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A Note to Especially Consider is:

Chemicals: EU REACH System Consultation

16 May 2003 - On-line consultation tools and reply guidance for the stakeholder consultation on the workability of the proposed **REACH system (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restrictions of Chemicals)** are now available.

The purpose of this consultation is to assess stakeholder reactions to the draft texts, with regard to the system's workability, including the technical requirements and the administrative burden.

The **deadline** for comments is **10 July 2003**.

From:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/library/enterprise-europe/news-updates/industry/2003/20030516.htm>

Background: In February 2001 the Commission published a White Paper on the 'Strategy for a Future Chemicals Policy' (COM(2001) 88 Final) setting out its proposals for reforming the current rules governing the chemicals sector. Publication of the White Paper was followed by extensive consultation of stakeholders.

The Proposed New Chemicals Legislation – REACH and supporting documents are available for download at: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/chemicals/chempol/whitepaper/reach.htm> (or follow the REACH entries).

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.

ISSN: 1441-5534

Hazardous Substances

• New NOHSC MSDS / Classification / List (2003)

NOHSC approved the revised MSDS / Classification Code and Designated List on the 24th April 2003.

However the Gazettal and Publication on the NOHSC website has been delayed due to issues around how this may effect each State / Territory in their transition to the new MSDS format (3 years has been agreed), the new Classification Criteria and the new Designated List.

The new Designated List is now up to date to the EU 28th ATP List originally published in August 2001. The Physicochemical and Environmentally only classified substances, will be in an Appendix so as to avoid them being legally defined under our various State Regulations as Workplace Hazardous Substances (which are currently only based on Health Effects). We will be required to have updated to the new Classification Criteria and the new Designated List by Dec 2004.

I hope to see these 3 documents by the end of August for downloading from the NOHSC website: www.nohsc.gov.au, but I won't hold my breath. I would expect implementation timings to be adjusted to allow for this bureaucracy delay.

From NOHSC contacts and my industry contacts.

• Detecting Potential Endocrine Disruptors

The USA National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM) has an Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM).

NIH Publication No. 03-4503. May 2003:

is very large (8.4Mb pdf) but key parts can be downloaded as separate pdfs by following the HTML option on <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/>.

*This includes a 6 page Executive Summary (109Kb pdf). A comprehensive review of *in vitro* data determined that there were no adequately validated *in vitro* ER- or AR-based assays, and therefore, no assays could serve as the basis for establishing minimum performance standards.*

*Also Section 2 (379Kb pdf) has a List of Proposed Substances. The purpose of the list of 78 substances is to ensure that the comparative reliability and performance of *in vitro* Estrogen Receptor (ER) and Androgen Receptor (AR) binding and Transcriptional Activation (TA) assays are adequately characterized across a broad range of chemical classes and responses.*

From USA NTP Update List-Server & Website, June 03

*Definitions: in vitro – in the test tube
in vivo – in the living organism
vitro – glass; vivo - lively*

• Draft EU 29th ATP List of Existing Substances

The European Chemicals Bureau, Classification and Labelling website made the draft 29th ATP List available on the 17th March 2003. The draft List prints out on 50 pages and contains 350 substances that have changes or are new. The main reason for this number of changes is that Environmental Risk Phrases have been added for many substances.

Download from: <http://ecb.jrc.it/classification-labelling/>

Go to the centre of the page and find:

[Provisional List of Existing Substances for the 29th ATP Rev.16](#)

• Qld Hazardous Substances Advisory Std 2003

The 46 page Queensland Advisory Standard commenced on the 1st May 2003. It covers:

- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Labelling Hazardous Containers
- Consultation / Training
- Managing Risks from Hazardous Substances
- Emergency Procedures
- Monitoring / Health Surveillance

Download a pdf copy from www.whs.qld.gov.au/advisory/ and select "Hazardous Substances".

• Toxic Gas Generated by Micro-organisms in Confined Spaces

by a variety of waste products, which in high concentrations may be fatal to humans.

Waste protein and starch are by-products of production processes in a wide range of industries including abattoirs, breweries, glue manufacturing, food processing and the grain industry. These waste by-products are usually in the form of blood, offal, liquids or sludges. These are now being increasingly stored in tanks and holding vessels as opposed to open storage. This is because of government requirements to contain odours and pollutants.

The action of micro-organisms on these by-products results in the formation of gases such as hydrogen sulphide, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and methane. These gases are toxic and can be fatal to people who come in contact with them.

At the end of the leaflet is a list of high-risk occupations.

From NSW Publication 417.

Available from www.worksafe.nsw.gov.au "Publications" and then "Hazardous Substances".

• Farm Safety Series - Hazardous chemicals

Farmers have legal obligations to assess and control risks associated with the use of hazardous substances & chemicals.

This Feb 2003 brochure (4 pages) is designed to provide a summary of major farm chemical hazards, & practical steps to eliminate or minimise the risk of injury or death.

Available from www.worksafe.vic.gov.au "Publications" then "Alphabetical" under above heading.

Hard copies of the above Victorian WorkSafe Publications are available from ph: 03-9641-1333 or email: publications@workcover.vic.gov.au.

• Your Guide to Working with Asbestos NSW Safety Guidelines & Requirements, Mar 03.

Includes: Information regarding health hazards associated with asbestos; Standards required to adequately and safely perform any asbestos work; Guidelines and requirements - work involving asbestos in buildings and structures; Legal obligations for asbestos removal work. 13 pages.

[Your Guide to Working with Asbestos \(PDF - 278.8 Kb\)](#)

Available from www.worksafe.nsw.gov.au "Publications"

• **Handling Cytotoxic Drugs in the Workplace**

This January 2003 Guide (58 pages) has been presented in a logical sequence, describing the importance of risk management in the handling of cytotoxic drugs. Appendices provide practical tools for key stages of handling, preparing and administering cytotoxic drugs, including checklists and samples of helpful documentation.

Available from www.worksafe.vic.gov.au "Publications" then "Alphabetical" under above heading.

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• **Triclosan Declared as a PEC**

Also known as, 5-chloro-2-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)phenol Chemical Abstracts Service number 3380-34-5, declared as a Priority Existing Chemical for full risk assessment.

Reasons For Declaration

The reported uses of triclosan in Australia are in some personal care products, plastics, textiles, carpet underlay/foam, PVC swimming pool liners, and in certain types of cleaning products.

Widespread use of triclosan provides a number of ways for the chemical to enter the environment. In tests, triclosan has been shown to be toxic to aquatic species, with very high toxicity exhibited in algae. The chemical properties of triclosan indicate that it may be bioaccumulative and persistent in the environment. Additionally, there are reports that suggest incineration of textile products containing triclosan may result in the formation of dioxin like substances.

Scope And Purpose Of The Assessment

The assessment will identify the health and environmental hazards and the potential for exposure to triclosan in Australia, so that the risks of adverse effects to the environment, workers, and the public can be determined. The report will make recommendations on how to reduce identified risks and promote the safe use of the chemical.

Use of triclosan and/or products containing triclosan may continue while it remains a PEC.

The issue of antimicrobial resistance following use of triclosan has been reviewed recently in the EU and found not to be of concern under current conditions of use: this report will be referred to in the NICNAS assessment. Additionally, a EU hazard evaluation of triclosan for physical-chemical properties, health and environmental effects is ongoing, and a risk assessment on the biocidal uses of triclosan in the EU is to be conducted in the near future. If these EU assessments become available, the findings will be considered in this PEC.

Importers, manufacturers, formulators and users of triclosan play an important role in the assessment process and should provide information by 28th July 2003.

NICNAS Contact Officer: Paul Harvey, ph: 02-8577-8892, fax: 02-8577-8888 or email: paul.harvey@nicnas.gov.au

From Chemical Gazette, May 2003, www.nicnas.gov.au

• **PerfluoroOctane Sulfonate (PFOS) Alert No. 2**

The hazards of the PFAS group of chemicals and in particular PFOS have been of international interest. Australia, via NICNAS and Environment Australia, participated in an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) hazard assessment of PFOS. Based on the OECD report and information from the two data calls by NICNAS, the NICNAS PFOS Alert 1: http://www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/pdf/Alert_1_PFOS.pdf has been updated.

PFOS Alert 2 can be accessed on the NICNAS website at http://www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/pdf/Alert_2_PFOS.pdf

For information contact NICNAS Dr Jane Weder ph: 02-8577-8895; fax: 02-8577-8888 or email jane.weder@nicnas.gov.au

From Chemical Gazette, May 2003, www.nicnas.gov.au

• **Guidelines For Confidential Listing on AICS**

The amended document Guidelines for Establishing a Case for Confidential Listing of chemicals on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances June 2003, is now available for public comment.

The amended document includes a more detailed description of the commercial and public interest criteria and more explanation as to why certain information may be needed in order to reach a balanced decision for the chemical.

Available from www.nicnas.gov.au/news/ and select *Call for Public Comment - Revised Guidelines for Confidential Listing on AICS*

Enquiries to NICNAS ph: 02-8588-8800 or freecall: 1800-638-528. Comment is due by 3rd July 2003.

From Chemical Gazette, June 2003, www.nicnas.gov.au

• **MMT (PEC Report No. 24) Now Available**

Methylcyclopentadienyl Manganese Tricarbonyl is now available from the NICNAS website at: www.nicnas.gov.au/publications/car/pec/pecindex.htm

• **Use Of Perfluorooctanoic Acid and Its Derivatives**

including telomers which may degrade to PFOA

Studies recently evaluated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) have raised a number of potential toxicity concerns regarding PFOA. A US EPA preliminary risk assessment of PFOA states that PFOA and its salts are persistent in the environment.

PFOA is a fully fluorinated organic compound that can be produced synthetically or through the degradation or metabolism of other fluorochemical products. PFOA is primarily a reactive intermediate, while its salts (such as ammonium, sodium, potassium and silver) are used as processing aids in the production of fluoropolymers and fluoroelastomers and in other surfactant uses. PFOA is structurally similar to perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), which was subject to calls for information by NICNAS in 2000 and 2002.

PFOA is used as an essential processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers which are used in a wide variety of consumer and industrial applications. PFOA may also be a degradation product of small polymers called

telomers, which are used in a range of commercial products including fire-fighting foams, as soil, stain and grease resistant coatings on carpets, textiles, paper, and leather.

This notice is directed to all persons who have information on or who have manufactured or imported one or more of the chemicals or products since January 2002.

Contact Dr Jane Weder ph: 02- 8577- 8895 or email jane.weder@nicnas.gov.au. Send info by 31 July 2003.

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals

• New Active Constituents Proposed by the APVMA

That caught my attention:

Extract of Lemon Eucalyptus, being acid modified oil of lemon eucalyptus (*Corymbia citriodora*).

Chemical: 64% w/w (mixture of cis - and trans- p-menthane-3, 8-diols)

CAS Numbers: 129828-24-6 (Extract of Lemon Eucalyptus); 42822-86-6 (mixture of cis - and trans- p-menthane-3, 8-diols).

Molecular Formula: C₁₀H₂₀O₂ (p-menthane-3,8-diol)

Molecular Weight: 172.27 (p-menthane-3,8-diol).

Use: As personal insect repellents applied directly to the skin with no application to food crops or animals.

Preparations containing >40 percent of extract of lemon eucalyptus are SUSDP Schedule 5 poison.

Bifentazate

IUPAC Name: Isopropyl 3-(4-methoxybiphenyl-3-yl) hydrazinoformate

CAS Number: 149877-41-8

Minimum Purity: ≥950 g/kg

Molecular Formula: C₁₇H₂₀N₂O₃

Molecular Weight: 300.4

Chemical Family: A hydrazine carboxylate compound

Mode of Action: A highly selective acaricide for mite control

Bifentazate is exempt from Scheduling in the SUSDP.

Marbofloxacin

Fluoroquinolone antibiotic used in veterinary medicine for use in companion animals only,

CAS Number: 115550-35-1

Chemical formula: C₁₇H₁₉FN₄O₄

Molecular weight: 362.36

Minimum Purity: ≥970 g/kg

Mode of action: Inhibition of the bacterial enzyme DNA gyrase

Marbofloxacin is recommended as SUSDP Schedule 4.

Fenbuconazole (A Triazole compound) is a systemic fungicide with protectant, curative and eradicant properties.

CAS Number: 114369-43-6 (unstated stereochemistry)

Minimum Purity: ≥970 g/kg

Molecular Formula: C₁₉H₁₇CIN₄

Molecular Weight: 336.82

Mode of Action: A steroid demethylation inhibitor, a systemic fungicide with protectant, curative and eradicant action.

Fenbuconazole is recommended to be SUSDP Schedule 5.

For all the above Active Constituents (AC) the APVMA is satisfied that the proposed importation and use of each AC would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of these active constituents (manufacturing process, quality control procedures, batch analysis results and analytical methods), and found them to be acceptable.

For details of the above Active Constituents contact Dr Paul Sethi, Chemicals & Residues Evaluation Section, APVMA, ph: 02-6272-3987; fax: 02-6272-3551.

From APVMA Ag&Vet Chemical Gazette, May/June 03, website: www.nra.gov.au/gazette/subpage_gazette.shtml

• Cancellations of Registrations and Label Approvals for Antifouling Paint Products containing Tributyltin

The APVMA has received requests from the registrants that it cancel the registrations of antifouling paint products containing tributyltin. The APVMA has determined that the reasons given for these requests are reasonable and has cancelled the registration of these products, effective 31 March 2003. Approvals of labels for these products have also been cancelled, effective 31 March 2003.

Persons may only continue to possess, supply and use the existing products, for boats in excess of 25 metres in length, in accordance with the current label instructions at any authorised site until 31 July 2003.

For further information on this matter please contact Colin Byrnes in the APVMA's Pesticides Div'n ph: 02-6272-4850.

From APVMA Ag&Vet Chemical Gazette, May 2003, website: www.nra.gov.au/gazette/subpage_gazette.shtml

• Broadened Scope of Carbaryl Review

Carbaryl is a widely used broad-spectrum carbamate insecticide. Products containing carbaryl are used to control insect pests in a broad range of situations including the home garden, commercial areas and commercial crops.

The existing review examines the likely human exposure during use of carbaryl products in both commercial & home garden situations, as well as the long-term implications of consumption of produce treated with carbaryl.

The APVMA broadened the scope of the review to assess acute dietary exposure. 53 products and labels included in the broadened scope are listed.

For further information please contact (02) 6272 3213 or chemrev@apvma.gov.au. Comment by the 23rd June 2003.

From APVMA Ag&Vet Chemical Gazette, June 2003, website: www.nra.gov.au/gazette/subpage_gazette.shtml

Dangerous Goods

• Changes to the UN Transport DG Model Regs

To view the agreed changes to the UN Transport of Dangerous Goods (DG) Model Regulations: for the Dangerous Goods List from UN 12 to UN 13 go to: www.unece.org/trans/doc/2003/ac10/ST-SG-AC10-29a1e.doc

The key change is to include separate UN Number entries for SOLID, LIQUID and SOLUTION so that the physical state is in the PROPER SHIPPING NAME.

To view the UN DG Manual of Tests & Criteria agreed changes from UN 12 to UN 13 go to: www.unece.org/trans/doc/2003/ac10/ST-SG-AC10-29a2e.doc

A key change are tests for aerosols is it now comprehensively covers classifying all consumer aerosols.

UN Web addresses provided by an industry colleague.

• **DR03221: The Storage & Handling of Flammable & Combustible Liquids AS1940**

★ For review and comment on by the 19th June 2003.

Some of the many issues that have been raised in the Victorian based Dangerous Goods Advisory Group submission are:

- The need for these types of DG Storage & Handling Standards to meet mandated requirements and, within practicable limits, provide for the full range of storage and handling scenarios likely to be encountered in the real world. *Editor's Comment: Under Performance based regulations it is very important if you are to be covered by your insurance policy, that all aspects of your storage and handling scenarios are actually included in the Standards.*

- The size has grown from 110 pages to 170 pages. Much of the additional material has been added in Sections relating to procedures rather than design, construction and specifications. Maybe this sort of material should be separated out of all the DG Storage & Handling Standards.

- The draft ignores the temporary storage of significant volumes of fuel at public events.

- A number of DGAG members suggested that the scope of the Standard should be expanded to permit the co-storage of straightforward Class 4.1 Flammable Solids with Flammable Liquids in the absence of a Class 4 Standard.

- The problem there is to identify Combustible Liquids, as there is no requirement to Label or provide an MSDS for products where this is the only hazard in the NOHSC DG Storage & Handling documents!

- The UN no longer has an artificial distinction between packages and bulk. IBCs are included under 'Packing Instructions'; so are 'Large Packagings' which exceed the capacities we have traditionally regarded as packagings.

- Indoor quantity limitations are far too restrictive for laboratories, particularly at tertiary institutions.

- Requirements for signs are well above what is specified in DG regulation and the National Standard.

170 pages, free to download as a 1.16 Mb pdf file from www.standards.com.au

• **Company Fined over Chemical Burns**

6th May 2003, Victorian Workcover Authority

Henkel Australia Pty Ltd, a major chemical company has been fined \$30,000, without conviction, after a worker received chemical burns to 30 per cent of his body.

The Ringwood Magistrates Court was told today that Henkel Australia Pty Ltd had given inadequate training to an employee who was mixing chemicals at the company's factory in Canterbury Road, Kilsyth in April last year.

For more details go to: www.workcover.vic.gov.au and select "News Releases" then May 2003.

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

• **Draft NEPM on Air Toxics**

The Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) released for public comment the draft National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) on Air Toxics – substances released into the atmosphere through sources such as wood fires, motor vehicles and some industrial emissions. A draft Impact Statement is also available.

Five of these substances – benzene, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, formaldehyde, toluene and xylenes – have been linked to cancer, birth defects, genetic damage, immunodeficiency, respiratory & nervous system disorders.

The NEPM will aim to give Australia a consistent approach for dealing with high priority sites that may be emitting air toxics. It will ensure that monitoring provides better information on the effectiveness of air quality management programs.

Download at: www.ephc.gov.au/nepms/air/air_toxics.html

Comments on the draft NEPM and Impact Statement are sought by **Wednesday, 30 July 2003.**

From the EPHC Website, May 2003
www.ephc.gov.au/news.html#air_toxics_nepm

Publications

• **The A-Z of Chemicals in the Home, 4th Ed. by Total Environment Centre, Foreword by Norman Swan.** ISBN 1 920705 11 2, 192 pages.

This alphabetical directory lists common chemicals and the household products that contain them. Each listing describes the chemical or product, and its health and environmental effects.

Where possible each entry lists an alternative, less dangerous product that can be used. A glossary, further reading list and important information about poisons are also included

Cost \$22 from Australian Consumers Association, ph: 02-9577-3399 or their website: www.choice.com.au go to Choice Books.

• **The Dose Makes the Poison: A Plain-Language Guide to Toxicology, 2nd Edition**

by M. Alice Ottoboni, ISBN: 0-471-28837-3, 256 pages, 1997.

I've included this 1997 book, which I came across at the HazMat 2003 Conference, as it reviews and explains chemical dangers in a clear and understandable manner.

It discusses the factors determining whether chemicals in our air, food, and water are harmful or harmless, and puts the dose - response relationship of chemicals in perspective. Effects of chemicals encountered at home and at work are presented in simple language. It also covers subjects such as public distrust of science, epidemiology, reproductive toxicology, and an understanding of the

relationship of toxicology to current environmental problems.

Chapters on toxicity of chemicals address no-effect levels and thresholds, margins of safety, and bioaccumulation. Also clarified are differences between actual risk and perceived risk of various chemicals. "The Dose Makes the Poison" is well worth reading by anyone who wishes to improve their understanding of toxic chemicals without taking the time to go back to school.

This Note is based on the Wiley website, www.wiley.com book review plus scanning through the book myself.

\$89, John Wiley & Sons, Aust. ph: 02-9586-0200, email: sydney@johnwiley.com.au, web: www.johnwiley.com.au;

• German Exposure Standards – MAK / BAT 2002

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 8 hr / day, 40 hrs / week exposure period. It is used in the same manner as the Australian Exposure Standards.

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 48 substances.

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

Some MAK 2002 changes (that caught my eye) are: Acetic Acid; 2-Ethylhexanoic Acid; Resorcinol and Tungsten have moved to Section IIb (Substance list where there is insufficient information to establish a value); *tert*-Butyl Alcohol 20 ppm (62 mg/m³); Diethylamine 5 ppm (15 mg/m³); Diethylene Glycol 10 ppm (44 mg/m³); Ethanol 500 ppm (960 mg/m³); Glutaraldehyde 0.05 ppm (0.21 mg/m³); 4-Methyl-2-Pentanol 20 ppm (85 mg/m³); Polyethylene Glycol (1000 mg/m³); Tetrahydrofuran 50 ppm (150 mg/m³); Triethylamine 1 ppm (4.2 mg/m³); Zinc Oxide Fume (1 mg/m³).

TRK – Technical Exposure Limits for carcinogenic substances and suspected carcinogens is also included for 97 substances or groups of substances.

Sensitising Substances are also separately listed: (87)

\$100, John Wiley & Sons, Aust. ph: 02-9586-0200, email: sydney@johnwiley.com.au, web: www.johnwiley.com.au; or DA Information Services ph: 03-9210-7777, email: service@dadirect.com.au, website: www.dadirect.com.au.

Standards

All below are downloadable from www.standards.com.au

• New Standards

AS/NZS ISO 19011:2003: Guidelines for Quality &/or Environmental Management Systems Auditing.

Provides guidance on the principles of auditing, managing audit programs, conducting quality management systems audits and environmental management system audits, plus guidance on the competence of quality and environmental management system auditors. ISBN: 0-7337-5059-1.

31 pages, \$57.82 for pdf file, from www.standards.com.au

Updated Transport Emergency Procedure Guides

\$7.13 for a 2 page pdf for each EPG.

AS 1678.2.1.001-2003: *Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LP Gas).*

AS 1678.2.2.000-2003: *Oxygen, refrigerated liquid*

AS 1678.3.0.021-2003: *Ethyl Methyl Ketone (Methyl Ethyl Ketone, MEK)*

AS 1678.3.0.022-2003: *Acrylonitrile (inhibited)*

AS 1678.3.1.001-2003: *Petrol (as cargo)*

AS 1678.3.2.001-2003: *Toluene*

AS 1678.5.1.005-2003: *Hydrogen Peroxide, Aqueous Sol'n*

AS 1678.8.0.001-2003: *Hydrochloric Acid*

AS 1678.8.0.004-2003: *Hypochlorite Solution*

AS 1678.8.0.009-2003: *Formaldehyde Solution (with not less than 25% Formaldehyde)*

HB 213:2003: Guidelines for Safe Working in a Confined Space

Provides guidance to designers, manufacturers, suppliers, employers and those who must enter or work in a confined space, on the interpretation of AS/NZS 2865:2001.

64 pages, \$57.82 for a pdf file

ISO 15011-2:2003: Health and Safety in Welding and Allied Processes - Laboratory method for sampling fume and gases generated by arc welding - Part 2: Determination of emission rates of gases, except ozone

11 pages, \$91.90 for a pdf file

ISO 16017-2:2003: Indoor, ambient and workplace air - Sampling and analysis of volatile organic compounds by sorbent tube/thermal desorption/capillary gas chromatography - Part 2: Diffusive sampling

35 pages, \$178.15 for a pdf file

• New Drafts

DR 03183: Environmental Management Systems - Requirements with Guidance for Use

Proposes the adoption of the second edition of ISO 14001 to provide requirements for an environmental management system (EMS) to enable organizations to formulate policies and objectives on aspects of the environment it can control and influence. 27 pages.

DR 03184: Environmental Management Systems - General Guidelines on Principles, Systems and Supporting Techniques

Proposes the adoption of the second edition of ISO 14004 to describe the elements of an environmental management system (EMS) and provide organizations with guidance on how to develop, implement, maintain or improve an EMS and its coordination with other management systems. 44 pages.

DR 03183-03184: The Two Above as Combined pdf

1/ Requirements with guidance for use. 2/ General guidelines on principles, systems and supporting techniques

71 pages, free draft pdf file, from www.standards.com.au

DR 03254 CP: Hazard and Operability Studies (HAZOP Studies) - Application Guide

Proposes the adoption of IEC 61882:2001 to provide a guide for HAZOP studies of systems utilizing the specific set of guide words defined in this document. It also gives guidance on the application of the technique and on the HAZOP study procedure, including definition, preparation, examination sessions and resulting documentation and follow-up.

Note: The draft does NOT include the IEC 61882:2001 Standard. It only includes a Contents page plus an Introduction; Scope and Normative References.

5 pages, free draft pdf file, from www.standards.com.au

Seminars, Conferences, Courses

• Report on HazMat 2003 Conference, April 2003

HazMat 2003 continued as a very successful hazardous chemical regulations and issues focussed conference. The Fire Protection Association Australia (FPAA) conference is supported by several chemical industry associations. There were about 110 participants including speakers.

Some speakers and points that were covered were:

- **Lisa Corbyn, NSW EPA** spoke first on new directions in National and State Chemical Management and regulation. She advised that the EPAs in Australia were finally moving to agree on environmental classification, labelling and information to be in MSDS which would make it possible to implement the world harmonised system of chemical classification;
- **Helene Orr, Workcover NSW** spoke on the proposed change in NSW from the prescriptive to performance based Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations. The change was seen as taking some time to put in place and only key stakeholders will be included in the process until a draft comes out late in 2003.
A delegate highlighted the crucial need to ensure diverse input into the underpinning Australian Standards.
- **Dr Mariann Lloyd Smith, National Toxics Network** talked about meeting the community's expectations for chemical information and the need for chemical industry to move quickly to generate the information. She discussed the European Union "White Paper" that lays down a timetable of 2004 from to 2012 for a minimum set of toxicity data on each existing chemical over 1t/yr;
- **Alan Ritchie, NSW EPA** spoke on the Dangerous Goods Transport where we can now expect to see the next ADG Code in late 2004 or early 2005, with the proposal that in the future it will always align with the latest UN Model Regulations and UN Dangerous Goods List. A consultant has been contracted to determine how this might be best achieved;
- **Margaret Donnan, PACIA** ran us through the new Classification Criteria and new MSDS Code. The drafting of the Chemical Products Labelling Code is about to get

underway, just as the draft NZ Chemical Products Labelling Code goes on the NZCIC website.

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 will be in Melbourne in early May 2003.

• Changing Material Safety Data Sheet Scope & Structural Briefing, 17th July 03

In this 9.00-10.30am Briefing Mr Barry Pratt, Director, Manufacturing & Agriculture, Worksafe Victoria will detail information on the current legislation governing the structure and content of MSDSs; highlight changes to the existing MSDSs; and highlight transitional arrangements for the implementation of the new standard.

Cost \$190, organised by the Aust. Env. Business Network, www.aebn.com.au, for information contact AEBN ph: 03-9397-2511.

• Fundamentals of Environmental Law, 4-8 Aug 03

ACEL-ANU Short Course in Canberra. The course introduces some key concepts in the environmental debate about "ecologically sustainable development". Sources of environmental law are examined, looking at the roles of the common law, and of statutes. The constitutional power of the Commonwealth and State Governments are also examined, including the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Finally the various ways in which environmental decision-making can be challenged through the legal process.

Course Fee \$1500. For details ph: 02-6249-3487 / 02-6249-3516, email: acel.law@anu.edu.au, website: <http://law.anu.edu.au/accel/ShortCourses.htm>

• MSDS / Classification / List Seminar, 9th Sept 03

North Melbourne, Victoria, 3.45 to 9.00pm. Organised by the RACI / supported by the Risk Engineering Society (Vic) to consider the latest editions of these NOHSC documents.

Cost under \$50. For details contact: Peter Sommers, email: psomm@merck.com.au

To register contact RACI Victorian Branch Co-ordinator ph: 03-9328 2808, fax: 03-9326-5880, email: racivic@raci.org.au

• International Society For Environmental Epidemiology Conference 24-26th Sept 2003

The 15th Conference theme is Traversing Boundaries, to convey the trend towards transdisciplinary approaches to environmental epidemiological research. The key topics will include modified environments and environmental health, applications of epidemiology in policy development, communities, and health and advocacy.

There will be a Workshop On Socio-Economic Factors And Air Pollution Health Effects on the 23rd Sept 03.

Cost \$890, Day registration \$300. For the Workshop add \$35. For info ph: 08-9387-1488; email: info@eventedge.com.au

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● **Environmental Business & Regulation, 28-30 Sept 03**

ACEL-ANU Short Course in Canberra. Environmental Regulation is a significant influence on corporate environmental behaviour. The diverse range of instruments that currently make up the environmental policy-makers toolkit, & which shape environmental outcomes for both large & small business are examined. Why enterprises choose different strategies towards environmental regulation; & why some choose to go "beyond compliance".

Course Fee \$990. For details ph: 02-6249-3487 / 02-6249-3516, email: acel.law@anu.edu.au, website: <http://law.anu.edu.au/acel/ShortCourses.htm>

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