covers the full range of toxins, normally encountered by doctors, and includes pharmaceuticals, recreational drugs, and substances of abuse; food and plant toxins; envenomations; household toxins; pesticides and herbicides; rodenticides; metals; poison gases; and environmental toxins. Systematically reviews toxicokinetics, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, diagnostic testing, and management for each toxin. It provides "Antidotes in Brief"--at-a-glance guides to specific antidotes and their primary applications.

Continued

Editor's Comment: I found this to be very informative for persons such as myself who prepare MSDSs, and who want to understand the chemical / medical issues a doctor must consider when treating a person who is affected by a poison.

From the book and from: <http://www.mcgraw-hill.com.au/html/9780071443104.html>

Standards & Codes

- **Standards** – www.saiglobal.com/shop

Or for committee work go to: www.standards.org.au

AS/NZS 1596:2008: The Storage and Handling of LP Gas. Specifies requirements for the location, design, construction, commissioning and operation of installations for the storage and handling of LP Gas, and includes the management of emergencies. **ISBN:** 0-7337-8751-7, **Published:** 30 June 2008, **Pages:** 158, **Price:** \$181.80 pdf.

AS 3780-2008: The Storage and Handling of Corrosive Substances. Provides minimum acceptable safety requirements for storage facilities, operating procedures, emergency planning and fire protection. It also provides technical guidance that may assist in the storage and handling of corrosive substances in accordance with the risk management requirements of NOHSC:1015 and legislation. **ISBN:** 0-7337-8827-0, **Published:** 28 July 2008, **Pages:** 44, **Price:** \$100.35 pdf.

AS/NZS 4501.1:2008: Occupational Protective Clothing - Guidelines on the Selection, Use, Care and Maintenance of Protective Clothing. **ISBN:** 0-7337-8785-1, **Published:** 30 June 2008, **Pages:** 17, **Price:** \$84.15 pdf.

BS ISO 15392:2008: Sustainability in Building Construction. General Principles. **ISBN:** 0-580-53687-8, **Published:** 31 July 2008, **Pages:** 34, **Price:** \$311 hardcopy.

ISO 17491-3:2008: Protective Clothing - Test methods for clothing providing protection against chemicals - **Part 3: Determination of resistance to penetration by a jet of liquid (jet test).** ISO 17491-3:2008 does not address chemical permeation resistance of the clothing materials, which is specified in other standards. **Published:** 11 Aug 2008, **Pages:** 6, **Price:** \$55.52 pdf.

ISO 17491-4:2008: Protective Clothing - Test methods for clothing providing protection against chemicals - **Part 4: Determination of resistance to penetration by a spray of liquid (spray test),** at two different levels of intensity. **Published:** 11 Aug 2008, **Pages:** 8, **Price:** \$64.77 pdf.

ISO/TS 27687:2008: Nanotechnologies - Terminology and Definitions for Nano-Objects - Nanoparticle, nanofibre and nanoplate. **Published:** 11 Aug 2008, **Pages:** 7, **Price:** \$64.77 pdf.

- **Drafts** – www.saiglobal.com/shop

DR 08173: Smoke Alarms. This Draft Standard proposes to revise AS 3786-1993 to establish that a defined level of obscuration is to be the acceptance criteria for smoke alarms. **Published:** 13 Aug 2008, **Committee:** FP-002, **Pages:** 27. **Price:** \$0.00 pdf. **Comment closes:** 5 Nov 08.

ISO/DIS 10298: Determination of Toxicity of a Gas or Gas Mixture. Draft, 14 pages, \$74.03 pdf

Seminars, Conferences

- **Waste & Recycle 2008, 9-12 Sept 08, Perth WA**
"The Heat is On: No Time to Waste", Perth, 2 day Conference 11-12th Cost \$1060. Brochure available early July.
From: www.wasteandrecycle.com.au/

- **AIDGC Annual Conference, 12th Sept 08, Sydney**
Australasian Institute of Dangerous Goods Consultants Annual Conference. "Learning from Experience". Professor Andrew Hopkins will deliver 'Lessons from Longford'. Darling Harbour, 9:00am to 5:00pm. Contact Barry Eadie ph: 02-9528-7904, BarryEadie@optusnet.com.au, website: www.aidgc.com.au for conference brochure and registration.

The cost is covered as part of the AIDGC \$550 pa membership fees. Non-Members cost \$440.

- **Hazardous Area Workshops, Sept, Nov, Dec 2008**
Hazardous Area Basics; Hazardous Area Australian Standards Simplified; How to Apply Hazardous Area Australian Standards. Held in various capital cities.
Presented by: Explosion Protection Technology. Website: www.eptech.com.au, ph: 03-9707-3110.

- **Chemeca 2008, 28 Sept – 1 Oct 2008, Newcastle**
Towards a Sustainable Australasia – topics on: Energy, Particle Technology & Mineral Processing, Water, Safety & Risk, Food & Bio, Education, and Fundamental Principles.
Cost: Non-members \$950 by 31 July 08. Email: registration@icms.com.au, See: www.chemeca2008.com/

- **Safely Saving the Environment, 30 Oct 08 Sydney**
This Stream at the Safety Conference Sydney, covers: Integrating Safety, Security, Health & Environment; The Environment, Drivers of Change Requirements & Benefits for Business; Control of Major Hazard Facilities in NSW; Save Water & Cut Costs with Every Drops Counts; Integral Energy Efficiency Strategy; Workshop: What Went Wrong.
Single day \$400 to 29/9, then \$520 from 30/9. Brochure from: <http://www.thesafetyshow.com/>, ph: 03-9654-7773, fax: 03-9654-5596, Email : safetyconference@aec.net.au.

- **National Chemical Diversion Congress, 25-27 Nov**
Organised by the New Zealand Police and the Australian Govt Attorney-General's Dept in Wellington, New Zealand, 25-27 Nov 2008. Cost NZ\$525 incl. NZ GST.

Governments and industry must cooperate to provide both legislative and voluntary frameworks to limit diversion while maintaining access to chemicals for legitimate use. Deciding on what is most appropriate is a genuine challenge that affects us all.

Conferences & Events Ltd: Email: chemdiv@confer.co.nz, ph: + 64-(0)4-472-0337, fax + 64-(0)3-546-6020.
From: www.ncdc08.org/index.html

- **AIOH Conference: Occ. Health Forensics WA 29 Nov**
Analysing the Evidence to Make a Difference.

Burswood Entertainment Complex - Perth, WA
29th November - 3rd December 2008. Cost for a non-member in the order of \$1200-\$1500.

Brochure with the Program & Registration from: www.aioh.org.au/conference/2008/index.html

- **ChemCon 2009 Kuala Lumpur: 2-6 March 2009**
From: www.chemcon.net/

Haztech Environmental: Chemical Hazard Classifications done & reviewed. MSDSs prepared & reviewed. Labels prepared & reviewed. Chemical Control & Safety Regulatory Compliance: checked for NICNAS, TGA, FSANZ, TGA; prepared & reviewed for Dangerous Goods & Combustible Liquids, Workplace Hazardous Substances, Environmentally Hazardous Substances, Scheduled Poisons, and other Chemical and Physical Hazards.

I can come and work in your office, which provides better access to data with improved security, plus good technical contact with relevant personnel. This allows the work to be done more quickly and comprehensively. I also work from my home office, in Ashburton, Victoria, where I maintain an extensive reference library, developed over 17+ 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

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