

Hazmat & Environment Notes June-August 2016

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Hazmat & Environment Notes are prepared by:

Jeff Simpson

Hazardous Chemicals Consultant
Editor & Publisher

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

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

Screen

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Hazardous Chemicals

• Asthmagens: Australian Work Exposures Study

12 August 2016: The extended Australian Work Exposures Study (AWES–2) investigated self-reported work-related exposures to agents that cause or aggravate asthma. The AWES–2 research was led by Dr Lin Fritschi at the Curtin University of Technology and was funded through a National Health and Medical Research Council Partnership Project grant (with co-funding provided by Safe Work Australia, the Cancer Council Australia and the Cancer Council of Western Australia).

- About half (47%) of all males in the sample were exposed to one or more Asthmagens, with probable exposures most common amongst farmers & animal workers (97%), metal workers (96%), wood workers (96%) & food preparation workers (92%).
- The most common Asthmagens that male workers in the sample were probably exposed to were bio-aerosols, which includes moulds commonly found in rotting food and metal working fluids potentially contaminated with bacteria (26%), metals and metal compounds (23%), arthropods or mites (21%) and latex (19%). 4% of male workers were exposed to isocyanates.
- 40% of all females in the sample were probably exposed to one or more Asthmagens, with probable exposures most common among farmers and animal workers (100%), carers (99%), cleaners (96%), food preparation workers (96%) and nurses (92%).
- The most common Asthmagens that female workers in the sample were probably exposed to were latex (25%), industrial cleaning and sterilising agents (20%), bio-aerosols (18%) and arthropods or mites (16%).

Initial findings from the research have been reported in the journal BMC Pulmonary Medicine (2016). A summary of the research is available on the Safe Work Australia website.

A full description of the methodology and findings of this study and all relevant citations were published in the peer-reviewed paper "[The Estimated Prevalence of Exposure to Asthmagens in the Australian Workforce, 2014.](#)" (11 page pdf)

Occupational Asthma can be classified as either:

- sensitiser-induced (allergic)
 - characterised by exposure(s) to an agent that sensitises the airways so they react to subsequent exposures to the same agent, to other sensitisers, and to non-specific triggers, or
- irritant-induced (non-allergic)
 - typically occurs as a result of one or more high level exposures to an irritant
 - accounts for approximately 10% of all occupational asthma.

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/research/hazard-surveillance/pages/awes-asthmagens

And: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/news/pages/tn-12082016

• Carcinogens in the Workplace: Australian Reports

2 June 2016: The latest Australian Work Exposure Study (AWES) Reports estimate workers' likelihood of potential exposure to 38 known or suspected carcinogens likely to be used in Australian workplaces. In particular, the Reports examined exposure to carcinogens for study participants in the agricultural, construction and manufacturing industries.

The Reports use AWES data to estimate carcinogenic exposures for study participants within each industry, identify the main circumstances of those exposures, and describe the reported use of workplace controls and protective measures designed to decrease those exposures.

Read the [Australian Workplace Exposure Reports](#) for more information about health effects, common exposure scenarios and options for preventing or minimising potential exposures to carcinogens.

Carcinogen Exposures

- 2016: [Agricultural Industry](#) 2016: [Construction Industry](#) 2016: [Manufacturing Industry](#)

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/news/pages/tn-02052016

And: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/australian-workplace-exposure-study

• ACCC: Takes Action against E-Cigarette Suppliers

20 June 2016: The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has commenced separate proceedings in the Federal Court against two e-cigarette online retailers alleging that they made false or misleading representations and engaged in misleading conduct by making statements on their websites that their e-cigarette products did not contain toxic chemicals.

The ACCC alleges that the two companies, Social-Lites Pty Ltd (Social-Lites) and Elusion New Zealand Limited (Elusion), breached the Australian Consumer Law (ACL) by making representations on their websites from at least August 2015 that the e-cigarette products being sold did not contain carcinogens or toxic chemicals, and did not contain any of the chemicals found in conventional cigarettes.

The ACCC alleges, based on independent testing it commissioned, that the e-cigarette products sold by Social-Lites and Elusion did in fact contain carcinogens and toxic chemicals found in conventional cigarettes, including formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and acrolein.

From: www.accc.gov.au/media-release/accc-takes-action-against-e-cigarette-suppliers-for-alleged-misleading-%E2%80%9Cno-toxic-chemicals%E2%80%9D-claims

• NZ EPA: Application for Triclosan Reassessment

Triclosan is a chemical that is used as an antibacterial and antifungal agent.

http://www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/pop_hs_topics/Pages/Triclosan.aspx

There has been a recent Application APP202598 28 Jan 2016 by the Green Party to determine if grounds exist for the reassessment of Triclosan and its associated approvals.

www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP202598_APP202598_Decision_FINAL_02.08.16.pdf

The Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand is not calling for a total ban on Triclosan as the only option, but for its removal from widely used household products and either licensing its use or permitting its use in extremely limited specialist circumstances.

www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP202598_APP202598_FINAL_Application%20form_Grounds%20for%20Reassessment%20of%20Triclosan_05.08.2015.pdf

This 3 August 2016 Application for whether there are Grounds for a Reassessment of a Hazardous Substance is from Catherine Delahunty NZ MP, Wellington NZ.

11 August 2016: An Application to consider grounds for reassessing the antibacterial and antifungal agent Triclosan has been upheld by a Decision Making Committee, acting on behalf of the NZ EPA. There is sufficient new information available about Triclosan for it to be put forward for reassessment.

The NZ EPA will now consider whether Triclosan should be added to the Chief Executive-initiated re-assessment list, where the severity and extent of its risk factors will be prioritised in the context of the current list of around 30 pesticides and insecticides.

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/Triclosan-application-upheld.aspx

• NZ EPA Review changes 200 approved Chemicals

25 July 2016: The latest Chemical Review carried out by the NZ EPA (Application No. APP202482). has reclassified 200 substances approved for use in New Zealand, and where necessary, updated the controls put in place to manage their use.

[Decision 19 July 2016](#) (37 page pdf) Discusses the various submissions and decisions (e.g. 3.26 & 3.27 covering various forms of Calcium Nitrate in relation to the 5.1.1C oxidizer classification).

In Appendix A: The changes implemented by this decision are listed with their Previous Classification and their New Classification, plus the Changes to Controls.

e.g. Calcium Nitrate, Tetrahydrate CAS# 13477-34-4 Approval No: HSR003543

Previous Classification: 5.1.1C, 6.1D (oral), 6.3B, 6.4A

New Classification: 6.1D (oral), 8.3A, 9.3C (revised from original application)

Changes to Controls: **Remove** AH1, D3, EM5, EM9, EM10, I7, I15, I27, O1-O11, P11. **Add** D5, E1, E2, E4, E6, EM2, EM7, I2, I10, I11, I22, P14 (revised from original application)

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/Review-sees-changes-to-200-approved-chemicals.aspx

• NZ EPA: 27 Haz. Subs. Reassessment Grounds

Some of chemicals where there are Grounds for Reassessments from the Chemical Review 2015 are:

Benzaldehyde CAS 100-52-7; Butylated Hydroxytoluene CAS# 128-37-0; Dioctyltin Dilaurate CAS# 3648-18-8; Furfuryl Alcohol CAS# 98-00-0; Hydrogen Peroxide, 8-20% aqueous solution; Iodocarb CAS# 55406-53-6; Oils, Fish CAS# 8016-13-5; Oxalic Acid CAS# 144-62-7; Oxirane, methyl- CAS# 75-56-9; Permethrin CAS# 52645-53-1; 2-Phenoxyethanol CAS# 122-99-6; 1,3-Propanediol, 2,2-Dimethyl- CAS# 126-30-7; Sulfur, excluding formed Sulfur CAS# 7704-34-9; Sodium Dioctylsulphosuccinate CAS# 577-11-7.

Current classifications and proposed classifications are given. The schedule also includes the justification for the proposed changes.

www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP202227_APP202227%20CR15%20Grounds%20Application%20Final.pdf (17 May 16, 16 page pdf with the chemicals)

www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/HSNO%20Application%20Register%20Documents/APP202227_APP202227_FINAL_decision_2016-06-08.pdf (1 June 2016 3 page pdf)

• NZ EPA: Glyphosate is an Unlikely Carcinogen

11 August 2016: A new Report on Glyphosate, commissioned by the NZ EPA, says the broad-spectrum herbicide is unlikely to be carcinogenic and should not be classified as a mutagen or carcinogen under the NZ HSNO Act.

[Review of the Evidence Relating to Glyphosate and Carcinogenicity Report](#) [19 page pdf].

[Lay Summary](#) [2 page pdf]

The Review took into account studies reviewed in the IARC report, as well as additional studies that were not reviewed by IARC but have been assessed by overseas regulators including the EFSA, the USA EPA & the Joint FAO/WHO meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPPR).

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/EPA-glyphosate-report-released.aspx

• CSB Final Report on Facility Safety Culture

2 Aug 2016: the U.S. Chemical Safety Board released its [final report into multiple sulfuric acid releases that occurred in 2014 at the Tesoro Refinery in Martinez, CA](#). The report includes key process safety findings related to safety culture, safety indicators, and the continued need for a proactive regulator to conduct preventive inspections.

Investigation Summary: A strong process safety culture is necessary to help prevent process safety incidents and worker injuries. The CSB investigated two sulfuric acid releases that occurred at the Tesoro Martinez refinery in Martinez, California. The investigation found that a weak process safety culture created conditions conducive to the recurrence of sulfuric acid incidents that caused worker injuries over several years.

From: www.csb.gov/csb-releases-final-report-on-facility-safety-culture-following-a-series-of-sulfuric-acid-releases-at-the-tesoro-martinez-refinery-in-california/

Chemical Management

• Vic DRAFT OH&S Regulation: For Comment

Victoria's Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007 (OHS Regulations) and Equipment (Public Safety) Regulations 2007 (EPS Regulations) will expire in June 2017. They are now both open for public comment until Friday 9th Sept 2016.

Public comment is invited on the following documents:

[Proposed OHS Regulations](#) (535 pages) Chapter 4 covers Hazardous Substances and Materials

[Proposed EPS Regulations](#) (59 pages)

[Regulatory Impact Statement for proposed Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 and Equipment \(Public Safety\) Regulations 2017](#) (431 pages) Part 2 Analysis by Hazard (13) Hazardous Substances, Scheduled Carcinogenic Substances, and Lead

From: <http://consultation.worksafe.vic.gov.au/OHS-Regulations-Reform>

Chemicals Management: Read the RIS Section 13 (pages 138 to 156) to obtain an understanding of what is proposed for Hazardous Substances, Scheduled Carcinogenic Substances and Lead. Also read Parts 4.1-4.3 (pages 171-218) in the OHS Regulations. The 3rd, 5th, or 6th Editions of the GHS may be used to the end of 2018. From 2019, the 6th Edition only.

Major Hazard Facility Regulations are on pages 316-345 in the Draft OHS Regulations

For example: The term Hazardous Substances is retained in Victoria as these Regulations only cover the Health effects of these chemicals, and hazardous physical effects are covered by the Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations.

Editor's Comment: **Implement Option 3 with Increased National Consistency. But Victoria needs to go further.** Victoria needs to implement the Work Health & Safety Regulations (as are in place in most other States in Australia) incorporating the Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations. This would mean businesses would eventually be able to work to **one harmonised set of WHS regulations**.

This would be a great opportunity for Victoria to fix up the anomalies and difficulties that came with the Work Health and Safety Regulations, and for these Victorian WHS Regulations to become the Model again for all of Australia. We have done the work previously, which only needs to be adjusted.

IF Victoria does not take this opportunity, it will mean ongoing costs to industry and the community across Australia, not just in Victoria.

• WA Safety Legislation Reforms

Changes to WA Dangerous Goods Safety legislation? Consultation on the review of the WA Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004 was completed in late 2014. Work has started on implementing the 16 review recommendations.

[What's new for WA Dangerous Goods Safety legislation?](#)

WA Work Health and Safety Bill for general industry. The WA Work Health and Safety Bill for use by general industry (excluding Mining, Petroleum and MHFs) was developed by the WorkSafe WA Division of the WA Department of Commerce. Any comment on that Bill should be directed to WorkSafe WA.

[WorkSafe's WA Work Health and Safety Bill \(for General Industry\)](#)

From: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Safety/Have-your-say-on-the-safety-9257.aspx

• WA Work Health & Safety Regs Discussion Paper

The WA Department of Commerce – WorkSafe WA Division has released a Discussion Paper on recommendations to amend the model WA Work Health and Safety Regulations for the Western Australian working environment.

[Discussion Paper - Work Health & Safety Regulations for WA](#)
(109 page pdf)

Submissions close 31 August 2016

Email: WHSregulations@commerce.wa.gov.au

From: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/work-health-and-safety-regulations-discussion-paper>

• Review of 5 NSW EPA Chemical Control Orders

July 2016: The NSW EPA is currently undertaking a review of the environmentally hazardous chemicals legislation to modernise the act and introduce a more streamlined system for the management of hazardous chemicals. Submissions closed on the 12 August 2016.

Chemical Control Order in relation to [Aluminium smelter wastes](#) containing Fluoride and/or Cyanide (1986)

Chemical Control Order in relation to [Dioxin-contaminated waste](#) materials (1986)

[Organotin waste](#) materials Chemical Control Order 1989

[Polychlorinated Biphenyl](#) Chemical Control Order 1997

[Scheduled chemical wastes](#) Chemical Control Order 2004

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/CCOs.htm#five

• Duplication of AgVet Chemical & WHS Legislation?

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Label Review
labelreview@deloitte.com.au

There are 24 submissions available to be reviewed with quite different opinions. Some examples are:

[Accord Australia Limited](#)

[Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry \(ACCI\)](#)

[Australian Manufacturing Workers Union \(AMWU\)](#)

[Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation \(APMF\)](#)

[APMF submission 17 May 2016](#)

[Plastics and Chemical Industries Association \(PACIA\)](#)

[WorkSafe Victoria](#)

From: www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/ag-vet-chemicals/review-of-duplication

Editor: The minimum I regard that is needed, is that missing Hazard Statements should be added to AgVet Chemical labels, as the Safety Information already present will protect users similar to Precautionary Statements. This would mean that the excipient hazards would also be labelled, which handlers have a right to know.

• New: Hazardous Chemicals Information System

6 July 2016: Safe Work Australia has published a new chemicals database to help manufacturers, importers, suppliers and end-users of chemicals meet the requirements of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

The Australian [Hazardous Chemical Information System](#) (HCIS) is a database of information on chemicals that have been classified in accordance with the GHS. HCIS contains GHS classifications and labelling information for over 4,500 chemicals and a searchable database of Workplace Exposure Standards.

HCIS replaces the **previous** [Hazardous Substance Information System](#) (HSIS) and users of the database should note that the classifications and labelling information is provided as advice only.

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/whs-information/hazardous-chemicals/hsis/pages/hsis

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/news/pages/tn-06072016

Editor: What happened to Cut-Off %, particularly those below the GHS Cut-Off %, e.g. CMI/MI CAS 55965-84-9 & 15 ppm?

• Tender: Australia Workplace Exposure Standards

Tender for the Assessment and Review of Australia's WES..
ATM ID: SWA2016/15. Tender Closed 29 July 2016.

Scope: Assessing the current 644 Exposure Standards using a developed methodology to develop a revised list. Then developing criteria for mandatory exposure standards based on risk and recommending a set of mandatory exposure standards using the criteria. Then considering whether an updated Standard is required for each chemical in the revised list, and if so, recommending a new level for the Standard. To deliver this by 30 June 2017.

From: <https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.atm.showClosed&ATMUUID=06A67F74-B619-06B0-3324D8B6922EA675>

Editor's Note: Considering NOHSC's / Safe Work Australia's inability to achieve this over several decades, I think this tender is asking for an amazing achievement by 30 June 2017!

• NZ: Workplace Exp. Stds & Biological Exp. Indices

June 2016 8th Edition: NZ Workplace Exposure Standards and Biological Exposure Indices.

The NZ Workplace Exposure Standards (WES), developed by Worksafe New Zealand, are intended to be used as guidelines for people qualified in occupational health practice.

Changes have been made throughout this edition to reflect the relevant content of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016.

From: www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/all-guidance-items/workplace-exposure-standards-and-biological-exposure-indices

• 2016 ACGIH Threshold Limit Values® and BEIs®

The information in this user-friendly, pocket-sized publication is used worldwide as a guide for evaluation and control of workplace exposures to chemical substances and physical agents. Threshold Limit Value (TLV®) occupational exposure guidelines are recommended for more than 700 chemical substances and physical agents. There are more than 50 Biological Exposure Indices (BEIs®) that cover more than 80 chemical substances. Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) registry numbers are listed for each chemical. Introductions to each section and appendices provide philosophical bases and practical recommendations for using TLVs® and BEIs®.

ISBN: 978-1-607260-84-4

Cost: USA\$54.95 plus USA\$23.95 postage = USA\$78.90.

From: www.acgih.org/forms/store/ProductFormPublic/2016-tlvs-and-beis

• AU: Precursor Chemicals and Equipment – RIS

6 May 2016: This Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) examines proposed measures to reduce the risk of diversion of precursor chemicals and equipment used in the manufacture of illicit drugs.

This RIS considers three specific problems with the existing arrangements, namely:

- inconsistencies in jurisdictional controls, both in terms of the type of controls and the list of precursor chemicals and equipment to which they apply
- the lack of real-time submission and sharing of information about precursor sales with law enforcement agencies, and
- limited collection and sharing of intelligence regarding the importation of precursor chemicals.

The Attorney-General's Department is seeking public feedback on draft policy options to improve and harmonise controls on precursor chemicals and equipment. These proposals are set out in the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) below, along with a preliminary analysis of the costs and benefits associated with each option.

– [Consultation Regulation Impact Statement on Precursor Chemicals and Equipment](#) (87 page pdf)

Submissions Closed 17 June 2016

From: <https://www.ag.gov.au/Consultations/Pages/Regulation-Impact-Statement-Improving-the-national-consistency-of-controls-on-precursor-chemicals-and-equipment.aspx>

Background: In June 2014 CSIRO, in conjunction with University of Ulster, completed a research [Report](#) (154 page pdf), for the National Fire Protection Association on combustible façades. The report covers typical combustible façade construction systems and methods, fire incidents, fire test methods and regulation around the world.

In November 2014 there was a large combustible façade fire at a building in Docklands, Melbourne. Subsequently the Metropolitan Fire Brigade released an investigation Report *R (14 page pdf) on their findings of the fire and the possible causes. The fire was unusual as it spread up the exterior cladding of the building due to the use of a combustible Aluminium composite panel (ACP) façade.

*R: www.mfb.vic.gov.au/Media/docs/Post_Incident_Analysis_for_Lacrosse_Docklands_-_25_11_2014%20-%20FINAL-dd61c4b2-61f6-42ed-9411-803cc23e6acc-0.PDF

At: www.mfb.vic.gov.au/News/Publications/Reports.html

18 April 2016: The CSIRO have developed a Guideline to help the construction industry better understand how to ensure compliance with the relevant codes and standards for fire safety of external walls on high-rise buildings.

The Guideline makes understanding the fire hazards of combustible external wall materials clearer and explains the pathways to demonstrate compliance to façade fire safety under the requirements of the current Australian National Construction Code. In particular it focuses on the requirements for multi-story buildings in Australia requiring Type A and Type B construction for Class 2 to 9 buildings. It is not relevant to domestic low-rise buildings.

The Guideline explains the testing methods and requirements for external walls, attachments to external walls, insulation and sarking as well as the evidence you need to provide. This guideline focuses on the fire testing and fire safety of aluminium composite panels, and other combustible materials, in the construction of external walls.

The Guideline should be read in conjunction with documents drafted by your relevant State Authority & the Building Codes of Australia which concentrate on compliance and regulation.

[CSIRO Fire Safety Guideline for External Walls](#) (24 page pdf)

CSIRO Fire Safety: Testing, Research and Certification Services information is at: <http://www.csiro.au/en/Do-business/Services/Materials-infrastructure/Fire-safety>

From: www.csiro.au/FacadeFireGuide

• NZ: COSHH Essentials E-tool & Haz. Subs.

May 2016: The COSHH Essentials E-tool provides advice to workplaces on how to control exposure to hazardous substances for a range of common workplace tasks and chemicals. The E-tool will take you through an assessment based on your tasks and chemicals, and give you advice specific to your workplace.

[COSHH Essentials E-tool \[3 page pdf\]](#)

New Zealand workplaces must be aware of several differences before using the COSHH Essentials E-tool. Explanations are made under the following headings: 1/ COSHH Regulations; 2/ Direct advice sheets; 3/ Frequently asked questions; 4/ HSNO classifications and H-statements; 5/ Confined spaces; 6/ HSNO controls; 7/ Advice or expert help; 8/ Disclaimer.

From: www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/tools-resources/coshh-essentials-e-tool

• NZ Formal Determination for a Substance

New service from 1 July 2016 under Section 26 of the NZ HSNO Act.

Anyone can ask the NZ EPA to make a formal (statutory) determination as to whether a substance is Hazardous. The determination is recorded on the NZ HSNO Applic'ns Register.

Since 1 July 2016 the formal determination process provides additional information, so will provide you a determination of:

- whether or not a substance is hazardous;
- if so, the HSNO hazard classification; and
- whether it is covered by an existing approval.

The fee for this application is NZ\$1150.00 (including GST).

[Section 26 Determination Application](#) (10 page Word docx)

From: www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/approvals/Pages/Formal-determination.aspx

• NZ EPA appoints a Chief Scientist

August 2016: The NZ EPA has appointed Dr Jacqueline Rowarth to the new role of Chief Scientist, helping New Zealanders understand the science behind EPA decisions.

Professor Rowarth has a depth and breadth of experience that covers agricultural science, environment and agribusiness.

http://www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/New_Chief_Scientist.aspx

• NZ EPA: Children's Haz. Substances Injuries

25 July 2016: A NZ EPA report shows fewer children are hospitalised from hazardous substances injuries. Hazardous Substances injuries have dropped 40% from 163 per year to 96 per year in the past eight years.

The key to lowering risk from Hazardous Substances was ensuring they were stored and labelled appropriately and people needed to be careful to not leave chemicals around or store them in unlabelled containers.

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news/news/Pages/EPA-report-shows-fewer-children-hospitalised-from-hazardous-substances-injuries.aspx

• USA: Assessing & Managing Chemicals under TSCA

29 June 2016: This document is intended to be a roadmap of major activities the USA EPA will focus on during the initial year of implementation for TSCA (to June 2017). It is organized by the statutory timeframes during which the activities must be completed. It is NOT intended to be a comprehensive listing of all requirements in the new law.

Later Mandatory Actions to June 2018 are also briefly detailed.

[The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act: First Year Implementation Plan](#) (4 page pdf)

From: <https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/frank-r-lautenberg-chemical-safety-21st-century-act-2>

• USA TSCA Reform – Compromise Text Summary

USA 114th Congress: Committee on Energy and Commerce, Chairman Fred Upton.

This summary covers: **Existing Chemicals; New Chemicals; Chemical Testing; Chemical Reporting; Protection of Trade Secrets; State-Federal Relationship; Science; Fees; and Other Provisions.**

From: <https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules.house.gov/files/114/PDF/HR2576SA-OJCR-Summ.pdf> (4 pdf)

• USA OSHA Quick Takes e-News: June-Aug 2016

I've scanned through the 15 June 2016 – 15 August 2016 e-News and listed items about Hazardous Chemicals.

15 June 2016: **1/** New York rail equipment manufacturer fined \$105K for exposing workers to cancer-causing chemicals (including Silica, Lead, Nickel and Cadmium), & other hazards.

1 July 2016: **1/** OSHA promotes safety in fireworks industry in light of July 4 festivities. **2/** New online fact sheets address hazards related to agriculture and combustible dust. A fact sheet on [Protecting Workers from Combustible Dust Explosion Hazards](#) (2 page pdf) explains how to capture, contain and clean combustible dusts generated in a variety of workplaces.

15 July 2016: **1/** Michigan school district ordered to pay \$193K to worker punished for warning of asbestos exposures at city school. **2/** QuickCards offer guidance on protecting outdoor workers from [Zika Virus](#). Zika virus and pregnancy USA CDC information: www.cdc.gov/zika.

1 August 2016: **1/** Wisconsin shipyard faces nearly \$1.4M in penalties for exposing workers to Lead, and other hazards. USA OSHA inspectors showed the workers' had Lead levels up to 20 times the exposure limit. **2/** New York manufacturer fined \$197K after failing to correct combustible dust, explosion hazards despite 2015 fire. The manufacturer failed to correct [combustible dust hazards](#) involving its dust collection system.

15 August 2016: **1/** USA OSHA cites Georgia feed mill, contractors after dust explosion kills 1 and injures 5; **2/** New York company that exposed workers to Mercury poisoning fined \$142K.

From: www.osha.gov/as/opa/quicktakes/

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• Secondary Notification for CAS No. 134737-05-6

5 July 2016 NICNAS Gazette:

Polysiloxanes, di-Me, 3-[3-[(3-Coco Amidopropyl)Dimethylammonio]-2-Hydroxypropoxy]Propyl Group-Terminated, Acetates (Salts).

The polymer may also be known as Quaternium 80 and can have different chain lengths, and properties may differ with the varying chain lengths. All chain lengths of the polymer are covered by CAS No. 134737-05-6.

The original assessment (NA/103) (completed May 1993), assessed the use of this polymer in cosmetics, fabric softeners, corrosion inhibitors, plastic antistatic additives, pigment dispersants and fibre lubricants. Only ABIL Quat 3270 and Abil Quat 3272 were notified and assessed at the time of the original assessment.

Reasons for Secondary Notification: Secondary notification is required of all chain lengths of the polymer as new data indicates that the short-chain form of CAS No. 134737-05-6 (ABIL Quat 3270; NAMW ~1670) **is a skin sensitiser and has environmental toxicity**. Furthermore, the introduction volumes may have changed significantly since the polymer was first assessed, warranting a reassessment of the polymer.

All importers and manufacturers of the polymer and importers of products containing the polymer must:

– submit a [Form 1a-SN](#) – provide the information pursuant to section 65(4)

Secondary notification of the polymer should have been received by NICNAS no later than 2 August 2016.

For questions about the secondary notification process, please contact Dr Louise Whittell: Phone: +61 2 8577 8931

Email: TargetedAssessments.enquiries@nicnas.gov.au

From: <https://www.nicnas.gov.au/communications/publications/chemical-gazette/chemical-gazette-no.-c-07-tuesday,-05-july-2016/special-notice/secondary-notification2>

• IMAP Review 2016

11 July 2016: The [Inventory Multi-tiered Assessment and Prioritisation \(IMAP\) Framework Review](#) [April 2016, 65 page doc] was carried out to see if it had achieved its original purpose and to identify any areas for improvement.

The review has found that the IMAP framework has been very effective overall in accelerating high quality assessment outputs for chemicals. By the end of December 2015, NICNAS had published 4315 human health and/or environment assessments for a total of 3215 chemicals in fifteen tranches.

The IMAP framework has also been successful in supporting risk management of chemicals in Australia, with risk management measures implemented or being considered for a significant number of chemicals as a result of their assessment under the IMAP framework.

A number of opportunities to improve assessment and prioritisation processes have been identified. These improvements should contribute to a more robust and efficient framework that can be applied to the large number (approximately 34,000) of unassessed chemicals remaining on the AICS, for their potential effects on human health and the environment.

The findings described in this report have been grouped into six themes:

- Enhancing Chemical Safety Information;
- Supporting Effective Risk Management;
- Prioritisation and Deprioritisation of Chemicals for Assessment;
- Data Utilisation;
- Efficiency and Sustainability; and
- Quality and Best Practice.

From: <https://www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-review-2016>

• 18th Tranche IMAP Assessment Reports

1st July 2017: Tranche 18 Assessment Reports were published and are open for public comment.

<https://www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments/public-comment>

The Tranche 18 Assessment Reports can be viewed on the NICNAS website by clicking on the hyperlinked CAS No. or Group Assessment name below.

Comment on the assessment outcomes of IMAP—Tranche 18 reports, are invited by **22nd August 2016**.

Chemicals under 34 Tier II Health Classification Reports at: [https://www.nicnas.gov.au/ data/assets/excel_doc/0014/7061/Tier-II-HH-summary-all-tranches-published-1-July-2016.xlsx](https://www.nicnas.gov.au/data/assets/excel_doc/0014/7061/Tier-II-HH-summary-all-tranches-published-1-July-2016.xlsx)

16 HCIS Classifications are proposed to be amended; and 5 are being **considered for inclusion in the SUSMP**.

5 Chemicals are proposed for the SUSMP:

79-07-2	Acetamide, 2-Chloro-	S?
94-96-2	1,3-Hexanediol, 2-Ethyl-	S?
577-11-7	Butanedioic Acid, Sulfo-, 1,4-bis(2-Ethylhexyl) Ester, Sodium Salt	S?
24887-06-7	Zinc, bis(Hydroxymethanesulfonato-OS,O1)-, (T-4)	S?
27083-27-8 & 28757-47-3	Polihexanide	S?

Tier II Environmental Assessments where the chemicals are recommended for Tier III assessment.

[14 Benzalkyl Quaternary Ammonium Surfactants](#)

70 Chemicals proposed for a Tier III Health Assessment:

8 CAS No.s	Anionic Surfactants with limited data availability
14 CAS No.s	Azo Dyes that Cleave to Aromatic Amines of Potential Toxicological Concern
32 CAS No.s	Chemicals with limited data availability that may be used in hair dyes overseas
16 CAS No.s	Selected 2-Ethylhexyl Esters

There are 8 Tier III Health Classification Reports at:

[https://www.nicnas.gov.au/ data/assets/excel_doc/0019/30079/Tier-III-HH-summary-all-tranches-published-1-July-2016.xlsx](https://www.nicnas.gov.au/data/assets/excel_doc/0019/30079/Tier-III-HH-summary-all-tranches-published-1-July-2016.xlsx)

There are 3 where the HCIS or SUSMP classifications are proposed to be changed or amended.

75-12-7	Formamide	HCIS
109-99-9	Tetrahydrofuran	HCIS
872-50-4	1-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidinone	SUSMP

Editor: Once the classifications are amended on the Safework Australia HSIS & HCIL, this means that chemical products in Australia will need to be reclassified and SDSs and Labels amended. This may mean the Australian SWA classification is **not the same as the EU** (& other countries) classifications, so **creating differences** for world suppliers of what is needed specifically for Australia in their SDSs & on their labels.

Scheduled Medicines & Poisons

• Poisons Standard 1 July 2016: GHS Now Allowed

[SUSMP No. 13 \(Poisons Standard July 2016\)](#)

Please note that on the [Federal Register of Legislation](#) (FRL) Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) goes by its legal title, the **Poisons Standard Month Year** e.g. Poisons Standard July 2016.

Download from: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L00849/Download>

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L01071/Download>

(5.5Mb pdf 361 pages + 289 pages index)

1.5.4 Dispensary, Industrial, Laboratory and Manufacturing Poisons (1) The labelling requirements of this Standard do not apply to a poison that:

- is packed and sold solely for dispensary, industrial, laboratory or manufacturing purposes; and
- is labelled in accordance with requirements under applicable jurisdictional Work Health and Safety laws, as amended from time to time.

From: www.tga.gov.au/publication/poisons-standard-susmp

Editor: 1.5.4 (1) b) now allows GHS labelling to be used, so companies with products that are Poisons are now finally meeting the State/Territory Health Regulations. It has taken 4 years to get this administrative change made since to Poisons Standard secretariat was originally alerted!

• Scheduling Delegate's Final Decisions, June 2016

23 June 2016: Summary of Delegate's Final Decisions

[Crystal Violet and Related Dyes:](#)

Schedule 10 & Schedule 6 - New Entries

[Disperse Yellow 3](#)

Schedule 10 & Schedule 6 - New Entries

[Chrysoidine Base:](#)

Schedule 10 & Schedule 6 - New Entries

[p-Aminophenol:](#) Schedule 6 - New Entry

[2-Methylresorcinol:](#) Schedule 6 - New Entry

[2,4-Diamino-5-Methylphenetole:](#) Index new entry cross reference: PHENYLENEDIAMINES

[2-Chloro-5-Nitro-N-Hydroxyethyl P-Phenylenediamine:](#) Index new entry cross reference: PHENYLENEDIAMINES

[Bis-Isobutyl PEG/PPG-20/35/Amodimethicone Copolymer:](#)

Final decision has been deferred.

[Nonanoic acid \(NNA\):](#) Schedule 5 - New Entry

[Di-Bak Parkinsonia:](#) Schedule 5 - New Entries

[Isopyrazam:](#) Schedule 6 - New Entry

[4,5-Dichloro-2-N-Octyl-3\(2H\)-Isothiazolone:](#) Schedule 6 & Schedule 10 – Amended Entries

[Potassium Hydroxide and Sodium Hydroxide:](#) Schedule 6 – Amended Entries where “c) in liquid or semi-solid food additive preparations, the pH of which is more than 11.5, for domestic use” has been removed and reference to Schedule 10 added.

Note - Schedule 10: Substances of Such Danger to Health as to Warrant Prohibition of Sale, Supply and Use

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-decision-final/scheduling-delegates-final-decisions-june-2016

& Summary: www.tga.gov.au/book-page/1-summary-4

• Proposed Amendments to the Poisons Standard

4 Aug 2016: Some amendments for consideration at the Nov 2016 that caught the Editor's attention.

Melatonin: be exempt from scheduling (Sched 4) in preparations containing 1 mg or less of Melatonin.

Fennel Oil: proposed that a new Schedule 5 entry be created for Fennel Oil (active component of Fennel Oil - Methyl Chavicol).

Nicotine: An applicant has proposed to exempt Nicotine from Schedule 7 at ≤3.6% Nicotine for self-administration with an electronic Nicotine delivery system ('personal vapouriser' or 'electronic cigarette') for the purpose of tobacco harm reduction.

Comment closes 1 Sept 2016. Electronic submissions are preferred and should be emailed to medicines.Scheduling@tga.gov.au accompanied by a [TGA submission coversheet](#).

From: www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposed-amendments-poisons-standard-acms-meeting-november-2016

Food Chemical Issues

• FSANZ: Two Reports on Nanotechnology

Food Standards News June 2016: FSANZ has published two reports on the use of nanotechnology in food additives and food packaging.

Some of the key findings of the reports were:

- The weight of evidence of nanoscale Silicon Dioxide, Titanium Dioxide and Silver in food does not support claims of significant health risks for food grade materials.

- Titanium Dioxide and Silicon Dioxide are used internationally in a range of food products and have been used safely for decades. They are approved food additives in Australia and New Zealand. Silver is also an approved additive in Australia and New Zealand but is permitted in very few foods.

[Potential Health Risks Associated with Nanotechnologies in Existing Food Additives Report website: Report](#) (May 2016, 106p pdf)

[Nanotechnologies In Food Packaging Report website: Report](#) (May 2016, 75 page pdf)

Expert reaction to these Reports can be found on the Australian Science Media centre website at: <https://www.scimex.org/newsfeed/expert-reaction-fsan-z-releases-food-nanotech-safety-reports>

From: <http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=700bf5d7b419cc12102524e87&id=9d489f00ad>

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/foodtech/Pages/Reports-on-the-use-of-nanotechnology-in-food-additives-and-packaging.aspx

• **FSANZ: Monitoring of Folic Acid Fortification**

As part of its ongoing monitoring and surveillance responsibilities, FSANZ recently released three reports looking at the dietary intake of folic acid and iodine in Australia, as well as levels of thiamin in bread.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/science/monitoringnutrients/monitoringfort/Pages/default.aspx

• **Food Derived from Low THC Hemp Seeds: Call for Submissions**

28 July 2016: FSANZ called for submissions whether to permit the sale of food derived from the seeds of low THC Hemp.

FSANZ considers low THC hemp seed foods to be safe for human consumption. Moreover, they may provide a useful alternative dietary source of nutrients and polyunsaturated fatty acids, particularly omega-3 fatty acids.

The Australia and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation has asked FSANZ to consider a number of additional matters as part of this Proposal, including the need to set a Cannabidiol limit and policy advice on restricting the marketing and advertising of low THC Hemp as a food. FSANZ has responded to these matters in its call for submissions paper.

P1042 – Low THC Hemp Seeds as Food

[Call for submissions – 28 July 2016 \(27 page pdf\)](#). In this report, low THC varieties of Cannabis Sativa are referred to as low THC Hemp Varieties. FSANZ is satisfied that low THC Hemp seed foods are safe for consumption when they contain no more than the proposed Maximum Levels (MLs) of THC. FSANZ has also recognised that low THC hemp seed foods may provide a useful alternative dietary source of many nutrients and polyunsaturated fatty acids, particularly omega-3 fatty acids.

[Updated estimates of dietary exposure to THC & CBD \(14p pdf\)](#)

[Cannabidiol Hazard Profile \(8 page pdf\)](#). Cannabidiol (CBD), which is structurally related to delta 9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), is typically present in low THC hemp seed foods at levels in the low mg/kg range. The pharmacological properties of CBD, & its safety profile, have been the subject of extensive research, including studies in humans. In contrast to THC, CBD binds weakly to cannabinoid receptors & does not cause psychoactive effects. Studies in laboratory animals indicate the oral toxicity of CBD is low.

Closing date for Submissions is 25 August 2016.

FSANZ prefers that you lodge your Submissions online or by email to submissions@foodstandards.gov.au.

Online Submissions: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/changes/submission/Pages/default.aspx

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-food-derived-from-low-THC-hemp-seeds.aspx

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/P1042LowTHChemp.aspx

• **P1026 – Regulating Lupin as an Allergen**

16 June 2016: A proposal prepared to assess the risk management options to regulate food containing Lupin and Lupin-derived products as an allergen and FSANZ has prepared a draft food regulatory measure.

[Call for Submissions - 16 June 2016 \(22 page pdf\)](#)

From the Executive Summary: Lupin is a legume and is related to other legumes, Peanut and Soy, which have allergenic properties for some consumers. Lupin likewise has the potential to be an allergen, though in Australia and New Zealand, it is currently not as well-known or as prevalent an allergen as peanut or soy. In Europe, where Lupin is more widely used in food products, there has been mandatory allergen labelling for food products containing Lupin since 2007.

The use of Lupin-derived ingredients (such as flour, grits and bran) has increased in food products produced in Australia over the last few years, and the Lupin industry sees strong potential in the development of uses of various Lupin products in food. Lupin flour and bran are used in a variety of baked goods such as bread, muffins and cakes and pasta products. Historically, most of the Australian sweet lupin crop has been used for animal feed or exported. However, because of its high protein and fibre content, it is increasingly being used in food for people.

Submissions closed on 28 July 2016.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-mandatory-labelling-of-lupin.aspx

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/proposalp1026lupinas5830.aspx

• **Abandoned P298: Benzoate & Sulphite Permissions**

29 June 2016: FSANZ has abandoned Proposal P298 Benzoate & Sulphite Permissions in Food.

Originally, in August 2005, the purpose of this Proposal was to consider Benzoate and Sulphite permissions in all foods in response to findings of FSANZ's 21st Australian Total Diet Survey (in 2005), which found some population sub-groups in Australia consumed amounts in excess of the Acceptable Daily Intake levels.

Following further surveys and dietary exposure assessments FSANZ concluded there was no public health and safety concern for Benzoates. However, more work was identified for sulphites. An updated dietary exposure assessment for Sulphites indicated that Australian children aged 2-5 years and New Zealand boys aged 5-12 years who were high consumers of products containing Sulphites may be exceeding the ADI for Sulphites.

FSANZ's risk assessment, based on the best available scientific evidence currently available (in 2016), is that the ADI has been set too low. The risk characterization conclusion is that current levels of dietary Sulphite exposure in Australia and New Zealand are therefore unlikely to pose a risk for consumers, including children.

This view was supported by a Scientific Opinion on sulphites issued by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in April 2016. EFSA has recommended that that ADI be considered temporary pending the provision and evaluation of new toxicological data. Once new toxicological data is published, it will be possible to establish a new ADI. It is likely that JECFA will be asked to reconsider the group ADI for sulphites at that time as well.

EFSA 14 April 2016: More data on Sulfites needed to "Fully Confirm" Safety.

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/160414a>

14 April 2016: [Scientific Opinion on the re-evaluation of Sulphur Dioxide \(E220\), Sodium Sulfite \(E221\), Sodium Bisulfite \(E222\), Sodium Metabisulfite \(E223\), Potassium Metabisulfite \(E224\), Calcium Sulfite \(E226\), Calcium Bisulfite \(E227\), and Potassium Bisulfite \(E228\) as Food Additives](#)

FSANZ: [Draft Assessment Report \(Abandonment\) 29June2016 \(12 page pdf\)](#).

FSANZ: [Risk and Technical Assessment \(2016, 77 page pdf\)](#)

For Proposal P298 Benzoates & Sulphites Permissions in Food.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/proposalp298benzoate2973.aspx

• FSANZ: Irradiated Food Mandatory Labelling Reviewed

June 2016: In 2011 AU & NZ Ministers responsible for food regulation stated that it was timely to review the need for the mandatory labelling of irradiated food, and assess whether there is a more effective approach to communicate the safety and benefits of irradiation to consumers. FSANZ has undertaken this review, but was not asked for the Code to be changed, so no removal of the current irradiated food labelling requirement is being proposed at this time.

FSANZ expects the review report, investigating stakeholder understanding and views on food irradiation labelling, and identified economic and technical issues associated with the requirement, will be provided to the Governance Forum on Food Regulation in mid-2017.

A public comment Consultation Paper discussing these issues was released in January 2016 (closed 29 March 2016). [18 Jan 2016 Consultation Paper \(34 page pdf 670kb\)](#).

268 submissions on the Consultation Paper were received by FSANZ, plus 23 late comments.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/labelling/review/Pages/Labelling-review-recommendation-34irradiation-labelling.aspx

• A1090: Voluntary Addition of Vitamin D to Cereal

8 July 2016: Ministers responsible for food regulation asked for clarification including reference to the use of nutrition profiling tools or other initiatives to determine whether fortification permissions should be allowed for some foods.

FSANZ has assessed the effects of using a nutrition profiling calculator for Vitamin D fortification in breakfast cereals and called for submissions on that assessment.

A1090: Voluntary Addit'n of Vitamin D to Breakfast Cereal

[Review Consultation Paper – 8 July 2016 \(16 page pdf\)](#)

[Updated Ready-To-Eat Breakfast Cereal Consumption Information \(24 page pdf\)](#)

Submissions closed on 5 August 2016.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-review-of-vitamin-D-fortification-decision-.aspx

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1090-Addition-of-Vitamin-D-to-Breakfast-Cereal.aspx

• A1113: Use Ext'n - Propionates in Processed Meat

29 June 2016: FSANZ invited submissions on an application to extend approval for the use of Propionates in processed meat.

[Call for Submissions – Application A1113: Extension of the use of Propionates in Processed Meat \(16 page pdf\)](#). Permission is sought to extend the use of Propionic acid and its Calcium, Sodium and Potassium Salts (hereon collectively referred to as "Propionates"), to processed and processed comminuted meat, poultry and game products. The justification for the Application is to have alternative anti-microbial preservatives to limit microbial growth, in particular *Listeria monocytogenes* in processed meat, poultry and game products.

[A1113 Application \(19 page pdf, May 2015\)](#)

Submissions closed on 10 August 2016.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-the-use-of-propionates-in-processed-meat.aspx

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1113Propionates-in-Processed-Meat.aspx

• A1117: Use Ext'n - L-Cysteine as a Food Additive

29 June 2016: An Application to extend the use of the food additive, L-Cysteine, to limit enzymatic browning of cut avocado and banana and so extend the shelf life.

L-Cysteine Monohydrochloride is currently a permitted food additive for root and tuber vegetables (peeled, cut or both peeled and cut), but not for fruits.

L-Cysteine is an Amino Acid which occurs widely in dietary Proteins. In a normal diet, Amino Acids are ingested as components of food Proteins and not as free Amino Acids. Based on the Amino Acid composition of Soy Bean Protein, an intake of 100 g Protein per day is equivalent to an L-Cysteine intake of 2.2 g/day.

[Call for Submissions – 29 June 2016 \(14 page pdf\)](#)

Submissions closed on 10 August 2016.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-use-of-L-Cysteine-as-a-food-additive.aspx

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1117-L-cysteineasaFA.aspx

• A1115: Irradiation of Blueberries & Raspberries

29 June 2016: The purpose of the Application is to seek permission to irradiate blueberries and raspberries for phytosanitary purposes against fruit flies and other critical plant pests, at levels between 150 Gray (Gy) and 1 kGy.

FSANZ Chief Executive Officer Mr Steve McCutcheon said the NSW Department of Primary Industries had applied for permission to use irradiation as an alternative treatment to chemicals. "FSANZ has reviewed the evidence on the safety of these irradiated fruits and found they are safe to eat." "The literature also shows the level of irradiation being proposed won't reduce the nutritional quality of the fruits," Mr McCutcheon said.

Food irradiation is used in more than 50 countries to destroy bacteria and pests and to extend the shelf life of food. It has been used to treat food including fruits since the late 1950s.

[Call for Submissions – 29 June 2016 \(18 page pdf\)](#)

From Executive Summary: Permitting the irradiation of these fruits will allow increased domestic and international trade as there are rigorous requirements in place for an appropriate and efficacious treatment for fruit fly for quarantine purposes. In the past, phytosanitary measures for these foods have primarily involved the use of the chemicals dimethoate and/or fenthion. However, since the use of dimethoate and fenthion for this purpose has been restricted, other options such as irradiation need to be considered.

Food irradiation fulfils its intended technological function and is an appropriate and efficacious treatment for fruit fly for quarantine purposes.

There are negligible risks to public health and safety associated with the consumption of blueberries & raspberries which have been irradiated at up to a maximum of 1 kGy.

Submissions closed on 10 August 2016.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-irradiation-of-blueberries-and-raspberries.aspx

And: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1115IrradiationBlueberriesandRaspberries.aspx

• A1132: Broaden Definition of Steviol Glycosides

15 July 2016: The purpose of Application A1132 is to expand the definition of Steviol Glycosides (SG) for use as an intense sweetener, to include all Steviol Glycosides present in the Stevia Rebaudiana leaf. The Applicant is seeking a changed approach to the permissions for a currently permitted food additive.

[16 May 2016 Executive Summary \(14 page pdf 83 kb\)](#)

"Currently as listed in Schedule 3 – Purity and Identity of *The Code*, Steviol Glycosides are a mixture comprising not less than 95% of the 10 named Steviol Glycosides, which include Rebaudioside A, Rebaudioside B, Rebaudioside C, Rebaudioside D, Rebaudioside F, Rebaudioside M, Stevioside, Dulcoside A, Rubusoside, and Steviolbioside."

"The number of Steviol Glycosides that have been identified in the *Stevia Rebaudiana* plant has now increased to approximately 40, including the 10 above named Steviol Glycosides (major Steviol Glycosides) that currently are permitted for use in Steviol Glycoside preparations in Australia and New Zealand."

The Applicant "is seeking to expand the definition of Steviol Glycosides to include all Steviol Glycosides present in *Stevia Rebaudiana* (*S. Rebaudiana*) (i.e., Steviol Conjugated with Glucose, Rhamnose, Xylose, Fructose, Deoxyglucose and/or other sugar moieties in any orientation, quantity, or combination) and gain approval for the use of SG mixtures for use as an intense sweetener in food and beverage applications in Australia and New Zealand."

"SG mixtures are intended for use as natural, low-calorie, high-intensity sweeteners that offer numerous technological advantages and benefits to consumers and are suitable for use by individuals with diabetes, as well as others who follow a low-glycaemic diet. However, in comparison to existing steviol glycoside preparations containing only major steviol glycosides, SG mixtures provide improved flavour and taste characteristics in various foods."

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1132Definition-of-Steviol-Glycosides.aspx

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

• APVMA: Dimethoate Chemical Review

23 June 2016 APVMA Reg Update: The revised [Dimethoate Residues and Dietary Risk Assessment Report](#) is now available from the APVMA website.

Dimethoate "(O,O-Dimethyl S-Methylcarbamoyl Methyl Phosphorodithioate)" is an organophosphorus insecticide and Acaricide used in agriculture and the home garden to control insects and mites.

The Report has been updated to include information and residues data; and consideration of requests for alternative use patterns, that were submitted to the APVMA Reconsideration of Dimethoate since August 2011.

Feedback relevant to the Report can be sent ChemicalReview@apvma.gov.au. The Reconsideration of Dimethoate is due for completion before 1 March 2017. Proposals to amend Label Directions to address any identified concerns will also be considered.

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/12496> (Chemical Review)

&: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20376> (Reg Update 23 June 16)

• APVMA: Neonicotinoids are Safe to Use as Directed

5 July 2016: The APVMA's chemical risk assessment process includes consideration of detailed data across broad scientific fields which include toxicology, impacts on non-target and native plants and animals, worker health and safety, residues in crops and food producing animals and also whether the product is effective. The impact on the environment is part of every scientific assessment for any new Active approval or Product registration.

All Neonicotinoids registered for use in Australia have been through this robust chemical risk assessment process and are safe to use—provided they are used as per the label instructions.

IF the APVMA becomes aware of new information to indicate that frogs are specifically affected by neonicotinoids, then the information would be examined based on:

- the scientific merits of that information
- an assessment of whether product labels would need to be changed to mitigate risks
- reconsideration of the chemical - IF evidence is provided that risks need to be addressed.

Current information from the Federal Dept of the Environment and the Qld Environment & Heritage Protection Dept do not indicate that frog populations are declining or that there is any new information regarding an affect by Neonicotinoids on the conservation and wellbeing of frog populations.

Based on current scientific evidence, a formal reconsideration of the Neonicotinoids is not currently proposed by the APVMA.

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20436>

• APVMA: Active Constituent Annual Reporting

From July 2016 the APVMA has resumed the collection of data on amounts of Active Constituents imported, manufactured and exported each financial year -commencing with the financial year 2015–2016.

Active Constituent approval holders and Product registrants are required to report amounts of Active Constituents they:

- import, manufacture or export for (or are intended for) the manufacture of Agricultural and Veterinary (agvet) chemical products
- import, manufacture or export which are contained in formulated agvet chemical products.

Information for the 2015 - 2016 year is required by the end of September 2016.

The APVMA has developed an [Online Reporting System](#).

For Info: enquiries@apvma.gov.au; Phone: +61-2-6210-4701

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/18326>

• APVMA: Confidential Commercial Information

5 July 2016: The Federal Court decision on 10 June 2016 confirmed the importance of the APVMA's obligations to appropriately protect Confidential Commercial Information (CCI) about a reference product when assessing product registration applications.

There are a range of Applications that nominate a reference product. The APVMA is considering how to best manage these applications in a way which protects the interests of all parties and provides assurance that reference product CCI is not disclosed.

The Federal Court decision also outlined that the APVMA should provide applicants with an opportunity to comment on any proposed re-categorisation for assessment of their applications. The APVMA will commence this process now.

More information about the Federal Court decision on 10 June 2016 is available [here](#). The Decision: The Court Orders were that the APVMA's decision to re-categorise the two Applications be quashed and that the APVMA is to proceed with determining the Applications according to the law.

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20431>

• APVMA: Low Regulatory Concern System - Pilot

July 2016: The APVMA has developed a new fast track registration system to quickly process Applications of Low Regulatory Concern.

The system aims to reduce regulatory burden by:

- accelerating approvals
- reducing the number of detailed assessments
- increasing capacity for Applications that require more detailed consideration.

This system is being rolled out as a 'pilot' for Repack (item 8) Applications where the applicant is referencing their own product and there is no protected data with the reference product. Following the Pilot Study, It is expected that this fast track capability will be expanded over time.

The pilot is available from 29 July 2016 until 31 Dec 2016.

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20501>

And: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20276>

• APVMA Checks Product Labels are Correct

30 May 2016: Over the past year, labels for products containing Carbendazim, Dichlorvos, Diuron, Carbaryl, Dimethoate and Haloxypop have been checked as part of the APVMA's [Proactive Monitoring of Compliance](#) for agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

Nearly 200 products were checked which has resulted in two compulsory product recalls, the discovery of eight significant label errors, and over 60 minor issues which were brought to the attention of product owners.

The labels on the containers of the two recalled products did not include changes required after a chemical review and the products had to be relabelled before they could be legally supplied again.

Minor issues were discovered with 60 per cent of labels checked, including:

- incorrect pack sizes
- failure to include date of manufacture, and
- label layout errors
- incorrect particulars.

[More information on compliance & monitoring by the APVMA.](#)

From: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20346>

And: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/20256>

• APVMA Active Constituent: Mandestrobin

New active constituent, Mandestrobin for use as a fungicide in agricultural end-use products.

Common Name: Mandestrobin; Chemical Name: 2-[(2,5-Dimethylphenoxy)methyl]- α -Methoxy-N-Methylbenzene Acetamide; CAS No: 173662-97-0; Minimum Purity: 940 g/kg; Formula: C₁₉H₂₃NO₃; MW: 313.39; Chemical Family: Strobilurin fungicides; Mode of action: Fungicide. The R-isomer Mandestrobin inhibits mitochondrial fungal respiration.

The Office of Chemical Safety (OCS) has completed a toxicological evaluation of Mandestrobin.

Based on the toxicity profile of the active constituent and the product, the Delegate of the Secretary of the Department of Health made a Delegate-only decision, listing Mandestrobin in **Schedule 5** of the SUSMP with an exemption cut-off for preparations containing $\leq 25\%$ of Mandestrobin.

The OCS has indicated that there are no objections on toxicological grounds to the approval of the active constituent Mandestrobin. The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed importation and use of Mandestrobin would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

Enquiries: Director Chemistry and Manufacture, Scientific Assessments and Chemical Review Program, APVMA. Phone: 02 6210 4936, Email: Chemistry@apvma.gov.au

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 12 July 2016 p19-21

<http://apvma.gov.au/node/20446>

• APVMA Active Constituent: Flupyradifurone

New active constituent, Flupyradifurone for use as a systemic insecticide in agricultural end-use products.

Common Name: Flupyradifurone; Chemical Name: 2-(5H)-Furanone, 4-[[[6-Chloro-3-Pyridinyl)methyl](2,2-Difluoroethyl) Amino]-; CAS No: 951659-40-8; Minimum Purity: 960 g/kg; Formula: C₁₂H₁₁ClF₂N₂O₂; MW: 288.68; Chemical Family: Butenolide insecticides; Mode of action: Systemic insecticide. Flupyradifurone cannot be inactivated by acetylcholinesterase resulting in a disorder of the nervous system of the insect and subsequent death of the treated insects.

The Office of Chemical Safety (OCS) has completed a toxicological evaluation of Flupyradifurone.

The Delegate to the Secretary of the Department of Health created a new **Schedule 6** listing for Flupyradifurone without schedule exemptions.

The OCS has indicated that there are no objections on toxicological grounds to the approval of the active constituent Flupyradifurone.

The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed importation and use of Flupyradifurone would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

Enquiries: Director Chemistry & Manufacture, Scientific Assessments & Chemical Review Program, APVMA. Phone: 02 6210 4936, Email: Chemistry@apvma.gov.au

*From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 26 July 2016 p23-25
<http://apvma.gov.au/node/20481>*

• APVMA Active Constituent: Cloquintocet Acid

cloquintocet acid

New active constituent, Cloquintocet Acid for use as a herbicide safener in combination with grass-active herbicides, to accelerate detoxification of Clodinafop-Propargyl in cereals.

Common Name: Cloquintocet Acid; Chemical Name: 2-[(5-Chloro-8-Quinolinyloxy)Acetic Acid; CAS No: 88349-88-6; Minimum Purity: 956 g/kg; Formula: C₁₁H₈ClNO₃; MW: 237.6; Chemical Family: Herbicide safener; Mode of action: Used as a herbicide safener in combination with grass-active herbicides. It accelerates the detoxification process of Clodinafop-Propargyl in cereals.

The Office of Chemical Safety (OCS) has completed a toxicological evaluation of Cloquintocet Acid.

The Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling (ACCS) considered Cloquintocet Acid to be appropriate for inclusion in **Schedule 5** of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).

The OCS has indicated that there are no objections on toxicological grounds to the approval of the active constituent Cloquintocet Acid.

The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed importation and use of Flupyradifurone would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

Enquiries: Director Chemistry and Manufacture, Scientific Assessments and Chemical Review Program, APVMA. Ph: 02 6210 4936, Email: Chemistry@apvma.gov.au

*From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 26 July 2016 p26-28
<http://apvma.gov.au/node/20481>*

Dangerous Goods

• ADG Code 7.4: 28 June 2016 Update

I am highlighting some changes relevant to everyone in the Australian Dangerous Goods Code 7.4 28 June 2016 update.

1/ IF the 1st character of the calculated Hazchem Code is 2 or 3, where one or more of the individual Hazchem Codes has an alcohol resistant bullet, include an alcohol resistant bullet in the multi-load Hazchem Code. However, if the 1st character is 4 **do not include** a bullet (on the basis that 4 indicates that a dry agent must be used).

2/ The Code Chart for determination of emergency action codes for multi-loads C2.7.2.1 has had the left side of the Chart corrected to PRSTWXYZ.

3/ A crucial layout change (not mentioned in the 30 June 2016 update document) is under 9.1.2 for **Table 9.1: Incompatibility based on Classification**

The Compatible or Incompatible Classes & Divisions Table, which was stretched over an un-useable 3 pages, has been returned to the original 1 page table as in ADG7.3, so is now immediately useable again!

You can download the 28 June 2016 ADG Code 7.4 the ADG Code changes between Dec 2016 and June 2016 at:

[Final Code 7.4 Update for ELO June 28 2016](#) (1108 page pdf)

[ADGC changes between Dec 2015 & June 2016](#) (5 page pdf)

From: www.ntc.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/safety/australian-dangerous-goods-code/

• Draft ADG Code 7.5: Key Changes

The Draft Australian Dangerous Goods Code, Edition 7.5 incorporates the latest 19th Edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods Model Regulations.

The Draft ADG Code 7.5 includes introduction of a **Concessional Limited Quantities (CLQ)** Dangerous Goods sub-category, which is:

- Limited Quantity household and personal care substances (e.g. acetone; perfume; hydrogen peroxide; aerosols; paint)
- Domestic consumables Dangerous Goods (e.g. sparklers; domestic smoke detectors; lighters and refills; portable fire extinguishers ≤23kg gross weight) and

- Dangerous Goods determined by the Competent Authorities Panel (CAP) to be CLQ Goods (note: there are no CAP determined CLQ Goods as at July 2016). (18 August – advised the CAP CLQ determinations are deferred)

It introduces of a **Simplified CLQ Transportation Document** (which can be used throughout the transport process, regardless of the level of consolidation and regardless of whether a placard is present)

It introduces a **Two Tonne Placard Limit** for all limited quantities substances (currently one tonne). Loads of only Limited Quantities Dangerous Goods will be able to use the Limited Quantities Placard. Loads of Limited Quantities and other Dangerous Goods will be able to use the Multi Load Placard.

A **Retail Distribution Package (RDP)** is introduced for small packages of household, personal care or domestic consumables products packed and segregated in accordance with the Chapter 3.4 of the Code; where the majority of the volume or mass of the package are non Dangerous Goods items and; where the weight or volume of the outer package is no greater than to 10kg.

The proposed new provisions relating to RDPs will enable small quantities of household and personal care limited quantities in mixed packages to be transported as general freight. This is designed primarily for direct sellers and online retailers who send packages directly to consumers. The proposed new requirements will reduce the regulatory burden on these consigners and transport operators.

(18 August – advised the RDP introduction is deferred)

In addition to the LQ changes, the Draft ADG Code 7.5 makes a number of minor technical or other amendments to the Code including the correction of drafting errors, updating of cross references and clarification of identified ambiguities.

e.g. "Ammunition, Smoke" caught my attention: **SP204** Articles containing smoke producing substance(s) corrosive according to the criteria for Class 8 must be labelled with a "CORROSIVE" Subsidiary Risk label (Model No.8, see 5.2.2.2.2).

Added: Articles containing smoke-producing substance(s) toxic by inhalation according to the criteria for Division 6.1 shall be labelled with a "TOXIC" subsidiary risk label (Model No 6.1, see 5.2.2.2.2), except that those manufactured before 31 December 2016 may be transported until 1 January 2019 without a "TOXIC" subsidiary label.

3.3.3 Australian Special Provisions caught my attention:

SP AU02 GAS OIL or DIESEL OIL or HEATING OIL, LIGHT or PETROLEUM DISTILLATE is not subject to this Code if it does not meet the criteria of Chapter 2.3 for assignment to Class 3; i.e. if the flash point is more than 60oC and the substance is not offered for transport at a temperature above its flash point. ***This means that such substances are not covered by this Code even though they may meet criteria for regulation in another part of the Code – for example Environmentally Hazardous Substance under UN 3082.*** (the proposed addition is Bolded and in Italics)

Such substances will normally be C1 combustible liquids which are not classified as dangerous goods for transport purposes. However, the presence of a C1 combustible liquid in one or more compartments of a tank vehicle or portable tank transporting other refined petroleum products must be considered when determining the application of UN Number 1270 in accordance with 3.2.5.4 and 5.3.1.3.3.

Public Consultation of the proposed Australian Dangerous Goods Code 7.5 **closed on Tuesday 9 Aug 2016.**

For more details: Philippa Thode, Senior Policy Analyst, NTC, Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000, ph: (03) 9236 5017 email: PThode@ntc.gov.au

The proposed ADG Code 7.5, an Overview of the Changes, and Public Submissions are still on the NTC website at:

www.ntc.gov.au/current-projects/australian-dangerous-goods-code-maintenance/

• Editor's Comments: Draft ADG 7.5 Key Changes

I have made a Public Submission to the NTC on the Draft ADG Code 7.5 and the Model Subordinate Law mentioned in the NTC Overview of Proposed Amendments document (July 2016). My comments and issues follow.

Editor: 1/ The area of Limited Quantity household and personal care substances; and domestic consumables Dangerous Goods appears to be reasonably organised with the draft ADG Code 7.5 changes, in particular final delivery by couriers to domestic premises & consolidation by transport operators for long haul transport around Australia, now seems achievable for these types of LQ Dangerous Goods.

My issues are for the Industrial Chemicals that should be managed as LQ Dangerous Goods under the proposed amendments:

Editor: 2/ In direct response to the Proposed Amendments my suggestions below for the Dangerous Goods in 3/, 4/ & 5/ below will be part of the **Competent Authority Panel (CAP) determination process to decide if Dangerous Goods submitted for determination are** Concessional Limited Quantities (CLQ) Dangerous Goods. In my opinion this will create the need for a Panel of Dangerous Goods Classification and Reactive Hazards specialists (managed by the CAP) to consider each submission. This CAP managed Panel of specialists may create a difficult, time consuming, and expensive process that may not meet (in a timely & low cost manner), the needs of industry wanting to transport their products as CLQ Dangerous Goods.

To reduce the CAP managed review Panel costs I suggest that Packing Group III UN LQs should be included directly as CLQs with no CAP review process. IF not agreed then a CAP managed review Panel needs to include the Dangerous Goods in 3/, 4/ & 5/.

Reason: Packing Group III CLQ Dangerous Goods will enable a significant quantity and variety of Dangerous Goods to be transported as Concessional Limited Quantities Dangerous Goods in Australia, so that our Australian Carriers and Emergency Services can gain the experience from incidents that involve these lower hazard CLQ PG III Dangerous Goods. In future the full

and will also be provided as advance information in a new Attachment 4 to the 2017-2018 Edition of the Technical Instructions. Based on comments received, additional changes may be considered before making the provisions mandatory.

ICAO's Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) (Doc 10004) identifies the recruitment and retention of qualified personnel and continued investment in initiatives that develop and enhance the skills of the aviation workforce as a key component towards success in achieving its objectives. This "investing in people" approach enables advances in both educational and training programmes to ensure that employees have the skills necessary to operate the international aviation system safely as it undergoes significant growth and change. The introduction of ICAO provisions that enable more systematic training methodologies include competency-based training and assessment.

From: www.icao.int/safety/DangerousGoods/Pages/NewTrainingProvisions0630-4506.aspx

• NFPA Webinar: Lithium Ion Battery Systems

19 April 2016: Hazard Assessment of Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems, NFPA Webinar, 1hr 41min.

Currently standards developers, authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs), emergency responders, and the ESS industry do not have a clear direction regarding the hazards of ESS installations and have few, if any, technical studies, reports, or scientific literature to rely upon when making decisions regarding the safe installation of these systems. The Hazard Assessment of Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage System Webinar summarizes a literature review and gap analysis related to Li-ion battery ESSs, as well as full-scale fire testing of 100 kWh Li-ion battery ESSs.

<https://youtu.be/vC9wchFu54w>

From: www.nfpa.org/training-and-events/by-type/webinars/webinar-archive

• UN Manual of Tests & Criteria, 6th Revised Edition

Reissued on 17-02-2016 with the February 2016 Corrigendum included.

The "Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria" supplement the "Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations" and the "Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)". They contain criteria, test methods and procedures to be used for the classification of dangerous goods according to the provisions of Parts 2 and 3 of the Model Regulations, as well as of chemicals presenting physical hazards according to the GHS.

From: www.unece.org/trans/areas-of-work/dangerous-goods/legal-instruments-and-recommendations/un-manual-of-tests-and-criteria/rev6-files.html

Editor: A particular change for Calcium Nitrate Tetrahydrate that was brought to my attention is on pages 388, 393 and 402. In particular where test results for 1050 D50

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

• Aust Govt: Plan for a Cleaner Environment

The Australian Govt Dept of Environment (now Dept of the Environment & Energy) has released a brochure

[Plan for a Cleaner Environment](#) (20 page pdf)

"This brochure outlines how the four pillars of our environment plan—Clean Air, Clean Land, Clean Water and Heritage Protection, as well as our renewed support for innovation and a 20 year strategy for Antarctica—have contributed to the Government's vision of a great society by protecting and improving our environment for future generations."

"Together, we are tackling climate change through successful policies including the Emissions Reduction Fund and Safeguard Mechanism, Renewable Energy Target, National Energy Productivity Plan, vehicle emission measures, a phase down in Hydrofluorocarbon emissions and new support for innovation."

From Minister for the Environment, Greg Hunt at:

www.environment.gov.au/cleaner-environment/plan-2016

• NZ EPA Paint Rules

1 July 2016: Antifouling paints containing the chemicals Diuron, Ochtihlone and Ziram will no longer be imported or made in New Zealand from 1 July 2017.

The NZ EPA also gave another antifouling paint chemical, Thiram, a time-limited approval of 10 years. It means that paint containing this ingredient will no longer be imported or made in New Zealand after 1 July 2023. The ban will not affect stocks still in existence or being used after that date.

Since 1 July 2015 all antifouling paints must carry label advice on controls relating to their use and application, as well as information about disposing of old paint from boats, used paint cans, rollers, trays, gloves and coveralls.

[Information Sheet: New requirements for Manufacturers and Importers of Antifouling Paints](#) (Oct 2013, 10 page pdf)

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news/epa-media-releases/Pages/EPA-paint-rules-help-keep-New-Zealand-cleaner.aspx

And: www.epa.govt.nz/publications-resources/publications/Newsletters/hs-update/ select July 16

• NZ EPA Notice: Disposal of Hazardous Substances

The consultation period for NZ EPA proposals to change the rules for managing the disposal of hazardous substances closed on 22 August 2016.

The NZ EPA Hazardous Substances (Disposal) Notice aims to simplify and consolidate the way hazardous substances are managed in an update NZ EPA Hazardous Substances (Disposal) Notice.

[Proposal for a NZ EPA Notice for Disposal of Hazardous Substances July 2016 Consultation document \(52 page pdf\)](#)

From: www.epa.govt.nz/consultations/hazardous-substances/Pages/Submissions-sought-on-changes-to-rules-for-disposal-of-hazardous-substances.aspx

Editor: It is interesting to read and compare to our AU Regs.

• NZ: Free Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Disposal

From the end of December this year, polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs – which are serious environmental pollutants – will be banned in New Zealand.

PCB disposal is being managed by Waste Management Technical Services (WMTS) and is being funded by the Government. To arrange for free disposal of any PCBs still being held in New Zealand, contact WMTS by phoning 0800 PCB WASTE or visit their WMTS website www.freepcbdisposal.co.nz before 31 August 2016. The last shipment of PCBs for destruction overseas will happen late in September 2016.

For queries about PCBs, email: hscompliance@epa.govt.nz

From: www.epa.govt.nz/publications-resources/publications/Newsletters/hs-update/ select July 16

• New Gas for Fridges & Air Conditioners in NZ

18 July 2016: The NZ EPA are seeking submissions on an application to import a heat transfer gas to be used for refrigeration and air conditioning.

The gas – HFO-1234yf – is for use in refrigeration and air conditioning systems in commercial and domestic settings, including in cars. It has a much lower global warming potential and better energy performance than existing HFC and HCHC refrigerants, breaks down rapidly in the environment, and is not ozone depleting.

Because HFO-1234yf is a flammable gas, the EPA is seeking submissions from the refrigerant industry and other parties about managing the flammability risks.

Submissions Close: 29 August 2016. Application APP202547:

www.epa.govt.nz/search-databases/Pages/applications-details.aspx?appID=APP202547 (Summary 6 page pdf)

From: www.epa.govt.nz/publications-resources/publications/Newsletters/hs-update/ select July 16

• Report: Highly Hazardous Pesticides in the Pacific

11 August 2016: This Highly Hazardous Pesticides in the Pacific is a result of research undertaken by the non-government organisations: National Toxics Network, PAN Aotearoa New Zealand, and PAN Asia Pacific, and is the first step in helping Pacific island countries and territories identify Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) in use and as a starting point to help develop a strategy for their phase out in line with the 2015 resolution by the FAO, UNEP and WHO to address the global removal of HHPs.

[Highly Hazardous Pesticides In Pacific Report](#) (47 page pdf)

HHPs are identified, based on the criteria developed by FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM) criteria, & on the additional criteria developed by Pesticide Action Network (PAN). Special attention is drawn to the Pesticides listed or undergoing review for listing under the Stockholm (www.pops.int) & Rotterdam (www.pic.int) Conventions

From: www.ntn.org.au/pacific-neighbours/new-report-highly-hazardous-pesticides-in-the-pacific

• Microbeads in Products and the Environment

July 2016: Once in the water, plastic Microbeads have the potential to cause harm in the environment and to human health due to their composition, ability to attract toxins and to transfer up the food chain. Microbeads persist in the environment as they do not readily biodegrade and are almost impossible to remove from the environment due to their size. The best way to reduce their impact is to prevent them from entering the environment.

Environment Ministers from all Australian State, Territory and Federal governments agreed to work towards a voluntary agreement from industry to phase out Microbeads in personal care, cosmetic and cleaning products by 1 July 2018.

[Plastic Microbeads in Products & the Environment](#) (12p pdf)

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/microbeads.htm

• NSW EPA: Williamtown RAAF Base Contamination

8 August 2016: On 8 August 2016 the Commonwealth Department of Defence (Defence) released its [Human Health Risk Assessment \(HHRA\)](#) (8 Aug 2016 13 page pdf) examining possible pathways for human exposure to PFAS arising from contamination at the Williamtown RAAF Base. Defence has also released an [Environmental Site Assessment](#) (30 June 2016 11 page pdf), which includes modelling to predict the movement of the of the PFAS chemicals.

These reports confirm that the precautionary advice, fishing closures and investigation area identified in October 2015 are appropriate and provide the best advice to residents to minimise their exposure to PFAS chemicals.

The reports also reinforce that the drinking or consumption of groundwater is a major exposure pathway for contamination and highlights that incidental swallowing, particularly by children, should be avoided when showering, bathing and swimming in groundwater or surface water.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/MediaInformation/williamtown.htm

The "July 2016" Full Reports (and their Executive Summaries) are available from: www.defence.gov.au/id/Williamtown/Documents.asp. Note:

The Human Health Risk Assessment Full Report is 1 part and is 75 Mb. [Vol 1 \(4191 page pdf\)](#). The Environmental Site Assessment Full Report (30 June 2016) is in 3 parts and totals 225 Mb. [Vol 1 \(1658 page pdf\)](#); [Vol 2 \(4677 page pdf\)](#); [Vol 3 \(228 page pdf\)](#).

Media Release: 8 August 2016 - Human Health Risk Assessment & Environmental Site Assessment reports confirm Precautionary Advice will remain for Williamtown residents.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia16080801.htm

• Williamtown NSW Risk Assessments, July 2016

Context of the **Off-Site Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA)** RAAF Base Williamtown NSW Stage 2B Environmental Investigation Report:

- represents multiple pathway HHRA to evaluate the potential human health risks to identified receptors within the Off-Site Stage 2B Investigation Area from PFAS contamination
- includes consideration of direct contact exposures to environmental media (e.g. soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment) as well as secondary exposures via dietary intakes, including seafood and home-grown plant and animal produce
- assesses potentially complete exposure pathways identified through community surveys.

Context of the **Ecological Risk Assessment (in preparation)**, RAAF Base Williamtown Stage 2B Environmental Investigation Report, which will:

- assess the potential risk from PFAS contamination to ecological receptors present in habitats in the Stage 2B Investigation Area
- assess the potential for wider ecosystem impacts to result from the accumulation of PFAS in terrestrial and aquatic organisms exposed to Site-derived contamination.

From: www.defence.gov.au/id/Master/docs/Williamtown/HHRAReports/2016HHRA-ExecutiveSummary.pdf

• Ozone Protection & Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Mgmt

14 July 2016: The Minister for the Environment announced a review of the Programme on 24 May 2014. The review had two objectives:

1. Identify opportunities to reduce emissions of ozone depleting substances and synthetic greenhouse gases in line with international efforts.
2. Identify opportunities to improve and streamline its operation, including reducing regulatory compliance costs.

[April 2016: Measures to achieve Emissions Reduction and Efficiency and Effectiveness gains in the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Programme \(26 page pdf\)](#)

On 5 May 2016 the Australian Government decided on a range of measures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Programme. The measures will further reduce emissions of ozone depleting substances and synthetic greenhouse gases and reduce business costs.

[Outcomes of the Review of the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Programme \(2p pdf\)](#)

From: www.environment.gov.au/protection/ozone/legislation/opsggm-review

• Qld: Firefighting Foam Environmental Management

July 2016: Environmental Management of Firefighting Foam Policy Explanatory Notes ([Revision 2.2](#)).

This version of the Explanatory Notes has been updated to reflect the additional review of recent and rapidly evolving scientific literature, input of expert opinion and expansion of some sections according to issues raised in stakeholder consultation.

There has been very significant evidence emerging in recent years regarding the potential for all types of firefighting foams to have immediate and long-term detrimental effects on environmental and other values during operational incidents, training, maintenance activities and waste disposal when handled improperly resulting in releases of foam to the environment to bodies of water, soils and groundwater.

From: www.ehp.qld.gov.au/assets/documents/regulation/firefighting-foam-policy-notes.pdf (85 page pdf)

• Australia: National Greenhouse Gas Inventory

August 2016: The three volumes of Australia's *National Inventory Report 2014 (revised)* and the Revised Initial Report were submitted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol in August 2016.

The *National Inventory Report 2014 (revised)* contains national greenhouse gas emission estimates for the period 1990-2014 compiled under the rules for reporting applicable to the UNFCCC and under the Kyoto Protocol.

- [Volume 1: Includes Australia's data for Energy \(stationary energy, transport and fugitive emissions\), Industrial Processes and Product Use, and Agriculture \(367 page pdf\)](#)
- [Volume 2: Australia's data for the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry \(LULUCF\) and Waste Sectors, Recalculations and Improvements \(283 page pdf\)](#)
- [Volume 3: Australia's data for Kyoto Protocol LULUCF, Kyoto Protocol accounting requirements, glossary and references \(263 page pdf\)](#)
- [Australia's Revised Initial Report – Kyoto Protocol Second Commitment Period \(12 page pdf\)](#)

From: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/greenhouse-gas-measurement/publications/national-inventory-report-2014-revised

• Bulk Hydrofluorocarbon Imports Phase Down

The Australian Government will phase down Bulk Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) imports from 2018 through new measures outlined in the recent [Review of the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Programme](#).

The HFC phase-down has been developed with industry, which supports the phase-down as it benefits the environment and provides long-term investment certainty. The HFC phase-down also places Australia in a strong position to meet likely future international obligations under the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*.

Fact Sheet: [Outcomes of the Review of the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Programme \(2p pdf\)](#)

From: www.environment.gov.au/protection/ozone/legislation/opsqgm-review/hfc-phase-out-faqs

• Consultation: Coal Mine Waste Gas Method Variation

2 August 2016: Emissions Reduction Fund Coal mine waste gas method variation released for public consultation.

The proposed variation expands the coverage of the existing method by recognising emission reductions delivered through the use of Ventilation Air Methane (VAM) oxidation devices.

VAM oxidation is a process that converts VAM (very low concentration methane) into carbon dioxide. This helps to reduce Australia's national emissions because carbon dioxide is a less potent greenhouse gas than methane. Many of these VAM oxidation devices are also able to produce electricity.

The proposed changes will provide projects with the potential to unlock substantial new sources of abatement. In 2012, VAM emissions accounted for up to 60 per cent (approximately 12.7 million tonnes) of fugitive emissions from Australian underground coal mines.

There are other proposed changes, including amendments to abatement calculations.

[Coal Mine Waste Gas Variation 2016: Consultation Draft \(57 page pdf\)](#)

[Coal Mine Waste Gas Variation 2016: Draft Explanatory Statement \(9 page pdf\)](#)

Consultation closes Monday 29 August 2016.

From: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/emissions-reduction-fund/methods/coal-mine-waste-gas

Standards & Codes

• Stds – www.saiglobal.com/search-publications/

[ISO 2719:2016](#): Determination of Flash Point - Pensky-Martens closed cup method. Published 16 June 2016, 22 pages, pdf (personal use): \$167.90; Hardcopy: \$186.55.

[ISO 765:2016](#): Pesticides considered not to require common names. Published 25 July 2016, 122 pages, pdf (personal use): \$281.72; Hardcopy: \$313.03.

• Drafts – www.saiglobal.com/search-publications/

[DR AS 3961:2016](#): The Storage and Handling of Liquefied Natural Gas. Published 8 July 2016, 56 pages, pdf (copy/paste): Free; Hardcopy: \$44.00.

[DR AS/NZS 4361.1:2016](#): Guide to the management of paints containing Lead and other hazardous metallic pigments - Industrial applications. Published 26 July 2016, 96 pages, pdf (copy/paste): Free; Hardcopy: \$57.98.

[ISO/DIS 27914](#): Carbon Dioxide Capture, Transportation and Geological Storage - Geological Storage. Published 21 July 2016, 97 pages, pdf (personal use): \$82.52; Hardcopy: \$91.69.

[ISO/DIS 19007](#): Nanotechnologies - In vitro MTS assay for measuring the Cytotoxic Effect of Nanoparticles. Published 18 July 2016, 38 pages, pdf (personal use): \$82.52; Hardcopy: \$91.69.

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

Note: Comment must be via the Hub. Any emails or forms sent to Standards Australia by fax or mail will not be considered by the Committee when it reviews the Public Comment received.

• NFPA News (Codes Newsletter)

Public Input/Comment is Currently being Accepted on:

[NFPA 45](#): Std on Fire Protection for Labs Using Chemicals

[NFPA 350](#): Guide for Safe Confined Space Entry and Work

[NFPA 654](#): Standard for the Prevention of Fire and Dust Explosions from the Manufacturing, Processing, and Handling of Combustible Particulate Solids

[NFPA 801](#): Standard for Fire Protection for Facilities Handling Radioactive Materials

NFPA Committees Seeking Members (via NFPA News):

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

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

Explosives: [NFPA 495](#), [NFPA 498](#)

Gas Hazards: [NFPA 306](#)

Gas Process Safety: [NFPA 56](#)

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

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

Oxygen Enriched Atmospheres: [NFPA 53](#)

Solvent Extraction Plants: [NFPA 36](#)

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

All NFPA documents are at: www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards

Those open for input / comment are found at NFPA News:

www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/resources/nfpa-news.

As part of its commitment to enhancing public safety, NFPA makes its codes & standards available for free online.

Seminars, Conferences, Courses

• Perceptions of Nanotechnologies in Australia

25 August 2016, National Measurement Institute, West Lindfield NSW 2070 (1½ hr Symposium) plus a tour following.

The talk will explore the results from a NSW Health survey which explored the risk perceptions of the public, as well as those working in the field of Nanotechnologies from Academia, Government and Business.

The seminar will also be available via video conference at NMI locations in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne & Perth.

To RSVP or for further info, contact Cheryl Lim ph: (02) 8467 3845 or 0451 632 202, or Cheryl.Lim@measurement.gov.au.

From: www.crccare.com/events/perceptions-of-nanotechnologies-in-australia

• AIDGC Conference, 9 Sept 2016, Sydney CBD

Major Theme: Transport of Dangerous Goods (Air/Sea/Road)

Speakers from: SafeWork NSW; Toll Group; AMSA; CASA; NSW EPA; AECOM; Fuel Storage; Bulk D.Goods Receipt.

See the www.aidgc.org.au for speaker, topic & cost details

• AEBN D. Goods S&H Workshop, 15 Sept, Melb

Introductory Level – Dangerous Goods Storage, Handling & Transport Workshop: **AM Half Day**, 15 Sept 2016. Cost \$395.

From: www.aebn.com.au/event/introductory-level-dangerous-goods-storage-handling-transport-workshop-am-half-day-sept-15-2016/

• AEBN D. Goods S&H Workshop, 15 Sept, Melb

Intermediate Level – Dangerous Goods Storage, Handling & Transport Workshop: **PM Half Day**, 15 Sept 2016. Cost \$395.

From: www.aebn.com.au/event/intermediate-level-dangerousmar2016/

• GHS Classifying & Labelling of Chemicals, 22 Sept 16

Globally Harmonized System for Classifying and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Briefing – **All Day** 22 Sept 2016. Cost \$530.

From: www.aebn.com.au/event/globally-harmonized-system-for-classifying-and-labelling-of-chemicals-ghs-briefing-sept-22-2016/

• ACTRA Scientific Meeting, Adelaide, 21-23 Sept

Australasian College of Toxicology & Risk Assessment.

Register: <https://www.secureregistrations.com/ACTRAASM2016/>

Continuing Education Day & Annual Scientific Meeting Days. Non-Member Cost: \$910

From: <http://actra.org.au/events/asm/registration/>

• Fundamentals of Process Safety, Oct, Melbourne

Melbourne, 10-14 Oct, 2016: Benefit staff at all levels in an organisation keen to develop or improve their knowledge of process safety, hazards, risk and their management.

Cost: Non-Members \$3990, IChemE Members \$3465.

Email: austcourses@icheme.org, ph: 03-9642-4494

From: www.icheme.org and search on "Melbourne"

• Dust Explosions Conference, 17-18 Oct, Brisbane

Examines the means to control dust and the latest technology to ensure the maximum safety of your organisation.

Cost: AU\$2524.50. There is also a SIMTARS site tour 18 Oct.

SIMTARS provide accredited testing of dust and spontaneous combustions in a controlled environment.

Details: phone 02 9080 4307 email info@informa.com.au

From: www.informa.com.au/conferences/transport-conference/safety-conference/dust-explosions-conference

• 1 Day Lab Safety, Construction & Design, 14 Nov

RMIT 1 day Safety In School Laboratories (Chemical & Lab Safety) and AS2862 Laboratory Construction and Design Short Course, RMIT City Campus Melbourne, 14 Nov 2016.

Cost: \$640.00 Information & Registration <https://shortcourses.rmit.edu.au/> or contact RMIT Training on +61 3 9925 8111

• Hazards Australasia 2016, 23-24 Nov 2016, Melb

Hazards Australasia is designed for anyone who is active in process safety and risk management for chemical process facilities or other facilities dealing with hazardous materials.

Cost: \$1370 (non-member).

Enquiries: ph:03-9642-4494, em: conferences@icheme.org

From: www.icheme.org/events/conferences/hazards-australasia-2016

• Chem Eng for Non-Chemical Engineers, Nov, Brisbane

Perth, 30 Nov - 2 Dec 2016: An introduction to some of the main subject areas involved in Chemical Engineering disciplines, to broaden the technology base of participants, with a view to promote improved communication with chemical engineers.

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

Email: austcourses@icheme.org, ph: 03-9642-4494

From: www.icheme.org and search on "Brisbane"

• AIOH 2016, 3-7 Dec 2016, Gold Coast, Qld

The theme for the conference is HYGIENE THAT WORKS with the goal to raise awareness of practical and innovative approaches to control workplace health risks.

Full Delegate: \$1760 before the 30 Oct 2016.

From: www.aioh.org.au/events/event/aioh2016-gold-coast-queensland

• 3 Day Safety in Labs AS/NZS 2243 & AS/NZS 2982

13-15 Feb 2017: RMIT course at CSIRO, Clayton, VIC

Info: Dr Neale.Jackson@rmit.edu.au, Phone +61 3 9925 8111

Cost \$1850.

[Course Flyer](#) (2 page pdf)

From: http://shortcourses.rmit.edu.au/course_page.php?course=S135001

• RACI Centenary Congress (July 2017) Melbourne

The Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) was founded in 1917 as both the qualifying body in Australia for professional chemists and a learned society promoting the science and practice of chemistry.

There are 9 Conferences held simultaneously to choose from.

Go to: www.racicongress.com/about-the-congress.php. All delegates to the Congress are able to attend any of the parallel meetings to move between many differing fields of chemistry.

Theme: Chemistry addressing Sustainable Development and other Challenges of the 2020s. Details: www.racicongress.com

The **Call for Abstracts** opened Mon 25 July 2016 & closes 23 March 2017. www.racicongress.com/call-for-abstracts.php

[Receive Updates & Info on RACI 2017 Centenary Congress](#)

Health Safety & Environment Effects of Chemicals theme is part of the **RACI National Centenary Conference 2017:**

- Effective Chemical Management - addressing the Health Safety and Environmental Factors
- "Known unknowns" & "Unknown unknowns"
- "From Red Tape to Best Practice"

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

I can come and work in your office, which provides better access to data with improved security, plus good technical contact with relevant personnel. This allows the work to be done more quickly and comprehensively. I also work from my home office, in Ashburton, Victoria, where I maintain an extensive reference library, developed over 25 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, Website: www.haztech.com.au.

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