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• NICNAS Registration Guidance Notes

NICNAS has prepared several Guidance Notes in case any business hasn't understood, that **NICNAS Registration is now required for all** importers and manufactures of industrial chemicals, **regardless of the amount** of relevant industrial chemicals imported or manufactured in that year.

"The Act allows NICNAS to stop you from introducing industrial chemicals until you have met the requirements of the Act. Penalties apply. Under section 80B of the Act, it is an offence to import and/or manufacture industrial chemicals in a registration year without a registration in force. The associated penalty is up to \$33,000 for an individual and \$165,000 for a company."

These Notes were all published in August 2004 as pdf files and are available to download from the NICNAS website.

- [Guidance note for the Cement industry](#)
- [Guidance Note for the Ink and Toner Industry](#)
- [Guidance Note for the Paint Industry](#)
- [Guidance Note for the Plastics Industry](#)
- [Guidance Note for the Cosmetics & Toiletries Industries](#)

From www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/ and scroll to the bottom of the webpage; and from www.nicnas.gov.au/obligations/registration/#12

Hazmat & Environment Notes are prepared by:

Jeff Simpson

Hazardous Materials Consultant
Editor & Publisher

I have edited and published this newsletter since 1985, initially within the Aerospace Industry, and then to all industry using chemicals since 1991.

I work as a Regulatory Affairs and Hazardous Materials Consultant and try to put my concern about chemicals into practice, and influence everyone to make better choices of, and better use of chemicals.

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

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

Screen

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Hazardous Substances

• Proposed Skin Notation Amendments to National Workplace Exposure Standards

NOHSC is proposing to include skin notations in *Adopted National Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment* for the following substances:

Chloroform
Monochloroacetic acid
Cumene
Piperidine
(2-Methoxymethylethoxy) propanol
1-Methoxy-2-propanol acetate
Toluene
2-Butoxyethyl acetate

Lindane [Gamma-HCH-hexachlorocyclohexane]
Mercury: aryl compounds (as Hg)
Mercury: inorganic monovalent compounds (as Hg) Sulfotep
1-Methyl-2-pyrrolidone
1,1-Dichloroethane

pdf from www.nohsc.gov.au/publiccomment/skin/default.asp or to obtain a hardcopy ph: 1800-552-448 stating the publication name, plus your name and address, or email Alan.Yee@nohsc.gov.au with the publication name in the Subject plus your name and address.

Public comment closes on 31 January 2005.

From Chemical Gazette 2 Nov 2004

• Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances [NOHSC:1008(2004)]

On 31st December 2004, the amended 3rd edition [NOHSC:1008(2004)] will replace the 2nd edition [NOHSC:1008(1999)]. [NOHSC:1008(2004)] consolidates all the changes made in 2003 and 2004.

Australia's Approved Criteria have been designed to align with the European Communities (EC) criteria. The 2nd edition has been updated to generally reflect the current status of EC Council Directive 67/548/EEC as amended 6 August 2001 and Directive 1999/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 1999 as amended 7 August 2001.

The Approved Criteria will also be used by the National Commission in reviewing and maintaining the *List of Designated Hazardous Substances* [NOHSC:10005(1999)], the List. The List is therefore an aid to determining and classifying hazardous substances.

The List will be updated to bring it in line with the changes to the Approved Criteria. The revised List will be available early in 2005 in a new on-line database called the **Hazardous Substances Information System (HSIS)**. HSIS also includes national occupational exposure standards.

A copy of [NOHSC:1008(2004)] will be available on the NOHSC website www.nohsc.gov.au from the 31st December 2004.

From Chemical Gazette 7 Dec 2004

• New Exposure Standard for Crystalline Silica

There are 3 forms: quartz, cristobalite and tridymite. Crystalline silica — also known as Silicon Dioxide (SiO₂) — is the basic component of sand, quartz and granite rock and is found in varying proportions in aggregates, sand, mortar, concrete and stone, and is also in the air and the soil. A range of work processes may give rise to airborne concentrations of Crystalline Silica dust.

The amendment is to update NOHSC's National Exposure Standards by replacing the existing exposure standards with a date of effect of 1 January 2005.

The revised national exposure standard is 0.1 mg/m³ (time weighted average, 8 hours) for quartz, cristobalite and tridymite, measured in accordance with the methodology in Australian Standard *Workplace Atmospheres – Method for sampling and gravimetric determination of respirable dust* AS2985-2004.

Copies are advised to be available from www.nohsc.gov.au

From Chemical Gazette 7 Dec 2004

Chemical Management

• Chemicals & Plastics LG Action Agenda

The Chemicals and Plastics Leadership Group (CPLG) is an industry-based taskforce established to implement the recommendations of the industry's Action Agenda developed in conjunction with the Australian Government.

The CPLG's vision for the sector is that it be a sustainable, dynamic and innovative industry underpinning Australia's industrial growth and capturing significant domestic and export markets.

It has just released "**Underpinning Australia's Industrial Growth - Final Report to the Australian Government**" August 2004, which can be downloaded from www.cplg.org.au/latest_news.html

A key CPLG Regulatory Reform initiative already undertaken is the Low Regulatory Concern Chemicals under NICNAS and this is to continue for other agencies.

Under the Regulatory Reform Part there are 10 Recommendations covered. Some are:

- That Regulatory approaches are to adhere to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Principles and Guidelines (which includes Regulatory Impact Statements for proposed initiatives.)
- Carry out a review of the APVMA, TGA & NICNAS consultative/control mechanisms to identify a common efficient structure.
- That Regulatory Bodies' assessment processes accept international data / approvals / definitions / etc.
- Development of a National Chemicals Policy with consistent mutual commitments to 1/ Environmental Quality; 2/ Workplace & Consumer Health & Safety; 3/ An Internationally Competitive Chemicals Industry; 4/ Consumer Education.
- Regulatory Agencies have productivity targets but have "public good" aspects funded by Government
- Regulatory Assessments should be open to alternative service providers
- Consider Greenhouse Gas policies / mechanisms / trading schemes.

From www.cplg.org.au/index.html

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• Updated Compliance Information

Is now available on the NICNAS website at www.nicnas.gov.au/obligations/compliance/.

All industrial chemical manufacturers, importers and exporters should be aware that NICNAS conducts audits, inspections and investigations aimed at identifying non-compliance with the legislation. The compliance team is responsible for a number of NICNAS programs.

From Chemical Gazette 7 Dec 2004

• Octabromobiphenyl & Decabromobiphenyl PECs

Octabromobiphenyl (CAS No. 27858-07-7) and Decabromobiphenyl (CAS No. 13654-09-6) were declared as PECs (Priority Existing Chemicals) on the 6th July 2004.

To date, the Director (NICNAS) has **NOT** received any application for the assessment of these chemicals.

If an application to assess is not received and the Director of NICNAS has also not assessed these chemicals; then the Director of NICNAS **MUST REMOVE** the particulars of the chemical from the Inventory.

Editor's comment: These two chemicals are listed in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention. It is possible they may have been used in a formulation without being identified.

Details: Dr Janith Wickramaratna, ph: 02-8577-8846 or fax: 02-8577-8888; email: janith.wickramaratna@nicnas.gov.au.

From Chemical Gazette 7 Dec 2004

• LRCC Controlled Use Permits –Chemicals For Export Only

The Discussion Paper is in the 7 Dec 04 Chemical Gazette.

The Low Regulatory Concern Chemicals (LRCC) Amendment Act provided for further development of controlled use permits where introducers of new industrial chemicals for use in a highly controlled manner may be granted a permit. Introduction must be of low risk to workers, the public and the environment and safeguards are built into the permit system.

Industrial chemicals introduced for export only were identified as suitable for the Controlled Use Permit system, due to their limited potential for exposure in Australia. It is proposed that the Export Only Permit will be available for all chemicals where low risk can be demonstrated.

Specific objectives of the proposal are identified in the Discussion Paper.

The closing date for comment: is 4 Feb 2005.

For details contact NICNAS: Bill Diver ph: 02-8577-8862; email: bill.diver@nicnas.gov.au or Bob Graf ph: 02-8577-8850; email: bob.graf@nicnas.gov.au

From Chemical Gazette 7 Dec 2004

• Summary of Data Collected by NICNAS on Uses of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and its Derivatives

PFOA-based chemicals and chemicals which could degrade to PFOA are of interest to NICNAS because PFOA may be hazardous to human health and the environment. A US EPA preliminary risk assessment of PFOA published in April 2003 states that PFOA and its salts are persistent in the environment.

NICNAS notes it is likely that some importers and users may not know if products contain PFOA and its derivatives (including, telomers which may degrade to PFOA) because such chemical ingredients may not be mentioned on Material Safety Data Sheets.

No manufacture of PFOA, PFOA derivatives or telomer chemicals that may degrade to PFOA has been reported in Australia. Eleven companies responded to the call for information on Importation and Use (with very small quantities):

Primer for non-stick metal cookware (liquid fluoropolymer surfactant dispersion product);

Fluoropolymer dispersion- polymer in paints

Fire-fighting foam (fluorosurfactant)

Textile and Carpet Protection (with fluoropolymers)

From Chemical Gazette 2 Nov 2004

• Rotterdam Convention – Industrial Chemicals

Six industrial chemicals are to be listed as of the 1st Feb 05:

Actinolite; Tremolite; Amosite; Anthophyllite and Tetraethyl Lead & Tetramethyl Lead.

The first four are the forms of asbestos and are severely restricted in Australia. NICNAS will finalise an import response for Tetraethyl and Tetramethyl Lead after consultation with government & chemical industry to decide if we wish to receive these chemicals into Australia.

Persons importing, exporting or using tetraethyl and/or tetramethyl lead can contact Dr Sneha Satya phone 02 8577 8880 email sneha.satya@nicnas.gov.au for further information.

The text of the Rotterdam Convention can be accessed at www.pic.int and Information is available on the NICNAS website at www.nicnas.gov.au/foreign/treaties/pic.asp

From Chemical Gazette 2 Nov 2004

• NICNAS Information Sheets

Options for Disposal of Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) Waste, Nov 2004, 2 pages, 146Kb. From:

www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/pdf/ecis-pfos.pdf. PFOS is an ingredient in certain Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) and Alcohol-Type Concentrate (ATC) fire fighting foams used to extinguish Class B fires that involve flammable fuels such as gasoline, greases and oils.

Current Activities on Polybrominated Flame Retardants (PBFRs), Oct 2004, 4 pages, 268Kb. From:

www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/pdf/ecis-PBFRs.pdf. This information sheet summarises current activities, both national and international, regarding PBFRs.

From www.nicnas.gov.au

TGA Chemicals

• FAISD Handbook, 3rd Edition, Sept 2004

Third Edition of the **Handbook of First Aid Instructions, Safety Directions, Warning Statements and General Safety Precautions** for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals, is now available to download, 127p, 553Kb pdf.

Some recent changes included are:

1/ A new system of statement numbers has been introduced. Consequently the statement numbers and the statements themselves are **NOT** necessarily the same as those contained in the SUSDP.

2/ All agricultural and veterinary chemical product labels are to carry first aid instruction 'a', irrespective of poisons scheduling considerations. "If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. *Phone Australia 131126.*"

3/ Statement / Precaution / Direction entries have been rationalized in order to eliminate redundancies between the substance specific Warning Statements (WS) and General Safety Precautions (GSP), and the product specific Safety Directions (SD).

4/ Entries for 49 substances have been deleted.

5/ For 24 substances, the WS & GSP entries, which duplicated SD entries, have been eliminated,.

From www.tga.gov.au/docs/html/faisd.htm

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

• APVMA E-Newsletter

The first issue was made available on the 22nd Oct 2004. It aims to reach people directly and more frequently than the APVMA has been able to do in the past. The Newsletter replaces the APVMA News magazine.

Items that caught my attention are:

- Data Protection Is On Its Way
- Swimming Pool Ionisers
- APVMA Quality Assurance Scheme for Agricultural Active Constituents and Agricultural Chemical Products

- GMP Compliance of Overseas Veterinary Chemical Product Manufacturers
- Minor Use Reform
- Soil Biology Products in Agriculture
- The Role of Biology In the Management of Urban & Commercial Pests In Australia
- Chemical Review Update
- Chemical Review Forum
- APVMA's Approval of Active Constituents
- New on the APVMA website

You can find the Newsletter on the website at

www.apvma.gov.au/publications/enewsletter_home.shtml

You can subscribe to the Newsletter through the website at

www.apvma.gov.au/listserv/subscription_registration.shtml

• New Data Protection Provisions and the AgVet Chemical Industry.

There are 3 major changes to how the APVMA uses the information provided with certain applications as a result of the implementation of the US Free Trade Agreement. These changes are effective from 1st Jan 2005.

1. Data Protection * – new limitations on how the APVMA can use information in making certain decisions;
2. Early Disclosure – publishing application summaries once an application has been accepted for assessment; and
3. Summaries of Advice – publishing the advice provided by other Government departments and agencies, and other specialists the APVMA consults, in relation to applications which are approved.

* The new Data Protection provisions in 1/ relate only to information provided with applications for Active Constituents, Products and Labels. They do not have any impact on information provided for Chemical Reviews undertaken by the APVMA.

There may be more seminars held if requested.

From www.apvma.gov.au/registration/data_protection.shtml

The APVMA has released a draft version of the Application Requirements for Data Protection & Associated Matters for comment at www.apvma.gov.au/registration/DP_requirements.pdf

The US Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act 2004 & the Explanatory Memorandum on Schedule 2 – Agriculture and Veterinary Chemicals, can also be downloaded from the above website.

For information contact APVMA's Data Protection Unit

Gavin Hall, Manager, ph: 02-6272-4405, fax: 02-6272-5811, gavin.hall@apvma.gov.au

Juanita DeSilva, ph: 02-6271-6403, fax: 02-6272-5811, juanita.desilva@apvma.gov.au

• Atrazine – 2nd Draft Final Report, Oct 2004

Atrazine is a selective systemic herbicide that can be used both pre- and post-emergence for the control of grass and broadleaf weeds. Atrazine kills the plant by inhibiting photosynthesis.

It was placed under review due to several concerns (see the report). However the interim report concluded that there were no major toxicological concerns relating to the use of Atrazine and moreover, that Atrazine poses no undue hazard to most users.

At the time of the release of the draft final report (in 2002), a number of new overseas studies were published or foreshadowed that raised additional concerns that Atrazine might cause adverse developmental and reproductive effects in frogs, such as endocrine disruption. The APVMA delayed finalisation of the review.

In this 2004 report:

The residues assessment concluded that when Atrazine is used according to the revised label directions, residues are unlikely to pose an unacceptable risk to human health.

It appears unlikely that Atrazine, when used in accordance with the label recommendations, will contaminate waterways to any extent likely to present a hazard to the environment, or to human beings through the consumption of contaminated drinking water.

Currently, there is widespread disagreement on whether Atrazine affects amphibian development, and if so, the levels of exposure at which such effects may occur. It appears that healthy amphibian populations occur at sites where Atrazine is present.

Various regulatory actions are proposed (see the report).

From the Executive Summary in the Atrazine Oct 2004 Report, from www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/chemrev.shtml

• Virginiamycin: Findings of the Reconsideration

The APVMA found that it was **not** satisfied that when Virginiamycin is used for purposes of growth promotion and feed conversion efficiency, Virginiamycin would not be likely to have an effect that is harmful to human beings, and is effective for those purposes claimed.

However, the APVMA is satisfied that with revised instructions for use which limit duration of use and re-treatment, the continued registration of Virginiamycin to prevent necrotic enteritis in chickens and to prevent lactic acidosis in cattle and sheep would not pose an undue risk to human health.

The APVMA proposes to cancel the registration and label approvals of those products that have label claims pertaining to growth promotion and/or improved feed conversion efficiency only.

For the findings go to www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/virginiamycin.shtml

For details contact Veterinary Medicines Review Contact Officer ph: 02-6272-3213, fax: 02-6272-3551, email: chemrev@apvma.gov.au.

From: www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0412p28.pdf

• Procymidone Reconsideration

Procymidone is a systemic fungicide registered for use on lupins, grapes, stone fruit, strawberries, and some vegetables.

APVMA is now concerned about Procymidone because a recent scientific assessment identified that Procymidone causes birth defects in laboratory animals and therefore may pose the same risk to humans.

The APVMA has altered the chemical from being "Not Considered to Require Scheduling (low toxicity)" to "Schedule 7 Dangerous Poison". The review is expected to take up to two years to complete.

The APVMA are immediately recalling all Procymidone products to replace their current product labels with new instructions and contain the warning that women of child bearing age should not use the product.

For the Review Scope Document go to www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/procymidone.shtml

For Frequently Asked Questions go to www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/procymidone_faq.shtml

Submissions addressing the areas of concern noted in the Procymidone review scope document are to reach the APVMA by 25 Feb 2005

For information APVMA ph: 02-6272-3213, email: chemrev@apvma.gov.au.

• New Ag&Vet Active Constituents (5)

Dr Paul Sethi, Chemistry Manager, Chemistry and Residues Program, APVMA, ph: 02-6272-3987, fax: 02-6272-3551, email: paul.sethi@apvma.gov.au

1/ Firocoxib

A Sulfonated Phenyl Lactone compound, which is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, analgesic, anti-pyretic drug, and acts through inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis. It is proposed for the treatment of pain & inflammation in dogs.

CAS No: 189954-96-9; Formula: C₁₇H₂₀O₅S; MW: 336.40 Schedule S4 of the SUSDP.

From www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0411p12.pdf

2/ Gamma-Oryzanol

Is extracted from rice bran oil, & is a complex mixture of plant chemicals. Used in nutritional supplements for horses & dogs.

CAS No: 11042-64-1; Formula & MW: Not applicable

Chemical Family: Mixture of ferulic acid esters of various sterols; Not Scheduled in the SUSDP

From www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0411p14.shtml

3/ Sevoflurane

A fluorinated ether compound, with application as a nonanalgesic general anaesthetic in dogs by acting on the central nervous system.

Name: 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-(fluoromethoxy)propane

CAS No: 28523-86-6; Formula: C₄H₃F₇O; MW: 200.1

Structure: F₃C –CH(CF₃)-O-CH₂F

Currently included in Schedule 4 of the SUSDP.

Editor's Note: I am concerned about extending the use of an organofluorine compound from humans to animals as organofluorides don't readily biodegrade.

From www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0411p15.pdf

1, 2, & 3 from APVMA Ag&Vet Chem Gazette, 2 Nov 04

4/Octenol

It is used in attracting mosquitoes and biting midges in non-cropping situations, but the chemical does not kill insects.

Name: 1-Octen-3-ol

CAS No: 3391-86-4; Formula: C₈H₁₆O; MW: 128.2

Structure: CH₂=CH-CH(OH)-(CH₂)₄-CH₃

Mode of Action: Insect pheromone

Schedule S6 of the SUSDP

From www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0412p18.pdf

5/ Disodium Tiludronate (Tiludronic Acid)

A synthetic derivative of pyrophosphate belonging to the class of diphosphonates. Its intended use is in the treatment of lameness in horses.

Name: Disodium ((4-Chlorophenyl)sulfanyl)methyldiphosphonate

CAS No: 89987-06-4 (tiludronic acid)

49845-07-8 (anhydrous disodium tiludronate)

155453-10-4 (disodium tiludronate hemihydrate)

Formula: C₇H₇ClNa₂O₆P₂S; MW: 362.6

Mode of action: Reduction of bone re-sorption through inhibition of the formation & dissolution of calcium phosphate crystals.

Currently included in Schedule 4 of the SUSDP.

From www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0412p25.shtml

4, & 5 from APVMA Ag&Vet Chem Gazette, 7 Dec 04

Dangerous Goods

• Proposed NSW Dangerous Goods Legislation

Public Information Seminars have taken place across New South Wales in November (**the Presentation is available** to download from their website below).

The draft NSW Regulations were delayed from release, and **will now become available** on the NSW Workcover website; www.workcover.nsw.gov.au in the "What's New" area by the 24th December 2004.

The Dangerous Goods Legislative Reform Program will involve the following proposed Regulations:

1/ Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Dangerous Goods) Regulation 2004; 2/ Explosives Regulation 2004; 3/ Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Major Hazard Facilities) Regulation 2004

From: www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/dangerous_goods.htm

• 7th Australian Dangerous Goods Code Delayed

The Draft 7th Edition of the ADG Code has been yet further delayed, and is now expected to be available for public consultation in April and May 2005. We now hope it will be published by the National Transport Commission by **January 2006**.

When available it will be able to be accessed from the Australian Govt Dept of Transport & Regional Services website: www.dotars.gov.au/transreg/str_dgoodsum.htm and on the NTC website: www.ntc.gov.au/

• AS 1940-2004: The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

ISBN 0-7337-6329-4, 29 Oct 04, 173 pages, \$118.80

Note: Seminars on AS1940-2004 will be held in early 2005. Check with www.standards.com.au or ph: 1300-654-646.

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

• NSW Air Quality Documents for Comment

Regulatory Impact Statement: Proposed Amendment to the Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2002. 152 pages, 1.37Mb pdf.

There are 3 Public Information Sessions left that you may attend on:

21 Jan 05 (Newcastle); 25 Jan 05 (Wollongong); 1 Feb 05 (Merrylands). Register with My Tieu ph: 02-9995-5841.

The Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW is a technical document that supports the Regulation has also been revised. 58 pages, 340Kb pdf. A discussion of the proposed changes to the methods is on the website.

Comment closes 18th Feb 2005. For technical inquiries, contact the Air Policy Section of DEC, airregs@environment.nsw.gov.au.

From: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/consultair.htm

• Interstate Transport of Controlled Waste - NSW

NSW Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Amendment (Controlled Waste) Regulation 2004 (gazetted and commenced 3.9.04) makes a number of changes to the regulation of the interstate transport of controlled waste. These changes relate to Consignment Authorisations; Waste Transport Certificates; Exemptions & Direct Reuse.

To obtain a copy go to: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/legal/whatsnew.htm and check under September 2004.

• Asbestos in the Home

The Victorian EPA information centre has received many calls this year from householders relating to asbestos.

"One of the issues is that renovators are placing asbestos in hired skip bins, which are not specifically intended for asbestos, but rather other demolition wastes, posing problems for both the waste transporters and landfill operators."

A free publication "Asbestos in the Home" is available from EPA's Information Centre by contacting 03-9695-2722. Information on the safe removal of asbestos from the home is also available from the Department of Human Services on 03-9637-4156. It may also be obtained from www.health.vic.gov.au/environment/safety/index

From www.epa.vic.gov.au Media Release, 26 Oct 2004

• SME Cleaner Production Training (Victoria)

EPA Victoria is offering free Cleaner Production Training to small to medium enterprises (SMEs) to help improve their bottom lines and reduce their environmental impacts.

Half-day courses will be run monthly at EPA headquarters in Southbank (next 18th Jan 05) and are free of charge to participants. The session includes techniques for achieving waste reductions like root cause analysis, and focuses on the benefits of the waste hierarchy.

"The course will be run in conjunction with industry associations such as PACIA, AIG and VECCI, specifically through the Sustainability Officers within each of these associations," Mr Bourke, EPA Vic Chairman said.

Bookings thru Jo Clarke, EPA Victoria, ph: 03-9695 2535.

From www.epa.vic.gov.au Media Release, 29 Oct 2004

• Industrial Eco-Efficiency & Cleaner Production; & Chemicals/Toxic Substances; EPA Websites

These new USA EPA websites have very useful links to information: The first website focusses on environmental improvement and the second website on sustainable chemistry. Both have links grouped in to following areas.

1/ Innovative Programs and Policies; 2/ Tools and Guidelines; 3/ Databases and Case Studies; 4/ Newsletters, Publication Collections & Reports of Interest; 5/ International Organization and Government Web sites

From: www.epa.gov/innovation/international/ecology.htm & www.epa.gov/innovation/international/chemicals.htm

Publication

• German Exposure Standards – MAK / BAT 2004

Edited by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the Commission for the Investigation of Health Hazards of Chemical Compounds in the Work Area.

Maximum Workplace Concentration (MAK). For the establishment of a MAK Value, the *carcinogenicity*, the *sensitising effects*, the *contribution to systemic toxicity after percutaneous absorption*, the *risks during pregnancy*, and the *germ cell mutagenicity*, of a substance are evaluated and substance classified or designated accordingly. The MAK List is a well researched, very useful list of exposure values based on an 8hr/day, 40hrs/week exposure period.

Biological Tolerance Values (BAT) are defined as the maximum permissible quantity of a substance or its metabolites, or the maximum permissible deviation from the norm of biological parameters induced by these substances in exposure humans. BAT values can be defined as the ceiling formation or excretion rates (Quantity / Time) for healthy individuals. It has BAT Values for 46 substances.

Changes from the previous publication are clearly indicated with an asterisk *.

Some MAK 2004 changes (that caught my eye) are: Cadmium (now Carcinogen Cat.1); 2,6-Di-*tert*-Butyl-p-Cresol [BHT] (now has a MAK value established); Hydraulic Fluids and Lubricants; Hydrogen Chloride 2 ppm; α -Methyl Styrene 50 ppm.

TRK – Technical Exposure Limits for carcinogenic substances and suspected carcinogens is also included for approx. 117 substances or groups of substances.

Sensitising Substances are also separately listed: (178)

ISBN 3-527-31140-8. \$150, John Wiley & Sons, Aust. Toll free: 1800-777-474, ph: 02-9586-0200, email: sydney@johnwiley.com.au, web: www.johnwiley.com.au.

A CD-ROM of the 2004 MAK & BAT Values is now also included. Note: Much of the content of this book (other than the database of Values) can be viewed on line at www.mrw.interscience.wiley.com/makbat/makbat_contents_fs.html

Standards

• Standards – www.standards.com.au

AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004: Environmental Management Systems - Requirements with Guidance for Use

ISBN 0-7337-6406-1, 10 Dec 04, 23 pages, \$64.55

AS/NZS ISO 14004:2004: Environmental Management Systems - General Guidelines on Principles, Systems and Support Techniques. ISBN 0-7337-6407-X, 10 Dec 04, 39 pages, \$77.22

AS 1940-2004: The Storage & Handling Of Flammable & Combustible Liquids (see under Dangerous Goods)

- **Drafts**

DR 04512: Safety in Laboratories - Fume Cupboards. Specifies safety requirements for laboratory fume cupboards and test methods to determine their performance. Siting and maintenance requirements are specified and requirements and guidance for the use of fume cupboards are included. 52 pages, 2 Nov 04, free draft pdf.

DR 04524 CP; DR 04537 CP; DR 04544 CP : Occupational Protective Gloves - Part s 10.1, 10.2, 10.3: Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms— - Terminology and performance requirements; Determination of resistance to penetration; Determination of resistance to penetration; Determination of resistance to permeation by chemicals. Revision of AS/NZS 2161.10.1, 10.2 & 10.3:2002;

Reproduced from the European (CEN) Standards EN 374-1, 2, & 3:2003. The full content of the CEN standards are not available in the draft pdf. 16 Nov 04.

Seminars, Conferences, Courses

- **AS1940-2004 Seminars, Early 2005**

The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids. I am advised that SAI Global will be running seminars on AS1940 in early 2005.

To keep alert for details ph: 1300-727-444; website: www.sai-global.com/training; email: training@sai-global.com.

- **Decon Downunder, 14-16 Feb 2005, Melbourne**

International Conference on the Removal or Destruction of Highly Toxic Chemical and Biological Contamination.

Jointly sponsored by Australia's Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and the U.S. Joint Science and Technology Office (JSTO) for Chemical and Biological Defense.

Cost \$1300 for 3 days, single day \$350. Email: decondownunder@dsto.defence.gov.au

From: www.dsto.defence.gov.au/corporate/conferences/decondownunder/home.html

- **Life Cycle Assessment Conference, Feb 05**

The 4th Australian Life Cycle Assessment Conference will be held 23-25 Feb 2005 in Sydney.

Cost \$880. Organised by Aust. Life Cycle Assessment Society in conjunction Centre for Design & University of Qld

From: <http://lca-conf.alcas.asn.au>

- **Safety In Action 2005, 21st-23rd March, Melb**

There will be Aviation Dangerous Goods, Current Safety Issues in Emergency Services, Risk Management, Safety in Design, etc. SIA will include a large Trade Show. Organised by the Safety Institute of Australia (Vic).

One day costs approx. \$350. For details contact the SIA Conference Organiser ph: 03-9654-7773, email: safety@aec.net.au, website: www.safetyinaction.net.au.

- **Environment Sustainability in Practice, Mar 05**

EIANZ Conference" Christchurch, New Zealand Tues 29 March - Fri 1 April 2005 Organised by the Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand.

Conference details and costs will be available 1st Nov 2004.

From www.conferenceteam.co.nz/eianz/ & www.eianz.org/

- **Clean Air & Environment Conference, 5-6th May 05
Tasmania.** Wrest Point Casino, Hobart

Covers: Climate Change & Greenhouse Effects; Emissions Inventory; Measurement & Monitoring; Modelling & Meteorology. Includes a Trade Exhibition from the 3-6th May.

Registration \$900 (no accommodation). For details contact Conventionwise: email: mail@conventionwise.com.au ph: 03-6234-1424

- **Hazmat 2005 Conference, 12-13th May, Sydney**

Covers Dangerous Goods; Hazardous Substances; Global Harmonisation; NICNAS, Waste Disposal; Emergency Response; Security; Liability Issues; etc. With good networking opportunities with the speakers.

Cost \$770, Members of Supporting Organisations \$660, All Distance Attendees \$550. Contact Fire Protection Assoc'n of Australia (FPAA) ph: 03-9890-1544, fax: 03-9890-1577, email: amym@fpaa.com.au website: www.fpaa.com.au

• **Connect 2005: 4-7 July 2005, Sydney**
Chemical Challenges of the 21st Century

The National Convention of the RACI (<http://raci.org.au/>) is about latest chemical techniques, leading edge technologies and opportunities. It should provide a great opportunity for chemists to discuss Hazardous Materials & Environmental issues around green chemistry and sustainable chemical products.

For details ph: 02-4984-2554; fax: 02-4984-2755; email: connect@pco.com.au; web: www.pco.com.au/connect2005/

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