

• **USEPA Chemical Assessment & Mgmt Program** 1

**Hazardous Substances** 2

- Draft Workplace Chemicals Standard (Sept 2008) 2
- Asbestos Exposure Patterns and Mesothelioma 2
- Aluminium Phosphide Tablets: NSW Fact Sheet 2
- NSW Cytotoxic Drugs & Related Waste: 2

**Chemical Management** 3

- Europe adopts the EU GHS to Commence 1 Dec 2008 3
- Certain Chemicals Utilised to Manufacture Illicit Drugs 3
- Precursor Chemicals and Equipment in Victoria: 3
- Import and Export of Controlled Substances 3
- Occupational Contact Dermatitis – Data on Risks 3
- Hairdressers: Getting Safety Under your Skin 4
- Priority Industry Information – ASCC Fact Sheets 4
- NSW Mining Amendment to OHS Legislation 4
- Employing or Engaging a Suitably Qualified Person: 4
- Confined Spaces - Compliance Code - Victoria 4

**NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)** 4

- Triclosan: PEC Draft Assessment Report 4
- Industrial Nanomaterials: Call for Info 2008 5
- Company Registration: Soap Making & Importing 6
- Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Review Info Sheet 6
- Arrangements for UV Filters Used in Cosmetics 6
- Community Engagement Forum Bulletin – July 08 6
- NICNAS Matters- Sept 2008 6

**Scheduled Poisons** 7

- How to implement the Ban on Lead in All Paint 7
- NICNAS Submissions on 3 Chemicals to NDPSC 7

**Food Chemical Issues** 7

- Melamine in Foods from China 7
- Red 3 Erythrosine in Food Colouring Preparations 7
- MSG in Food: Food Standards Fact Sheet 8

**Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals** 8

- Implications of Federal Court Imtrade Decision 8
- Nanomaterials in Ag & Vet Products: Call for Info 8

**Dangerous Goods** 8

- Major Hazard Facilities – NSW: July 2008 Regs 8
- Notification by MHFs & Potential MHFs in NSW 8

**Environmental Notes on Chemicals** 9

- Mining Industry Sustainable Development Program 9
- New Cyanide Management Handbook from DRET 9
- HazWaste Fund Framework: Victoria 9
- Effective Emissions Trading Scheme: by ACF 9
- Closed Landfill Methane Gas Migration 10
- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) in Australia 10

**Standards & Codes** 10

- Standards – [www.saiglobal.com/shop](http://www.saiglobal.com/shop) **In particular**  
 The Storage and Handling of Organic Peroxides;  
 The Storage and Handling of Oxidizing Agents; &  
 Nanotechnologies - Health and Safety Practices in  
 Occupational Settings Relevant to Nanotechnologies. 10

**Seminars, Conferences** 11

- Laboratory Managers Conference 10-12 Nov 08 11
- HazWaste Expo, 20 Nov 08, MCG Melbourne 11
- Nanotechnology Workshop, 21 Nov, Melbourne 11
- National Chemical Diversion Congress, 25-27 Nov 11
- AIOH Conference: Occ. Health Forensics WA 29 Nov 11
- ChemCon 2009 Kuala Lumpur: 2-6 March 2009 11
- Safety In Action 2009, 29 Mar – 2 Apr 2009, Melb 11
- Greenhouse 2009, 23 - 26 March 2009, Perth 11
- Hazmat 2009, Sydney, 29-30<sup>th</sup> April 2009 11

**• USEPA Chemical Assessment & Mgmt Program (ChAMP)**

ChAMP is for cooperation on chemicals and outlined commitments on behalf of the United States, Canada, and Mexico to work together to ensure the safe manufacture and use of industrial chemicals. Each country is sharing scientific information and approaches to chemical testing and risk management.

To fulfill its part of the SPP commitment, the United States will, by 2012, complete screening-level hazard and risk characterizations and initiate action, as appropriate, on more than 6,750 chemicals produced above 25,000 pounds per year.

As of October 2008, the US EPA has developed and posted [risk-based prioritizations](#) for 150 High Production Volume (HPV) chemicals.

The US EPA has also posted an initial set of [hazard-based prioritizations](#) for fifteen moderate production volume chemicals.

US EPA HPV Chemical Hazards Characterisations are at: [http://iaspub.epa.gov/opthpv/hpv\\_hc\\_characterization\\_get\\_report?doctype=2](http://iaspub.epa.gov/opthpv/hpv_hc_characterization_get_report?doctype=2).

*Editor's Comment:* This is another useful data website.

From: <http://www.epa.gov/champ/>

**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

### • Draft Workplace Chemicals Standard (Sept 2008)

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October I sent around a draft of my comment to alert you to this call for comment by the ASCC Standards Section.

The ASCC sought “additional feedback on the revised draft Standard, which has changed somewhat since the original draft was released in September 2006. This feedback will complement the previous extensive consultative processes and allow the revised Standard to be finalised.”

*The draft should still be available by clicking on this link [Draft Workplace Chemicals Standard \(Sept 2008\)](http://www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/HealthSafety/HazardousSubstances/Proposed+Revisions/) or going to: [www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/HealthSafety/HazardousSubstances/Proposed+Revisions/](http://www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/HealthSafety/HazardousSubstances/Proposed+Revisions/). If not I can forward a copy.*

*Editor's Comment:* In my final comment I was concerned that this draft Standard did not come out for comment with its directly supporting Approved Criteria (the AC was also missing for the 2006 public comment), nor its directly supporting Code of Practice, as these two other documents are crucial to the Standard being properly reviewed and declared. NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals). To finalise this Standard it will need to go out as a complete package.

I am concerned that the ASCC does not have adequate staffing to put in place the Workplace Hazardous Chemicals Framework.

I am also concerned that in the meantime there is a need for Australia to recognise that the GHS classifications, SDSs and labels will be seen in Australia with increasing frequency and that there needs to be an agreed Australian explanation of what sort of impacts and questions these will raise so that concerned individuals can be directed to a common explanation.

I was surprised to see some of the detail in the draft Standard that needed to be commented on. I made 38 detailed comments with proposed changes.

E.g. 1/ The confusing use of the terms “Bulk” and “Packaged” in the draft Standard. These terms have changed under the ADG Code 7<sup>th</sup> Edition to the correct UN definitions. 2/ The use of the definition “Consumer Product” to mean a hazardous chemical. 3/ It was not clear that the Approved Criteria takes precedence over the List (which allows for more accurate hazard classifications to be used as soon as they become available). 4/ There is no recognition allowed for labelling schemes regarded as acceptable alternative labelling to the GHS labelling in 9 (1).

### • Asbestos Exposure Patterns and Mesothelioma

The ASCC commissioned a project to examine trends in asbestos exposure in cases of malignant mesothelioma in Australia.

Four main data sources were available for use – the Mesothelioma Register, the National Cancer Statistics Clearing House run by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; the New South Wales Dust Diseases Board; and the Western Australia Mesothelioma Register. Victorian data in the National Coroners' Information System were also considered as a possible source of useful data.

The [report](#) (downloadable from the website below) does not believe it is feasible to use the available data sources to provide an on-going direct national estimate of trends in exposure to asbestos in persons who have been diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma. Furthermore, there do not

appear to be other data sources that would potentially be available that would allow such valid direct estimates of on-going national trends to be made.

However, the available data sources were considered suitable to produce an assessment of how exposures of malignant mesothelioma cases have changed in New South Wales' and Western Australia over time in these jurisdictions.

Some possible alternatives to achieve a formal system for obtaining detailed information on occupational and on occupational exposure histories are briefly discussed.

*From: [www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/AboutUs/Publications/StatReports/Mesothelioma/Mesothelioma.htm](http://www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/AboutUs/Publications/StatReports/Mesothelioma/Mesothelioma.htm) and from the [Report](#).*

### • Aluminium Phosphide Tablets: NSW Fact Sheet

This WorkCover NSW Fact Sheet is aimed at assisting employers and employees to manage the use of a hazardous substance commonly used in the rural industry.

Phosphine is listed as a fumigant under the NSW *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001*. Its use in NSW requires appropriate qualifications and a WorkCover NSW Fumigator Certificate of Competency. However, WorkCover NSW has issued an exemption (in force from 29 February 2008 for three years) from the need for a Fumigator Certificate of Competency to use Aluminium Phosphide tablets by hand to control stored grain and vertebrate pests only for on-farm use within the rural industry and this exemption is subject to the 14 conditions specified in the Fact Sheet.

*From: [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/Publications/OHS/SafetyGuides/pages/aluminium\\_phosphide\\_tablets\\_fact\\_sheet.aspx](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/Publications/OHS/SafetyGuides/pages/aluminium_phosphide_tablets_fact_sheet.aspx)*

### • NSW Cytotoxic Drugs & Related Waste: Risk Management Guide

This NSW Risk Management Guide provides practical advice to employers and employees on how to prevent or minimise the risks to health associated with handling cytotoxic drugs and related waste within health care establishments, community settings and veterinary practices.

Cytotoxic drugs work by causing the death of certain type of cells and are used to treat conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis and some ophthalmic conditions. Not all drugs prescribed for cancer are cytotoxic.

Cytotoxic drugs are known to be highly toxic to non-target cells, mainly through their action on cell reproduction. Some have been shown to cause second cancers in cancer patients. Some have also been shown to be mutagenic (causing changes to DNA) or teratogenic (causing birth defects) in various experimental systems.

This NSW Risk Management Guide will assist in the development and implementation of safe work systems that are consistent with the requirements of NSW health and safety laws.

The use of cytotoxic drugs includes their preparation, administration, handling, storage, movement and disposal, and spills management.

*From: [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/Publications/OHS/Training/Pages/CytotoxicDrugsandRelatedWasteRiskManagementGuide.aspx](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/Publications/OHS/Training/Pages/CytotoxicDrugsandRelatedWasteRiskManagementGuide.aspx) and the 132 page Guide*

## Chemical Management

### • Europe adopts the EU GHS to Commence 1 Dec 2008

On 3 September 2008 a large majority of the European Parliament supported the "compromise package" for a new Regulation on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP) which seeks to align existing EU legislation to the EU GHS.

As with the current legislation, the proposed Regulation is intended to be primarily a **self-classification system for enterprises**. It stipulates that after entry into force the **deadline for substance reclassification is 30 November 2010 and for mixtures 31 May 2015**.

From: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index_en.htm) and [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ghs\\_more\\_on\\_com\\_proposal\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ghs_more_on_com_proposal_en.htm)

### • Certain Chemicals Utilised to Manufacture Illicit Drugs

NICNAS is collating voluntary call for information on these chemicals on behalf of the Commonwealth Government Attorney General's Department (AGD). The information will primarily be considered in the development of a national framework for the control of precursor chemicals and equipment.

The information relates to precursor chemicals derived from Categories I and II of the PACIA & SIA Code of Practice plus Camphor Oil.

The notice is directed to all persons who have manufactured or imported one or more of the chemicals listed in Attachment 1 (in the 7 Oct 2008 NICNAS Gazette) from 1 January 2006 to 30 June 2008, inclusive.

Information is being sought on chemical entities (e.g. single substance) and not products or mixtures containing the chemicals.

The specific information sought on the chemicals is:

- quantities of each chemical imported into and/or manufactured in Australia for the calendar years 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006 and 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007;
- quantities of each chemical imported into and/or manufactured in Australia from 1 January 2008 to 30 June 2008; and
- all uses of the chemicals.

*All information received will be treated as confidential and there is no intention to make any information publicly available and is to be provided by 1 December 2008.*

For information: Ms Lorma Gutierrez ph: 02-8577-8863, email: [Lorma.Gutierrez@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Lorma.Gutierrez@nicnas.gov.au)

From: NICNAS Chemicals Gazette, 7 Oct 2008

### • Precursor Chemicals and Equipment in Victoria: Proposed Vic Sales & Storage Regime - June 2008

*Editor's Comment:* I circulated this by email in Victoria on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008, missed putting it into my June to August 2008 newsletter, so I am including it now.

This Discussion Paper provides a useful comparison on pages 13, 14 and 15 to the PACIA/SIA Code of what is already required for Drug Precursor chemicals and equipment in NSW, Qld, SA and WA.

The Vic proposal A is similar to the NSW approach.

The Vic proposal B has much tighter control on category II precursors and handles them like category I.

<http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/DOJ+Internet/Home/The+Justice+System/Community+Consultation/JUSTICE++Discussion+Paper++Precursor+Chemicals+and+Equipment>

The 22 page Vic proposal draws on systems in other jurisdictions and on elements of the *National Code of Practice for Supply Diversion into Illicit Drug Manufacture*. It would require amendments to the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981.

*From the Vic Dept of Justice Discussion Paper.*

*Editor's Comment: Please ensure you have appropriate procedures in place to cover each State's regulations.*

*This new area of regulation is an example of how the States could have modified the PACIA / SIA Code and then made identically worded regulations for industry.*

*This variation has occurred at a time when COAG is clearly directing an identical approach!*

### • Import and Export of Controlled Substances

The Office of Chemical Safety (OCS) is responsible for granting permits and licenses that authorise the import and export of certain narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, precursor chemicals, antibiotics and androgenic/anabolic substances controlled under the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulation and Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations.

General Guidance for Commercial Importers and Exporters can be obtained from:

[www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/general-guidance-for-commercial-importers-and-exporters](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/general-guidance-for-commercial-importers-and-exporters).

List of drug substances requiring import and or export authorizations can be obtained from:

[www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/list-of-drug-substances-requiring-import-and-or-export-authorisations](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/list-of-drug-substances-requiring-import-and-or-export-authorisations)

From the OCS website at: [www.ocs.gov.au](http://www.ocs.gov.au)

### • Occupational Contact Dermatitis – Data on Risks Collecting Surveillance Data

This ASCC [research report](#) was undertaken by the Occupational Dermatology Research & Education Centre.

Occupational contact dermatitis (OCD) is a skin condition caused by work-related exposures. It occurs in workers who are exposed to irritating or allergenic substances, or specific physical factors in the workplace. In most western industrialised countries, OCD is one of the most commonly reported occupational diseases. International estimates of incidence vary between 50-190 cases per 100,000 full time workers per year. .... It is generally acknowledged that none of the available datasets provide an adequate representation of the magnitude and severity of this condition. There is evidence that workers' compensation datasets particularly underestimate its occurrence.

"Use of exposure surveillance to both raise awareness and monitor trends in exposures can be an important step in the prevention of occupational dermatitis. We believe that this mode of exposure surveillance has great potential, especially when focusing on one particular variable. While the role of wet work in the causation of occupational dermatitis is indisputable, we believe that the questionnaire would be particularly useful for identifying inappropriate

usage of powdered disposable latex gloves. This study not only provides important evidence detailing the existence in Australia of a number of reversible risk factors for occupational dermatitis, but also highlights the opportunity for effective campaigns to tackle these risk factors through education of the workforce.” (From Exec Summary p ix)

From: [www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/AboutUs/Publications/ResearchReports/Collectingsurveillancedataonrisksforoccupationalcontactdermatitis.htm](http://www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/AboutUs/Publications/ResearchReports/Collectingsurveillancedataonrisksforoccupationalcontactdermatitis.htm)

## • Hairdressers: Getting Safety Under your Skin

Hairdressers with dry or itchy hands may be at risk as you work with a range of chemicals that can dry out and irritate your skin. Water, shampoos and chemicals such as hair colour and cleaning products may be causing damage to your skin.

Initial signs and symptoms include dryness, itching or change in colour but, left untreated, they can escalate to painful blisters, swelling or cracking and bleeding. Those who have suffered from eczema, hay fever or asthma in the past - even as a child - are more prone to skin irritations such as dermatitis.

For an overview go to the website below and to the Qld “Guide for the Hairdressing, Nail and Beauty Industry” from [www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/subjects/hairdressing/guide/index.htm](http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/subjects/hairdressing/guide/index.htm).

From: [www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/publications/safe/spr08/hairdressers/index.htm](http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/publications/safe/spr08/hairdressers/index.htm)

## • Priority Industry Information – ASCC Fact Sheets

Five industries were identified under the National OHS Strategy 2002–12 to receive priority in identifying prevention activities to reduce their incidence of work-related injury and disease.

These 2 page priority Industry fact sheets highlight the key areas of concern containing key information on the number and types of compensated claims for injuries and deaths in the industry.

<a href="#">Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing;</a>	<a href="#">Construction</a>
<a href="#">Health and Community Services;</a>	<a href="#">Manufacturing</a>
<a href="#">Transport and Storage</a>	<a href="#">Mining</a>

From: [www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/AboutUs/Publications/StatReports/PriorityIndustryInformation.htm](http://www.ascc.gov.au/ascc/AboutUs/Publications/StatReports/PriorityIndustryInformation.htm)

## • NSW Mining Amendment to OHS Legislation

“The *Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Application to Mining Workplaces and Coal Workplaces) Regulation 2008* expands the application of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001* to mining workplaces and coal mines from the 1st September 2008. While occupational health and safety matters for the mining industry will continue to fall under the jurisdiction of DPI, some licensing / permissioning functions will be administratively coordinated through” arrangements as on their website under the following areas.

1. Notification of Adverse Health Results
2. Notification of Work Involving a Carcinogenic Substance
3. Notification of Lead Risk Work
4. Notification of Bonded Asbestos work
5. Notification of Demolition Work (other than work for which a Permit is in force)
6. & 7. General Plant identified in part 1 of the table in Clauses 107 & 113

From: [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/MiningamendmenttoOHSLegislation/Pages/Mining.aspx](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/MiningamendmenttoOHSLegislation/Pages/Mining.aspx)

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

This Position was released on the 24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2008.

*Editor’s Comment:* In my previous newsletter this document was available as a draft for comment. The key area I would still like the Position to provide better advice on is:

“The advice must reflect the current state of knowledge on OHS issues so the employer can rely on this advice when controlling the risks in their workplace.” (p3)

*Editor’s Comment:* In these days of internet search access, I see this as needing to be clarified. I suggest it should be along the lines of: “the current state of knowledge amongst industry and authority peers and research knowledge that has passed into reasonably expected use”.

“Definition of the OHS Body of Knowledge is discussed by Pam Pryor, FSIA in the prOHnewS eNewsletter [worksafevic.optin.com.au/worksafevic/issues/OHS%20newsletter%20edition%20online.htm](http://worksafevic.optin.com.au/worksafevic/issues/OHS%20newsletter%20edition%20online.htm).

Related WorkSafe Positions: “*How WorkSafe applies the law in relation to reasonably practicable*’ &

“*How WorkSafe applies the law in relation to identifying and understanding hazards and risks*”

<http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/WorkSafe/Home/Forms+and+Publications/Worksafe+Position/Employing+or+engaging+suitably+qualified+persons+to+provide+health+and+safety+advice>

## • Confined Spaces - Compliance Code - Victoria

This compliance code covers the identification of hazards and the control of risks associated with confined spaces in workplaces. It applies to employers and designers and manufacturers of plant that includes a confined space.

Confined spaces include spaces such as those in a vat, tank, pit, pipe, duct, flue, oven, chimney, silo, reaction vessel, container, receptacle, underground sewer, well, shaft, trench, tunnel or other similar enclosed or partially enclosed structure, which meet certain conditions.

This compliance code replaces Code of Practice No.20 (1996) Confined Spaces. 40 pages 1.5Mb pdf.

From: [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/WorkSafe/Home/Forms+and+Publications/Compliance+Code/Confined+spaces+CC](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/WorkSafe/Home/Forms+and+Publications/Compliance+Code/Confined+spaces+CC)

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • Triclosan: PEC Draft Assessment Report

The report was released for comment on 7 Oct 08 for 4 weeks.

Issues that caught my attention are:

1/ “This assessment did not adequately take into account the health or environmental effects of Triclosan imported as part of finished plastic and textile articles, as no information was provided on the amounts of Triclosan in imported articles.” (page xiv).

*Editor’s Comment:* Considering that the embedded Triclosan provides it’s antibacterial effect by being released at the surface of an article, this type of article is deliberately releasing a chemical which comes under the control of NICNAS. A

consumer would need to address a concern to the ACCC which ACCC would then need to work with NICNAS as the chemical control authority to manage the issue.

A dishtowel released 1100 ug/L Triclosan (p136). I would suggest that several typical articles be analysed for the actual embedded Triclosan concentrations and the initial maximum surface concentrations released be determined.

2/ Impurities in Triclosan from Indian and Chinese producers (p10) show levels of 2,3,7,8-TetraChloro-Dibenzo-p-Dioxin to range from 17.2 to 1720 pg/g and 2,3,7,8-TetraChloro-DibenzoFuran to range from 0.43 to 207.3 pg/g respectively. The USP limit for both is 1 pg/g.

*Editor's Comment: Considered the potentially high levels of impurities found from some of these sources I suggest that the values provided in the Certificates of Analysis for raw materials from all sources need to be audited and independently analysed until they are shown to be complying with the USP.*

*Note: It also raises the issue of how should we manage these impurities when they are in articles coming into Australia from Asia in which Triclosan is embedded and released at the surface to carry out an anti-bacterial function.*

3/ Triclosan raw material as the powder, is being classified as a Class 6.1 TOXIC Dangerous Goods due to Acute Inhalation Toxicity.

NICNAS has used data obtained from a 21-day repeat dose inhalation toxicity study in rats (Ciba Geigy Limited, 1974) to determine that Triclosan as a raw material is Acutely Toxic by inhalation. "Considering that >50% deaths occurred after a single exposure (2 h) at 1.3 mg/L, the LC50 for Triclosan is determined to be <1.3 mg/L (or <1300 mg/m3)." (page 278).

*Editor's Comment: This will raise the issue for industry that raw material Triclosan shipped by sea will arrive in Australia as Class 9 ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S. (TRICLOSAN) UN 3082 and provide them a dilemma as to which UN No. they order it with. Then industry will have to provide a local MSDS and relabel it as Class 6 TOXIC, SOLID, ORGANIC, N.O.S. (TRICLOSAN), UN 2811 to transport Triclosan in Australia.*

*Note: The ADG Code Competent Authorities will need to look at this classification and decide whether they agree that raw material TRICLOSAN is correctly classified as Class 6.1.*

*It would have been useful in the time that NICNAS has taken prepare the PEC, for it to have arranged that the actual Acute Inhalation LC50 test on rats be carried out. This would then have provided test data using today's testing protocols, and have provided a firm basis to ask for a change worldwide. Comment: When the EU added Triclosan in the 29<sup>th</sup> ATP I would expect that the 1974 Ciba Geigy data would have been available to them, but they did not classify with R23.*

4/ Triclosan is highly toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates (EC/LC50 < 1 mg/L) and very highly toxic to algae (EC50 < 0.1 mg/L) indicating that potential for damage to the environment. Triclosan would meet the adverse environmental effects criterion of POP chemicals, but the report informed it was unlikely to meet the persistence criteria for a Stockholm Convention Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP).

*Editor's Comment: It does raise the issue about whether it is appropriate to use such an environmentally toxic chemical that is persistent under anaerobic (low oxygen) conditions in such a wide range of domestic use products.*

From my understanding of the draft PEC it appears that various the Chlorinated Organic breakdown products from Triclosan are still hazardous to the environment and can accumulate. These breakdown products need to be monitored.

When I checked ESIS at: <http://ecb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/esis/> for Triclosan CAS 3380-34-5 the classifications they gave for Triclosan were:

C ≥ 20%	Xi, N; R36/38-50/53
0,25 % ≤ C < 20 %	N; R50/53
0,025 % ≤ C < 0,25 %	N; R51/53
0,0025 % ≤ C < 0,025 %	R52/53

This gives a classification as Environmentally Hazardous as Dangerous Goods goes down to <0.1% (which is below the concentration used in many domestic products), so the overall cartons of many domestic products with Triclosan are ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS DANGEROUS GOODS when transported by sea.

5/ "The available data in humans and animals provides no evidence that Triclosan has the potential to cause harm to breastfed babies." (page xvi)

*Editor's Comment: This is good news for mothers.*

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/CAR/PEC/Drafts/Triclosan.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/CAR/PEC/Drafts/Triclosan.asp)

## • Industrial Nanomaterials: Call for Info 2008

This voluntary call for information is for all persons who have manufactured or imported nanomaterials or products (mixtures) containing nanomaterials for commercial or research and development purposes in 2008.

In 2008, NICNAS is extending the 2006 survey to include industrial nanomaterials at the research and development stage and by ascertaining what categories of physico-chemical and toxicological data are held on each nanomaterial – though actual data is not to be submitted nor new data generated.

This notice of the Call is directed to all persons involved with the introduction (e.g. manufacture or import) of industrial nanomaterials during the 2008 calendar year.

"Involvement" with industrial nanomaterials includes, manufacture, import, formulation, fabrication, modification, research & development, and waste processing, of volumes in excess of 100 g/year per industrial nanomaterials within a particular business unit (e.g. a major research lab within a large organization, or a particular manufacturing division within a large company).

This threshold will enable the capture of nanomaterials close to commercialization without including large numbers of nanomaterials that are in early stage research. Nanomaterials that do not fall within the scope of NICNAS are outside this Call.

### The aims of this Call are to:

- determine what industrial nanomaterials are introduced and used in Australia;
- determine the volumes of these industrial nanomaterials;
- identify what data is available on these industrial nanomaterials; and
- understand how industrial nanomaterials are used in industry and in public sector research.

Continued ...

**Data:** For each specific nanomaterials above the 100g/yr threshold, NICNAS is seeking information via the forms, in the Gazette, by 23 January 2009:

- chemical identity and volume;
- holdings of existing physico-chemical data, environmental fate and ecotoxicological data, and human or modelled toxicological data (the data itself need not be supplied, and new data need not be generated);
- use information; and
- life cycle information.

The time taken to participate in this Call is estimated to be up to 4 hours to fill-in the questionnaire per nanomaterial, exclusive of the time you might need to locate and collect data.

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

From: NICNAS Chemicals Gazette, 7 Oct 2008

## • Company Registration: Soap Making & Importing

NICNAS has released a Fact Sheet in Oct 2008 covering the soap making or importing industry, to alert them to the need to be a registered company with NICNAS. They have described the ways in which soap manufacturers and importers will come under the NICNAS company registration requirement.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Registration/Fact\\_Sheet\\_s/Soap\\_Makers\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Industry/Registration/Fact_Sheet_s/Soap_Makers_Fact_Sheet_PDF.pdf)

## • Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Review Info Sheet

The MCS draft report 'A Scientific Review of Multiple Chemical Sensitivity: Identifying Key Research Needs' will be available from 3 Nov 2008 until 15 Jan 2009 from both the NICNAS website: [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au) and the OCS website: [www.ocs.gov.au](http://www.ocs.gov.au).

MCS describes a complex array of symptoms where the underlying etiology remains ill defined. There are reports linking MCS to a wide range of environmental agents (including chemicals) and/or psychogenic factors. The symptoms experienced by individuals are diverse and reported symptoms can in some cases be quite debilitating. Further, diagnostic methods and treatments have yet to be agreed by the medical profession.

Corrections or comments on the factual information in the report can be submitted via email to: [MCS@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:MCS@nicnas.gov.au) by 15 January 2009.

From: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Current\\_Issues/MCS\\_updated20102008.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Current_Issues/MCS_updated20102008.pdf)

## • Arrangements for UV Filters Used in Cosmetics

Notification and assessment requirements for UV filters in cosmetic products.

A new UV filter means an ingredient that is not listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (see [www.nicnas.gov.au/AICS](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/AICS)) and has not been approved by the Therapeutics Goods Administration TGA. There are 36 UV Filters currently permitted by the TGA as an active ingredient in listed products, and the maximum concentration limit specified by the TGA in the Table on p43 and p44 of the 7 Oct 2008 NICNAS Gazette.

The NICNAS Cosmetic Standard describes the regulatory requirements for six cosmetic product categories: Face and nail; Skin care; Skin care; Skin care; Oral hygiene; Hair care.

New Chemicals that are on the list of **TGA Approved Filters** and those that are under consideration by the TGA as of 7 October 2008 are proposed for addition to the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS) with the maximum concentration as specified by the TGA. To undertake this addition NICNAS is investigating a mechanism to add to the AICS new chemicals that are **TGA Approved Filters**.

Arrangements (as in the 7 Oct 2008 NICNAS Gazette) will apply to new UV filters proposed for use in cosmetic products (i.e. the UV filter is not listed on AICS AND is Not on the TGA Approved Filter list as of 7 October 2008).

For more information read the Oct 2008 NICNAS Gazette or contact Hana Hamdan (Notification and Assessment) ph: 02 8577 8855. email: [Hana.Hamdan@nicnas1.gov.au](mailto:Hana.Hamdan@nicnas1.gov.au).

From: NICNAS Chemicals Gazette, 7 Oct 2008

## • Community Engagement Forum Bulletin – July 08

The topics covered in the July 08 Bulletin are:

Two issues were highlighted from the HAZMAT Conference. 1/ The uncontrolled release of Lead Carbonate at Esperance WA, and 2/ practical protocols for nanoparticles of concern with enough already known to immediately implement controls to minimise worker exposure in the first instance.

Phthalates are used as plasticisers (or softeners) in PVC products and are used in clothes, medical products, PVC building products, toys and children's articles and food packaging.

By overwhelming majority, EU Parliament, banned three Phthalates for use in children's toys and childcare articles and restricted the use of another three for toys and childcare articles that can be put in the mouth. This 2005 decision applied the precautionary principle, to protect the health of European children.

With previous studies linking Phthalates to endocrine disruption, reprotoxicity, carcinogenicity and mutagenicity, the CEF believes that targeting Phthalates assessments for use in toys and childcare articles in Australia is overdue, in order to protect the health of Australian children.

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity The MCS Draft Report will be available from 3 Nov (see article on page 6).

Chemical Safety Forum to ensure harmonised and streamlined regulation of industrial chemicals at the national level, which will also have the function of increasing community awareness of national chemicals issues. The CEF invites you to send in any ideas, both about the content and format of such a forum and suggested locations.

From: *The CEF Bulletin, July 2008 at:* <http://cef.e-newsletter.com.au/>

## • NICNAS Matters- Sept 2008

- 1 NICNAS releases PEC report on Triclosan (Details on p4 in these Notes for the Triclosan PEC)
- 2 Message from the Director (re: Productivity Commission)
- 3 Existing Chemicals Program review – Progress scorecard
- 4 Voluntary Call for Information on Nanomaterials
- 5 Publications Updates - New Cyanide Management Handbook from DRET – (Details on p9 in these Notes)
- 6 Registration Renewals our Training & Consultation Schedule
- 7 Report on Uptake of NICNAS PEC Recommendations

8 Submissions on 3 Chemicals to NDPSC: (Details on p7 in these Notes for **1,4-Butanediol**; **Diethylene Glycol**; and **Methyldibromo Glutaronitrile**)

9 OECD New Chemicals Taskforce 10 Staff News  
From *NICNAS Matters*, September 2008 at:  
[www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters.asp](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters.asp).

## Scheduled Poisons

### • How to implement the Ban on Lead in All Paint

In the National Drugs and Poisons Scheduling Committee (NDPSC) June 2008 Record of Reasons there is extensive discussion on how the ban on Lead in industrial types of paint might be achieved.

The SUSDP Appendix I "Uniform Paint Standard" and Part 3 "Miscellaneous Regulations" are not adopted uniformly throughout Australia, with additional ways of regulating in place.

A SUSDP Appendix C entry could reflect a prohibition for LEAD COMPOUNDS in surface coatings except preparations containing 0.1 per cent or less of lead calculated on the non-volatile content of the surface coating.

It was noted that a move of > 0.1 per cent lead based paints/tinters to Appendix C should have no great impact as voluntary moves to limit lead in these products by the Australian industry had been quite successful.

The Committee generally supported a ban of > 0.1 per cent lead based paints and tinters because of public health concerns from exposure to lead, but noted that this could be achieved either through Appendix C or Appendix I:

More discussion on how this ban will be handled will become available in mid November from the NDPSC 14-16 October 2008 meeting.

For details: [www.tga.gov.au/ndpsc/record/rr200806.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/ndpsc/record/rr200806.htm).

### • NICNAS Submissions on 3 Chemicals to NDPSC

NICNAS has made submissions to the National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee (NDPSC) for three chemicals not previously scheduled. Two of these were prompted by concerns over public safety arising from investigations into the chemicals by NICNAS following media reports, and governmental and public enquiries.

**1,4-Butanediol** is an industrial solvent and intermediate used in the production of various plastics and polymers. 1,4-Butanediol was reported to have caused the hospitalisation of children following ingestion of toy beads containing the chemical. After oral or intravenous administration, 1,4-Butanediol is rapidly and efficiently metabolised in the liver to form  $\gamma$ -hydroxybutyrate (GHB), a chemical that exerts potent depressant effects on the central nervous system. Their submission recommended the listing of 1,4-Butanediol monomer for use in toys in Appendix C of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons (SUSDP) to prohibit sale, supply and use. *The free form 1,4-Butanediol is now listed in Appendix C for all domestic use, including toys.*

**Diethylene Glycol (DEG)** is an industrial chemical used in brake fluids, glues and as an anti-freeze agent. In 2007, Diethylene Glycol (DEG) was found in certain brands of imported toothpaste. In conjunction with advice from NICNAS, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) issued recall notices for toothpastes containing DEG. Other than the interim ACCC Consumer Protection Notice on maximum limits of DEG in

toothpastes, no regulations existed for the use of DEG in oral cosmetic products in Australia. In humans DEG causes neurological impairment, metabolic acidosis and acute renal failure. A submission was made recommending the listing of DEG for intentional oral cosmetic use in Appendix C of the SUSDP to prohibit sale, supply and use. *DEG for use in toothpastes and mouthwashes is now listed in Appendix C, with a low level cut-off of 0.25 per cent.*

**Methyldibromo Glutaronitrile (MDBGN)**, a preservative and biocide used in a wide range of consumer products including cosmetics, was of concern to NICNAS due to its skin sensitising potential. MDBGN is now listed in Appendix C of the SUSDP and prohibited for use in preparations involving skin contact (including cosmetics). For other uses, it is now also listed as a Schedule 6 Poison requiring appropriate warning statements.

From *NICNAS Matters* September 2008 at:  
[www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters/NICNAS\\_Matters\\_SEP08\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters/NICNAS_Matters_SEP08_PDF.pdf)

## Food Chemical Issues

### • Melamine in Foods from China

As at 21 Oct 08, food products withdrawn from sale in Australia are: [White Rabbit Creamy Candy](#); [Cadbury Eclairs](#); [Lotte Koala Biscuits](#); [Kirin Milk Tea](#); [Orion Tiramisu Italian Cake](#); [Dali Yuan brand First Milk](#) (vanilla flavour)

Melamine has allegedly been used in China to make milk appear higher in protein than it really is. Chinese health officials have advised that melamine has been found recently in baby formula and in other Chinese dairy products. The contaminated milk powder may be linked to kidney problems found in Chinese infants and a number of infant deaths.

The Confectionery Manufacturers of Australasia has published a list of products and manufacturers which have stated their products do not use Chinese dairy ingredients contaminated with melamine: see the confectionery list at [www.candy.net.au/consumer-information.asp?pgID=644](http://www.candy.net.au/consumer-information.asp?pgID=644).

International media reports have raised concerns about melamine contamination of fruit and vegetables grown in China that have been exported to the world. Australia imports some vegetables from China so FSANZ is taking this seriously. At this stage the FSANZ can find no evidence that fruit and vegetable imports are unsafe.

A maximum melamine level in food above 2.5 mg/kg of food is indicative of food adulteration.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/newsroom/factsheets/factsheets2008/melamineinfoodsfromchina/index.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/newsroom/factsheets/factsheets2008/melamineinfoodsfromchina/index.cfm)

### • Red 3 Erythrosine in Food Colouring Preparations

Application A603 was open for comment to amend Standard 1.3.1 – Food Additives of the Food Standards Code to permit the sale of food additive preparations containing the colour erythrosine (INS 127) to the public, i.e. for use in home cooking and for commercial use. The intended use of the food additive preparations is to colour icing and other cake decoration so that the concentration of erythrosine in the icing made does not exceed a proposed maximum use level of 2 mg/kg.

In Australia, the Code restricts the use of Erythrosine in foods to preserved cherries known as maraschino cherries, cocktail cherries or glacé cherries to a maximum of 200 mg/kg (Standard 1.3.1, schedule 1, section 4.3).

Up to the comment period FSANZ has considered these matters and has accepted the Application.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/A603%20Erythr osine%20IAR%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/srcfiles/A603%20Erythr%20osine%20IAR%20FINAL.pdf)

## • MSG in Food: Food Standards Fact Sheet

MSG stands for monosodium glutamate and is the sodium salt of an amino acid called L-glutamic acid. Glutamic acid is one of the most abundant amino acids found in nature and exists both as free glutamate and bound with other amino acids into protein. Glutamate is synthesised by the body and plays an essential role in human metabolism.

Most people are unaffected by MSG but evidence indicates a few people may experience a mild hypersensitivity-type reaction when a large quantity of MSG is consumed in a single meal. The actual percentage of the population affected is likely to be less than 1%.

Glutamates are identified by the food additive code numbers 621 to 625 inclusive, with MSG being identified as 621. If a suspected sensitivity to MSG is confirmed, the next step will be to obtain appropriate dietary advice to ensure that you are aware of all sources of MSG in foods - and which ones are best avoided.

From: [www.foodstandards.gov.au/newsroom/factsheets/factsheets2008/msginfood.cfm](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/newsroom/factsheets/factsheets2008/msginfood.cfm). Added about August 2008.

## Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

### • Implications of Federal Court Intrade Decision

On 12 September the Federal Court decided that the APVMA's actions of invalidating approvals and registrations of Western Australian chemical company Intrade Australia Pty Ltd, because of false information about a manufacturing site was not lawful and should be reversed.

"The APVMA has restored nine (9) approvals and 52 product registrations in line with the Court's decision," Mr Neville Matthew, Program Manager, Regulatory Strategy and Compliance said today.

"We certainly do not condone the use of false information, but are required to give effect to the Court's decision," he said.

"The products, which had been the subject of recall action, can continue to be traded, supplied and used," he said.

"The APVMA is continuing to consider the implications of the judgment including the need for greater pre and post registration product verification and the possibility of legislative reform," he said.

For further information: Mr Neville Matthew APVMA ph: 02 6210-4791, mobile: 0458-473-370.

From the APVMA Media Release 26 Sept 2008 at: [www.apvma.gov.au/media/subpage\\_media.shtml#intrade](http://www.apvma.gov.au/media/subpage_media.shtml#intrade)

Editor's Comment: The Federal Court Intrade Reasons for Judgement make interesting reading. They are at: [www.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/cth/federal\\_ct/2008/1393.html](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/cth/federal_ct/2008/1393.html)

### • Nanomaterials in Ag & Vet Products: Call for Info

The APVMA is seeking information on uses and quantities of nanomaterials imported or manufactured for use in agricultural or veterinary chemicals, or agricultural or veterinary chemical products, during 2008.

- Chemical names, trade name & formula (CAS No.s if avail)

- Estimate of the total quantity (amount/year) of nanomaterials imported to Australia (in raw form or in products) and/or manufactured in Australia;
- Uses of nanomaterials in agricultural or veterinary chemicals, or in agricultural or veterinary chemical products, the concentration of nanomaterials in products and whether any nanomaterials are marketed in Australia.

Responses regarding the uses & quantities of nanomaterials are required on the provided form by 12 December 2008.

For info: Dr Phil Reeves APVMA Regulatory Strategy and Compliance, ph: 02-6210-4819.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/0809downloads/september\\_gazette\\_08.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/0809downloads/september_gazette_08.pdf)

## Dangerous Goods

### • 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](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/OHS/DangerousGoods/MajorHazardFacilities/default.htm).

### • Notification by MHFs & Potential MHFs in NSW

Operators of all major hazard facilities (MHFs) and potential MHFs that are operating on 13 October 2008 must provide WorkCover with notification no later than 12 January 2009.

After 13 October 2008, any person who intends to operate a MHF or a potential MHF must notify WorkCover within three months of the person forming the intention to operate that facility.

Details are available at:

[www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/OHS/DangerousGoods/MajorHazardFacilities/Pages/NotificationbyMajorHazardFacilities\(MHFs\)andPotentialMHFs.aspx](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/OHS/DangerousGoods/MajorHazardFacilities/Pages/NotificationbyMajorHazardFacilities(MHFs)andPotentialMHFs.aspx)

## Environmental Notes on Chemicals

### • Mining Industry Sustainable Development Program - Leading Practice

The *Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry* is managed by a steering committee chaired by the Department of Resources, Energy & Tourism; Commonwealth and State/Territory Governments; Australian mining industry representatives and technical research sector specialists.

Currently, 12 handbooks have been produced, with many are available in different languages including Chinese, Korean, Bahasa Indonesian, Spanish, Vietnamese and Japanese.

Three new handbooks in the Leading Practice series have been released. They are:

[Cyanide Management](#) [PDF, 2.06MB] (see details below)

[Water Management](#) [PDF, 2.06MB]

[Risk Assessment and Management](#) [PDF, 1.3MB]

The development of three more handbooks will begin in September 2008 with production anticipated for April 2009.

- 1/ Hazardous Materials Management;
- 2/ Particulate, Noise and Blast Management; and
- 3/ Monitoring, Auditing and Performance.

From: [www.ret.gov.au/resources/mining/leading\\_practice\\_sustainable\\_development\\_program\\_for\\_the\\_mining\\_industry/Pages/LeadingPracticeSustainableDevelopmentProgramfortheMiningIndustry.aspx](http://www.ret.gov.au/resources/mining/leading_practice_sustainable_development_program_for_the_mining_industry/Pages/LeadingPracticeSustainableDevelopmentProgramfortheMiningIndustry.aspx)

### • New Cyanide Management Handbook from DRET

In May 2008, the Australian Govt Department of Resources, Energy & Tourism (DRET) published a handbook on *Cyanide Management* under the *Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry*.

Managing Cyanide to minimise risks to human health and environmental health represents one of the key challenges facing the mining industry. The handbook addresses principles and procedures for effective and safe Cyanide management. It takes a risk management approach and is closely based upon the leading practice principles contained in the International Cyanide Management Code.

Other handbooks in the series include *Stewardship, Community Engagement and Development, Mine Closure and Completion, Mine Rehabilitation, Biodiversity Management, Managing Acid and Metalliferous Drainage, Tailings Management, Working With Indigenous Communities, Water Management and Risk Assessment and Management*.

Handbooks are provided free of charge. To obtain a copy of the *Cyanide Management* handbook, or any of the other handbooks in the series, please send an email to [sdmining@ret.gov.au](mailto:sdmining@ret.gov.au) or download by clicking on [Cyanide Management](#) [PDF, 2.06MB] or going to the website in the previous Note on the Mining Industry Sustainable Development Program.

From *NICNAS Matters September 2008* at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters/NICNAS\\_Matters\\_SEP08\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters/NICNAS_Matters_SEP08_PDF.pdf)

### • HazWaste Fund Framework: Victoria

Further information about the HazWaste Fund can also be obtained by emailing [business.programs@epa.vic.gov.au](mailto:business.programs@epa.vic.gov.au) or by calling the Business Sustainability Unit ph: 03-9695-2722.

The objectives are to 1/ • reduce hazardous waste to landfill; 2/ • reduce the hazard category of hazardous waste disposed to landfill; 3/ • increase remediation of contaminated soil.

The 13 page publication is at: [http://epanote2.epa.vic.gov.au/EPA/Publications.nsf/2f1c2625731746aa4a256ce90001cbb5/2c642569e0e37c0cca25746b000023e3/\\$FILE/1251.pdf](http://epanote2.epa.vic.gov.au/EPA/Publications.nsf/2f1c2625731746aa4a256ce90001cbb5/2c642569e0e37c0cca25746b000023e3/$FILE/1251.pdf)

For information about the HazWaste Fund email: [business.programs@epa.vic.gov.au](mailto:business.programs@epa.vic.gov.au) or phone the Business Sustainability Unit 03-9695-2722.

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/HazWasteFund](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/HazWasteFund)

### • Effective Emissions Trading Scheme: by ACF

*Editor's Comment:* Following on my concern to create a level playing field for all products I thought that the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) submission to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper offered another considered perspective on what is needed.

"To be a credible player in the global effort to avoid catastrophic climate change Australia needs to reduce carbon pollution by at least 30 per cent by 2020 (from 1990 levels) and should increase our commitment to 40 per cent if other developed countries do the same."

ACF proposes:

- Support for households including energy efficiency measures and funding for public transport (40%)
- Research, development and commercialisation of new, low- and zero emissions technologies (20%)
- Support for green jobs and skills training (10%)
- International programs to help developing countries reduce emissions and adapt to impacts (10%)
- Stewardship payments to land managers in rural Australia to reward carbon pollution abatement (5%)
- Building ecosystem resilience to climate change (5%)
- Support emissions intensive trade exposed activities to move to low carbon production (no more than 10%)

"Recent CSIRO analysis found a carbon price of around \$45 a tonne could put Australia on the path to avoiding dangerous climate change without increasing the proportion of the weekly household budget going on energy."

The 78 page ACF Submission to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme is available to [download](#) from here.

For ACF's scorecard on the Garnaut Review go to: [www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news\\_id=1978](http://www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news_id=1978).  
"The Garnaut Review Final Report makes a positive contribution to climate change policy in many areas, but Australia needs to do much more than it recommends."

*Editor's Comment:* Like the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper the ACF submission does not deal with the need to create a level playing field for Australian industry's products vs overseas country's products that are not participating in such a scheme. It only takes a small difference in price to be undercut by an imported product.

From: [www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news\\_id=1950](http://www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news_id=1950)

- **Closed Landfill Methane Gas Migration  
Stevensons Road (Cranbourne, Victoria)**

From: [www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/StevensonsRoad-Cranbourne-landfill-gas-migration.asp#curr](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/StevensonsRoad-Cranbourne-landfill-gas-migration.asp#curr) website.

When the landfill was closed, a gas and leachate (contaminated water) extraction system was installed on the landfill. This leachate removal system has not worked effectively and therefore the landfill is flooded.

As a result of the high water levels, the gas extraction system is also partly flooded, and therefore not effective. Because the gas extraction system is not working effectively, landfill gas is migrating from the sides of the landfill.

Since 10 September the issues from landfill gas escaping from the Stevensons Road (Cranbourne) closed landfill continue to be managed through State emergency management services and the EPA is supporting that process. Communications and support to residents being affected by this problem are being managed by Casey Council who own the closed landfill. Casey Council will provide up to date information on their website: [www.casey.vic.gov.au/stevensonsroad](http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/stevensonsroad).

City of Casey Vic Update - 23 October 2008 from: [www.casey.vic.gov.au/stevensonsroad](http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/stevensonsroad). Works commenced this week to improve the gas extraction system on the landfill site. A further nine gas bores will be drilled over the next month to the base of the landfill (approx 30-35 metres), and pipes inserted to extract the gas and burn it off in the flares on site.

Unfortunately, these works will expose the waste directly to the air and odours will be released. Whilst this odour is not dangerous, the smell will be strong for a period of time.

Works also commenced this week to dig the cut-off trench on the northern and western boundaries. The trench will be backfilled and gas collection pipes will be installed at a depth of about five metres. These pipes will capture gas leaving the site. Unfortunately, this work will also cause an odour; however, a fragrance will be released to help minimise it.

From: [www.wme.com.au/insidewaste/downloads/Issue\\_26\\_Sept.Oct08\\_InsideWaste\\_web.pdf](http://www.wme.com.au/insidewaste/downloads/Issue_26_Sept.Oct08_InsideWaste_web.pdf) website. "Despite being built in a former sand quarry in 1996, the putrescible landfill had no requirement for a liner. It closed in 2005 but groundwater has had free access to the waste pile and hindered gas extraction efforts, resulting in methane migrating underground to neighbours just 200m away." (p1)

"Queensland and South Australia stipulate a 500m buffer for homes and other sensitive uses, while NSW permits building within 250m of a landfill or areas "having potential to have methane concentrations of >1.25% in the subsurface".

The detection of methane at concentrations of 50% in houses just 200m from the former putrescible tip in Victoria has been a public relations disaster for the landfill sector. Beyond the immediate incident, the fallout is likely to include a regulatory crackdown and further fuel for landfill critics to reignite their causes." (p16)

"On September 10, the Country Fire Authority urged residents from some 400 households in Brookland Greens Estate to leave their homes." (p16)

*Editor's Comment:* This raises the issue of what land use we allow to be next to or near industrial facilities, not just landfills. Industry needs adequate buffer distances so that is there is an incident it can be managed without undue effects on those nearby.

- **Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) in Australia**

*Editor's Comment:* As the CCS technology is suggested as a key way to continue to burn coal and petroleum to generate electricity, I have added this Note to let you know of several CCS projects which have been proposed in Australia.

The [Otway Basin Pilot Project](#) is a research and development project in Victoria that is the first demonstration of deep geological storage or geosequestration in Australia. The [Gorgon Project](#) on Barrow Island in Western Australia, where it is proposed to reinject carbon dioxide separated from natural gas, and the [Monash Energy Project](#) in Victoria which will store carbon dioxide from a brown coal-based coal to liquids project.

Through the [Low Emissions Technology Demonstration Fund](#) (LETDF) the Australian Government will provide funding to two projects involving power generation and potential long term geological storage of carbon:

[CS Energy](#) a demonstration oxy-fuel combustion plant with CCS in Queensland Fairview - power generation from coal seam methane and long term geological storage of CO2 in coal beds in Queensland.

Gorgon and the following two Victorian projects involving capture of CO2 have also been awarded funding under the LETDF: [International Power - Hazelwood](#) & [HRL Limited](#).

From: [www.ret.gov.au/resources/carbon\\_dioxide\\_capture\\_and\\_geological\\_storage/Pages/carbon\\_capture\\_and\\_storage\\_in\\_australia.aspx](http://www.ret.gov.au/resources/carbon_dioxide_capture_and_geological_storage/Pages/carbon_capture_and_storage_in_australia.aspx) as at 24<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

## Standards & Codes

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

Or for committee work go to: [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au)

**AS 2714-2008: The Storage and Handling of Organic Peroxides.** Sets out requirements and recommendations for the safe storage, handling, dispensing and disposal of packaged organic peroxides of Division 5.2. Includes safe separation distances, fire protection and emergency management. **ISBN:** 0-7337-8877-7, **Published:** 21 Oct 2008, **Pages:** 45, **Price:** \$100.35 pdf.

**AS 4326-2008: The Storage and Handling of Oxidizing Agents.** Sets out requirements for storage, handling, operational safety, emergency planning and fire protection for all Division 5.1 dangerous goods and provides specific storage requirements for hydrogen peroxide and ammonium nitrate. **ISBN:** 0-7337-8865-3, **Published:** 29 Aug 2008, **Pages:** 86, **Price:** \$155.70

**BS EN 12798:2007: Transport Quality Management System. Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Transport.** Quality management system requirements to supplement EN ISO 9001 for the transport of dangerous goods, with regard to safety. **ISBN:** 0 580 53850 6, **Published:** 29 Aug 2008, **Pages:** 18, **Price:** \$217.50 Hardcopy

**ISO/TR 12885:2008: Nanotechnologies - Health and Safety Practices in Occupational Settings Relevant to Nanotechnologies.** It focuses on the occupational manufacture and use of engineered nanomaterials. It does not address health and safety issues or practices associated with nanomaterials generated by natural processes, hot processes and other standard operations which unintentionally generate nanomaterials, or potential consumer exposures or uses. **Published:** 30 Sep 2008, **Pages:** 79, **Price:** \$241.85 pdf

**ISO 8230-1:2008 Safety Requirements for Dry-Cleaning Machines - Part 1: Common Safety Requirements.** For industrial and commercial use for the cleaning of articles made of textile, leather, furs and skins, using exclusively either perchloroethylene or combustible solvent as the cleaning medium. **Part 1 - Published:** 15 Sep 2008, **Pages:** 31, **Price:** \$164.90

**ISO 8230-2:2008 Part 2: Machines Using Perchloroethylene.** It deals with: perc emission to the workroom, seepage into the ground and sewer during operation and maintenance of the water separator; perc emission resulting from operation, cleaning and maintenance of the distilling installation. **Part 2 - Published:** 15 Sep 2008, **Pages:** 5, **Price:** \$65.96

**ISO 8230-3:2008 Part 3: Machines Using Combustible Solvents.** It deals with hazards related to the entire dry-cleaning machine (electrical hazards, explosion hazards); hazards relating to the machine and tumblers (combustible solvent emission, explosion hazards during the cleaning phase, explosion hazards during the drying phase); hazards relating to the distilling equipment (combustible solvent emission, explosion hazards). **Part 2 - Published:** 15 Sep 2008, **Pages:** 10, **Price:** \$87.95

**ISO 29042-1:2008 Safety of machinery - Evaluation of the emission of airborne hazardous substances - Part 1: Selection of test methods.** It specifies parameters which can be used for the assessment of the emission of pollutants from machines or the performance of the pollutant control systems integrated in machines. It gives guidance on the selection of appropriate test methods according to their various fields of application and types of machine including the effects of measures to reduce exposures to pollutants. **Published:** 1 Sep 2008, **Pages:** 8, **Price:** \$76.95

**BS EN 378-1:2008** Refrigerating systems and heat pumps. Safety and environmental requirements. Basic requirements, definitions, classification and selection criteria. **ISBN:** 0-580-53384-6, **Published:** 29 Aug 2008, **Pages:** 68.

**BS 9999:2008** Code of practice for fire safety in the design, management and use of buildings. **ISBN:** 0 580 57920 2, **Published:** 31 Oct 08, **Pages:** 458, **Price:** \$788.43 Hardcopy

**SR CEN TR 13688:2008 Packaging - Material Recycling** - Report on Requirements for Substances and Materials to Prevent a Sustained Impediment to Recycling. Gives some examples of substances and materials that may cause a sustained impediment in the recycling activities. **Published:** 12 Sept 2008, **Pages:** 20, **Price:** \$100.83 pdf.

**ISO 16814:2008 Building environment design - Indoor air quality** - Methods of expressing the quality of indoor air for human occupancy. **Published:** 2 Oct 2008, **Pages:** 54, **Price:** \$211.62 pdf.

## Seminars, Conferences

- **Laboratory Managers Conference 10-12 Nov 08 Sydney.** The conference content is for all people who are involved in laboratory management and is relevant to all research, educational and industrial quality control laboratories. *Cost \$1245, ph: 03-9872-5111, email: [sci@scienceindustry.com.au](mailto:sci@scienceindustry.com.au); or [www.scienceindustry.com.au](http://www.scienceindustry.com.au)*

- **HazWaste Expo, 20 Nov 08, MCG Melbourne 8.30am –12.30pm.** The Vic EPA are bringing together government, industry and solution providers to share ideas

and explore industry issues and solutions to reduce hazardous waste and reduce business costs.

Register by 14 Nov at [Business.Programs@epa.vic.gov.au](mailto:Business.Programs@epa.vic.gov.au) or ph: 03-9695-2722.

- **Nanotechnology Workshop, 21 Nov, Melbourne On Science, Policy and Public Perspectives**

8.30am-5.30pm at Monash University Law Chambers, 427 Bourke Street, Melbourne. It will explore issues of risk communication in relation to nanotechnologies, and the related issues of policy development and regulation. *Email: [Diana.Bowman@law.monash.edu.au](mailto:Diana.Bowman@law.monash.edu.au), ph:03-9902-0187.*

*From: <http://www.ausnano.net/index.php?page=events>*

- **National Chemical Diversion Congress, 25-27 Nov**

**Wellington, New Zealand.** Organised by the New Zealand Police and the Australian Govt Attorney-General's Dept, 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](mailto:chemdiv@confer.co.nz), ph: + 64-(0)4-472-0337, fax + 64-(0)3-546-6020.

*From: [www.ncdc08.org/index.html](http://www.ncdc08.org/index.html)*

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

29th November - 3rd December 2008. Cost for a non-member is \$1260 until 7<sup>th</sup> Nov, then \$1420.

*Brochure with the Program & Registration from:*

*<http://www.aioh.org.au/conference/2008/registration.html>*

- **ChemCon 2009 Kuala Lumpur: 2-6 March 2009**

35 speakers from governments and industry will focus in the field of international chemical legislation all over the world, e.g. REACH, GHS and country specific information on inventories, labelling requirements, etc. Cost: Euro2050.

*From: [www.chemcon.net/asia\\_pac/chemcon2009my.html](http://www.chemcon.net/asia_pac/chemcon2009my.html)*

- **Safety In Action 2009, 29 Mar – 2 Apr 2009, Melb**

Relevant streams will cover: Emergency Management; Environmental Management; Lessons from Major Accidents; Risk Management; and Transport Safety. *Contact: [sia09@siaconference.com.au](mailto:sia09@siaconference.com.au).*

*From: <http://www.siaconference.com.au/>*

- **Greenhouse 2009, 23 - 26 March 2009, Perth**

Climate Change and Resources will draw together national and international climate experts to discuss climate impacts, mitigation and adaptation strategies for industry, government and households. Organised by the CSIRO.

*From: [www.greenhouse2009.com](http://www.greenhouse2009.com)*

- **Hazmat 2009, Sydney, 29-30<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

Hazmat 2009 will be held in Sydney, on 29&30<sup>th</sup> April 2009. A Hazmat 2009 Conference exhibitor's/sponsor brochure will be available in November.

*Please contact Chris Dayson, Events Manager, FPAA, ph: 03-9890-1544 Email: [ChrisDayson@fpaa.com.au](mailto:ChrisDayson@fpaa.com.au).*

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**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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