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## • Hazardous Substance Information System

The new HSIS database is now available at [www.nohsc.gov.au/applications/hsis/](http://www.nohsc.gov.au/applications/hsis/). It supercedes the 1999 List (the 1999 database and 1999 pdf file are still available on the NOHSC website). There is no longer a pdf file of the current List maintained.

The new database integrates Workplace Exposure Standards and allows you to search against Exposure Standards, Health Effects, Physicochemical Effects and Ecotoxicological Effects.

You can search on a term such as "acetate" and then select the whole table and copy and paste into an Excel spreadsheet. You can also leave the search fields blank and save the whole database as a rtf file, so you don't have to be on-line to access the database. There are 5471 records when printed in Name order, or 3513 records in CAS No. order.

NOTE: the process to create a whole database result takes several minutes on a fast internet connection then several more minutes again to create a rtf file, and may lockup and not complete due to the size of the database being handled.

**NOHSC wants feedback on the operation of the HSIS.** Several types of errors have already been detected and corrected e.g. some CAS No.s with reversed numbers; some incorrect synonyms. One change I would like, is to be able to enter CAS No.s by cut-and paste, rather than being forced to take each part of the CAS No. and hand key each part into the one of the 3 fields provided (this change is currently be considered).

*From the NOHSC website plus my input*

## 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.

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## Hazardous Substances

### • New Exposure Standard for Crystalline Silica

This was reported in the Oct-Nov 2004 Hazmat Notes.

For further information:

[http://www.nohsc.gov.au/NewsAndWhatsNew/mediareleases/mr\\_Silica.htm](http://www.nohsc.gov.au/NewsAndWhatsNew/mediareleases/mr_Silica.htm).

**Editor's Note:** An important issue when the changes to the ES were originally proposed in late 2003 was a debate around the ES being based on the Cancer Risk versus the Silicosis Risk, with the suggestion that if based on the more likely risk of Silicosis, that the ES should be lower than 0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup>. However this has not occurred and no reference to the risk of cancer for respirable crystalline silica has been made in latest published standard of 0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup>. The documentation with original NOHSC ES proposal dated the 8-8-2003, discussing this issue is no longer available on the NOHSC website. No document of public comments received on the ES is available. I would like NOHSC to keep both available for this important substance.

**For Information:** The 2004 ACGIH Crystalline Silica, Quartz as an A2 Suspected Human Carcinogen, 0.05 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA. The Notice of Intended Changes intends to reduce it to 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA.

### • Common Skin Sensitisers Hazard Classification

The NICNAS "Final Report on Hazard Classification of Common Skin Sensitisers – January 2005" is now available on the [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au) website under PEC Publications "Other Assessments".

From the Occupational Dermatology Research and Education Centre (ODREC) common sensitizer chemicals NICNAS identified 19 individual chemicals not classified as sensitizers on the NOHSC List of Designated Hazardous Substances and the EC dangerous substances List to the 28<sup>th</sup> amendment.

These chemicals were reviewed by NICNAS against various online databases (details in the report), plus information was obtained on cases of allergic reactions as recorded in occupational dermatological databases.

10 were classified as skin sensitizers included: Glycerol Monothioglycolate; Cobalt(II) Chloride, Hexahydrate; Diazolidinyl Urea; Dowicil 200; Imidazolidinyl Urea; Cl+Me-isothiazolinone; 2-Nitro-4-Phenylenediamine; Abietic Acid; N-Cyclohexyl-2-Benzothiazolesulfenamide; Zinc Dimethyldithiocarbamate.

The 9 that did NOT meet the criteria for classification as skin sensitizers included: Wool Alcohols; Coconut Diethanolamide; C.I. Basic Red 46; Benzalkonium Chloride; Phenol Formaldehyde Resin; Toluenesulfonamide Formaldehyde Resin; 4-tert-Butylphenol Formaldehyde Resin; Sodium Metabisulfite; Triethyleneglycol Dimethacrylate.

*Individual Reports on each of the 19 chemicals reviewed are included in the 138 page report. 960Kb doc file, 1.4Mb pdf file.*

From NICNAS website at [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au)

## Chemical Management

### • REACH – A New Balance is Being Examined

19-1-2005: The European Parliament is currently examining REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals), with the Commission stressing the importance of delivering health and environment improvements while safeguarding the competitiveness of European industry and Small and Medium Enterprises in particular.

Further prioritisation in the system, would ensure that the most dangerous substances are dealt with in the early years and the requirements are proportionate to likely risks. The importance of reducing the burden for small enterprises were stressed and of a strong, well-equipped Chemicals Agency without which the expected benefits from REACH will not materialise.

The importance of the further development and acceptance of non-animal tests was highlighted, which will save animals' lives and cut costs.

From <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/news/index.htm> press release 19-1-2005.

### • S5 & S6 Poisons: Licences Not Needed in Vic

As of 9 November 2004 the Act no longer requires a licence for Schedule 5 and Schedule 6 Poisons to: sell or supply by wholesale; or to manufacture and sell or supply by retail or by wholesale.

Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances and Therapeutic Goods (Victoria) Acts (Amendment) Act 2004

[www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web\\_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf?OpenDatabase](http://www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf?OpenDatabase) and select 2004 for the Act and Regulations.

## NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

### • Call for Information: Tetraethyl & Tetramethyl Lead

CAS 78-00-2 and 75-74-1. Tetraethyl & Tetramethyl Lead are included in the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure and were added to Annex III of the Convention effective from 1 February 2005.

Information is sought on these chemicals to:

- update the information obtained in February 2003,
- assist in formulating an import response, and,
- determine regulations, if any, to be made under the Act to support the import response.

A known use of Tetraethyl Lead and Tetramethyl Lead is as motor fuel anti-knock compounds in aviation fuel.

*Responses regarding these chemicals were required by 15 March, 2005. For information contact: Virginia Parish on 02 8577 8893, Existing Chemicals, NICNAS, email: [Virginia.Parish@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Virginia.Parish@nicnas.gov.au)*

From Chemical Gazette, 1 Feb 2005, [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au)

• **Call for Information: Polyvinyl Acetate & Iron Carbonyl**

Acetic Acid, Ethenyl Ester, Homopolymer; *Other Names:* Polyvinyl Acetate; PVA; CAS: 9003-20-7

Iron Carbonyl; *Other Name:* Pentacarbonyl Iron; CAS: 13463-40-6

Information is sought for each of these chemicals **for the calendar year 2004:**

- Estimate of the total quantity (tonnes/year) of chemical imported to Australia (in raw form or in products) and/or manufactured in Australia;
- Uses of the chemical or the products containing the chemical and whether any products are available to the public.

*Responses regarding these chemicals were required by 1 April 2005. For information contact: Dr Graham Harvey on 02 8577 8851, Existing Chemicals, NICNAS, email: [Graham.Harvey@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Graham.Harvey@nicnas.gov.au)*

*From Chemical Gazette, 1 Mar 2005, [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au)*

• **2 Brominated Biphenyls likely to be Removed**

Octabromobiphenyl (CAS No. 27858-07-7) and Decabromobiphenyl (CAS No. 13654-09-6) were declared Priority Existing Chemicals (PECs) for full assessment on 6 July 2004. To date, the Director (NICNAS) has not received any application for the assessment of these chemicals.

If by the 6 July 2005 a PEC assessment has not been initiated, the Director must remove the particulars of the chemical from the Inventory.

*For details contact Dr Janith Wickramaratna (ph (02) 8577 8846, email: [Janith.Wickramaratna@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:Janith.Wickramaratna@nicnas.gov.au)).*

*From Chemical Gazette, 4 Jan, 1 Feb & 1 Mar 2005*

**TGA Chemicals**

• **New Trans-Tasman Therapeutic Products Agency**

The New Zealand and Australian Governments have agreed to establish a trans-Tasman therapeutic products agency. The delayed start up date is now 1 July 2006 when the joint agency will replace the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and the New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority (Medsafe).

The establishment of the Joint Agency will harmonise the regulation of therapeutic products between Australia and New Zealand under the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement (TTMRA).

*For details go to the Joint Agency Establishment Group (JAEG) ph: 02 6232 8262 ; [www.tga.gov.au/tta/jaeg.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/tta/jaeg.htm), [Trans.Tasman@health.gov.au](mailto:Trans.Tasman@health.gov.au)*

*From the TGA at [www.tga.gov.au/tta/index.htm#media](http://www.tga.gov.au/tta/index.htm#media)*

**Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals**

• **New Concepts for APVMA Labels**

The APVMA has received feedback from users, chemical manufacturers and regulators that many aspects of the current guidelines for labelling need revision.

The working group has developed three key labelling principles that should apply to labels.

1. Information relating to the key risks be grouped and arranged in a set order.
2. Important use restriction statements be prominently shown and be based on information presented to the APVMA which demonstrates that the aspect of use that is to be restricted is either known to, or can be reasonably expected to, cause an adverse effect to third parties, i.e. with respect to trade, public health, or the environment.
3. Instructions on labels must be clearly worded so that statements that are warnings to users of possible adverse outcomes, or advice to achieve best results, are not restricted by directive "do not" statements.

The working group has focussed initially on agricultural chemical products and has developed a "Concept Label" based on the above principles. These principles have been applied to five actual product labels as examples: Broadacre herbicide; Broadacre insecticide; Horticultural product; Soil fumigant; Pest control operator product.

The [Concept Label](#) that outlines the proposed new principles is available at.

[www.apvma.gov.au/registration/label\\_concept.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/registration/label_concept.shtml)

The working group has yet to apply these principles to veterinary products or to certain special classes of agricultural chemicals, such as home garden products. Specific wording requirements need further development.

The proposed new labelling principles do not include possible requirements from the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals GHS at this stage.

*Comments are invited on the labelling principles as illustrated by the example labels and the concept label and should be sent to Colin Byrnes at APVMA email [colin.byrnes@apvma.gov.au](mailto:colin.byrnes@apvma.gov.au) by 15 April 2005.*

*From: [www.apvma.gov.au/registration/labels\\_review.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/registration/labels_review.shtml)*

*Editor's Comment: From these examples there is still some work to agree on what headings and information should be on a label across the different label control schemes for chemical products in Australia. I would like to see a common approach to the initial hazard based part of the label and then the additional APVMA / TGA Risk based requirements for each use scenario being additional label information.*

• **CCA Timber Treatments: Some Uses Phased Out**

The March 2005 Review Report concluded that the APVMA could not be satisfied that there wasn't a health risk for people, particularly children who had frequent and close exposure to treated timber products such as decks, garden furniture and playground structures. Consequently the APVMA is moving to phase out uses of Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA) timber treatments that it cannot be confident are safe. This phase out is to occur over a 12 month period to the end of March 2006.

The APVMA proposes to:

- require that timber treatment facilities be designed and operated to meet appropriate Australian Standards;
- specify the circumstances in which CCA products can be used, and to prohibit uses of CCA for timber used in garden

furniture, picnic tables, exterior seating, children's play equipment, patio and domestic decking, and handrails;

- require that timber be clearly identified as having been treated with CCA;

- include more detailed instructions for timber treatment operations, waste management and disposal and protection of the environment

Use of CCA will continue to be permitted where frequent and intimate contact with people does not occur. These include for power and telegraph poles, fencing, and building structural uses where there is not frequent contact.

The APVMA are making their report available to other relevant Authorities for them to consider, as the APVMA has no regulatory control over CCA treated structures. However, at this stage, no other countries that have examined this issue (and that includes those that have phased out the use of CCA), are recommending the dismantling of existing structures.

However, the APVMA is aware that the US EPA is conducting an extensive assessment of need to dismantle existing structures. The US EPA is also currently investigating the effectiveness of painting CCA treated timber structures.

The USEPA is conducting a probabilistic risk assessment for children who come into contact with CCA-treated play equipment & decks to help clarify the risk.

**Background:** Arsenic timber treatment products were put under review by the APVMA in 2003. This followed new information, both from Australia and overseas, that highlighted public health concerns for human exposure to arsenic from treated timber structures. Particularly for children with frequent and intimate contact.

A key issue was whether or not arsenic leaches from treated timbers and whether this might be likely to have an adverse impact on people and the environment.

*The above is from the Media Release; Review Summary; Technical Report and Frequently Asked Questions, dated 15 March 05, [www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/arsenic.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/arsenic.shtml)*

## • New Ag&Vet Active Constituents (3)

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

### 1/ Ethoxysulfuron

A Pyrimidinylsulfonyl Urea herbicide which stops cell division and plant growth in certain broadleaf weeds.

Name: 1-(4,6-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)-3-(2-ethoxyphenoxy sulfonyl)urea; CAS No: 126801-58-9; Formula: C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S; MW: 398.4; Schedule 5 of the SUSDP. *Mode of Action:* Inhibition of the synthesis of the branched-chain amino acids through blocking the enzyme acetolactate synthase.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0501p14.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0501p14.pdf)

### 2/ N-Cyclohexyldiazaniumdioxy-Potassium

A manufacturing concentrate which is a fungicide that protects wood-based panels from wood-destroying fungi.

CAS No: 66603-10-9; Formula: C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>K; MW: 200.28; Schedule 6 of the SUSDP.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0502p10.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0502p10.pdf)

### 3/ Copper Pyrithione

For use in antifouling paints on marine surface vessels.

Name: Bis(1-Hydroxy-1H-Pyridine-2-Thionato-O,S) Copper; CAS No: 14915-37-8; Formula: C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Cu; MW: 315.86; Family: Cyclic Thiohydroxamic Acids; Mode of Action: Antimicrobial agent; Schedule 6 of the SUSDP.

From: [www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0502p12.pdf](http://www.apvma.gov.au/gazette/gazette0502p12.pdf)

## • APVMA E-Newsletter February 2005 1/05

Items that caught my attention are:

- **Labelling Concepts Review** (see the Note on Page 3)
- **Revised 'Code of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for Veterinary Chemical Products' and 'APVMA Manufacturing Principles'**
- **New procedures for GMP Compliance** of overseas veterinary chemical product manufacturers commenced on 17 February to help assure the enduring GMP compliance of overseas veterinary chemical manufacturers. Details can be found at [www.apvma.gov.au/ga/gmp\\_overseas.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/ga/gmp_overseas.shtml).
- **Quality Scheme for Agricultural Active Constituents and Agricultural Products**

You can find the Newsletters on the website at

[www.apvma.gov.au/publications/enewsletter\\_home.shtml](http://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](http://www.apvma.gov.au/listserv/subscription_registration.shtml)

## • Community E-Bulletin Issue 4 February 2005

Items that caught my attention are:

- 1. Concerns about Chemical Container Management.** The summary of feedback to date raises some interesting deficiencies.
- 2. 14 recommendations for the chemical review program** that if implemented would increase stakeholder confidence in the program.
- 3. Low level of community and user group knowledge of the adverse experience reporting program for pesticides,** and the lack of a specified promotion budget.
- 4. Concern about the use of liquid fertilisers as carriers for pesticides.**
- 5. Multiple Chemical Sensitivity** - A great deal is unknown about MCS and the specific risks associated with pesticides and veterinary medicines compared to environmental or other chemicals.

[www.apvma.gov.au/community/ccc\\_ebulletin4.shtml](http://www.apvma.gov.au/community/ccc_ebulletin4.shtml)

## Food Chemical Issues

### • Acrylamide in Food – Update

In February 2005, the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) reviewed the available data on the safety of Acrylamide and concluded that its presence in food MAY be a health concern.

Acrylamide is a chemical that forms in certain foods when cooked at high temperatures (>120°C). The major foods in which Acrylamide has been detected are fried or roasted potato products, coffee and cereal-based products (sweet biscuits, bread, rolls and toast).

Acrylamide has been shown to cause cancer in some studies in experimental animals although further studies are underway to better understand the significance of these results in relation to human health. These studies will be evaluated by JECFA when available in 2-3 years. There is no direct evidence that acrylamide causes cancer in humans.

Since the discovery of acrylamide in food, there has been worldwide research into the mechanism of its formation as well as into methods to reduce the levels in specific foods.

Background information from 2002 and 2003 is available on the FSANZ website.

From [www.foodstandards.gov.au](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au) and search on "Acrylamide in Food"

**• Changes to FSANZ Code: 2 GM Based Products**

Two items that got my attention are produced using genetically modified organisms.

**Food derived from insect-protected, herbicide-tolerant corn ([Application A543](#) – Draft Assessment).** By Dow AgroSciences.

This is a genetically modified corn and, as such, requires FSANZ to conduct a pre-market safety assessment before it can be sold in Australia and New Zealand.

**Ice Structuring Protein as a processing aid ([Application A544](#) – Draft Assessment).** By Unilever Australia Limited.

The Ice Structuring Protein (ISP) is produced from a genetically modified bakers' yeast. It is identical to a fish protein that is found in nature and is already in the food supply.

Assessment reports for these items can be found on the FSANZ website at [www.foodstandards.gov.au](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au). Comments should reach FSANZ by **Wednesday 4 May 2005**.

From [www.foodstandards.gov.au](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au) Media Releases 2005

**Dangerous Goods**

**• Draft NSW Dangerous Goods / Explosive Regs**

The comment period for these draft NSW regulations closed in late February. Comments are currently being reviewed. The draft documents are still available on the NSW Workcover website:

[www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/dangerous\\_goods.htm](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/dangerous_goods.htm)

The Dangerous Goods Legislative Reform Program for the following proposed Regulations: 1/ *Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Dangerous Goods) Regulation 2004*; 2/ *Explosives Regulation 2004*; are hoped to be completed by and Gazetted on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005 but may be delayed due to the *Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate* to be introduced under the *Explosives Regulation 2005*. (see below).

Specific regulations for the control of major hazard facilities (MHF) are expected to be introduced under the OHS Act during 2005.) as the *Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Major Hazard Facilities) Regulation 2004*

From the NSW Workcover Website & further discussion

**• NSW - Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate**

New NSW laws are to be introduced under the *Explosives Regulation 2005* to control the transport, storage and handling of certain explosive precursors that may be used in the manufacture of explosives.

The precursors being regulated are called Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate (SSAN). SSAN includes Ammonium Nitrate emulsions and mixtures containing more than 45% Ammonium Nitrate and includes a number of generally available fertilizers.

The object of the proposed Regulation is to require the safe and secure handling of SSAN through a licensing regime and specific hazard controls. Requirements include legitimate need, security plans, record keeping, police and ASIO checks as well as fees.

Documents are available to download covering: [COAG Principles](#); [Regulatory Impact Statement](#); [Frequently Asked Questions](#); [Indicative List](#); [Contact Details for Reg Authorities](#); Three Guides: [No.1-Transport](#); [No.2-Storage](#); [No.3-Agricultural Use](#); Three Security Plan Templates: [Transport](#); [Storage](#); [Agricultural Usage](#).

From: [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/SecuritySensitiveAmmoniumNitrate.htm](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/LawAndPolicy/NewLegislation/SecuritySensitiveAmmoniumNitrate.htm)

**• High Consequence Dangerous Goods Proposal**

Proposed Victorian Dangerous Goods (HCDG) Regulations 2005 are available for comment until 2 May 2005.

The draft Regulations give effect to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreement in June 2004 of a licensing regime for the use, manufacture, storage, transport, supply, import & export of security sensitive ammonium nitrate (SSAN).

The objective of the Regulations is to regulate access to substances identified as being of security concern. A regulatory impact statement (RIS) has also been prepared.

Documents that may be Downloaded:

- [Proposed HCDG Regulations + RIS](#) (.pdf, 313kb)
- [Questions & answers regarding the regulations](#) (.pdf, 29kb)
- [SSAN guidance - transport](#) (.pdf, 39kb)
- [SSAN guidance - storage](#) (.pdf, 35kb)
- [SSAN guidance - agricultural use](#) (.pdf, 49kb)
- [SSAN guidance - siting](#) (.pdf, 15kb)
- [Regulation Of Ammonium Nitrate: Factsheet For Primary Producers](#) (.pdf 130kb)

From: [www.workcover.vic.gov.au/dir090/vwa/home.nsf/pages/so\\_pubcom](http://www.workcover.vic.gov.au/dir090/vwa/home.nsf/pages/so_pubcom) 1 April 2005

**• 7<sup>th</sup> Aust. Dangerous Goods Code: More Delayed**

The Draft 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the ADG Code has been yet further delayed, and is now expected to be available for public consultation in June & July 2005. The National Transport Commission will now publish it in **early 2006**.

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

*Editor's Note:* Some significant errors in this Standard have been found which will need to be corrected.

**Note:** Seminars on AS1940-2004 will be held 27 April to 5 May 2005. See under "Seminars, Conferences, Courses"

## Environmental Notes on Chemicals

### • OCPs and PBDEs: Levels in Human Milk in the Australian Population

The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage commissioned a study in 2002 into the levels of Organochlorine Pesticides (OCPs) and Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs) in human milk. The EPH Standing Committee has now released this report.: [www.ephc.gov.au/ephc/ocp\\_pbde\\_human\\_milk.html](http://www.ephc.gov.au/ephc/ocp_pbde_human_milk.html), 1.3Mb

OCPs and PBDEs were detected in all pooled samples of breast milk.

A comparison of the Melbourne samples collected in 1993 with those collected in 2002/03 showed no significant differences in the concentrations of the OCPs over the ten-year period. Overall, the concentrations of OCPs in the breast milk of these Australian women are low compared to international studies.

On a worldwide basis, the levels of PBDE compounds detected in breast milk are higher than those levels observed in Europe and Japan but lower than those observed in North America and Canada.

Breast milk may contain OCPs and PBDEs because of its fat content, but all babies are exposed to these compounds even if they are not breastfed. Alternative foods for babies, such as infant formula, also contain OCPs and PBDEs because they also contain fat. Several studies around the world in areas where organic pollutant levels are known to be high have still shown that breastfed babies are healthier than those fed infant formula.

From [www.ephc.gov.au/news.html](http://www.ephc.gov.au/news.html) 28-1-05 & the Report Executive Summary.

### • NSW Clean Air Forum Nov 2004 Proceedings

This 812Kb pdf file is now available on the NSW Dept of Environment & Conservation website at: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/quality.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/quality.htm). Papers that caught my attention were: Climate Change and Health: Impacts—and Significance; Climate Change and Air Quality: Implications for NSW; Health Impacts of Air Quality; Sydney's Metropolitan Strategy—Towards a Sustainable City; Community Stakeholder Perspectives On Air Quality; Future Directions for Air Quality Management in NSW.

From: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/quality.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/quality.htm)

### • National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) 2003-2004

The NPI data for 2003–2004 became available from the NPI website [www.npi.gov.au](http://www.npi.gov.au) on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005. This was the sixth NPI reporting year, and was the third year facilities were required to report on all 90 NPI substances. The number of reporting facilities increased by 6.5% compared to last year. The number of facilities reporting is 3,618 for 2003-04.

The latest information enables you to obtain a summary for the whole country and individual states or territories. Find out about Formaldehyde and Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) emissions to air, land and water. Also look at estimated emissions from intensive animal raising sectors and the cement and lime manufacturing sector.

From [www.npi.gov.au/overview/index.html](http://www.npi.gov.au/overview/index.html)

## Standards

### • Standards – [www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au)

**AS 1604.1-2005: Specification for Preservative Treatment - Sawn and Round Timber.** 0-7337-6490-8, 22 Mar 2005, 35 pages, \$77.22 pdf.

**AS/NZS 1604.5:2005: Specification for preservative treatment - Glued laminated timber products.** 0-7337-6491-6, 22 Mar 2005, 21 pages, \$64.55 pdf.

**AS 1678: Emergency Procedure Guides: Transport,** 15 Dec 2004 & 14 Feb 2005, All 2 pages, all \$7.13 each pdf.

**0.0.001** - Vehicle Fire

**3.0.015** - Formaldehyde Solution, Flammable

**4.2.001** - Aluminium Alkyls and Aluminium Alkyl Halides

**5.1.004** – Calcium Hypochlorite

**8.0.005** – Acetic Anhydride

**9.0.001** – Polymeric Beads, Expandable

**AS/NZS 2243.1:2005: Safety in Laboratories - Planning and Operational Aspects.** Specifies Requirements, Recommendations and General Guidelines to Promote Safety. Covers laboratory planning, safety and emergency management for laboratories and general safety precautions. 0-7337-6466-5, 11 Feb 05, 35p, \$64.55 pdf.

**AS/NZS 5911(Int):2005: General Guidelines on the Verification, Validation and Assurance of Environmental and Sustainability Reports.** ISBN 0-7337-6525-4, 17 March 05, 14 pages, \$47.92 pdf.

**HB 207.3:2005: Environmental Management - Life Cycle Impact Assessment** - Examples of application of ISO 14042. 0-7337-6467-3, 14 Feb 05, 87 pages, \$93.06 pdf.

### • Drafts

#### Determination of the Flash Point (Closed Cup)

Note: The method is left out of each draft as the change is about referenced standards.

**DR 05030 CP:** Determination of flash point - Pensky-Martens closed cup method. Update of AS 2106.2.

**DR 05031 CP:** Determination of flash/no flash - Rapid equilibrium closed cup method. Update of AS 2106.3.

**DR 05032 CP:** Determination of flash point - Rapid equilibrium closed cup method. Update of AS 2106.4.

**DR 05033 CP:** Determination of flash/no flash - Closed cup equilibrium method. Update of AS 2106.5.

**DR 05034 CP:** Determination of flash point - Closed cup equilibrium method. Update of AS 2106.6.

**DR 05035 CP:** General. Revision of AS/NZS 2106.0:1999, Update of AS 2106.0. This draft provides general principles and a list of methods that can be used when determining the flash point of a flammable liquid.

**DR 05078 CP: Environmental Mgmt – Vocabulary.** Update of AS/NZS ISO 14050.

## Seminars, Conferences, Courses

### • PACIA Haz. Substances & D. Goods Training

In Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Sydney.

- 21 April Risk Assessment of Hazardous Substances
- 28 April Classification for Acute and Severe Health Effects
- 4&5 May Road & Rail Transport of Dangerous Goods
- 5 May Road & Rail Transport of Dangerous Goods
- 11 May Warehousing of Chemicals & the Transport Interface
- 18 May Understanding the New MSDS Code of Practice
- 26 May Labelling of Workplace Hazardous Substances
- 2 June Warehousing of Chemicals & the Transport Interface
- 8 June Warehousing of Chemicals & the Transport Interface
- 22 June Dangerous Goods Risk Assessment

One day courses \$495, two day courses \$990.  
[http://www.pacia.org.au/uploaditems/docs/12.webtrainingsched05\\_withregform.pdf](http://www.pacia.org.au/uploaditems/docs/12.webtrainingsched05_withregform.pdf).

For information Jenny McLean, PACIA ph: 03-9426-3827, email: [jmclean@pacia.org.au](mailto:jmclean@pacia.org.au), or the PACIA website [www.pacia.org.au](http://www.pacia.org.au) then select "Training Development".

### • Holmesglen Safety – Melbourne, Victoria

Run several courses throughout the year:

- Aust.Code for Transport of D.Goods by Road, 1 day, \$220.
- Chemicals in the Workplace, 4hrs, on-site, \$800.
- Dangerous Goods Bulk Transport, 1.5-2 days, \$225.
- Dangerous Goods Shipper's Course-Air, 2 days, \$400.
- Dangerous Goods-Storage & Handling, 1 day, \$220.
- Environmental Awareness Workshop, 4hrs, on-site, \$800.
- Hazardous Substances, 1 day, \$220.
- Risk Control Program 1 day, \$220.

Details ph: 03-9564-6287, [www.holmesglen.vic.edu.au](http://www.holmesglen.vic.edu.au), email: [safety@holmesglen.vic.edu.au](mailto:safety@holmesglen.vic.edu.au)

### • NSCA Dangerous Goods & Haz. Substances Management,

20 April & 23 June 2005 in NSW, 1 day \$260.

For details: [www.nasca.org.au/training/training.asp](http://www.nasca.org.au/training/training.asp)

### • Lab Haz. Substance Mgmt Workshop, 27<sup>th</sup> April

**Melbourne.** Part of the free Science 2005 Technical Program, to be held at 2.15-3.45pm 27<sup>th</sup> April and possibly repeated on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Just register on the link below if you want to attend.

This is held in conjunction with the **Better Lab Design 2005 Conference, 27&28<sup>th</sup> April**, cost \$979.00.

[www.scienceindustry.com.au/labweek2005/science2005.asp#item03](http://www.scienceindustry.com.au/labweek2005/science2005.asp#item03)

### • Workplace Substances, 27<sup>th</sup> April, Sydney

Also 4<sup>th</sup> August, Parramatta. Training for managers, supervisors and general employees. Cost \$286. Details: [www.courtenell.com.au](http://www.courtenell.com.au), ph: 02-9552-2380.

### • SAI-Global Training Courses Related to Chemicals

In Adelaide, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney but varies according to the course.

HB76 Initial Emergency Response Guide, 27 to 29 April 05

AS1940-2004 Seminars, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Apr 2, 3, 4, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2005  
 Hazardous Areas, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2005  
 Environmental Management Systems Standards 3<sup>rd</sup>&4<sup>th</sup> May to 12&13<sup>th</sup> May

Introduction to Managing Risk Seminar, 16, 17, 18,19<sup>th</sup> May  
 Confined Spaces Seminars, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, & 26<sup>th</sup> May 05

ph: 1300-727-444; website: [www.sai-global.com/training](http://www.sai-global.com/training)  
 email: [training@sai-global.com](mailto:training@sai-global.com)

### • Doing Sustainability 2 May, 3 May, 5 May 2005 Moving from Why to How

How global leaders perceive and are responding to the sustainability challenge and how issues are moving from principles to practices. Presented by speakers from industry, finance, government and social entrepreneurship backgrounds.

Cost \$825, for details go to: [www.edmondsmgt.com.au](http://www.edmondsmgt.com.au), ph: 08-9246-0800; email: [Murray@EdmondsMgt.com.au](mailto:Murray@EdmondsMgt.com.au).

### • Hazardous Substances, 4&5<sup>th</sup> May, Sydney

Training for managers, supervisors and OH&S committees. Cost \$595. Details: [www.safety.com.au](http://www.safety.com.au), ph: 02-9816-1164

### • Hazardous Substances, 4&5<sup>th</sup> May, Sydney

Training for managers, supervisors and OH&S committees. Cost \$595. Details: ph: 02-9264-2000, [www.ef.org.au/training/2005/Course.asp?Param=129](http://www.ef.org.au/training/2005/Course.asp?Param=129)

### • Clean Air & Environment Conference, 5-6<sup>th</sup> May 05 Tasmania. Wrest Point Casino, Hobart

Covers: Climate Change & Greenhouse Effects; Emissions Inventory; Measurement and Monitoring; Modelling & Meteorology.

Includes a Trade Exhibition from the 3-6<sup>th</sup> May.

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

### • Hazmat 2005 Conference, 12-13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:amym@fpaa.com.au) website: [www.fpaa.com.au](http://www.fpaa.com.au)

### • ChemCon Asia 2005, 1-3 June 05, Kuala Lumpur

Aspects of international chemical control around the globe with a primary focus on Asian countries will be discussed regarding current and emerging legislation, reporting and testing of new chemicals, chemical inventories, evaluation of existing chemicals, classification and labelling, risk management, hazard communication and product registration will be discussed.

Cost: Euro1400. There are 4 pre-conference seminars at an additional Euro350 each. Accommodation is extra.

For details: [www.chemcon.net/asia\\_pac/chemcon2005.html](http://www.chemcon.net/asia_pac/chemcon2005.html)

• **PACIA National Conference 5,6&7 June, Sydney**

The theme is “**Water Sustainability for Industry**” .to highlight global and specific Australian water issues, showcase innovative examples of industry’s water management and look to the future of water for industry.

Other issues will include: the impact of Free Trade Agreements, the National Packaging Covenant, Responsible Care and other Plastics issues.

Cost \$1320. For details go to: [www.pacia.org.au](http://www.pacia.org.au) and select “Events”. Contact: Honi Walker, PACIA ph: 03-9426-3809 [hwalker@pacia.org.au](mailto:hwalker@pacia.org.au).

• **Connect 2005: 4-7 July 2005, Sydney  
Chemical Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:connect@pco.com.au); web: [www.pco.com.au/connect2005/](http://www.pco.com.au/connect2005/)

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