Hazmat & Environment Notes May-June 2002

Notes to Especially Consider are:

COSHH Essentials Assessment Process On-Line: The electronic version of UK HSE *COSHH Essentials* reduces the effort for the risk assessment process by automatically working out how hazardous a substance is and giving you the appropriate control strategy to follow.

Updated AICS CD - Finally Available in July 02: The next edition of the Australian Inventory Of Chemical Substances on CD will be available in July 2002. The AICS data will be correct to end of May 2002.

Formaldehyde PEC Update: As of mid June 2002 the number of Formaldehyde PEC applicants had increased from 26 to 32. All formulators and end-users should check with their suppliers of products that contain free or readily release free formaldehyde, that they are NICNAS Formaldehyde PEC applicants.

SUSDP 16, Amdt No. 4: Sodium Nitrite is now a Schedule 7 Poison at >40%.

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

- **Global Harmonisation System**

Workshops for Classification and Labelling of Chemicals were held in Sydney and Melbourne in the 2nd week of June. GHS will eventually see harmonisation for industrial use of Hazardous Substance and Dangerous Goods information throughout Europe, the USA and the rest of the world.

There will still be differences for Ag&Vet chemicals and Scheduled Poison consumer products, but with pressure on these areas to also align themselves. If Australia just keeps aligned with the European system then GHS will happen eventually without us being ahead of the rest of the world and costs associated with being ahead.

Editors Note: Further hazards can be added by Australia or any other country party to the GHS system making submission: e.g. organic dust explosion hazard; hazardous decomposition products after opening, from non-hazardous products; one page summary safety data sheets; or common emergency information panels or emergency action codes.

You can download all the Workshop papers from the NOHSC website: www.nohsc.gov.au and go to "Stds & OHS Legal Obligations" then "Haz.Subs. & D.Goods".

- **COSHH Essentials Assessment Process On-Line**

Easy steps to control health risks from chemicals

The UK Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) requires employers to:

- assess the risks to health from chemicals and decide what controls are needed;
- use those controls and make sure workers use them;
- make sure the controls are working properly;
- inform workers about the risks to their health;
- train workers.

The electronic version of *COSHH Essentials* reduces the effort for the risk assessment process by automatically working out how hazardous a substance is and giving you the appropriate control strategy to follow - with online help at every stage. e.g. The program automatically works out the volatility of solvents from the boiling point and operating temperature and calculates the right hazard group from the R phrases on your safety data sheet. The system allows you to assess single chemicals, ready-made mixtures and ones you prepare yourself. The appropriate guidance sheets and further action required can be printed off for your records (as pdf files).

Go to *www.coshh-essentials.org.uk*. You will need to refer to MSDS for each chemical and understand your process.

From the UK HSE Toxic Substances Bulletin January 2002: www.hse.gov.uk/toxicsubstances/issue47.htm

- **Surface cleaning: Solvent update**

including the Reclassification of Trichloroethylene (EIS34): was published in February 2002.This information sheet advises managers on proposed changes affecting health, safety and environmental controls on the use of solvents, and halogenated solvents in particular. These changes take into account the reclassification of trichloroethylene to a category 2 carcinogen (Risk Phrase R45 - may cause cancer) and related restrictions arising from the EU Solvent Emissions Directive.

This 4 page sheet is available on HSE's website at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/eis34.pdf

From the UK HSE Toxic Substances Bulletin May 2002: www.hse.gov.uk/toxicsubstances/issue48.htm

- **Dust Control in Dyestuff Handling (TIS6)**

A 3 page information sheet prepared by the UK HSE concerning the safe handling of dyes and chemicals in textile finishing. It gives advice on controlling dust from the handling of dyestuffs.

Downloadable from www.hsebooks.co.uk, go to "Search" and enter "TIS6". This is an 85kB pdf file

- **UK HSC Consultation - Exposure Limits / Stds for 2003**

The UK Health and Safety Commission (HSC) recently had a consultation on changes to Maximum Exposure Limits (MELs) and Occupational Exposure Standards (OESs) for potentially harmful substances to protect workers against ill health.

The consultative document (CD182) contains proposals for the control of eight substances or groups of substances. These are:

- three new Maximum Exposure Limits (MELs) for substances formerly assigned Occupational Exposure Standards (OESs): chloroethane; hydroquinone; and manganese and its inorganic compounds;
- withdrawal of five OESs for glycidyl ethers (2,3-epoxypropyl ethers);
- withdrawal of an OES for subtilisins (proteolytic enzymes as 100 per cent pure crystalline enzyme);
- withdrawal of an OES for sulphuric acid;
- no change to OES for para-phenylenediamine, but introduction of a skin notation for this substance; and
- narrowing of the criteria for the application of the OES for mineral oil mists: this OES no longer applies to metalworking fluids (separate HSE guidance is planned for this).

The seven OESs are being withdrawn because the UK HSE considers it impossible to set health-based limits for these substances or, in the case of sulphuric acid, there is evidence that the current OES is not sufficient to protect health.

Annex 1 in the document includes Summary Criteria for Occupational Exposure Limits for: chloroethane; hydroquinone; manganese; para-phenylenediamine; and subtilisins.

If the HSC approves the changes contained in CD182, they will come into force on the publication of *EH40: Occupational Exposure Limits* early in 2003.

Comment closed on 7 June 2002 but CD182 is still available on the UK HSE website: www.hse.gov.uk/condocs/closed/cd182.htm.

From the UK HSE Toxic Substances Bulletin May 2002: www.hse.gov.uk/toxicsubstances/issue48.htm

- **UK HSE Chemical Hazard Alert Notices (CHANs):**

issued in 2001 are:

- CHAN 21. Bacterial Alpha Amylase
- CHAN 22 Fungal Alpha Amylase
- CHAN 24. Subtilisins
- CHAN 25. Sulphuric Acid Mist
- CHAN 26. n-propyl bromide

The UK Health & Safety Executive exposure standards committee can no longer identify a level which is both safe and practicably achievable for these chemicals. In the UK users have a duty to reduce exposure to as low as is reasonably practicable. CHANs offer interim good practice advice. *Copies are free to download.*

From their website: www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/chindex.htm

- **Chemicals in the Environment & the Endocrine System**

The report by the American Chemistry Council is available from their website: www.americanchemistry.com under Endocrine Primer.

This 105 page document discusses the Endocrine System; Medical Use of Hormones; Hormonally Active Agents; Hazard, Potency, Exposure and Risk; DES: A Tragic Lesson; Human Fertility and the Ratio of Boys to Girls at Birth; Reproductive Disorders in Males; Sperm Counts and Male Infertility; Endometriosis and Female Infertility; Breast Cancer; Endometrial Cancer; Prostate Cancer; Testicular Cancer; Thyroid Disorders and Thyroid Cancer; Immune System Disorders; Child Development and Learning; Childhood Cancers; Precocious Puberty; Autism; Wildlife Effects; Mixtures and Synergy; The Endocrine Disrupter Screening Program of the U.S.A. EPA; Identifying Endocrine Disrupters; Low Dose Effects of Hormonally Active Agents; Continuing Research.

The section **"The Endocrine Disrupter Screening Program of the U.S.A. EPA"** caught my attention with: "Development, standardization and validation of accepted test methods to screen and test substances for endocrine disruption is taking longer than anticipated because of the complexity of the scientific and regulatory issues. This has delayed implementation of the EPA's Endocrine Disrupter Screening Program (EDSP)." A settlement agreement in late 2001 lays out a USA EPA "best efforts" implementation schedule.

From the American Chemistry Council website, June 2002.

- **Use of Uranium 238: Depleted Uranium**

in military armour piercing shells was reported on in the ABC Radio National on Saturday 15th June 2002.

"Anti-nuclear campaigner Dr Helen Caldicott says that although it's not generally known, the Gulf War was a nuclear war and the leftover radioactive pollution, Uranium 238, has had devastating health consequences for the Iraqi people, among them dramatic increases in serious birth defects and cancer in the general population. Another critic is Dr Robert Hunter of Scientists for Global Responsibility, who also comments on depleted uranium."

"**Helen Caldicott** .... when it (the DU shell) hits it (the target), it's pyrophoric and burns and produces tiny particles less than 5 microns that are inhaled into the terminal air passages. Now this is an alpha emitter, highly carcinogenic, so it sits in the lungs for many years irradiating a small volume of cells and causes lung cancer. It's translocated from the lungs, excreted through the kidneys where it can cause kidney cancer or bladder cancer, it's a heavy metal where it can produce renal failure. It's deposited in bones like calcium where it can cause leukaemia and/or bone cancer."

The interview also included that Depleted Uranium shells were also used in Kosovo, and likely to have been used in Afganistan.

Editor's Note: This ABC Radio National report has highlighted what appears to be a very concerning issue about the use of radioactive material in recent and current war zones.

A search on this subject on the internet also found a lot of articles from military organisations such as NATO, which advised that the use of Depleted Uranium was not a health hazard.

From ABC Radio National Website, June 2002

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

- **Updated AICS CD - Finally Available in July 02**

The next edition of the Australian Inventory Of Chemical Substances on CD will be available in July 2002. The AICS data will be correct to end of May 2002. NICNAS will automatically send out copies to existing subscribers.

If you have changed your address since the previous edition in 1999 you will need to contact NICNAS freecall: 1800-638-528.

- **NICNAS moves to Health & Ageing Portfolio**

The Hon Trish Worth, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing has executive responsibility for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), which now includes NICNAS.

The placement of NICNAS within the TGA group provides for an ongoing, consistent approach to the protection of human health from industrial chemicals.

- **Final Limonene & Acrylamide PEC Reports**

The Final Limonene and Acrylamide Priority Existing Chemical reports are available for downloading from the assessment reports publications page at: www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/car/pec/pecindex.htm.

Limonene: is manufactured in Australia from orange oils by extraction through distillation. It is also imported both as raw material and as an ingredient in products. The report finds that limonene causes skin irritation and that contact with oxidised products of limonene (formed by exposure of limonene to light and air) can cause skin sensitisation. The report recommends limonene be classified as a skin sensitiser and further recommends a number of measures to prevent the formation of oxidation products.

Acrylamide: Revision of the hazard classification for acrylamide has been recommended by NICNAS. The possible risk of impaired fertility and the designation of the chemical as being harmful in contact with the skin

are among the changes. NICNAS recommends the use of liquid or gel forms instead of crystalline acrylamide where possible to reduce airborne levels of acrylamide.

From NICNAS Matters, June 2002
www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/index.htm

- **Sodium Cyanide PEC**

Sodium cyanide was declared a priority existing chemical (PEC) for full **environmental assessment** in the Chemical Gazette 7 May 2002.
www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/gazette/chemgazettemay2002.htm

The assessment will focus on determining the risk of adverse effects to the environment in Australia, by identifying the environmental hazards of sodium cyanide and the potential for exposure. Recommendations on ways to reduce any identified risks will be made.

Sodium cyanide is widely used in the mining industry in Australia for extraction of gold. Escape of the chemical into the environment can result in high acute toxicity to aquatic life, birds and animals. Consumption of contaminated tailings by birds has resulted in mass poisonings.

Contact Officer: Stephen Zaluzny, ph (02) 8577 8883 or fax (02) 8577 8888 or email:
stephen.zaluzny@nicnas.gov.au

For further information or assistance, please contact Sneha Satya on (02) 8577 8880 or fax (02) 8577 8888 or email: sneha.satya@nicnas.gov.au

From NICNAS Matters, June 2002
www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/index.htm

- **Formaldehyde PEC Update**

As of mid June 2002 the number of Formaldehyde PEC applicants had increased from 26 to 32.

All formulators and end-users should check with their suppliers of products that contain free or readily release free formaldehyde, that they are NICNAS Formaldehyde PEC applicants. All products containing 0.2% or more of free formaldehyde are easy to check as they should already be identified as hazardous substances.

The updated Applicants list can be downloaded from the NICNAS website:
www.nicnas.gov.au/obligations/existing/pecdeclarations.htm.

- **Triclosan (Antimicrobial) Evaluation Update**

Triclosan has not moved into the PEC process as NICNAS is awaiting the outcome of the European Commission's assessment of this chemical which is due by late 2002. In particular the risks of antimicrobial resistance development for Triclosan is being considered.

To discuss Triclosan's progress call Ms Deborah Willcocks or Griffin D'Costa, NICNAS Existing Chemicals Assessment, ph: 1800-638-528, or ph: 02-8577-8890.

Food Chemicals

- **UK Food Standards Agency Study Confirms Acrylamide in Cooked Food,**

A UK FSA study of cooked foods has found that acrylamide - a potentially cancer causing chemical - is likely to be formed in a wide range of foods when they are fried or baked.

This confirms the findings of a Swedish National Food Authority study, published on 24 April 2002, showing that acrylamide is present in a wide range of cooked foods. The FSA commissioned its own study to see if the findings could be replicated.

Acrylamide in food appears to be formed naturally in the cooking process and is likely to have been present since these cooking methods have been used. The chemistry by which it is formed in cooked food is not understood and there is little scientific knowledge on its possible effects on people's health through consumption of food.

It is not known if there is a link between acrylamide in cooked food and cancer. However, since acrylamide is classified as a genotoxic carcinogen, the Agency's view is that it should not be present in foods or, if it cannot be removed, that it should only be present at the lowest possible levels. Based on current knowledge and its likely presence in a wide number of cooked foods, there are no practical ways in which that might be achieved. Any possible risks from acrylamide in food would result from long term exposure.

There was an expert European scientific committee meeting in May, and a World Health Organisation (WHO) meeting at the end of June, to take this forward.

From the UK Food Standards Agency, 17th May 2002: www.food.gov.uk/news/newsarchive/65268 where a copy of the UK Food Standards Agency Press Briefing 17.05.02 Acrylamide in Food: Background Information on the FSA Study can be downloaded.

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

- **Proposed Reconsideration Of Dimetridazole**

Dimetridazole is a nitroimidazole chemical with antiprotozoal activity. It is used in a number of products registered for use in pigs, poultry, turkeys, game birds, pigeons and other caged birds.

The basis for this reconsideration is that the NRA is no longer satisfied that the continued use of products containing dimetridazole would not be likely to have an effect that is harmful to human beings. The proposed reconsideration will therefore focus on toxicological aspects relating to the chemical dimetridazole.

Additional information on the NRA's reasons for conducting the reconsideration of dimetridazole will be available on the NRA website: www.nra.gov.au from 1 July 2002.

Contact the Chemical Review Section ph: 02-6272-3213 or email: chemrev@nra.gov.au

- **Proposed Reconsideration of Methidathion**

Methidathion is an organophosphorous insecticide/acaricide. Products containing methidathion are used primarily on potatoes, tomatoes and brassicas.

The basis for this review action is that the NRA is no longer satisfied that the continued approval of the active constituent methidathion or continued registration of products containing methidathion would not be likely to have an effect that is harmful to human beings. The proposed reconsideration will therefore focus on human safety aspects related to the chemical methidathion.

The scope of the reconsideration will be outlined in *Methidathion Review Scope Document which* will be available on the NRA website from 1 June 2002. This document will outline the reasons for the proposed reconsideration, the current knowledge about the use of methidathion, specific focal points of the review, and the review process.

Contact the Chemical Review Section ph: 02-6272-3213 or email: chemrev@nra.gov.au

Scheduled Poisons

SUSDP 16 Amendment No.4, 1st June 2002

Only one entry caught my attention:

•Schedule 5 - Amendment
- Sodium Nitrite >0.5%-1%

•Schedule 6 - New Entry
- Sodium Nitrite >0.1-40%

•Schedule 7 - New Entry
- Sodium Nitrite >40%

Dangerous Goods

- **Dangerous Issues Newsletter March 2002**

The Australian Dept of Transport and Regional Services, Land Transport – Dangerous Goods is now preparing this 9 page newsletter. Items that caught my interest are:

- **Calls for laboratories that do dangerous goods classification testing**

Who in Australia conducts classification testing for dangerous goods. The Competent Authorities would like to prepare a listing of those laboratories that do such testing in the next edition of DG Issues. If you would like to be included on that list or you are aware of laboratories that do conduct this testing please contact the Secretariat on 02-6274-7474, or via email to: *louis.anthrak@dotrs.gov.au*.

- **Inner package labeling**

The inner package labelling requirements are additional to UN requirements and do not impact on transport safety. There are several different inner package labelling requirements used throughout the world and each provide adequate safety warnings, none of which comply with the ADG6 requirements.

The ACTDG has agreed that the inner package labelling provisions of ADG7 will be expanded to permit any labelling system which provides suitable warning labels. This will minimise the need for CAP exemptions and ensure mutual recognition provisions with New Zealand are maintained.

- **Criteria for environmentally hazardous substances**

As part of the development of the Globally Harmonised System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, criteria for the classification of environmentally hazardous substances have been developed and will be included in ADG7. These criteria may be used by industry when classifying such chemicals.

- **Combustible liquids carried with dangerous goods of Class 3 (flammable liquid)**

Clause 2.1.10 of the ADG6 Code requires significant quantities of combustible liquids to be treated as flammable liquids when carried with certain quantities of Class 3. ACTDG has agreed that this provision should not continue in ADG7.

- **Placarding of freight containers for export**

ADG6 requires freight containers holding a placard load to be placarded. The IMDG and IATA Codes require a freight container holding any quantity of dangerous goods to be placarded. A note to this effect is to be included in ADG7. Anyone loading a freight container with dangerous goods for export needs to be aware of this provision.

From Dangerous Goods Issues, March 2002. It can be downloaded from the DOTRS website: www.dotrs.gov.au/land/RoadTransport/Danger/dgoodsum.htm

- **WA Dangerous Goods in Ports Regs 2001**

was proclaimed on 1st Feb 2002 and replaces a number of outdated port-specific dangerous goods regulations and the *Dangerous Goods (Transport) Explosives by Water) Regs 1999*.

The *Australian Standards 3846-1998 The handling and Transport of Dangerous Cargoes in Port Areas* forms the basis of these regulations and the Standard's technical requirements have been translated into enforceable offences.

To help the implementation of the new regulations, the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources has written a guide – *Understanding the Dangerous Goods in Ports Regulations 2001*, 32 pages, 192kB pdf, available from their website: www.mpr.wa.gov.au select "Dangerous Goods - Ports" or phone: 08-9222-3413 for a hardcopy,

From Explosay, No. 27, February 2002.

- **Safety Case Feedback – Hazard Identification**

The Bulletin No. 4, 18 May 2002 covers common gaps in Hazard Identifications (HAZIDs) submitted in Safety Cases under the Major Hazard Facility Regulations. Observed gaps were in 2 broad areas: *Limitations or Gaps in: 1/ the Actual HAZID **Methodology**; and 2/ the HAZID **Documentation**.* There were 10 sub-sections documented with suggestions for incorporation. *Editor's Note:* The HAZID gaps identified suggestions made are also relevant to companies that handle dangerous goods.
Download a copy from www.workcover.vic.gov.au/dir090/vwa/home.nsf/pages/so_safetycase_lv3_post

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

- **Electronic Lodgement of Victorian Waste Transport Certificates**

"WasteCert" starts from 1st July 2002. It will operate through the Victorian EPA website in the "Waste" section: www.epa.vic.gov.au/Waste/WasteCert/default.asp.

The Information Bulletin describes the electronic lodgement system for waste transport certificates, and provides details on how to register for and operate in the electronic mode.

The tracking system places obligations on the participants in each waste consignment (that is, the waste producer, the transporter and the receiver). It also requires the transfer of the information between the participants and to the EPA.

There are several reasons for changing to electronic lodgement including:

- improve the quality and accuracy of data;
- improve the efficiency of the system (e.g. duplication of data entry, preventing admin & clerical errors);
- provide real-time data to the Vic EPA;
- align with delivery of gov't services on-line;
- accomodate stakeholder requests for such a system.

When the electronic system is used, then all parties involved in the waste consignment must use the electronic mode. If one of the parties cannot use the electronic system then all must use the old paper system. A list of registered waste receivers is on the EPA website.

Waste producers are required to purchase in advance electronic waste transport certificates (in multiples of ten) for use in the WasteCert application.

Unused Paper Certificate Books - The EPA will only accept unused certificate books suitable for resale, and will credit clients with fifty electronic certificates per book.

This Bulletin and a Practice Version of WasteCert is available from the Vic EPA Waste Section website. Enquiries to EPA Technical Support ph: 03-9695-2659.

From the Vic EPA website.

Publications

- **Video Titles from UK HSE Books on Chemicals**

Scratch & Sniff ... Chemical Risks at Work, 2002
This 12 minute video is aimed at young people and other workers who have little or no experience of work. It contains and series of short, comic sketches showing the animated character "NAPO" working with various chemicals, including those that are irritant, flammable, corrosive, toxic or danger to the environment. In each case NAPO causes accidents by not checking warning symbols or by not using chemicals safely. Each sketch is followed by a brief sequence showing how the accident could have been prevented by safe working practices. It has been made jointly by the UK HSE and the health and safety authorities of France, Italy, Germany and Sweden. ISBN 0717622525 £25.

Safe Use of Printing Chemicals: COSHH and Substitution, 1998
This 18 minute video is aimed at smaller firms to help employers and printers understand COSHH and how to protect the health of those employed in the printing industry. ISBN 0717618587 £40.

To obtain these videos contact UK HSEBooks, PO Box 1999, Sudbury CO10 2WA, UK ph: 0011-44-1787-881-165, fax: 0011-44-1787-313-995, website: www.hsebooks.co.uk and search on the title or ISBN

- **The Code of Practice for Supply Diversion into Illicit Drug Manufacture**

The objectives of this voluntary National Code are to establish a common system of practice for Australian scientific suppliers and chemical manufacturers, importers and distributors to:

- Protect against the diversion of chemicals and scientific equipment into the illicit production of drugs.
- Cooperate with government and law enforcement agencies in the controlled delivery of chemicals and scientific equipment destined for use in the illicit production of drugs, where this is expected to lead to the apprehension and conviction of criminals involved in such trade or production.
- Educate and train staff and where practical end users of the precursor drug chemicals as to the issues involved and the procedures to be adopted.

The listing of chemicals and ancillary materials known to have been used in the illicit manufacture of drugs is given in Appendix 1 and is divided into three categories in this Code.

Each jurisdiction has worked in partnership with industry, in developing the National Code of Practice for members of the Plastics And Chemicals Industries Association (PACIA) and Science Industry Australia (SIA).

This 21 page booklet, 301kB pdf file is downloadable from www.pacia.org.au website. ISBN: I 876320 08 7

- **Risk Management Book**

"Triple Bottom Line Risk Management – Enhancing Profit, Environmental Performance, and Community Benefit" Bowden, Lane & Martin, 2001, ISBN0-471-41557-X, John Wiley & Sons. This book explains in a clear manner the RISQUE Method (Risk Identification and Strategy using QUantitative Evaluation) with 8 detailed case studies (taking 160 pages) from Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and United States.

However, the concept "Triple Bottom Line" (TBL) is not adequately discussed, though the TBL concept is clearly part of their risk management case studies.

The RISQUE Method was developed initially by Woodward-Clyde Australia and continued through the URS Corporation USA.

Cost $136, 326 pages, hardbound. Published and available from John Wiley & Sons, Australia ph: 1800-777-474, website: www.johnwiley.com.au.

- **Physical & Biological Hazards of the Workplace, 2nd Edition, 2002**

Edited by Peter Wald & Gregg Stave, ISBN 0-471-38647-2.

The book is created from 46 specialist contributors. It is not meant to be a definitive reference book, but rather a first reference which gives a practical overview and is intended

for health professionals who have no formal occupational medicine training.

Part I/ Physical Hazards taking 302 pages, is split into 3 Sections: Worker-Material Interfaces; The Physical Work Environment; and Energy and Electromagnetic Radiation.

Part II/ Biological Hazards takes 362 pages and provides detailed summaries. Some of summaries included for the biological hazards are: Virus (23); Bacteria (35); Fungi (18); Parasites (8); Allergens (9); Latex; Wood Dust.

Cost $312, 692 pages, hardbound. Published and available from John Wiley & Sons, Australia ph: 1800-777-474, website: www.johnwiley.com.au.

Standards

- **AS/NZS 1596:2002 Storage & Handling of LP Gas**

Provides requirements for the location, construction and operation of installations for the storage and handling of LP Gas. Special requirements are given for storage in cylinders and tanks, cylinder filling and automotive filling, and their associated operations. 139 pages. Cost $120.12.

For details go to the Standards website: www.standards.com.au or phone: 1300-654-646.

Seminars, Conferences, Courses

- **Report on HazMat 2002 Conference, April 2002**

HazMat 2002 has been the most successful and largest hazardous materials focussed conference in Australia for many years. For the first time there were several chemical industry associations supporting the Fire Protection Association. There were 130 participants including speakers.

Two key issues for Victoria that were raised were:

- The issue of solid hazardous waste management in Victoria is a major problem at the moment, as the "Not In My Back Yard (NIMBY)" attitude may cause long delays for the chemical industry in Victoria. The community has not realised that industry is really being required to handle waste in a sustainable manner and IF some is to be immobilised, it must be done in a totally controlled manner (no other State has such a total solution at this time);
- How the Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations 2000 are NOT being adequately implemented in Victoria. The lack of chemically skilled inspectors was seen as a key part of the problem (broad ranging inspectors don't notice chemical issues that need attention). There is "No Push from the Authority and No Pull from the Industry". The speaker went through his company's risk assessment steps to help those at the conference to understand what is actually needed.

For those who couldn't come this year, the conference papers are available on a CD, which can be purchased from the FPAA ph: 03-9890-1544, email: amym@fpaa.com.au. **Note:** The next HazMat 2003 Conference is expected to be in Sydney in mid May 2003.

- **National Pollutant Inventory Workshop, 16th July**

2-4pm free workshop by Vic EPA will demonstrate the National Reporting Tool, an electronic reporting tool used to submit NPI reports via the internet. To register ph: 03-9695-2659, email: npi.victoria@epa.vic.gov.au

- **Interact 2002, 21-25th July 2002, Sydney**

This is group of conferences includes: 7th RACI Environmental Chemistry Conference; the 7th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Society for Ecotoxicology. Delegates will be offered access to allied disciplines.

4 day cost $1100, details ph: 02-4984-2755,
email: interact@pco.com.au,
website: www.pco.com.au/interact2002.

- **Environmental Risk Mgmt Workshops, 23rd July 02**

Organised by Standards Australia. Topics covered include:
- Setting the context, risk evaluation and criteria
- What is AS/NZS 4360:1999, Risk Management
- What is HB 203-2000, Environmental Risk Mgmt
- Risk identification, analysis, evaluation and treatments
- Risk management process as a project management tool

23rd July Brisbane; **24th** July Sydney, **25th** July Melbourne
Cost $390 Stds Aust Members; $430 Non-Members
For details ph: 1300-656-529,
email: events@standards.com.au,
website: www.events.standards.com.au

- **Manage Your Waste – Jobs at Risk, 29th July 02**

3.45 to 9.00pm. Organised by the RACI and supported by the Risk Engineering Society (Vic).

Speakers include: Vic EPA; Martin Jones, PACIA; Prof. Jackson, Monash Green Chemistry; Cheryl Batagol, ex Chair, Hazardous Waste Siting Committee; followed after supper by disposal and recycling industry speakers: Michael Pola, Envirochem; Myles Whelan, Cleanaway; Laurie Bertelle, VISY Recycling, Environmental Service; and Ian Thomas, consultant to the Australian Container Reconditioning Association.

Cost $40, RACI & RES Members $30, Students $10.00.

For details contact: Richard Gerardi, ph: 03-9282-1049, email: richard.gerardi@au.nufarm.com
To register contact RACI Victorian Branch Co-ordinator ph: 03-9328 2808, fax: 03-9326-5880, email: racivic@mira.net

- **Clean Air & Environment Conference 20-22 Aug 02**

Christchurch, New Zealand. This 3 day international conference is organised by CASANZ.

Concurrent sessions will be held on: Health Risk; Toxicology; Air Quality Management; Motor Vehicles; Emission Inventories; Source Characterisation; Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling; Meteorology; Atmospheric Chemistry; Indoor Air Quality; Emissions Measurement; Ambient Air Quality Monitoring; Emissions Control and Odour. It also has 6 Pre-Conference Workshops on the 19th Aug 02.

Cost NZ$1046. You can obtain information and register on the CASANZ website: www.casanz.org.au. Or ph: 03-9872-5111 for a hardcopy.

- **Emergency Communications Mgmt 5-6th Sept 02**

Melbourne Conference and Expo, organised by the Emergency Services Foundation. it covers *Communications Programs* for: Local Councils, Emergency services, Heavy Industry, Hazardous Materials; *Community Alerting; Early Warning Systems; Media in Emergencies; Technology.*
Cost: *$400 for 2 days, Volunteer $100. For details contact High Profile Exhibitions ph: 03-9533-1035, website: www.hpe.com.au.*

- **Spillcon 2002, 16-19th Sept 2002, Sydney**

Keeping the Waters Clean - Australian Marine Safety Authority oil spill conference, with advice and latest information concerning marine oil spill prevention and response techniques.

Organised for AMSA by The Meeting Planners Collingwood, Victoria, ph: 03-9417-0888, fax: 03-9417-0899, Email: spillcon@meetingplanners.com.au

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