

Hazardous Chemicals	2	•APVMA CEO Resigns	18
•SWA: Managing Risks Associated with Lead	2	•Interim APVMA CEO Welcomed	18
•WA Worksafe: Chemicals can Damage Hearing	2	•Regulatory Science Roles Available at the APVMA	18
•Safety Alert: Carbon Monoxide Poisoning & LPG	2	•Methamidaphos: Import & Export Changes	18
•POPs Chemicals in Recycled Plastic & Toys	2	•Ag Active Constituent: Streptomyces Lydicus WYEC108	19
•Safety Alert: NO Pressure Cleaning of Asbestos Roofs	3	•APVMA Active Constituent: Mixed Amine Salts of Isethionate Manufacturing Concentrate	19
Chemical Management	3	Dangerous Goods	19
•2017 ACGIH Threshold Limit Values® and BEIs®	3	•Worksafe NZ: Major Hazard Facilities	19
•List of MAK & BAT Values 2016: Documentation	3	•Cleanaway fined over Adelaide Chemical Fire	20
•Australia's Workplace Exposure Stds Project	4	Environmental Notes on Chemicals	20
•Victorian OH&S Regs (now finalised & released)	4	•Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	20
•Vic OH&S Regs: 8 Compliance Codes	4	•HEPA Regulators PFAS Summit (in April 2017)	20
•Vic Hazardous Substances Compliance Code	5	•NSW EPA: FSANZ updates PFAS Guidelines	20
•Please Label ALL Retail Chemical's Hazards	5	•FSANZ: Perfluorinated Chemicals in Food	21
•Changes for Major Hazard Facilities (in Victoria)	6	•SMH: NSW EPA not declaring contamination	21
•WA: Dept of Mines, Industry Regul'n & Safety	6	•NSW EPA: Contamin. Sites Management Report	21
•Workplace Management: Respiratory Conditions	6	•NSW EPA fines Sydney Transwaste Industries P/L	22
•Please Support NTN with a Tax Deductible Donation	6	•NSW EPA Waste Offences: Companies fined \$91K	22
•ExxonMobil Refinery Explosion, 18 Feb 2015	6	•PFAS investigations at RFS Westleigh, NSW	22
•CSB Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Request: Uncertain	7	•PFAS Investigations are Underway at Botany Bay	22
•USA CSB Investigations since Jan 2016	7	•Vic EPA: Company Fined for Chemical Discharge	22
•WHMIS (Canada) Transition Timeline Extension	7	•Vic EPA: Brooklyn Landfill Licence Breach seen	23
•WHMIS 2015 (Canada): Frequently Asked Questions	8	Standards & Codes	23
•USA OSHA Quick Takes e-News: Jan-Mar 2017	8	•Standards – https://infostore.saiglobal.com/	23
NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)	8	•Drafts – https://infostore.saiglobal.com/	24
•NICNAS Reforms: Consultation Paper 5 Overview	8	•NFPA News (Codes Newsletter)	24
•NICNAS Reforms: Polymers of Low Concern: Changes	9	Seminars, Conferences, Courses	25
•NICNAS Reforms: Consultation Paper 5: An Issue	9	•RACI Centenary Congress (July 2017) Melbourne	25
•Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017 and related Bills	10	•The Future – What are the Hazards & Benefits, 15 Aug	25
•Comment* to the Senate Committee, 8 June 2017	10	•AIDGC Conference 2017, Sydney, 8 Sept 2017	25
•Submissions Received by the Senate Committee	11	•AEBN D. Goods S&H&T Workshop, 22 Sept, Melb	25
•Reforms: Consul'n Paper 5 Supporting Material	11	•AEBN D. Goods S&H&T Workshop, 22 Sept, Melb	25
•NICNAS Reform Public Workshop, Melb 28 June 17	12	•ACTRA Scientific Meeting, Canberra, 27-29 Sept	25
•Reforms Cost Recovery Model Discussion Paper	12		
•AICS Trade Name Annexe: Request for Info	12		
•Chemical Gazettes (April, May, June 2017)	13		
Scheduled Medicines & Poisons	13		
•The Poisons Standard (SUSMP No. 17) June 2017	13		
•17 May 2017: Consultation: Proposed Amdmts	14		
•Scheduling Delegate's Interim Chemical Decisions	14		
•Scheduling Delegate's FINAL Decisions: Cannabis	15		
Food Chemical Issues	15		
•Allergen Labelling is a Life and Death Matter	15		
•A1123 – Isomalto-Oligosaccharide: Novel Food	15		
•A1127 – Processing Aids for Wine	15		
•A1146 – Thermolysin (Protease) Processing Aid	16		
•A1144: Re-categorising Coconut Milk re: Food Additives	16		
Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals	16		
•APVMA Chlorpyrifos Toxicology Report Published	16		
•APVMA Methiocarb Review Update Published	16		
•ADI/ARfD (AgVet Chemicals) & FAISD Handbook	16		
•Contaminated AgVet Chemical Products	17		
•Natural Products and APVMA Registration	17		
•APVMA: New Guide for Online Applications	17		
•APVMA Armidale Relocation – Some Questions	18		

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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.

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Hazardous Chemicals

• SWA: Managing Risks Associated with Lead

17 Jan 2017: Safe Work Australia (SWA) published a Decision Regulation Impact Statement ([DRIS](#)) on [Managing Risks Associated with Lead in the Workplace: blood Lead removal levels and workplace exposure standard](#).

The regulatory thresholds for workplace Lead exposure are higher in Australia than in many other countries. Evidence collected by Safe Work Australia indicates the current blood Lead removal levels and workplace exposure standard for dusts and fumes of inorganic lead are not adequate to protect the health and safety of Lead process workers.
(From the DRIS Executive Summary)

The [DRIS](#) is the result of Safe Work Australia's review of the current toxicological information and overseas trends in the regulation of Lead in the workplace. It examines options to reduce the adverse health outcomes caused by exposure to Lead in the workplace.

A majority of State, Territory and Commonwealth Ministers support the preferred options to reduce the current permissible blood Lead levels and workplace exposure standard, to protect workers. The preferred options will now be implemented through model Work Health and Safety legislation.

Decision Regulation Impact Statement 30 Aug 2016 (66 pages) [docx file](#) or [pdf file](#)

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/news-and-events/news/decision-regulation-impact-statement-managing-risks-associated-lead-workplace and

www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/decision-regulation-impact-statement-managing-risks-associated-lead-workplace-blood-lead-removal

• WA Worksafe: Chemicals can Damage Hearing

26 May 2017: Some chemicals can damage your hearing. These are called ototoxic chemicals. Construction workers are also at risk of hearing damage from noise exposure. For an ototoxic chemical to affect the hearing system, it first has to enter the bloodstream, either by being inhaled, swallowed, or absorbed through skin. The chemical then circulates to the blood vessels supplying the inner ear and damages the cells.

[Protect Your Hearing - Chemicals Can Damage Hearing](#) (1 page pdf poster)

Some Ototoxic Chemicals include: • Solvents in paints, thinners, glues and degreasers – e.g. Toluene, Xylene, n-Hexane, Ethyl Benzene and Trichloroethylene; • Lead in old paint, solder or batteries; • Styrene in resins; • Carbon Monoxide in engine exhaust.

From: www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/protect-your-hearing-chemicals-can-damage-hearing

• Safety Alert: Carbon Monoxide Poisoning & LPG Powered Floor Cleaning Equipment

3 May 2017: This alert highlights for employers the risk of employees being over-exposed to Carbon Monoxide when operating LPG powered floor cleaning equipment such as a floor burnisher or buffer, which are commonly used to polish floors in workplaces and can generate high levels of Carbon Monoxide from the engine exhaust.

In a recent incident in Victoria, a cleaner operating an LPG powered burnisher was found unconscious due to suspected excessive exposure to Carbon Monoxide.

The USA NIOSH has determined that the immediately dangerous to life & health concentration for CO is 1200 ppm. The Workplace Exposure Standard determined by Safe Work Australia is 30 ppm (8 hr average). A 400 ppm concentration should never be exceeded.

[pdf Version of the Webpage](#) (2 page pdf)

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/pages/forms-and-publications/forms-and-publications/carbon-monoxide-poisoning-and-lpg-powered-floor-cleaning-equipment

• POPs Chemicals in Recycled Plastic & Toys

26 April 2017: POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) chemicals in recycled plastic are contaminating children's toys.

IPEN (International POPS Elimination Network) has released the findings of an investigation into the contamination of children's toys with POPs chemicals which have been found to contaminate recycled plastics. Laboratory analysis of 95 Rubik's cubes and 16 additional samples (including a thermo cup, hair clips, combs, headdresses, and children's toys) from 26 countries in various regions found 100 samples (90%) contained OctaBDE at concentrations ranging from 1 to 1174 ppm.

From: www.ntn.org.au/healthy-children/pops-chemicals-in-recycled-plastic-contaminating-childrens-toys

Pops Recycling Contaminates Children's Toys With Toxic Flame Retardants: The substances include OctaBromoDiphenyl Ether (OctaBDE), DecaBromoDiphenyl Ether (DecaBDE), and HexaBromoCycloDodecane (HBCD).

From: www.ntn.org.au/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/toxic_toy_report_2017_update_v1_5-final_en.pdf (20 page pdf, April 2-17)

24 April 2017: IPEN Releases Toxic Toy Store Catalog

IPEN has released a Spring (May) 2017 Catalog for its Toxic Toy Store booth at the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conferences of the Parties currently underway in Geneva, Switzerland. It displays toys from around the world that IPEN tested to determine potential toxic ingredients. (8p pdf)

From: www.ipen.org/news/ipen-releases-toxic-toy-store-catalog

Toxic Industrial Chemical Recommended for Global Prohibition Contaminates Children's Toys (14 page pdf).

Short Chain Chlorinated Paraffins (SCCPs) are industrial chemicals primarily used in metalworking but also as flame retardants and softeners in plastics. Their harmful properties have attracted global concern and a Stockholm Convention expert committee has recommended world-wide elimination of SCCPs under the treaty. Governments will decide on global prohibition of SCCPs at the 8th Conference of the Parties in April / May 2017. This study examined consumer products from 10 countries and found SCCPs to be widely present in products favoured by children.

In order to prevent regrettable substitutions, MCCPs (Medium-Chain Chlorinated Paraffins) and LCCPs (Long-Chain Chlorinated Paraffins), as well as other chemical alternatives that exhibit hazardous properties should not be considered as alternatives to SCCPs.

http://ipen.org/sites/default/files/documents/ipen-sccps-report-v1_5-en.pdf (14 page pdf)

From: www.ipen.org (A Toxics Free Future) and

www.ipen.org/news/press-release-children%E2%80%99s-toys-contaminated-toxic-industrial-chemical-recommended-global

• Safety Alert: NO Pressure Cleaning of Asbestos Roofs

6 June 2017: Reminder to NEVER to use high-pressure water blasters or compressed air to clean asbestos roofs.

In April 2017, a contractor used a high-pressure water blaster to clean an asbestos roof and caused widespread asbestos contamination. Neighbours were forced to vacate their properties during the clean-up process. If asbestos is disturbed, you are at risk of inhaling airborne asbestos fibres.

From: www.safework.nsw.gov.au/news/safety-alert/pressure-cleaning-of-asbestos-roofs

Chemical Management

• 2017 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: 978-1-607260-90-5, 288 pages.

Cost: USA\$54.95 plus USA\$23.95 p&h = USA\$78.90.

From: www.acgih.org/forms/store/ProductFormPublic/2017-tlvs-and-beis

There is a 2017 Guide to Occupational Exposure Values

Companion document to the ACGIH[®] TLVs[®] and BEIs[®] book serves as a readily accessible reference for comparison of the most recently published values: 2017 Chemical Substance TLVs[®] from ACGIH[®]; AIHA/OARS Workplace Environmental Exposure Limits (WEELs); the OSHA Final Rule PELs; RELs from NIOSH; MAKs from the German Commission for the Investigation of Health Hazards of Chemical Compounds in the Workplace; and carcinogenicity designations from ACGIH[®], OSHA, NIOSH, MAK, IARC, U.S. NTP, and U.S. EPA. The book includes a CAS number index.

ISBN: 978-1-607260-91-2, 272 pages

Cost USA\$76.95 plus USA\$23.95 p&h = USA\$100.90

From: www.acgih.org/forms/store/ProductFormPublic/2017-guide-to-occupational-exposure-values

There is also a 2017 TLVs & BEIs Book & OEV Guide Combo Set.

Cost USA\$118.71 plus USA\$35.61 p&h = USA\$154.32

From: www.acgih.org/forms/store/ProductFormPublic/2017-tlvs-book-and-oev-guide-combo-set

• List of MAK & BAT Values 2016: Documentation

MAK value Documentations, BAT value Documentations, air monitoring Methods and biomonitoring Methods.

Maximum Concentrations (MAK) and Biological Tolerance (BAT) Values at the Workplace, Report 52.

Prepared by the: Permanent Senate Commission for the Investigation of Health Hazards of Chemical Compounds in the Work Area, (Germany).

All Chapters, downloadable as a single Zip File (12.2Mb) are available from the website below. Otherwise there are 23 pdf files available to individually download. (I will not give a direct link to zip file in these Hazmat & Environment Notes.)

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/book/10.1002/9783527805983>

The **MAK-Collection for Occupational Health and Safety** offers MAK value documentations, BAT value documentations, air monitoring methods and biomonitors methods. It is updated regularly and can be accessed at: www.mak-collection.com Online ISBN: 9783527600410 also ISSN 2509-2383. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/user-registration>

Individuals can access to the *free* online MAK collection information by entering the ISBN 9783527600410 in the **"advanced search" tab on the top right hand side search box** in Wiley Online Library. This will show all chapters unlocked with a "free" note indicating there are no further restrictions on access.

Editor's Comment: This gets access to 4595 results, which is great, BUT you have very limited ability to search on the results! By selecting "Date" you can then at least look at the most recent "published online" updated entries. After this it is a tedious scroll through process to look at each record.

• Australia's Workplace Exposure Stds Project

14 June 2017: The Project reviewing Australia's Workplace Exposure Standards is progressing well. Safe Work Australia wants to ensure that this Project is based on the highest quality evidence and supported by a rigorous, scientific approach. The first part of the Project (developing appropriate methodologies including peer review and a first assessment of the current standards) is expected to be finalised by the end of 2017, with stakeholder consultation to occur shortly thereafter. Final evaluations of individual workplace exposure standards will then be undertaken according to these methodologies. The outcomes of these assessments and the supporting documentation are forecast to be completed mid-2018, again with stakeholder consultation shortly afterwards.

Provided by Safe Work Australia, Chemicals Director

• Victorian OH&S Regs (now finalised & released)

25 April 2017: The new Vic Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (OHS Regulations) and Equipment (Public Safety) Regulations 2017 (EPS Regulations) will commence on 18 June 2017.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/notices/ohs-regulations-reform-2017

Editor: In most cases, compliance is required on 18 June 2017, with no phase in periods, even for businesses which only operate in Victoria & are not aligned with the WHS Regs.

• Vic OH&S Regs: 8 Compliance Codes

(Comment closed 9 June 2017)

Eight proposed codes were available for public comment from Monday 1 May to Friday 9 June 2017.

<http://consultation.worksafe.vic.gov.au/Compliance-Codes>

e.g. Proposed Hazardous Substances Compliance Code (2.25 MB) (52 page pdf)

<http://consultation.worksafe.vic.gov.au/21899/documents/54390>

Proposed Hazardous Substances Compliance Code: What are the proposed changes?

<http://consultation.worksafe.vic.gov.au/Compliance-Codes/faqs#24252>

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/notices/compliance-codes-review

Editor: There are discrepancies between how we will manage chemicals in Victoria, compared to other States that have implemented the Safe Work Australia based Work Health and Safety Regulations and associated Compliance Codes.

e.g. We will continue to use the term "Hazardous Substance" in Victoria whilst the WHS Regs States & Territories will use "Hazardous Chemical".

"Hazardous Substances" will only cover health effects. We will retain our Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations to cover Dangerous Goods.

Editor's Comment: I am very disappointed for all Australian companies, other Australian Regulators, & all the consultants who are already using the agreed Work Health & Safety Regulations (with only minor variations), and now need to cope with Victoria not implementing an appropriately updated version of these agreed WHS Regulations (that the other Australian Regulators would then have sensibly updated to).

We now ALL need to cope with the differences that the Victorian Regulator has chosen to create.

I assume this approach might be the minimum cost to change for the Victorian Regulator, but in my opinion this Victorian approach will not be the minimum cost for Australian businesses who will need to work to WHS and OH&S Regulations across Australia.

It seems to me that it is written principally for the Victorian Regulator, who only administers, and audits the Regulations, but who doesn't actually have to work to them, let alone also work to the other WHS Regs across Australia.

• Vic Hazardous Substances Compliance Code

Comment by Richard Greenwood, RG Chemical Safety.

Web: www.rgchem.com.au, Mobile: 0401 321 962

This Vic Hazardous Substance Compliance Code is an opportunity to alert Victorian business that there are stronger requirements on Labelling and Safety Data Sheets under National Work Health and Safety legislation, which they must comply with, if their products are used outside Victoria. While there is reference to Safe Work Australia, there is no reference to the National Standards for preparation of Safety Data Sheets, and Workplace Labels.

The absence of this is not providing adequate assistance for Victorian businesses. They may understandably assume that compliance with this code will be acceptable throughout Australia, but they are wrong. There is no recognition of labels and safety data sheets prepared under equivalent legislation under Work Health and Safety – preparation in accordance with the Code of compliance will not be a defence. The absence of hazard statements associated with physical hazards in the GHS is noncompliant in other States and Territories, and in the context of a site incident could be seen as a contributing factor.

If Worksafe Victoria is uncomfortable about not aligning with the National Codes, and they should be, that is not an excuse for putting Victorian businesses at risk through not alerting them to the National requirements

Examples of the non-alignment here, are as follows:

Table 1: Information that must be in an SDS

Comment: Was it intentional to leave out the signal word and pictograms / indication of pictograms from the SDS requirements? These are required elsewhere in Australia, and leaving them out will make the SDS non-compliant in those States and Territories, and for use by Commonwealth bodies.

64. All ingredients which are Hazardous Substances must be disclosed on the Label and in the SDS, ... "if the classification of the **substance includes** a hazard class and hazard category referred to in Table 1 of Schedule 8" ...

Comment: This statement is inconsistent with the Regulations, and would require a much stronger declaration of ingredients.

Schedule 8 (1) of the Vic OH&S Regulations says:

2 Identity of ingredients to be disclosed

(1) This clause applies if an ingredient in a hazardous **substance causes the correct classification of the substance** to include a hazard class and hazard category referred to in Table 1.

Comment: The distinction is for hazardous ingredients that do not contribute to correct classification because they are below cut-off values, they **still need to be included** on the SDS or Label. This appears to be an error in the drafting of the Compliance Code, which should have the same information as in the OH&S Regulations.

Table 2: Information that must be on a Label

Comment: Please also include advice that only the 6-10 most relevant Precautionary Statements need be included, consistent with the National Labelling Code of Practice. Otherwise you are creating an onus on Victorian workplaces that is greater than that in other States and Territories, for no net benefit. The correct and complete GHS classification of even moderately hazardous materials such as diesel can produce over 20 Precautionary Statements. Not only would inclusion of all these make a Label so detailed as to put users off reading it all, problems occur in fitting this information in the available space, leading to unreadably small print.

Editor: The above is a summary (with agreed adjustments) of the comment submitted by Richard Greenwood, RG Chemical Safety, on the Vic Code.

74 - Small Containers, includes a requirement to include any relevant hazard pictogram. This is inconsistent with the Vic OH&S Regul'n 149(4) and the equivalent legislation under Work Health and Safety – Regul'n 335 Part 3 Schedule 9 - which both provide the option of a hazard pictogram or hazard statement with "... a hazard pictogram or hazard statement that is consistent with the correct classification of the chemical, ..".

This appears to be another error in the drafting of the Vic Hazardous Substances Compliance Code, which should have the same information as in the Vic OH&S Regulations.

74 issue alerted by Will Ray (www.p-ehandley-walker.net.au)

• Please Label ALL Retail Chemical's Hazards

What happened about closing the gap where a GHS Hazardous Chemical (that is not an APVMA nor a TGA regulated product), is sold in a retail outlet to the public, but it is not a Scheduled Poison, nor Dangerous Goods? E.g. "Causes serious eye irritation"; or is a "Flammable liquid or vapour" or "Combustible liquid", but does not sustain combustion at $\leq 93^{\circ}\text{C}$, as it is a flash burn hazard only.

It's chemical hazards are not regulated to be labelled under any State or Federal regulation. BUT we all have a Common Law obligation to inform users of the chemical hazards.

This Common Law scenario to label chemical hazards for ALL chemicals for ALL users, could be added as a Note into the Hazardous Substances Compliance Code area of 73 to 82.

Reminded by Will Ray (www.p-ehandley-walker.net.au)

• Changes for Major Hazard Facilities (in Victoria)

Editor: What is now Schedule 14 in the OH&S Regs in previous Regs just referred to UN Nos. Now they are also just referring to CAS No.s. with no UN No.s. Or neither CAS nor UN and just the chemical name.

I have been informed this is in line with Seveso, and the other Australian States will change to it with their next MHF updates.

One concern is for Major Hazard Facility warehouses where the UN No.s are known but the CAS No.s for chemicals that cause the Table 1 Hazard are more difficult to identify or may occur at irrelevant concentrations, so should not be added to the MHF notifiable quantity.

From the OH&S Regs Schedule 14, Table 1: "The named or described material also includes materials that fall outside the CAS number or UN number, for example, because they are mixtures of several materials. However, any materials that are covered by the listed CAS numbers or UN numbers must be included in the quantity of the material named or described."

Editor: Most of the specifically referenced materials are seriously hazardous and many have concentration limits or other limitations. However some could be problematic with trace amounts in various chemicals products that will need adding up (particularly for Major Hazard Facility warehouses). E.g. PETROLEUM AND RELATED VAPOUR CLOUD FORMING SUBSTANCES, which lists a range of typical solvents that could be in trace amounts in many products. These have neither UN No.s nor CAS No.s listed to help the warehouses in this process. The question is: If a container leaked or split open, would it release "Vapour Cloud Forming Substances"?

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/notices/ohs-regulations-reform-2017 to download the Vic OH&S Regs.

• WA: Dept of Mines, Industry Regul'n & Safety

Since the recent elections, as part of the new WA State Governments state-wide public sector reforms, the WA Department of Mines and Petroleum and WA Department of Commerce will amalgamate on 1 July 2017 to form the **Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**[#]. These structural changes are aimed at creating collaborative departments focused on whole-of-government objectives and delivering services in a more efficient and effective way.

* Only the Regulatory Functions and Labour Relations.

[#] This new Department will regulate the mining, building and construction industry and elevate the focus on worker safety. It will also assume consumer protection responsibilities.

From: <https://publicsector.wa.gov.au/public-administration/machinery-government/2017-machinery-government-changes>

Editor: Under this WA Department there will be one WHS / OH&S Regulation. There is likely WA will continue to have a separate Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulation.

Alerted by a WA Colleague.

• Workplace Management: Respiratory Conditions including Asthma

13 April 2017: This Safework NSW [Guide](#) (Workplace Management of Respiratory Conditions including Asthma) outlines types of respiratory disease and causative agents, managing workplace respiratory hazards, health assessments and what at-risk workers can do.

Via the website you can select to have the entire Guide printed (or saved as a pdf via the print option (if your PC supports this)). This creates an approx. 14 page document.

From: www.safework.nsw.gov.au/media/publications/health-and-safety/workplace-management-of-respiratory-conditions-including-asthma

• Please Support NTN with a Tax Deductible Donation

Editor: I regard that the **National Toxics Network** (NTN) (www.ntn.org.au) is a very worthwhile organisation to make a **Tax Deductible Donation** to, as it is the leading edge community organisation in Australia that has brought to attention the need to reassess chemical hazards and risks, to protect the Australian community and environment.

NTN takes responsible care very seriously, which has meant NICNAS has reviewed many important chemicals of concern issues. Industry and professional associations in Australia are less pro-active in this area of reassessing chemicals of concern, so NTN carries out an important role.

Please provide your support at: www.givenow.com.au/ntn

• ExxonMobil Refinery Explosion, 18 Feb 2015

3 May 2017: The Exxon Mobil refinery in Torrance, California, released spent catalyst material into the surrounding community and the explosion resulted in four minor injuries and extensive property damage. The USA CSB's investigation focused on the technical cause of the equipment failure; organizational factors; process hazard analyses and mechanical integrity at the refinery; and the State of California's Process Safety Management revisions.

[Animation of 2015 Explosion at ExxonMobil Refinery in Torrance, CA](#) (7 min 12 sec video)

[FINAL REPORT: ExxonMobil Torrance](#) (77 page pdf)

The USA CSB found that this incident occurred due to weaknesses in the Exxon Mobil Torrance refinery's process safety management system. These weaknesses led to operation of the FCC unit without pre-established safe operating limits and criteria for unit shutdown, reliance on safeguards that could not be verified, the degradation of a safety-critical safeguard, and the re-use of a previous procedure deviation without a sufficient hazard analysis that confirmed that the assumed process conditions were still valid. This report discusses the key factors that caused this incident.

From: www.csb.gov/exxonmobil-refinery-explosion/ and www.csb.gov/csb-releases-final-report-into-2015-explosion-at-exxonmobil-refinery-in-torrance-california/

• CSB Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Request: Uncertain

23 May 2018: The USA President's full budget for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) continues to propose the elimination of 19 agencies, including the U.S.A. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). Today, the CSB submitted its [Budget Request for FY18](#) (22 page pdf).

The CSB's FY 2018 Budget Request is a relatively small federal investment to continue the agency's valuable work. Yet, the President's FY 2018 Budget Request proposes the elimination of the CSB and requests a \$9.4 million appropriation to provide for the CSB's orderly shutdown and rescission of the agency's USA\$844,000 no-year emergency fund. The CSB disagrees with this proposal and is using its bypass budget authority² to request a budget of USA\$11.629 million in FY 2018 to continue the execution of its critical safety mission to drive critical chemical safety change to protect people and the environment.

The CSB's primary mission is the prevention of accidents. It is a non-regulatory agency that issues recommendations in support of its safety-critical mission. Congress intended for the CSB to examine the role of both the regulator and the regulated in its investigations and makes recommendations to both. And in that regard, we hold other federal agencies accountable, as well as industry. In our safety investigations of high consequence chemical accidents, we routinely examine the adequacy of the existing regulations and standards. No other federal agency, or private entity for that matter, provides this comprehensive safety role.

The CSB's mission is vital to drive chemical safety change through independent investigations to protect people and the environment. The CSB's mission is not duplicated by any other federal agency or entity.

From: www.csb.gov/statement-from-csb-chairperson-vanessa-allen-sutherland-on-csb-fy-2018-budget-request/

And from the 22 page Budget Justification pdf www.csb.gov/assets/1/7/FY_2018_Budget_Justification.pdf

Editor: The Budget Justification document makes interesting reading as it gives a good overview of the 9 investigations completed since January 2016 and good overview of 7 major investigations still underway.

• USA CSB Investigations since Jan 2016

9 Investigations Completed since January 2016:

Refinery Fire (Delaware City, DE): Sunday, 29 Nov 2015; **Refinery Explosion & Catalyst Release (Torrance, CA):** 18 Feb 2015; **Nitrous Oxide Explosion (Cantonment, FL):** Sunday, 28 Aug 2016; **Olefins Plant Fire and Explosion (Geismar, LA):** 13 June 2013; **Chemical Release & Disruption of Drinking Water Supply (Charleston, WV):** 9 Jan 2014; **High Temperature Hydrogen Attack (Anacortes, WA):** The CSB Safety Alert was published on 11 Aug 2016 from the key findings of the 2014 investigation; **Sulfuric Acid Release (Martinez, CA):** 12 Feb 2014; **Deepwater Blowout and Explosion (Gulf of Mexico):** 20 April 2010, final 2 report volumes released 20 April 16; **Fertilizer Explosion and Fire (West, TX):** 17 April 2013, final report released 28 Jan 2016.

7 Major Open Investigations (as at May 2017):

Since 2016, the USA CSB has focused on the completion of more timely investigations to ensure that the critical safety messages can be shared to promote the prevention of catastrophic incidents. All 7 open investigations are anticipated to be completed in 2017.

Chemical Release & Fire (Baton Rouge, LA): 22 Nov 2016; **Catastrophic Pressure Vessel Rupture (St. Louis, MO):** 3 April 2017; **Hot Work Explosion (DeRidder, LA):** 8 Feb 2017; **Gas Plant Explosion (Pascagoula, MS):** 27 June 2016; **Chlorine Release and Community Shelter-in-Place (Atchison, Kansas):** 12 April 2017; **Hot Work Explosion (Nederland, TX):** 12 Aug 2016; **Toxic Chemical Release (LaPorte, TX):** 15 Nov 2014.

From the 22 page Budget Justification pdf www.csb.gov/assets/1/7/FY_2018_Budget_Justification.pdf

Also access these under [Investigations](#) at www.csb.gov

• WHMIS (Canada) Transition Timeline Extension

24 May 2017: A Note for businesses that trade with Canada using their Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS).

WHMIS 2015 transition timelines for compliance (with the GHS) have been updated to reflect the extensions that were granted on 19 May 2017.

The Canadian Hazardous Products Act (HPA) has been amended, and the WHMIS requirements for hazard classification and communication set out in the Controlled Product Regulations (CPR); and the Ingredient Disclosure List repealed; and replaced with new regulations, the Canadian Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR). This modified WHMIS is referred to as WHMIS 2015.

For Manufacturers and Importers the Phase 1 Transition Phase has now started and finishes on 31 May 2018, and they must comply with the HPR requirements from 1 June 2018. Then Distributors must comply with the HPR requirements from 1 Sept 2018. Finally, Employers must comply with the HPR requirements from 1 Dec 2018.

Employers also need to check their local OH&S Regulator as each Canadian jurisdiction follows an independent legislative process, there may be a lag between the coming-into-force of the HP Act and HP Regs and the timing of amendments to Provincial and Territorial (PT) legislation.

To address this issue, PT OSH Authorities have agreed to support a synchronized coming-into-force and transition across Canada until necessary changes are made to their legislation.

From: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/transition/index-eng.php

• WHMIS 2015 (Canada): Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions about the Canadian Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) related to:

1. Canada's implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS);
2. Compliance with WHMIS 2015;
3. Protecting Confidential Business Information (CBI);
4. Employer Requirements;
5. Workers; and
6. Other Canadian Federal Regulatory Programs related to chemicals.

From: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/faq-eng.php

• USA OSHA Quick Takes e-News: Jan-Mar 2017

I've scanned through the 3 April 2017 – 1 June 2017 e-News and listed items about Hazardous Chemicals.

3 April 2017: **1/** Beryllium Rule effective date delayed (to 20 May 2017) to allow for further review. This does not affect the compliance dates of the Beryllium Rule. See [USA OSHA webpage on Beryllium Exposure](#); **2/** Illinois company cited for exposing workers to chemical hazards (spray painting operation being exposed to hexavalent chromium at levels approx. 40x the PEL); **3/** Washington beverage company cited for exposing workers to chemical hazards (Ammonia from three separate chemical leaks); **4/** USA OSHA has released three guidance documents to help employers comply with the agency's [Process Safety Management Standard](#). The new documents focus on PSM compliance for [Small Businesses](#), [Storage Facilities](#) & [Explosives & Pyrotechnics Manufacturing](#); **5/** Online Safety Seminar: webinar on "[Communicating with Workers about Hazardous Materials](#)" (54 minute video, 28 Feb 2017) (*Editor:* a very interesting 30 minute webinar and 24 minutes of questions presentation, relevant to everyone).

19 April 2017: **1/** USA OSHA to delay enforcement of [Crystalline Silica Standard](#) (3 page pdf) in the Construction Industry from 23 June 2017 to 23 Sept 2017; as USA OSHA has determined that additional Guidance is necessary due to the unique nature of the requirements in the Construction Standard.

1 May 2017: **1/** Texas lab cited for exposing workers to Silica, Combustible Dust, Chemical and other Hazards (which followed an investigation in response to a complaint about Silica exposure) e.g. Combustible waste materials soaked with flammable liquids stored in improper receptacles; failing to provide workers with personal protective equipment and effective respiratory protection; and failing to implement a confined spaces program.

16 May 2017: **1/** USA OSHA and Oil and Gas Network renew alliance to protect workers. USA OSHA staff have delivered a presentation focused on [Confined Space Safety](#) to more than 80 workers. This website has several links to USA OSHA and NIOSH documents which provide guidance on recognizing and controlling this hazard.

1 June 2017: **1/** California approves Regulation to reduce risk of catastrophic events at refineries. The new Regulation provides a framework to help employers anticipate, prevent and respond to hazards at refineries that can threaten workers and area residents. For details, read the [News Release](#) (18 May 2017, 3 page pdf).

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

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• NICNAS Reforms: Consultation Paper 5 Overview

1 June 2017: The Consultation Paper 5 seeks stakeholder feedback on matters to be included in Delegated* (Industrial Chemicals) Legislation.

From the [Executive Summary](#):

The Australian Government has decided to reform the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) to:

- make regulatory effort more proportionate to risk
- promote safer innovation by encouraging the introduction of lower risk chemicals
- continue to protect the Australian people (both workers and the public) and the environment from any harmful effects of industrial chemicals.

Through Consultation Paper 5, NICNAS seeks feedback on matters to go into the Delegated Legislation.

Mostly these are technical matters and relate in particular to the categorisation and assessment of unlisted chemical introductions. That is, the introduction of industrial chemicals not included on the Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals (the Inventory). This paper is detailed because NICNAS wishes to present the new scheme in a transparent way.

The technical matters in this paper (and the companion [Supporting Material](#)) take into account:

- the latest international developments in chemical risk assessment and regulatory science
- the need to implement a practicable scheme that is proportionate in the requirements it sets.

A brief summary of Part 1 to Part 10 is given in the Executive Summary. Some Parts that got my attention are:

[Part 3](#) describes the objective hazard and exposure criteria. These criteria will provide a structured and transparent approach to self-categorisation of industrial chemical introductions. The chemical categorisation outcomes (Exempted, Reported or Assessed) will allow risk-based regulation. Because of this, we will be able to focus our regulatory efforts on higher risk chemicals.

[Part 5](#) provides the detail of the hazard information required to categorise chemical introductions the right way for both human health and environmental risks. The level of hazard characterisation required will vary with the predicted level of exposure.

[Part 6](#) describes additional information requirements. These will apply for a limited set of specified chemical introductions where minimum information requirements will not be enough to determine the indicative risk, and thus the appropriate introduction category.

NICNAS's [Supporting Material](#), accompanying Consultation Paper 5 includes guidance on the hazard information that will be sufficient for categorisation. It takes into account the latest scientific developments, including in vitro tests and in silico modelling and the more traditional toxicological data derived from tests using animals.

[Part 7](#) is a proposal for the categorisation of industrial chemicals introduced at the nano-scale. It presents options for the properties of nano-scale chemicals that should be used as criteria to define the chemicals that require pre-introduction assessment.

[Part 8](#) describes the criteria for the commercial evaluation authorisation pathway that will be prescribed in the [Delegated Legislation](#). It will include the volume threshold and the circumstances related to public exposure. It also talks about the information requirements for this pathway.

[Part 9](#) presents the details to be included in the Delegated Legislation to implement the national ban on the use of new animal test data for chemicals used exclusively as cosmetic ingredients.

[Part 10](#) discusses other matters to be included in the delegated legislation including (for example): Requirements for the Annual Compliance Declaration.

The Consultation Paper is directly accessible from the web, or is downloadable at: [www.nicnas.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/50098/NICNAS-Reforms-CP5.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/50098/NICNAS-Reforms-CP5.pdf) (landscape 126p)

[Consultation closes 12 July 2017](#)

The NICNAS Reforms Team can answer your questions, assist with your submission and are available for stakeholder briefings. Phone: +61 2 8577 8837, email NICNAS.Reforms@nicnas.gov.au

* Delegated Legislation is subordinate to the primary Industrial Chemicals Legislation.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/reforms/consultation-paper-5

• NICNAS Reforms: Polymers of Low Concern: Changes

Attachment B - Polymer of Low Concern (PLC) criteria

A polymer that contains a sequence of one or more Fully Fluorinated Carbon atoms, CANNOT be PLCs.

The definition of Stable Polymer has been revised to be harmonised with the definitions used by US and Canada.

The level of concern of certain Reactive Functional Groups (RFGs) has been changed so it more closely aligns with USA and Canada. Three RFGs have been added to the low concern RFG list: 1/ Imidazolidinone; 2/ Imides; & 3/ Organic Phosphate Esters.

Additions have been made to the list of Prescribed Reactants for Polyesters, based on assessments undertaken jointly by NICNAS, US EPA, Health Canada and Environment Canada.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/reforms/consultation-paper-5/attachment-b-polymer-of-low-concern-criteria and the [pdf](#).

• NICNAS Reforms: Consultation Paper 5: An Issue

Ongoing Annual Internal Business Costs: Not Discussed

In Part 1 NICNAS describes how the introduction process will reduce the current NICNAS costs and reduce the time to introduce the chemicals to market.

However, there is no explanation of the annual ongoing internal costs a business will have to incur in order sign off on Reported or Exempted Chemicals (which will be "tick boxes"). BUT it is the work and documentation (internally in a business) behind each "tick box" we need to understand.

Audit Details and Audit Costs are not Discussed

We need to understand the audit details and costs of AICIS (Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme) Authority audits, when they instead come to do detailed audits on businesses who are introducers, rather than the up front current Notification processes and costs. We have previously been informed that there will be AICIS Audits on about 10% of introduced chemicals per year.

This will mean introduced chemical information must be accessible by a person outside the business. It also raises the issue of how businesses will be able to maintain the required data over decades.

From: Jeff Simpson, Haztech Environmental

• Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017 and related Bills

On 1 June 2017, the Senate referred the following Bills to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report:

[Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017](#) (145 pages)
(& Explanatory Memorandum, 99 pages)

[Industrial Chemicals \(Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions\) Bill 2017](#)

[Industrial Chemicals \(Notification and Assessment\) Amendment Bill 2017](#) (7 pages)
(& Explanatory Memorandum, 8 pages)

[Industrial Chemicals Charges \(General\) Bill 2017](#)

[Industrial Chemicals Charges \(Customs\) Bill 2017](#)

[Industrial Chemicals Charges \(Excise\) Bill 2017](#)

The reporting date was 13 June 2017. (My comment is below.)

From: Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs

www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/IndustrialChemicals

Editor: Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment Bill 2017 is intended to pass before the end of June 2017 so the new arrangements for Polymers of Low Concern, & other changes will be in place for the 1st July 2017.

The remaining legislation for the NICNAS Industrial Chemical Reforms is intended to be passed in the Winter Session (July/August 2017).

They say it will commence on the 1st July 2018, however (since they are 3 months behind their original estimated time), I suggest it will probably commence on the 1st of Sept 2018, which will mesh with the Industrial Chemicals reporting year of the current system.

• Comment* to the Senate Committee, 8 June 2017

Dear Senate Committee,

Thankyou for the opportunity to make comment* to your **Senate Committee on the Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017 & related Bills** (which you need to report on by 13 June 2017).

Over the several Reform comment stages I have informed the Dept of Health and NICNAS, that their "Reforms":

1/ are very likely to be more costly (in the longer term) than the current system, due the required yearly re-checking,
plus

2/ need proper tracking of "non hazardous" new chemicals to satisfy the community that NICNAS knows all the industrial chemicals in Australia.

plus

3/ need to put in place an industrial chemicals system that can also be reasonably implemented by New Zealand under the TTMRA, so Australia & New Zealand can eventually be one system for introducing industrial chemicals.

As a concerned specialist chemical regulatory consultant and also a concerned member of the community, we need an industrial chemicals system that will work for at least several decades, with minimum ongoing costs, whilst achieving proper management of ALL chemicals.

Comments on 1/. We need more pragmatic and less costly classification processes and a less costly ongoing re-confirmation process for chemicals that will no longer be notified to NICNAS (i.e. Reported Chemicals & Exempted Chemicals).

The basis and calculations for the "cost savings" the Dept of Health claims, has never been made available, just the figures that state a cost saving! So we may be reforming to a system that will end up costing more (particularly over the long term of decades where specialists need to re-check tox and ecotox data on a yearly basis). At this stage I do not know of anyone in industry, including PACIA (now Chemistry Australia) and Accord, who have participated in preparing the underlying basis and calculations of these cost savings.

Actions Suggested for 1/:

a/ The Federal Dept of Health need to be asked for the underlying basis and calculations for the savings they have determined for the "reforms" (over 5 years, 10 years, 15 years and 20 years).

b/ Change the classification process to be more aligned with the pragmatic NZ classification process, then have NICNAS become the entity that tracks the hazard classifications for each chemical (against reputable world tox, ecotox & other hazard databases it has ready access to) and then alerts all businesses to any change in hazard classification categories. This tracking by NICNAS would then be paid for by our industry levy and create a level playing field for all companies introducing the same new industrial chemical into Australia.

Comments on 2/. It is the "non hazardous" chemicals that have ended up causing the largest concerns in the community (e.g. Phthalate Ester plasticizers), when we finally determine they are actually hazardous, so as a minimum we need to track them (with just chemical names &/or CAS No) against each introducer each year.

Compared to the current <100kg No Unreasonable Risk Exemption chemicals reporting, this REMOVES the requirement to report the actual quantity to AICIS, each AICIS year. Currently, adding up the quantities across many products the ingredient is in, is the BIG cost in the current NICNAS process, that needs to be removed.

Action Suggested for 2/: Track "non hazardous" new chemicals by Name, CAS No. and Introducer, each year.

Comments on 3/. Australia originally agreed to align its industrial chemicals management system with NZ by 2019. The proposed reforms have NOT addressed this in any way. IF we are more pragmatic about our classification process using hazard classification categories, and then relying on NICNAS to track changes in them, this would move Australia to a lower cost system. NZ also needs to manage its "non-hazardous" chemicals.

Action Suggested for 3/: Put in place an industrial chemicals system that can eventually be reasonably implemented by New Zealand. Request NZ to also manage its "non-hazardous" chemicals.

Additional Comment: I am hoping that NICNAS is setting up an IT system that will accommodate all introducers maintaining their Reported and Exempted chemical information in it, that can then be made available (as appropriate) to AICIS (for example for a detailed audits that will be needed), which will overcome the long term (decades plus) maintenance of IT databases within businesses around Australia or businesses in other countries.

* Comment by Jeff Simpson, Haztech Environmental

• Submissions Received by the Senate Committee

In the 7 day timeframe allowed, there were 12 Submissions received by the Senate Community Affairs Committee on the proposed Industrial Chemicals Bills.

Haztech Environmental ([pdf 25 kb](#))

Australian Council of Trade Unions ([pdf 243 kb](#))

CropLife Australia ([pdf 329 kb](#))

Public Health Association of Australia ([pdf 784 kb](#))

Victorian Trades Hall Council ([pdf 59 kb](#))

Cancer Council Australia ([pdf 272 kb](#))

Accord ([pdf 6356 kb](#))

Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union ([pdf 417 kb](#))

Dow Chemical (Australia) Pty Ltd ([pdf 224 kb](#))

Chemistry Australia ([pdf 257 kb](#))

ShireBiz ([pdf 87 kb](#)) Attachment (Nov 2006) ([pdf 1806 kb](#))

They can be accessed at:

www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/IndustrialChemicals/Submissions

• Reforms: Consul'n Paper 5 Supporting Material

In addition to the Delegated Legislation, NICNAS will publish a [Characterisation Guide](#), which will be the primary supporting document. This will be prescribed in the Delegated Legislation, which means an introducer must use the Guide when characterising the exposure and hazard of their chemical introduction.

The Characterisation Guide will include:

- the types of information that will be considered sufficient for the purposes of hazard characterisation (commensurate with the Exposure Band)
- the release factors that are to be used when calculating the release volume for the characterisation of environmental exposure.

The web pages (or the downloadable document) contain a draft of some of the material to be included in the Characterisation Guide.

NICNAS will release the draft Characterisation Guide, as well as guidance material on the categorisation process, for consultation once it is developed.

[Consultation Paper 5 Supporting Material](#) (86 page pdf)

Exposure Bands for Environment & the Release Volume.

This is new area for Australian businesses.

Default release factors will be defined for scenarios that, where possible, take into account: 1/ life cycle stage; 2/ use pattern/industrial sector; 3/ release compartments.

Q: Is there any information that you can provide to aid in the development of default release factors?

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/reforms/consultation-paper-5-supporting-material

• NICNAS Reform Public Workshop, Melb 28 June 17

Wednesday 28 June 2017, 9.30am to midday

[Cliftons Conference Centre](#), 440 Collins Street, Melbourne

[Register for this workshop](#). If you don't receive a confirmation email ph:(02) 8577 8837.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/reforms/Reforms-workshops-book-now

• Reforms Cost Recovery Model Discussion Paper

13 June 2017: The proposed Cost Recovery Model discussion paper is available by accessing the links below:

- [Context and purpose](#)
- [Proposed cost recovery model](#)
- [Method used to determine the cost associated with each activity](#)
- [Implementation strategy](#)
- [Main changes resulting from the reforms and how they affect cost recovery](#)
- [Services/activities subject to fees or charges](#)
- [Summary of proposed fee/charge categories](#)

The reforms do not change the Government policy position that the full cost of regulatory activities will be recovered through fees and charges paid by regulated entities (predominantly introducers of industrial chemicals).

There will be two main types of applications (for which a fee for service will be charged) — an application for an Assessment Certificate or for a Commercial Evaluation Authorisation. Most other introductions (Exempted or Reported introductions) will not require pre-market assessment by AICIS, so there will be no fee associated with these.

There will be greater emphasis on post-market monitoring and enforcement. This will affect the Annual Registration Charge (levy) that funds regulatory monitoring and enforcement activities.

Some Points in the Paper that caught the Editor's attention:

1/ The Australian Govt Dept of Health (the Department).will: • develop cost estimates for each of the activities under the new framework; • use the cost estimates to identify the proposed amount of the fee or charge (levy) for each activity.

2/ Registered introducers would be expected to know the way in which a chemical is expected to be used in Australia (and its likely exposure to people and the environment), and to hold (or have timely access to) information on its intrinsic hazards.

3/ Examples of Fees for Services

Fees associated with applications for:

- inclusion on the Register of Introducers of Industrial Chemicals
- an assessment certificate
- a commercial evaluation authorisation
- variations to assessment certificates and authorisations
- variations to inventory listings
- treatment of information as CBI.

4/ Charges (levies) are related to the regulation of the industry as a whole, not to the provision of a specific service to an introducer.

- A registration charge (levy) will be imposed on introducers of industrial chemicals with an annual value of introduced industrial chemicals (other than excluded introductions) over a certain value.
- Registration charges will be used to recover regulatory costs relating to monitoring and enforcement, AICIS initiated evaluations, international harmonisation activities, and stakeholder educational activities to support industry compliance with the scheme and assure the public that the effective regulation of industrial chemicals continues.

5/ As several activities to be undertaken under AICIS are new, it is not possible to rely on historical activity based costing.

6/ Environmental Assessment Services will continue to be undertaken by staff employed by the Dept of the Environment and Energy (DoEE). Prices charged by DoEE will be set to recover the costs associated with providing these services.

Consultation closes 21 July 2017. Please [Submit Online](#).

Editor: I've requested a pdf file (20 pages), we can download.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/reforms/reforms-cost-recovery-model-discussion-paper

• AICS Trade Name Annexe: Request for Info

7 Mar 2017: The Director, NICNAS requests that he be provided with information on each industrial chemical making up each product listed in the Trade Names Annex (TNA) section of the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

<https://www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette/numbers/2017/no.-c-03,-07-march-2017/Request-for-information-about-products-in-the-Trade-Name-Annex-of-the-Australian-Inventory-of-Chemical-Substances>

For each industrial chemical making up a trade name product listed in the TNA of the AICS as at 7 March 2017, the following information on the chemical identity is required:

- Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) name;
- CAS number
- Molecular formula.

Where a product's name has changed and differs to that in the TNA, but the product has the same chemical ingredients as the product listed in the TNA, please provide the chemical composition of the rebranded product and details of when the product was rebranded.

Please submit the required information

- by email to tna.aics@nicnas.gov.au
- completion of the TNA online submission form
- by post to AICS Manager NICNAS GPO Box 58 Sydney NSW 2001

Notice must be given by 9 March 2018.

From: [Request for Information](#) at www.nicnas.gov.au/have-your-say/current-consultations/aics-trade-name-annex-information

Editor: The Trade Name Annex came about because of AEROSHA, which I am still an original member of. The aerospace manufacturing industry, airline maintenance operators in Australia, and the Dept of Defence (RAAF) were all part of AEROSHA. None had the ability to obtain the formulation chemical details. So even though Trade Names were not allowed, I said the only way to protect our aerospace industry was for our trade products to be submitted, from which the Trade Name Annex was created.

NOTE: As many of these aerospace industry formulations were leading edge chemistry, it is highly likely that there will be many ingredients, including trace additives, that could be highly beneficial for Australian industry to put the effort in to have checked, and then have added to the AICS.

Comment: In the June 2017 Chemical Gazette, Calcium Dichromate CAS 14307-33-6 was listed as being added to the AICS. This had a Limited Notification in May 2012, LTD/1594 which informed it was in PR-1422 A-2 Part A. HOWEVER this PR-1422 A-2 Part A product is listed in the above Excel Spreadsheet, so was already approved to be used in Australia! So clearly the Secondary Notification Conditions do NOT apply. And surely NICNAS should have known the above.

• Chemical Gazettes (April, May, June 2017)

4 April 2017 Chemical Gazette:

Secondary Notification Assessment: D-glucitol, 1-deoxy-1-(methylamino)-, N-C10-16 acyl derivatives for public comment.

The original assessment was for use in finished domestic dishwashing detergent, without reformulation.

In 2015, the applicant advised NICNAS of its intention to import the notified chemical for use in personal care products and household cleaning products, following reformulation in Australia. The new introducer's proposed introduction volumes significantly exceeded those previously assessed.

[Draft Assessment Report](#) (88 page docx)

2 May 2017 Chemical Gazette:

Secondary Notification of: Siloxanes and Silicones, 3-[(2-aminoethyl)amino]propyl Me, di-Me, methoxy-terminated, reaction products with polyethylene glycol Bu glycidyl ether

This Secondary Notification relates to [Assessment Report LTD/1668](#) (July 2013 22 page docx file. Used as a Component of cleansing wet wipes.)

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette

6 June 2017 Chemical Gazette:

Correction of chemical names on AICS. These changes are to correct typographical errors and use of inappropriate chemical names. The table also includes chemicals with names updated by the Chemical Abstracts Service. The corrections do not change the identity of the chemical substances themselves.

Editor: There are 16 entries that have been altered.

For example: The AICS originally had for CAS 13557-75-0 Dodecanoic acid, 2-(1-carboxyethoxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoethyl ester, sodium salt. The updated entry adds 1:1 after the word salt.

This now locks the users of this CAS No. to a strict Sodium ratio of 1:1 to the rest of the compound, whereas before the change, any ratio was allowed. This is a narrowing of what was originally covered by the chemical name on the AICS (which we must keep reminding ourselves is a Chemical Inventory NOT a CAS No. Inventory) with AU chemical names.

The Secondary Notification assessment STD/735S of D-glucitol, 1-deoxy-1-(methylamino)-, N-C10-16 acyl derivatives (CAS No. 173145-38-5) has been completed. [Word docx](#) (30 pages)

Scheduled Medicines & Poisons

• The Poisons Standard (SUSMP No. 17) June 2017

[SUSMP No. 17 \(Poisons Standard June 2017\)](#)

(669 page pdf) commenced 1 June 2017. The SUSMP:

- is a record of decisions regarding the classification of medicines and chemicals into Schedules for inclusion in relevant legislation of the States and Territories;
- includes model provisions about containers and labels, and recommendations about other controls on medicines and chemicals.

Editor: The Index, starting at page 373 is 296 pages long!

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

• 17 May 2017: Consultation: Proposed Amdmts

to the Poisons Standard, for meetings in July 2017 (but NOT including therapeutic substances nor veterinary substances).

New Entry Chemicals being considered:

Isfetamid CAS No. 875915-78-9 S5?

Pydiflumetofen CAS No. 1228284-64-7 S5?

Bacillus Amyloliquefaciens No CAS No. S5?

Butyl Benzyl Phthalate CAS. 85-68-7 S10 for Cosmetic use
(S10 - Substances of Such Danger to Health as to Warrant Prohibition of Sale, Supply and Use)

Chloroacetamide CAS No. 79-07-2 S6?

Vinyl Acetate CAS No. 108-05-4 Assessed under IMAP

A new Sched 6 entry for Vinyl acetate with 1% exemption concentration cut-off for use in domestic products; and a new Sched 10 entry for cosmetic use.

Amended Entry Chemicals being considered:

Lambda-Cyhalothrin CAS 91465-08-6 in Sched 5, 6, & 7

Amend the existing Sched 6 entry for Lambda-Cyhalothrin to emulsifiable granule formulations containing ≤25%.

Basic Red 76 CAS No. 68391-30-0 in Sched 7

Amend the Sched 7 entry for Azo Dyes to exclude Basic Red 76 from being captured, and to include a new Sched 6 entry for Basic Red 76 for use in non-oxidative hair, eyelash and eyebrow dye products with ≤0.001% free o-Anisidine.

Docusate Sodium CAS No. 577-11-7 in Appendix B

(App.B: Substances considered not to require control by scheduling)

A new Sched 6 entry for Docusate Sodium to restrict the use in cosmetic & domestic products (like Lauryl Sulfate salts); & to remove the existing chemical listing from App: B Part 3.

Epidermal Growth Factor CAS No. 1807428-51-3 in S7

Amend the existing Sched 7 entry for Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF) to include topical preparations containing ≤0.0002% of transgenic, plant-made EGF.

Methylisothiazolinone (MI) CAS No. 2682-20-4 in Sched 6, except in leave-on topical preparations with ≤0.01% of MI.

Amend the Sched 6 entry to: Methylisothiazolinone except:

- In rinse-off cosmetic preparations or therapeutic goods intended for topical rinse-off applic'n with ≤0.0015% of MI; or
- In other preparations that are not intended for direct application to the skin with ≤0.1% of MI.

Quinine & its Salts. 9 CAS No.s Assessed under IMAP

130-95-0; 549-56-4; 804-63-7; 6119-70-6; 6183-68-2;

60-93-5; 130-89-2; 6119-47-7; 7549-43-1. In S4, S5 & S7

Proposed: A new Sched 6 entry for QUININE with exemption concentration cut-offs for leave-on and rinse-off hair preparations in alignment with International Regulations / Standards and skin sensitisation warning labels.

Comment Closed 15 June 2017.

From: www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposed-amendments-poisons-standard-accs-acms-and-joint-accsacms-meetings-march-2017

• Scheduling Delegate's Interim Chemical Decisions

17 May 2017: There was an opportunity for further comment which closed on the 31 May 2017.

– [Summary of Delegate's ACCS/ACMS #15 interim decisions](#)

– [2.1 N-\(Alkylamino\) Cyclohexylbenzamides \(Opioids\)](#)

– [2.2 In Vitro Diagnostic and Analytical Preparations](#)

– [2.3 Anise Alcohol](#)

– [2.4 Trans-Anethole](#)

– [2.5 Cinnamaldehyde](#)

– [2.6 Benzyl Salicylate](#)

– [2.7 Sodium a-Olefin Sulfonates](#)

– [2.8 Resorcinol](#)

Any manufacturer of wine would need to understand not only the primary function for using Ammonium Bisulphite (that of a yeast nutrient in the manufacture of wine) but also any incidental function it may provide. For example, if there is formation of SO₂ resulting from the use of Ammonium Bisulphite and Sulphites are present in concentrations of 10 mg/kg or more, mandatory declaration requirements apply.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1127-ProcessingAidsForWine.aspx

• A1146 – Thermolysin (Protease) Processing Aid

26 May 2017: The purpose of this Application is to permit the use of Thermolysin (Protease) enzyme from Anoxybacillus Caldiproteolyticus as a processing aid in protein, dairy, egg, meat and fish processing and flavour production.

[Executive Summary](#) (5 page pdf)

Thermolysin (Protease) (CAS No. 9073-78-3) is a thermo-stable neutral Metallo-Proteinase and is an Enzyme catalyzing the hydrolysis of peptide bonds. It is used as an Enzyme for Protein processing to improve physical properties in foods and is intended for use in various kind of foods such as dairy processing, egg processing, meat and fish processing, Protein processing, yeast processing and flavoring production. Thermolysin (Protease) is proposed for use as a processing aid in food productions at levels up to 0.24%.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1146.aspx

• A1144: Re-categorising Coconut Milk re: Food Additives

12 May 2017: The purpose of the Application is to consider whether the food category for food additive permissions for Coconut Milk Products is more appropriate under fruits, rather than beverages.

[Executive Summary](#) (3 page pdf)

FSANZ Food Standard Schedule 15, does not provide a single clear answer to the question of the appropriate heading or sub-heading under which canned Coconut Milk Products should be classified. There are two possibilities.

The second classification based on the nature and use of the canned coconut milk products and adopted by Codex Alimentarius is the appropriate one.

Classifying canned coconut milk products to the appropriate heading in Schedule 15 is highly critical because the additive permissions differ between the headings.

The ambiguity in how these goods are classified under the Food Standards Code may lead to an interpretation of the Code that would hold that additives permitted under Codex and used in canned coconut milk products elsewhere may not be permitted in Australia and New Zealand.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1144.aspx

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

• APVMA Chlorpyrifos Toxicology Report Published

3 May 2017: The supplementary toxicology assessment report for Chlorpyrifos is now available. The assessment considered studies published between 2000 and 2016, with a focus on the potential for Chlorpyrifos to cause developmental or behavioural neurotoxicity.

Read more about the [Chlorpyrifos Chemical Review](#) (including the supplementary report), or [download the Supplementary Assessment Report](#) (125 page pdf 28 April 2017).

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26836>

• APVMA Methiocarb Review Update Published

8 May 2017: Methiocarb review update to occupational health and safety assessment. The reconsideration of the approvals of the active constituent Methiocarb, registration of products containing Methiocarb and their associated labels

This report contains contemporary First Aid Instructions and Safety Directions (FAISD) for all formulation types, and some refinements to the re-entry and re-handling periods outlined in the 2005 OHS assessment report. In addition, it includes an OHS assessment of WP uses in poppies, that was done in 2007 (this use pattern was missing from the 2005 OHS report).

Obtain 33page pdf or doc at: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26881>

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/12616>

• ADI/ARfD (AgVet Chemicals) & FAISD Handbook

10 May 2017: The APVMA has recently taken over management of these two important chemical information documents (the Health-based guidance values (ADI/ARfD) for AgVet Chemicals and FAISD Handbook) from the Department of Health. This information is used in dietary risk assessments, and for agvet chemical product labelling.

– [Acceptable Daily Intakes \(ADI\) for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals](#) – used in dietary risk assessments

- [Acute Reference Doses \(ARfD\) for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals](#) – used in dietary risk assessments
- [First Aid Instructions, Safety Directions, Warning Statements and General Safety Precautions for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals](#). The First Aid Instructions and Safety Directions Handbook (known the FAISD handbook) is used for product labels.

From Reg Update #250 <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26891>

• Contaminated AgVet Chemical Products

23 March 2017: Contaminated AgVet chemical products subject to current investigations and voluntary recalls.

The APVMA has been working with a number of companies to facilitate the voluntary recall of registered AgVet chemical products in response to contamination that occurred during the manufacturing process. The APVMA was first made aware of the contaminations in December 2016 when it received verbal and written notification from Nufarm Australia and Syngenta Australia.

In those notifications the APVMA were advised that several herbicide products had been found to contain additional chemical actives to those listed in the APVMA registered formulation.

Recent media interest in the recalls has questioned the APVMA's approach to the issue, suggesting that more could have been done to notify end users of the voluntary recall.

"When it comes to the recall of a faulty AgVet chemical product we work with each party to ensure risks are appropriately managed and that action is taken promptly, but it's important to acknowledge that companies and manufacturers are the ones responsible for product stewardship – not the APVMA." (APVMA Chief Executive Officer, Ms Kareena Arthy).

While there are clear legislative obligations for the APVMA to publish compulsory recalls in the Gazette, there is no legislative trigger for the APVMA to publish voluntary recalls on the APVMA website.

The Ongoing Investigation and Outcome (so far):

The issue of cross contamination in the manufacturing process for APVMA registered products is complex and under current investigation by the APVMA.

A number of agricultural companies in addition to those named in recent media coverage are subject to ongoing investigation.

In the current matter, the APVMA considered the voluntary recall actions proposed by the companies and concluded that on balance, compulsory recalls were not required.

As a result of the voluntary recalls undertaken by the companies, the APVMA understands that the majority of the chemical products involved have been removed from sale.

More Information:

To notify the APVMA about a faulty registered product, registrants should complete the online form, [Notification of a potential or actual recall of an agricultural or veterinary chemical product](#). 2 page [docx form](#) & 47 page [pdf Guidelines](#).

Product recall process details: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/1081>.

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26641>

• Natural Products and APVMA Registration

1 June 2017: Natural products may require APVMA registration. APVMA statement regarding "Parra Trooper".

A common misconception amongst industry and consumers is that natural products or naturally occurring biological controls do not require registration by the APVMA.

The product "Parra Trooper" is not currently registered with the APVMA, however the APVMA has advised that "Parra Trooper" likely fits the definition of an agriculture chemical product because it is promoted as having the effect of destroying pest plants through a facilitated attack by a fungus.

The APVMA became aware of this product (Parra Trooper) when proprietors questioned the requirement for registration in November 2015 and they were informed that the product met the legislative definition of an agricultural chemical product and likely required registration.

Further notification was sent to the proprietors of "Parra Trooper" in March 2017 advising of possible contraventions the AGVET Code in relation to the possession, supply and advertising of the unregistered agvet product.

It is important that consumers understand that the action taken in regard to the unregistered product, "Parra Trooper", does NOT extend to another agricultural chemical product with a similar name – "Imtrade Para-Trooper Herbicide/67244" - which is registered for use in Australia.

Further info: Roanna Dawson, Director, Public Affairs,
Mobile: 0467 726 486, email Media@apvma.gov.au

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26986>

• APVMA: New Guide for Online Applications

31 March 2017: New guidance material is now available to assist you in completing an application with the APVMA. The [Guide to Completing an Online Application](#) has been developed following feedback received during industry events and the 2016

usability review of our website and Online services. The Guide will also be available from the help tab in the [APVMA Online Services Portal](#).

The Guide at <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26691> helps the preparation of an application using the Online Services Portal.

There are over 30 Application Types available in the APVMA Online Services Portal. This Guide covers every possible section of all Application Types. Simply choose the Sections relevant to your Application.

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26716>

• APVMA Armidale Relocation – Some Questions

1 May 2017:

Q. When will the APVMA move to Armidale?

Q. How many APVMA staff currently work in Armidale?

Q. How is APVMA working with Industry?

Q. What is the digital strategy and when will it be delivered?

Q. Why does the APVMA provide talking points for their staff?

There are further FAQs relating to those who want to “Do Business with the APVMA”

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26301>

• APVMA CEO Resigns

21 April 2017: Kareena Arthy has resigned from the position of Chief Executive Officer at the APVMA after over four years with the Agency, which is effective from 31 May 2017.

“I’m leaving at a time when the main elements for the relocation to Armidale are in place. It is the right time for a new CEO to be appointed who can lead the APVMA into its next phase in Armidale.” Kareena Arthy

The future leadership of the APVMA is a matter for the Deputy Prime Minister.

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26811>

• Interim APVMA CEO Welcomed

9 June 2017: Interim Chief Executive Officer, Dr Chris Parker has been welcomed to the APVMA. Dr Parker has over 30 years’ experience working in the agricultural and veterinary fields, combined with extensive government experience. He has held a number of senior executive positions in agricultural policy divisions in the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry dealing with biosecurity service delivery, regulatory policy and operational delivery, and broader departmental policy. Most recently Chris has led work in the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to regulate plant exports and improve export access through reducing technical barriers to trade.

From Reg Update #252: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26996>

• Regulatory Science Roles Available at the APVMA

The APVMA are looking for people with **scientific, agricultural or veterinary qualifications and experience** to assess and manage risks to people and the environment from the use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals to contribute to Australia’s agricultural productivity.

– [Executive Level 1–2 Regulatory Scientist roles](#)

- [APS 4–6 Regulatory Scientist roles](#)

Applications close 11.59 pm Aust EST **25 June 2017**

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26936>

• Methamidaphos: Import & Export Changes

30 May 2017: the Australian Dept of Agriculture and Water Resources gives notice that the conditions that apply to the import or export of the active constituent Methamidaphos, or proposed products containing the active constituent Methamidaphos, are changing.

Under the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, export of these chemicals to countries that are parties to the Convention for use as a pesticide may be prohibited absolutely, or only authorised if certain specified conditions given by the importing party are met. Exporting parties must ensure that exports do not occur when the importing country has indicated that it does not consent to imports of that chemical.

Agvet Chemicals Policy (International & Domestic) Section

Dept of Agriculture and Water Resources

Phone: +61 2 6272 4442

Email: agvetpolicy@agriculture.gov.au

From: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/26976>

• Ag Active Constituent: Streptomyces Lydicus WYEC108

New active constituent, Streptomyces Lydicus WYEC108, a gram-positive soil-dwelling bacterium, for use as a biological fungicidal active constituent in agricultural chemical products.

Common Name: Streptomyces Lydicus WYEC108; Description: A gram-positive, aerobic, filamentous soil bacteria producing grey spiralled chains of spores in an aerial mycelium; Order: Actinomycetales; Family: Streptomycetacea; Genus and species: Streptomyces lydicus; Strain: WYEC10; Mode of Action: Acts as a mycoparasite of fungal pathogens and excretes antifungal metabolites into the rhizosphere after colonisation of plant root tips

The APVMA has considered the toxicological aspects of streptomyces lydicus WYEC108, and concluded that there are no toxicological concerns regarding the approval of this active constituent. An Acceptable Daily Intake and an Acute Reference Dose have not been established for streptomyces lydicus WYEC108 as a result of its low toxicity profile and lack of any apparent pathogenicity or infectivity to mammals.

Streptomyces lydicus WYEC108 has been considered by the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling (ACCS). Based on the data provided and the advice of the ACCS, the Scheduling Delegate concluded that streptomyces lydicus WYEC108 was of low toxicity and has included streptomyces lydicus WYEC108 in Appendix B (substances considered not to require control by scheduling) of the Poisons Standard (SUSMP).

The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed manufacture and use of streptomyces lydicus WYEC108 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 4701, Email: Enquiries@apvma.gov.au

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 16 May 2017 p20-21
<https://apvma.gov.au/node/26906>

• APVMA Active Constituent: Mixed Amine Salts of Isethionate Manufacturing Concentrate

New active constituent, mixed amine salts of isethionate manufacturing concentrate, for use as a spray adjuvant in agricultural products.

Common Name: Mixed amine salts of isethionate manufacturing concentrate; Chemical Name: Ammonium 2-hydroxyethanesulfonate, 2-hydroxyethylammonium 2-hydroxyethanesulfonate, bis(2-hydroxyethyl)ammonium 2-hydroxyethanesulfonate, tris(2-hydroxyethyl)ammonium 2-hydroxyethanesulfonate, tetrakis(2-hydroxyethyl)ammonium 2-hydroxyethanesulfonate; CAS No: 57267-78-4 (ammonium isethionate). CAS numbers not available for the other salts;

Formula: C₂H₉NO₄S (ammonium salt); C₄H₁₃NO₅S (monoethanolamine salt); C₆H₁₇NO₆S (diethanolamine salt); C₈H₂₁NO₇S (triethanolamine salt); C₁₀H₂₅NO₈S (tetraethanolamine salt); MW: 143.2 (ammonium salt); 187.2 (monoethanolamine salt); 231.3 (diethanolamine salt); 275.3 (triethanolamine salt); 319.4 (tetraethanolamine salt); Chemical Family: Alkyl sulfonate; Mode of action: Spray adjuvant.

The APVMA has considered the toxicological aspects of mixed amine salts of isethionate, and concluded that there are no toxicological concerns regarding the approval of this active constituent. An Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) and an Acute Reference Dose (ARfD) have not been established, considering the low acute toxicity of the salts of isethionate.

Mixed amine salts of isethionate have been considered by the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling (ACCS). Based on the data provided and the advice of the ACCS, the scheduling delegate concluded that isethionate, as mixed ammonium and ethanolamine salts of 2-hydroxyethanesulfonic acid, were of low toxicity and has included isethionate, as mixed ammonium and ethanolamine salts of 2-hydroxyethanesulfonic acid, in Appendix B (substances considered not to require control by scheduling) of the Poisons Standard (SUSMP).

The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed manufacture and use of mixed amine salts of isethionate 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 4701, Email: Enquiries@apvma.gov.au

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 13 June 2017 p15-16
<https://apvma.gov.au/node/26991>

Dangerous Goods

• Worksafe NZ: Major Hazard Facilities

Following designation of a major hazard facility, WorkSafe NZ must provide prescribed information to the public on their website. The Table on this website includes most MHFs, except where disclosure may lead to a threat to the security of a MHF. There are currently 128 MHFs listed.

Subsequent amendments are expected as operators develop their emergency plans, during the transitional provisions in Schedule 1 of these NZ Regulations, which last until 4 April 2018.

From: www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/guidance-by-industry/major-hazard-facilities/mhf-public-information

• Cleanaway fined over Adelaide Chemical Fire

20 April 2017: Waste management company Cleanaway has been convicted and fined \$650,000 over a chemical fire in Adelaide that injured an employee, following an investigation by Federal Work Health and Safety Regulator Comcare.

On 25 July 2013, at Cleanaway's Wingfield Chemical Waste Processing Plant near Port Adelaide, workers were conducting Cleanaway's first production-scale trial to distil a new industrial solvent from a chemical mixture when there was a loud explosive rush of air followed by a large flame emanating from the large metal still.

A worker standing around five metres away from the still was knocked to the ground by the force of the fire. He was treated in hospital for minor injuries.

In sentencing, Judge Davison, the District Court of South Australia said that workers had very limited information about the new product and Cleanaway did not provide all the technical information to the workers on the ground.

From: www.comcare.gov.au/news_and_media/media_centre/cleanaway_fined_over_adelaide_chemical_fire

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

• Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Federal Dept of Health website information on PFAS.

- [Health Based Guidance Values \(HBGVs\) for PFAS](#)
- [Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\)](#)
- [Health Initiatives to address PFAS contamination](#)
- [Community Walk-In Sessions](#) (downloadable presentations)
- [Further Information](#) (email: Health.PFAS@Health.Gov.Au)

From: www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-pfas.htm

• HEPA Regulators PFAS Summit (in April 2017)

Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA Vic), on behalf of the Heads of EPAs Australia and New Zealand (HEPA) and the Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy, hosted a summit of international environment experts and regulators on PFAS on 4-5 April 2017.

The summit focused on the environmental regulation of PFAS based on current human health reference values for PFAS. It was an opportunity for environment and human health regulators to draw on their knowledge and experience to discuss the regulation of PFAS and the development of a national management plan.

Keynote speakers:

Éva Fetter, Scientific Officer, German Environment Agency. She has a special focus on assessing chemicals with potential endocrine disrupting properties, and development and enforcement of risk management strategies concerning PFAS.

Hilary Thornton, USA Environmental Protection Agency.

He leads a workgroup of the USA EPA's Engineering Forum in developing an issue paper on PFAS.

Timothy Dee, Aurecon New Zealand Ltd. Tim is a specialist in the implementation, delivery & management of contaminated sites, from initial preliminary appraisals through to remediation management, validation & ongoing consent monitoring.

A Video of the Summit keynote speeches (2hrs17min) is at:
www.thestreamingguys.com.au/production/enviro-regs-summit

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/your-environment/land-and-groundwater/pfas-in-victoria/hepa-regulators-pfas-summit

Or from: www.epa.vic.gov.au/pfas

National Regulation of PFAS a step closer 13 April 2017.

www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2017/april/13/national-regulation-of-pfas-a-step-closer

• NSW EPA: FSANZ updates PFAS Guidelines

3 April 2017 NSW Media Release:

The NSW EPA will continue the NSW Govt's precautionary approach on providing PFAS advice, following the release of the FSANZ's review into the National Exposure Guidelines for Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).

The FSANZ review provides Guidance on the level or Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI) to inform appropriate consumption of food or water containing PFAS. The new guidelines endorse lower levels for PFAS than the Australian Government's previous interim enHealth guidelines.

NSW EPA Executive Director of Hazardous Incidents and Environmental Health Sarah Gardner said "There is no consistent evidence that PFAS is harmful to humans however, because these chemicals take a long time to break down in humans and in the environment, the NSW Government has already adopted a precautionary approach to managing PFAS across the state."

NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer Professor Mary O'Kane said the FSANZ Guidelines used a different methodology to the enHealth Guidelines which meant there will be some change in precautionary advice for the Williamstown community.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia170403.htm

• FSANZ: Perfluorinated Chemicals in Food

3 April 2017: The outcomes of a review by Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ), Perfluorinated Chemicals in Food, to determine the recommended Tolerable Daily Intake values (TDI) for people potentially exposed to the contaminants collectively known as Perfluoroalkylated (PFAS) Substances, was released by the Australian Government.

[Australian guidance values for assessing exposure to Perfluorooctane Sulfonate \(PFOS\) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid \(PFOA\)](#) (3 page Media Release pdf, 3 April 2017)

A Summary of the Consolidated Report and the Consolidated Report and Supporting Documents are available at: www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-pfas-hbgv.htm#FSANZ

[Consolidated Report - Perfluorinated Chemicals in Food](#) (15 page pdf)

FSANZ's assessment, which has been endorsed by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) & reviewed by the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Committee (AHMAC), used a pharmacokinetic modelling approach & parameters appropriate to an Australian context.

In its report FSANZ has recommended new TDIs for use in site investigations in Australia that are lower than the interim values adopted by enHealth.

A TDI is the amount of a chemical in food or drinking water that can be ingested on a daily basis over a life-time without appreciable risk to the consumer.

The new recommended Australian values are closer to the US EPA values although the modelling approach used by FSANZ to derive the value was not the same as that used by the US EPA. FSANZ derived these values independently and its report was peer reviewed by international experts.

FSANZ has recommended values that allow for a large margin of safety and are appropriate and protective of public health. The new TDIs will be for use in investigating sites contaminated with PFAS.

From: www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr17-dept-dept006.htm and www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-pfas-hbgv.htm and www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-pfas-hbgv.htm#FSANZ and www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-pfas.htm and

• SMH: NSW EPA not declaring contamination Despite Possible Health Risks

2 June 2017 Sydney Morning Herald (SMH): The environmental watchdog (NSW EPA) has not declared some residential land contaminated where it found chemicals which may have posed health risks.

On Friday, the NSW government announced emeritus professors Stephen Leeder, a public health expert, and Chris Fell, a chemical engineer, will lead a review into the EPA's policies.

It follows a [Fairfax Media investigation](#) that last week revealed the (NSW) Environment Protection Authority was not declaring "significant contamination" on residential land to avoid lowering property prices.

In response, the (NSW) EPA's chairman and chief executive, Barry Buffier, said if a property was "so badly impacted that it was a risk to human health, then it would be declared."

From: www.smh.com.au/nsw/epa-not-declaring-contamination-despite-possible-health-risks-20170602-gwja75.html

• NSW EPA: Contamin. Sites Management Report

11 May 2017 NSW Govt Media Statement:

Professor Taylor's Report found the NSW EPA may have been more proactive in its management of Williamstown (PFAS) contamination between 2012 to 2015, but the NSW EPA and other NSW government agencies' response since August 2015 have been timely and appropriate.

Addressing issues related to contaminated sites, which are often very complex, is a priority for the NSW Government to ensure the protection, safety and wellbeing of the community and environment.

To read Professor Taylor's final report visit:

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/MediaInformation/taylor-report-williamtown.htm

[Professor Taylor's May 2017 Final report](#) (258 page pdf).

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/resources/MinMedia/EPAMinMedia17051101.pdf (1 page pdf)

• NSW EPA fines Sydney Transwaste Industries P/L for Non-Compliance with Clean-Up Notices

2 June 2017: The NSW EPA has issued a \$15,000 fine to Sydney Transwaste Industries Pty Ltd for failing to comply with a Clean-Up Notice after the company stockpiled waste over allowable limits.

In two inspections at the company's Homebush West premises, NSW EPA officers found an estimated 3,000 m³ of waste being stored at the premises. This is well over the lawful limit of 1,000 m³ permitted for unlicensed facilities.

Transwaste, an unlicensed waste facility, was issued with two Clean-Up notices in May and August 2016. In December 2016 they were issued with an official caution for failing to comply with the first Clean-Up Notice.

"Operating a waste facility without the appropriate development consent gives Transwaste an unfair advantage over competitors within the industry who have invested financial capital installing infrastructure to manage air, noise and water at their premises," said Mr Greg Sheehy (NSW EPA Director Waste Compliance).

From:

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia17060202.htm

• NSW EPA Waste Offences: Companies fined \$91K

19 May 2017: Four waste companies in Sydney and Newcastle have been fined a total \$91,500 by the NSW EPA for environmental offences.

Two of these fines were:

Bingo Waste Services Pty Ltd has been fined \$30,000 for unlawfully transporting general solid waste to the Minto Recycling facility in August 2016. This included domestic waste, waste from litter bins, street sweepings, pieces of plastic and other items. The facility is licenced to receive building and demolition waste and scrap metal only.

In relation to the same incident, Minto Recycling Pty Ltd has been fined \$30,000 for accepting that waste from Bingo Waste Services in contravention of their licence conditions. The company continued to accept loads of garbage even after being warned by the NSW EPA that it was unlawful to do so. Processing unlawful waste in with waste for recycling creates a risk of contamination being reintroduced into the community who believe they are purchasing a quality product.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia17051701.htm

• PFAS investigations at RFS Westleigh, NSW

2 June 2017 NSW EPA Media Release: Further testing is underway at Westleigh Rural Fire Service (RFS) training site, near Hornsby, NSW, as part of the state-wide PFAS* investigation program being led by the NSW EPA.

Preliminary sampling undertaken by RFS at the site, which is owned by Hornsby Shire Council, shows the presence of PFAS in some surface water and groundwater samples taken offsite.

NSW EPA Executive Director Hazardous Incidents and Environmental Health, Sarah Gardner, said contamination in the environment is often found where PFAS containing fire-fighting foams have been used for training.

"Importantly, there is no consistent evidence of any human health effects related to PFAS exposure," Mrs Gardner said.

"However, because the NSW Government is taking a precautionary approach, we need to determine if there are any pathways through which people might come into contact with PFAS.

More information on PFAS is available at: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/Mediainformation/pfasinvestigation.htm or by calling the NSW Environment Line on 131 555.

* PFAS (Per- and Poly- Fluoro Alkyl Substances) are a group of chemicals that include Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS), Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorohexane Sulfonate (PFHxS). As they have heat, water and stain repelling properties, PFAS have been widely used in a range of industrial and consumer products both in Australia and internationally, including in fire retardants, water proofing, food preparation, food packaging, furnishings, clothing and recreational equipment.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia17060205.htm

• PFAS Investigations are Underway at Botany Bay

22 May 2017 NSW EPA Media Release: Testing is underway at Botany Bay as part of the state-wide PFAS* investigation program by the NSW EPA. This follows sampling at both Sydney Airport and Botany Industrial Park (BIP), which showed PFAS detections on and offsite.

NSW EPA Director Hazardous Incidents and Environmental Health Sarah Gardner said the presence of PFAS is not unexpected given the past use of PFAS-containing fire-fighting foams for onsite training at Sydney Airport and BIP, as well as the range of other industrial operations in the Botany area.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/epamedia/EPAMedia17052201.htm

• Vic EPA: Company Fined for Chemical Discharge

18 May 2017: Victorian EPA has fined Broadmeadows company GSB Chemicals Co Pty Ltd more than \$7,700 for causing an environmental hazard in Campbellfield Creek.

Vic EPA Metro Manager Mr Daniel Hunt said the investigating officers found no visible stormwater controls or mechanisms to prevent the chemical being discharged from the site.

“GSB is a Dangerous Goods warehouse that contains raw and unfinished chemical products and it is disappointing that no controls were in place even though Vic EPA has provided this company with advice in the past to install measures to prevent something like this happening,” Mr Hunt said.

Mr Hunt said Vic EPA expected preventative actions to be taken at companies of this nature to prevent the spill of chemicals, and in the event of any incidents, infrastructure to contain chemicals to prevent impacts on the environment.

“This can be achieved through management plans, boundary shut off valves with temporary containment ponds or tanks, and using the services of Vic EPA-approved waste removalists, transporters, and treaters,” Mr Hunt said.

Mr Hunt said that the company had also been issued with a notice that required it to install appropriate on-site stormwater controls to prevent any further chemical discharges.

Mr Hunt said the chemical-laden fire water was removed from Campbellfield Creek.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2017/may/08/epa-fines-broadmeadows-company-for-chemical-discharge

• Vic EPA: Brooklyn Landfill Licence Breach seen from the skies

Victorian EPA has fined Western Land Reclamation Pty Ltd more than \$7,700 for breaching a condition of its Vic EPA licence at its Brooklyn landfill.

Vic EPA Metro Manager Daniel Hunt said EPA investigators had used drone technology to spot the licence breach from above the site in November 2016.

“The licence conditions for Western Land Reclamation’s Brooklyn landfill clearly state that waste contained in landfill cells must have a covering of 15 centimetres of soil, or a cover approved by Vic EPA, placed over any exposed waste at the end of each day,” Mr Hunt said.

Mr Hunt said the drone had been launched over the site after investigators had seen staff leave the site for the day and detected that no heavy machinery was active.

“Vic EPA’s drone was able to capture footage of uncovered waste in a landfill cell that appeared to be industrial in nature and included the likes of wooden pallets, rolls of carpet, a mattress and a large roll of discarded paper,” Mr Hunt said.

“By covering exposed litter at the end of each day, it greatly reduces the possibility of odour impacting on local residents. It also lessens the chances of litter being blown about by the elements and leaving the premises,” Mr Hunt said.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2017/april/13/epa-spots-brooklyn-landfill-licence-breach-from-the-skies

Standards & Codes

• Standards – <https://infostore.saiglobal.com/>

& select “Find Standards” under “Standards” tab

[AS 2809.3:2017](#): Road Tank Vehicles for Dangerous Goods Road Tank Vehicles for Compressed Liquefied Gas. (This Standard is complementary to AS 2809.1). Published 27 April 2017, 18 pages, pdf (Copy/Paste & Print Once): \$160.68; Hardcopy: \$115.18.

[AS 2809.4:2017](#): Road Tank Vehicles for Dangerous Goods Road Tank Vehicles for Toxic and Corrosive Cargoes. (This Standard is complementary to AS 2809.1). Published 26 April 2017, 21 pages, pdf (Copy/Paste & Print Once): \$160.68; Hardcopy: \$115.18.

[AS IEC 61882:2017](#): Hazard and Operability Studies (HAZOP Studies) - Application Guide. This International Standard provides a guide for HAZOP studies of systems using guide words. It gives guidance on application of the technique and on the HAZOP study procedure, including definition, preparation, examination sessions and resulting documentation and follow-up. Published 5 May 2017, 53 pages, pdf (Copy/Paste & Print Once): \$311.00; Hardcopy: \$222.94.

[ISO/DIS 45001.2](#): Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems - Requirements with Guidance for Use. Published 19 May 2017, 44 pages, pdf (Print Once & NO Copy/Paste): \$82.72; Hardcopy: \$91.91.

[ASTM F1872-17](#): Standard Guide for Use of Chemical Shoreline Cleaning Agents: Environmental and Operational Considerations. Published 1 April 2017, 10 pages, pdf (Print Once & NO Copy/Paste, & NO sharing): \$64.71; Hardcopy: \$64.71 (No copying allowed).

[DIN EN 1839 \(2017-04\)](#): Determination of the Explosion Limits and the Limiting Oxygen Concentration (LOC) for Flammable Gases and Vapours. Published 1 April 2017, 46 pages, pdf: \$232.24; Hardcopy: \$280.41.

[ISO/IEC 80079-20-2:2016/Cor 1:2017](#): Explosive Atmospheres Part 20-2: Material Characteristics - Combustible Dusts Test Methods - Technical Corrigendum 1. Published 16 March 2017, 10 pages, pdf: Free; Hardcopy: Free. (in both English and French).

• **Drafts – <https://infostore.saiqglobal.com/>**

& select “Find Standards” under “Standards” tab

[DR AS/NZS 1605.1:2017](#): Methods for Sampling and Analysing Timber Preservatives and Preservative-Treated Timber General Requirements, Sampling, and Determination of Sapwood and Heartwood Presence. Published 30 Mar 2017, 10 pages, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: \$12.53.

[DR AS/NZS 1605.2:2017](#): Methods for Sampling and Analysing Timber Preservatives and Preservative-Treated Timber Determination of Preservative Penetration by Spot Test. Published 30 Mar 2017, 12 pages, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: \$12.53.

[DR AS/NZS 1605.3:2017](#): Methods for Sampling and Analysing Timber Preservatives and Preservative-Treated Timber Analysis Methods for Determination of Preservative Retention. Published 30 Mar 2017, 62 pages, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: \$44.00.

[DR AS/NZS 1605.4:2017](#): Methods for Sampling and Analysing Timber Preservatives and Preservative-Treated Timber Analysis Methods for Determination of Preservative Solution Concentration. Published 30 Mar 2017, 55 pages, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: \$44.00.

[DR AS/NZS 4361.1:2017 CP](#): Guide to Hazardous Paint Management Lead and Other Hazardous Metallic Pigments in Industrial Applications. Published 21 April 2017, 97 pages, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: \$57.98.

[DR AS/NZS 4361.2:2017](#): Guide to Hazardous Paint Management Lead Paint in Residential, Public and Commercial Buildings. Published 3 May 2017, 44 pages, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: \$44.00.

[DR AS 7240.6:2017 CP](#): Fire Detection and Alarm Systems Carbon Monoxide Fire Detectors Using Electro-Chemical Cells. Published 8 May 2017, 1 page, pdf (ALL types): Free; Hardcopy: Free. *Editor*: This draft is informed to be identical to and reproduces ISO 7240-6:2011, so there is no useful draft information available to review via this download.

[ISO/DIS 12944-5.2](#): Paints and Varnishes - Corrosion Protection of Steel Structures by Protective Paint Systems Part 5: Protective Paint Systems. Published 25 April 2017, 26 pages, pdf: 82.72; Hardcopy: \$91.91.

[ISO/DIS 20435-1](#): Workplace Atmospheres Part 1: Gas Detectors - Performance requirements of detectors for Toxic Gases. Published 7 June 2017, 50 pages, pdf: 84.94; Hardcopy: \$94.38.

<https://www.hub.standards.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)**

Newly Published NFPA Codes

No new NFPA Codes on chemical management.

Public Input/Comment is Currently being Accepted on:

From NFPA News April & May & June 2017:

[NFPA 32](#) Standard for Drycleaning Facilities

[NFPA 35](#) Standard for the Manufacture of Organic Coatings

[NFPA 91](#) Standard for Exhaust Systems for Air Conveying of Vapors, Gases, Mists, and Particulate Solids

[NFPA 122](#) Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Metal / Non-metal Mining and Metal Mineral Processing Facilities

[NFPA 326](#) Standard for the Safeguarding of Tanks and Containers for Entry, Cleaning, or Repair

[NFPA 329](#) Recommended Practice for Handling Releases of Flammable and Combustible Liquids and Gases

[NFPA 497](#) Recommended Practice for the Classification of Flammable Liquids, Gases, or Vapors and of Hazardous (Classified) Locations for Electrical Installations in Chemical Process Areas

[NFPA 499](#) Recommended Practice for the Classification of Combustible Dusts and of Hazardous (Classified) Locations for Electrical Installations in Chemical Process Areas

[NFPA 555](#) Guide on Methods for Evaluating Potential for Room Flashover

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

[NFPA 704](#) Standard System for the Identification of the Hazards of Materials for Emergency Response

[NFPA 1124](#) Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, and Storage of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles

NFPA Committees Seeking Members (via NFPA News):

Please check the NFPA News yourselves for Committees you can provide technical support to.

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

• RACI Centenary Congress (July 2017) Melbourne

23-28 July 2017: 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.

5 Day Pass: by 22/7 \$1250.

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

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

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

Health, Safety & Environment Speakers are at:

www.racicongress.com/RACIConference/health-safety-environment-speakers.php

Plenary Speakers are at:

www.racicongress.com/RACIConference/plenary-speakers.php and Keynote Speakers are at:

www.racicongress.com/RACIConference/keynote-speakers.php

• The Future – What are the Hazards & Benefits, 15 Aug

RACI Vic HS&E Seminar, 5.40pm-9.40m, 15 Aug 2017. An interesting look forward to *What are the Hazards and Benefits of New Developments* with chemicals, technologies, hazard identification & testing; and new training methods.

At the MFB Burnley Complex, Richmond, Vic. By the end of June, for the Cost & to Book, see the RACI Events Website. <https://www.raci.org.au/events> and select "August"

• AIDGC Conference 2017, Sydney, 8 Sept 2017

Major Theme: **Process and Risk Engineering in Hazardous Chemicals Management**. Confirmed presenters are: Professor Sidney Dekker, Griffith University, Brisbane.

Andrew Battye, SafeWork NSW. Dr Garry Marling, Risk, Safety and Security Consultant (Marling Group). David Coote, SafeWork NSW (MHF Section).

Details on AIDGC website: <http://aidgc.org.au/news-events/>

<http://aidgc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/AIDGC-Conference-2017-Keynote-Speakers.pdf> (1 page pdf flyer)

• AEBN D. Goods S&H&T Workshop, 22 Sept, Melb

Introductory Level – Dangerous Goods Storage, Handling & Transport Workshop: **AM Half Day**, 22 Sept 2017. Cost \$415.

From: www.aebn.com.au/event/introductory-level/

• AEBN D. Goods S&H&T Workshop, 22 Sept, Melb

Intermediate Level – Dangerous Goods Storage, Handling & Transport Workshop: **PM Half Day**, 22 Sept 2017. Cost \$415.

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

• ACTRA Scientific Meeting, Canberra, 27-29 Sept

Australasian College of Toxicology & Risk Assessment.

The theme is 'Risk Assessment of Novel Technologies'.

Register: <https://events.clems.com.au/QuickEventWebsitePortal/actra-annual-scientific-meeting/welcome>

Continuing Education Day preceding the ASM on Wednesday, 27 September 2017, theme "New Approaches / Methodologies in Risk Assessment".

If interested in either events, email: actraasm@clems.com.au

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 26 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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