Hazmat & Environment Notes

April-June 2019

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Hazardous Chemicals

USA TSCA: 40 Chemicals Prioritized for Risk Evaluation

20 March 2019: The USA EPA published a list of 40 chemicals to begin the prioritization process – the initial step in a new process of reviewing chemicals currently in commerce under the amended Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

TSCA requires the USA EPA to publish this list of 40 chemicals to begin the prioritization process to designate 20 chemicals as "high-priority" for subsequent risk evaluation and to designate 20 chemicals as "low-priority," meaning that risk evaluation is not warranted at this time.

One of the chemicals identified for high-priority evaluation is Formaldehyde, a chemical that has been studied by USA EPA's Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) program for many years.

The 20 high priority candidate chemicals include seven Chlorinated Solvents, six Phthalates, four Flame Retardants, Formaldehyde, a Fragrance Additive, and a Polymer Pre-Curser. The USA EPA has received a manufacturer request for a risk evaluation of two additional phthalates & is currently determining whether the request contains the minimum needed elements to proceed under USA EPA's regulations.

The list of 40 chemicals (both High Priority Candidates & High Priority Candidates) can be found at:

www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/list-chemicals-undergoing-prioritization

www.epa.gov/newsreleases/reaching-another-tsca-milestoneepa-identifies-40-chemicals-prioritize-risk-evaluation

USA EPA: Bans Consumer Sales of Methylene Chloride Paint Removers

15 March 2019: The USA EPA issued a final rule to prohibit the manufacture (including import), processing, and distribution of methylene chloride in all paint removers for consumer use. EPA has taken this action because of the acute fatalities that have resulted from exposure to the chemical.

The USA EPA found risks to consumers to be unreasonable. Acute (short-term) exposures to methylene chloride fumes can rapidly cause dizziness, loss of consciousness, and death due to nervous system depression. People have died after being incapacitated during paint and coating removal with methylene chloride. A variety of effective, less harmful substitutes are readily available for paint removal.

Paint removal products containing methylene chloride will not be able to be sold at any retail or distribution establishments that have consumer sales, including e-commerce sales. Those prohibitions start 180 days after the effective date of the final rule, which provides time for establishments selling this chemical to consumers to come into compliance with USA EPA's ban.

Once published, the final rule and supporting documents will be available in the USA Federal Register docket at: https://www.regulations.gov/ and by searching for EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0231.

From: www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-bans-consumer-sales-methylene-chloride-paint-removers-protecting-public

The California Proposition 65 Chemical List

The current California Proposition 65 list is available on-line below, as a pdf or Excel download or through <u>WestLaw</u>.

The Excel document also includes the listing mechanism for each chemical listing and the safe harbor level, if one has been adopted. A hyperlink is provided for those chemicals for which the basis for listing documentation is available electronically.

Types of chemicals are on the Proposition 65 list?

The list contains a wide range of naturally occurring and synthetic chemicals that are known to cause cancer or birth defects or other reproductive harm.

These chemicals include additives or ingredients in pesticides, common household products, food, drugs, dyes, or solvents. Listed chemicals may also be used in manufacturing and construction, or they may be by-products of chemical processes, such as motor vehicle exhaust.

<u>March 08, 2019 Proposition 65 List</u> (8 Mar 2019, pdf 22 pages) March 08, 2019 Proposition 65 List (Excel) (8 Mar 2019)

From: https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65/proposition-65-list

Canadian Chemicals Management Plan Website

This Government of Canada website enables you to see the chemicals being currently assessed Canadian Authorities and look back at previous assessments in 2011-2019.

Recent Chemicals & Issues that caught the editor's attention:

Apr 19: 1/ Isophorone Diisocyanate; 2/ Fatty Amides Group; 3/ Diazenedicarboxamide; 4/ Repealing the Chlor-Alkali Mercury Release Regulations; 5/ Triazines and Triazole Group; 6/ Inorganic substances identified as being of low concern; 7/ Used and Re-refined Oils Group; 8/ Phenol-Formaldehyde Resins Group; 9/ Methylenediphenyl Diisocyanate and Diamine (MDI/MDA) Substance Grouping.

May 19: 1/ Copper and its compounds; 2/ Seven Hydrocarbon-based substances; 3/ Methylenediphenyl Diisocyanate and Diamine (MDI/MDA) Substance Grouping; 3/ Certain Organic Flame Retardants Substance Grouping; 4/ Gas Oils and Kerosenes Group; 5/ Epoxy Resins Group; 6/ Draft Federal Environment Quality Guidelines for Iron, Lead, Quinoline and Strontium.

June 19 (to 8th): 1/ Heterocycles Group; 2/ Assessing exposure of Canadians and the environment to substances in products; 3/ Siloxanes Group (CAS No.s 107-46-0; 141-62-8; 141-63-9; 541-05-9; 2627-95-4; 69430-24-6)

From: www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/latest-news.html

ECHA News & Newsletter (March 19 - May 19)

ECHA News that caught the Editor's Attention:

15 Apr 2019: Companies should continue their Brexit preparations, as the extension allows the UK to ratify the Withdrawal Agreement at any point before the end of October 2019, ECHA recommends companies to continue preparing for a new, flexible withdrawal date.

20 May 2019: ECHA Newsletter e.g. Moving away from BPA in thermal paper. Assessing endocrine disrupting properties for biocides. Controlling exposure to harmful chemicals at work. Stopping products sidestepping enforcement through rebranding.

21 May 2019: Non-compliant information on chemicals is a serious issue that needs to be fixed. Progress has been made with evaluation but further measures are planned to raise the percentage of dossiers checked and increase efficiency.

ECHA does not have the legal mandate to revoke market access based on its compliance checks. If companies do not

provide the necessary safety information, national authorities are responsible for enforcing the law.

The Agency is committed to screening all registered substances by 2027, & checking compliance of all substances that need it.

22 May 2019: Safer Chemicals Conference – Material Online.

Presentations and recordings. Session 1: Improving compliance of REACH registration data: (5 presentations plus discussion). Session 2: Tackling substances of concern (3 presentations plus discussion). Session 3: Improving safe use of chemicals (4 presentations plus discussion & closing remarks). YouTube Video 8hrs 35m (start at 42m)

From: https://echa.europa.eu/news

ECHA: Moving away from BPA in Thermal Paper

From 20 May 2019 ECHA Newsletter:

Credit card slips, cash register receipts, tickets and product labels are often made from thermal paper coated with a substance that reacts with a dye precursor to form a colour when exposed to heat. A substance commonly used for this is BisPhenol A (BPA). In January 2020, the European Commission's restriction of BPA in thermal paper comes into effect. We look at what is being done to find sustainable and safe replacements for this use of the substance.

Some extracts:

Classified in the EU as a substance that may damage fertility, cause serious eye damage, may cause an allergic skin reaction and may cause respiratory irritation, <u>BisPhenol A</u> has also been identified as an endocrine disruptor for human health and as toxic for aquatic life.

Discussions with stakeholders showed that the higher cost of alternatives to BPA is the main barrier to their adoption.

ECHA's latest report on the thermal paper market indicates that approximately half of the thermal paper consumed in the EU in 2018 used BPA and that the share of other developers was increasing. For European-produced thermal paper, one-sixth contained BisPhenol S (BPS) and one-third contained other developers. For imported thermal paper, the share of other developers was slightly higher.

Belgium is evaluating BPS for its suspected endocrinedisrupting and carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic properties. Belgium has also notified ECHA of its intention to submit a proposal to harmonise the classification and labelling of BPS for reprotoxicity.

There is no final outcome for the substance evaluation and classification at this stage as the regulatory work is ongoing. However, since BPS is structurally similar to BPA, it may have similar toxic effects and the fact that it is a high production volume chemical has also raised concerns.

Companies can also look for solutions to the BPA substitution challenge through other means: there are technologies and innovations on the market that could remove the need for bisphenols, phenols or non-phenolic substances when developing thermal paper. For example, new types of printer paper, which react physically to heat rather than through a chemical reaction, are becoming available.

From: https://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/
/newsletter/entry/moving-away-from-bpa-in-thermal-paper

Safework NSW: Health Effects from Formaldehyde

News April-May 2019: From medical processes to plywood, Formaldehyde can affect your skin, eyes, nose & throat.

Formaldehyde is a colourless, irritating and unpleasant smelling flammable gas used for embalming or in glues.

Formaldehyde is soluble in water and often used as a water based solution known as Formalin. Formaldehyde solutions (Formalin) are used in hospitals, pathology and anatomy laboratories, and funeral homes for embalming, foundries and leather tanneries. Large quantities of Formaldehyde-based resins are used as glue for manufacturing wood pressed products such as particleboards and plywood. It is also present in low concentrations in a variety of consumer products.

Exposure can cause: Irritation, burns and allergic reactions with direct skin contact; Serious damage with direct eye contact; and Eye, nose and throat irritation through inhalation.

Read the <u>Formaldehyde Technical Fact Sheet</u> (3 page pdf) From: <u>www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/hazardous-chemical/priority-chemicals/formaldehyde</u>

EPA NZ: Hazardous Substances Update

Editor: I've included the issues that caught my interest:

April 2019 Edition #187:

1/ Importing or Exporting Hazardous Waste? The EPA NZ has released new Guidance on the EPA NZ: Shipping Hazardous Waste website.

2/ Hydrofluorocarbon Permits: Applications for special Permits for the import of Hydrofluorocarbons close on 1 July 2019, and 1 Sept 2019 for grand-parented Permits. From 1 Jan 2020, all imports, transhipments, and exports of specified Hydrofluorocarbons will require a permit from the EPA NZ. You need to apply in 2019 for these Permits.

May 2019 Edition #188:

1/ Understanding <u>Hazard Labels On Household Chemicals</u>. Labels on these products explain the physical, health and environmental risks that you need to be aware of so that you can use, store and dispose of them safely. Similar labelling requirements apply throughout the world.

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/newsletters/hazardous-substances-update/

Worksafe NZ Safety Alert: Accelerated Silicosis

23 May 2019: This NZ Safety Alert highlights the serious health and safety risks of exposure to high levels of Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) in the stone benchtop manufacturing industry.

Engineered stone benchtops have become increasingly popular for kitchens and bathrooms. They are made by mixing finely crushed rock with a polymeric resin, then moulded into slabs and heat-cured. The Silica content of engineered stone is approximately 90% Silica, which is much higher than natural stones.

Workers may be exposed to RCS while cutting, grinding, sanding and polishing stone benchtops during manufacturing and installation. Accelerated Silicosis is one of three forms of Silicosis that has been recently reported in workers working with engineered stone.

Accelerated Silicosis results from the inhalation of very high concentrations of Silica dust. It develops in a pattern similar to that of simple Silicosis, except the time from initial exposure to the onset of disease is shorter and the progression to complicated Silicosis is more rapid. Specifically, nodules increase in size and merge into large lesions, leading to progressive massive fibrosis and ultimately cardio respiratory failure.

From: https://worksafe.govt.nz/about-us/news-and-media/accelerated-silicosis/

Worksafe NZ: Haz Substances Update, April 2019

16 April 2019: (Update weblink)

New Rules for Class 6 and Class 8 Substances

From 1 June 2019 if you are over the thresholds for class 6 (toxic) and class 8 (corrosive) substances, you'll need to have established a Hazardous Substance Location (HSL).

HSLs must meet specified construction and capacity requirements depending on what is being stored in them. They also need to be separated from public and protected places by minimum distances which will depend on the classification of the substances and amounts being stored.

If you use and store Class 6 and Class 8 substances you must notify Worksafe NZ 30 days before setting up your HSL.

Quick Rules Guide (23 August 2018) (10 page pdf)

Hazardous Waste Changes

Waste that comes from work involving a hazardous substance is likely to be hazardous. From 1 June 2019, most of the rules for the safe use, handling and storage of a hazardous substance will also apply to hazardous waste with the same hazardous properties.

Temporary Storage of Vertebrate Toxic Agents

From 1 June 2019, if you are temporarily storing Vertebrate Toxic Agents (VTAs) for an imminent pest control or pesticide application task, you must tell Worksafe NZ where you will hold these substances at least 24 hours before you set up a temporary storage place.

New Performance Standards for Compliance Certifiers

The Performance Standard for information and process requirements includes requirements for inspecting, assessing and examining matters for the purposes of issuing a compliance certificate and the expected standard of record keeping and documentation of processes.

A second Performance Standard covers work involving toxic (class 6) substances, which can only be carried out by certified handlers.

Anyone who wants to become a certified handler needs to meet certain competency requirements.

Hazardous Substances Guidance - What's New?

The Worksafe NZ signage guide now includes a new template for VTA signage, and the requirements for VTA operations.

There is to be an upcoming survey about the Worsafe NZ hazardous substances guidance and education tools.

Quick Signage Guide (Feb 2019) (11 page pdf)

Getting Rid of Household Hazardous Waste

Always dispose of household hazardous chemicals according to the rules of your local council which is responsible for domestic hazardous substances waste disposal.

If you're unsure if your product is hazardous, check the symbols or warning labels on the packaging. And contact your council or the local landfill for options in your area.

Hazardous Waste: A Guide to Disposal (Consumer NZ page)

Innovating Health & Safety around Hazardous Substances

NZ Dairy company DeLaval has introduced a colour coding initiative to make sure their chemicals are labelled correctly. Their substances now come in coloured drums to indicate the different type of substance. This is in response to its staff learning of several incidents that included a farm worker washing his hands in Acid.

NZ Dairy company DeLaval also started putting QR codes on

their labels so anyone using or handling the substance can access the safety data sheet on their mobile phone.

Colourful Response to Chemical Risks on Farm (webpage)

From: https://worksafe.govt.nz/about-us/news-and-media/hazardous-substances-update-april-2019/

Stone Benchtop Fabrication & Installation: Checklist

30 May 2019: The WA Dept of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety (Worksafe WA), has developed a checklist for employers and workers engaged in the fabrication and installation of Stone Benchtops. Protecting workers from exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS).

This Checklist highlights safety issues with a focus on Silica hazards and provides information on how to best manage those risks to minimise negative outcomes through compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Legislation.

Stone Benchtop Fabrication & Installation Checklist (pdf, 13p)

From: www.commerce.wa.gov.au/who-we-assist/tradesperson

Chemical Spill at Airport (Sodium Thiosulphate)

05 May 2019: MFB firefighters went to Melbourne Airport, Vic where a chemical spill occurred. Crews were called to the airport just before 3pm after a forklift driver accidentally pierced two bags filled with Sodium Thiosulphate.

From: www.mfb.vic.gov.au/News/Media-releases/Chemical-spill-at-airport.html

Editor: As we don't identify Not GHS Hazardous Chemicals on their bags, the spill was managed as a Hazardous Incident.

Chemical Spill (HF) in Laverton North, Vic

08 May 2019: MFB firefighters were called to a chemical spill at Fitzgerald Rd in Laverton North at 10:48am.

The substance was quickly identified as Hydrofluoric Acid (HF) which was found to be leaking from a drum.

From: <u>www.mfb.vic.gov.au/News/Media-releases/Chemical-spill-in-Laverton-North-.html</u>

Qld: Waste Recycler to Stand Trial over Worker Death

3 April 2019: A south-east Queensland waste recycler and its company director have been committed to stand trial over the death of a worker. In November 2015 Oil Tech employee Matthew O'Brien was burnt to death during an explosion at the waste recycling plant.

At the time of the incident, the contents of a tanker containing a mixture of water and fuel were being unloaded. Mr O'Brien was working nearby using a heat gun when fuel vapour ignited to cause an explosion.

A Workplace Health and Safety Queensland investigation focused on the lack of a safe system of work to prevent ignition sources contacting flammables.

It's alleged by the prosecution that the defendants were indifferent towards or in disregard of the probable consequences of their conduct, namely the risk to Mr O'Brien of death or serious injury.

If found guilty the Director faces a maximum five years' imprisonment or a fine of up to \$600,000, while the company could be liable for fines of up to \$3 million.

From: www.worksafe.gld.gov.au/news/2019/waste-recycler-to-stand-trial-over-worker-death

Qld: High-pressure water blaster on Asbestos roof

3 June 2019: In February 2019, a painting contractor used a high-pressure water blaster on a corrugated Asbestos cement roof, commonly known as a super six roof. Asbestos Contaminated Dust and debris (ACD) was distributed throughout the grounds of the domestic residence and onto two neighbouring domestic residences.

Workplace Health & Safety Queensland undertook immediate compliance action against the contractor to remediate the site at a cost of \$70,000. *Investigations are continuing.*

Related Links:

How to safely remove asbestos Code of Practice 2011 (pdf)
How to manage and control asbestos in the workplace Code
of Practice 2011 (pdf)

Demolition work Code of Practice 2013 (pdf)

From: www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/injury-preventionsafety/alerts/incident-alerts/2019/high-pressure-waterblaster-used-on-asbestos-roof

Chemical Management

GHS 3 move to GHS 7: Feedback Wanted in July

6 June 2019: Over the coming months, Safe Work Australia will be consulting on the proposal to adopt an updated edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals for workplace hazardous chemicals.

As Australia's transition to the GHS is now complete (based on the 3rd revised edition of the GHS since 1 Jan 2017), it is time to move beyond GHS 3 to ensure Australia's classification and labelling requirements for workplace chemicals are aligned with our key trading partners, as they move to the 7th revised edition of the GHS (GHS 7).

Feedback will help ensure any changes to Australia's classification and hazard communication requirements for workplace hazardous chemicals are implemented in a way which minimises impacts to the industry.

To stay informed about the upcoming consultation subscribe to the SWA hazardous chemicals mailing list, and go to the SWA consultation platform, Engage, to register to have your say in July 2019.

Note: A screen name is required for registration, which will appear for any feedback you provide to SWA. If you feel more comfortable by retaining your anonymity, choose a unique screen that will not personally identify you

The Benefits for registering for the Engage forum are to:

a/ Participate in discussion forums; b/ Share your stories, have your say, post comments or provide feedback; c/ Stay up to date with current consultations; d/ Take part in quick polls; e/ Be invited to attend online actives such as webinars and discussions with topic experts.

From: https://engage.swa.gov.au/

From:

www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/media-centre/news/we-areseeking-feedback-moving-ghs-3-ghs-7-under-model-whs-laws

ASEA: Asbestos Management and Awareness

15 April 2019: National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014 - 2018 Final Report.

This Final Report highlights some of the achievements made and draws out the key elements of the work done over the last five years that were critical to achieving progress against the NSP 2014-2018.

Report: National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management & Awareness 2014 - 2018 Final Report (pdf 8Mb / 53 pages)

In 2012, the Asbestos Management Review found that urgent, systematic, nationwide action was required to deal with Australia's asbestos legacy. The review recommended the development of a National Strategic Plan to better drive, focus and coordinate efforts to address the Asbestos-related issues across Australia.

Although WHS Ministers approved NSP 2014–2018, the responsibility for implementation fell to multiple organisations, including: the Australian Government, State and Territory Health and Environment Agencies. This Final Report highlights examples of successful activities completed by the Commonwealth, State and Territory Agencies involved. It also details ASEA's contribution to implementing NSP 2014–2018.

From: www.asbestossafety.gov.au/research-publications/national-strategic-plan-asbestos-management-and-awareness-2014-2018-final

ACCC: Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency Review

21 Feb 2019: The ACCC made a submission to the five year review of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (ASEA), an independent statutory authority established by the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013. ASEA administers the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness, to prevent exposure to asbestos fibres and to assist in the elimination of asbestos-related disease in Australia.

ACCC Submission to the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Review (pdf, 5 pages)

Editor – ACCC points that caught my attention:

Where a matter is captures by a specialist regime, such as that for managing asbestos, the ACCC will refer such matters to the most appropriate specialist agency for consideration. The ACCC does not hold the same level of technical expertise as specialist agencies and its role is limited to consumer goods and focussed on the removal of products that are subject to recall or in breach of mandatory standards or bans.

The number of consumer products containing asbestos is relatively small, with 10 cases in five years in the context of approx. 13000 product safety cases per year.

It should be noted that supply of consumer goods containing asbestos is not illegal, UNLESS the goods are subject to a mandatory standard or ban. The ACCC ... facilitates the recall of products identified as containing asbestos and posing a risk of harm to consumers. E.g. Motor vehicle parts; Children's crayons; Earth crystals; Novelty "fire wallets".

From: www.accc.gov.au/about-us/consultations-submissions/accc-submissions & go to "Product Safety"

And: www.employment.gov.au/asea-review (15 Nov 2018)

ASEA Review - Discussion Paper & Consultation Questions

ASEA Review - Consultation Questions Attachment A

Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON)

Editor: BICON affects all chemicals and chemical mixtures that are imported into Australia. As a minimum you must

assess your chemical based product against the BICON criteria and if needed apply for an Import Permit.

You can use the Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON) to determine whether a commodity intended for import into Australia:

- is permitted is subject to import conditions
- requires supporting documentation requires treatment
- needs an import permit.

BICON will identify whether your goods require an Import Permit. You can apply, track and manage your BICON import permits online using your BICON registered user account.

Most import permits will be issued within 20 working days of completed applications being received and paid for in full. Applications may take longer.

As of the 9 April 2018, the Department will no longer facilitate the clearance of conditionally non-prohibited goods that arrive without the required import permit. Therefore goods that require a Permit, but arrive without one, including where an application is currently under consideration, will be directed for export from Australian territory or required to be destroyed in an approved manner.

Launch Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON)
Or: https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0

Editor: Please be aware that detailed technical expertise is needed to fully understand how to get correct BICON results. A specialist may be needed due to the liability involved.

From: www.agriculture.gov.au/import/online-services/bicon

EPA NZ: Haz. Subs. Compliance System Eval'n

Update: For the evaluation of the NZ Hazardous Substances Compliance System, the 3 person Technical Working Group (TWG) has been assessing the current Hazardous Substance Compliance System; comment on whether it is fit for purpose; and recommend improvements.

The focus of the assessment was to understand what can be done to assist Agencies where Funding and Resources can be an Issue. This will help ensure NZ can create a cohesive platform for a world class Chemical Management System that keeps New Zealand safe.

It is not intended that the evaluation will make any recommendations about legislative changes to:

The HSNO Act; the HSWA Act; or the RMA Act

Technical Working Group's <u>terms of reference</u> (pdf) It began work in Oct.2018.

Their report to the Ministry for the Environment and the Chief Executive of the EPA is due at the **end of June 2019**.

Following that, the report will be made publicly available.

TWG Secretariat email: HSReviewPanel@epa.govt.nz

From:www.epa.govt.nz/industry-areas/hazardoussubstances/evaluation-of-hazardous-substancescompliance-system/

Editor: I put in comment that I would like to at least see a process introduced to ensure all "non hazardous" substances are really non hazardous. I suggest that the "non-hazardous" chemical(s) introducers provide their CAS No.s to the EPA NZ. I gave the example of "NZ non-hazardous" Zinc Citrate powder which classifies as Dangerous Goods Environmentally Hazardous by Sea & Air (but not Road & Rail in AU).

• WA DMIRS: "Thinksafe" Online Publication

The chemical related topics in the April 2019 Edition:

- Workplace Hearing Loss and Exposure to Chemicals (p12)
- It is less well known that certain chemicals & medications can cause hearing loss, either on their own or in conjunction with noise exposure. Such chemicals are termed "**Ototoxic**". E.g. n-Hexane, Styrene, Toluene, Xylene, Lead, & Carbon Monoxide.
- Significant Incident Reports, Safety Alerts & Safety Bulletins released from 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019 (p14)
 - MSB No. 157 Minimising dust generation during crushing, screening and conveying
 - MSB No. 159 Preventing worker exposure to harmful gold room exhaust discharge
 - MSB No. 163 Reducing exposure to respirable crystalline silica (quartz)
 - SIR No. 01-19 Ammonia release during ship unloading
- Know your Hazards: Silica Exposure in Mining Operations
- Leave Fireworks to the Professionals (p18-19)

From: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/News/Safety-matters-go-online-with-25001.aspx

And.

https://issuu.com/dmirs_wa/docs/191018_nl_thinksafe_apr19

WorkSafe Vic: Safety when working in Confined Spaces

- **1 March 2019:** Working in Confined Spaces can be very dangerous. Some of the risks include:
- * loss of consciousness, injury or death due to contaminants in the air; * fire or explosion from the ignition of flammable contaminants; * suffocation caused by a lack of oxygen:
- * enhanced combustibility and spontaneous combustion due to an increased level of oxygen; * suffocation or crushing after being engulfed by loose materials stored in the space.

The webpage has Recommended Ways to Control Risks.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/safety-alerts/safety-when-working-confined-spaces

ICCA: Global Data Sharing on Chemicals to Improve Chemical Safety Worldwide

2 April 2019: The ICCA, a voice of the global chemical industry, is calling for the creation of an "international navigator" – a global repository of publicly available information on chemicals. This proposal is one of a <u>series of recommendations</u> (pdf, 5 pages) issued by ICCA on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

Such a navigator could be based on the <u>publicly available information</u> (pdf, 208 pages) in existing databases such as the EU IUCLID and EUCLEF (the EU Chemicals Legislation Finder), the databases from the US, Canada, and Japan, or the OECD eChemPortal.

National bodies and institutions in the countries with the most advanced chemicals legislation could take the lead in developing this global database; however support from a range of relevant SAICM stakeholders is critical to ensure broad consensus and implementation.

From:

www.icca-chem.org/chemical-industry-calls-for-global-datasharing-on-chemicals-to-improve-chemical-safety-worldwide/

ICCA: International Council of Chemical Associations

CSB: Recent Tank Fires in Deer Park, Texas USA

21 April 2019: Statement from the USA Chemical Safety Board. The massive Intercontinental Terminal Company Tank Fire in Deer Park, Texas, which began on 17th March 2019, engulfed 11 above ground storage tanks containing a variety of Hydrocarbons, resulting in multiple orders for community members to Shelter in Place.

From: www.csb.gov/statement-from-the-us-chemical-safety-board-on-recent-tank-fires-in-deer-park-tx-/

CSB Calls on USA EPA to Update HF Study in the Wake of the 2017 Husky Refinery Fire

24&26 April 2019: In the last 4 years, the CSB has investigated two refinery incidents where an explosion elevated the threat of a release of HF. Refinery workers and surrounding community residents are rightly concerned about the adequacy of the risk management for the use of hazardous chemicals like HF.

Factual Investigative Update: www.csb.gov/assets/1/6/Husky-Factual-Update-2.pdf?16434 (26 April 19, 4 page pdf)

From: www.csb.gov/csb-calls-on-epa-to-update-hf-study-in-wake-of-the-2017-husky-refinery-fire/

CSB Deploying to AB Speciality Silicones

3 May 2019: The CSB deployed a three-person team to investigate a fire and explosion that occurred on Friday 3 May 2019, at the AB Specialty Silicones facility in Waukegan, IL. Local emergency responders reported one fatality, two missing employees and multiple injuries as a result of this incident.

From: www.csb.gov/csb-deploying-to-ab-speciality-silicones-/

• USA OSHA Quick Takes e-News: Mar 19 - June 19

<u>27 Mar 2019</u>: Did You Know – Grain Handling & <u>Hazard Alert:</u> <u>Combustible Dust Explosions</u> (2 page pdf).

4 Apr 2019: 1/ Ammunition Manufacturer Cited after Two Workers Die in Explosion at North Florida Worksite (as the company was cited for failing to protect and train workers when it increased the Maximum Explosive Limits of pyrotechnic flash powder from 200 grams to 500 grams. Read the News Release. 2/ Featured Video launched in January 2019 focuses on handheld power saws (5m 50s): Controlling Respirable Silica Exposure in Construction.

17 April 2019: 1/ Wisconsin Pallet Manufacturer Cited after Three Workers Exposed to Hazardous Wood Dust. New release (from 26 Mar 2019). See the USA OSHA woodworking eTool webpage for information on evaluating exposure, exposure limits and effective exposure prevention programs.

22 May 2019: 1/ Kansas Aircraft Manufacturer Cited for Exposing Workers to Known Carcinogen, including failing to implement feasible engineering controls to limit worker exposure to the known carcinogen Hexavalent Chromium, conduct periodic monitoring of worker exposure, and establish protocols to ensure that workers remove contaminated personal protective equipment and clothing before leaving the work area. News Release (8 May 2019): USA OSHA alleges the company failed to prevent exposure to Hexavalent Chromium during aircraft painting and allowed the accumulation of Hexavalent Chromium on surfaces and failed to ensure that employee respirators fitted properly. 2/ Texas Meat-Packing Plant Cited for Exposing Workers to Hazardous Chemicals. News Release (6 May 2019): USA OSHA determined that the meat-packing facility failed to implement a

required Process Safety Management program for operating an Ammonia refrigeration unit containing over 10,000 pounds of Anhydrous Ammonia.

4 June 2019: 1/ Contractors Cited for Exposing Workers to Asbestos While Restoring Kansas Library, including failing to provide workers with respiratory protection, personal protective clothing, and training.

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

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

NICNAS Chemical Gazettes

<u>Chemical Gazette April 2019</u> (goes to the initial webpage)

<u>Chemical Gazette May 2019</u> (goes to the initial webpage)

<u>Chemical Gazette June 2019</u> (goes to the initial webpage)

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

NICNAS Call for Information on PentaBDE

7 May 2019: This is directed to all importers & manufacturers of pentaBDE, or articles or mixtures containing pentaBDE.

PentaBDE (CAS number: 1163-19-5) was declared a priority existing chemical (PEC) in January 2006, and this declaration remains in force. On 6 March 2007, the then Minister of Health and Ageing prohibited the manufacture and import of pentaBDE (and mixtures containing the chemical) while the chemical remains a PEC.

Information required (abbreviated): 1/ Quantities of pentaBDE which have been or will be imported or manufactured between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2019; 2/ Quantities of pentaBDE which have been or will be included into articles or mixtures between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2019 and the concentration of pentaBDE in these articles and mixtures; 3/ the uses of pentaBDE in articles or mixtures containing pentaBDE known to the company; 4/ contact details of the persons to whom the company has supplied or intends to supply pentaBDE, or articles or mixtures containing pentaBDE.

Information was to be provided by 7 June 2019 to: MAP@nicnas.gov.au

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette/numbers/2019/chemical-gazette-may-2019/call-for-information-on-pentabde

Editor: As manufacture & import of pentaBDE was prohibited in 2007 I would be surprised to find anyone responding!

Irgalube 232: Secondary Notification Assessment

2 April 2019: NICNAS was notified in 2017 of an intended significantly increased introduction volume of the chemical as compared to the volume assessed in 1998. A new use of the chemical as a collector in Sulphide flotation processes in mining operations was also notified along with the availability of new toxicity data. The changed introduction volume, new use scenario and availability of new toxicity data may potentially result in increased risk of adverse effects to the environment and to workers and therefore warrants evaluation of the new information.

This secondary notification assessment reassesses the risks posed to workers and the environment, from the chemical, based on this new information.

The chemical was originally notified as being imported as a neat material and in a formulated form for further reformulation into end-products, such as hydraulic fluids and compressor lubricating oils at up to 0.6% concentration.

The maximum import volume of the chemical for the Secondary Notification is up to 3000 tonnes per annum compared to the annual introduction volume of 15 tonnes assessed in 1998.

<u>Final Secondary Notification Assessment Report on Irgalube 232 [pdf, 54 pages]</u> (ND: New Data assessed) Note: The Chemical Name & the CAS No. are exempt details.

Current hazard classification listed on the HCIS:

Chronic aquatic toxicity (Category 4): H413 – May cause longlasting harmful effects to aquatic life

Recommended amended hazard classification for HCIS:

Toxic to Reproduction (Category 2): H361D – Suspected of damaging the unborn child (ND) [& Cut-off Conc'n of ≥3%]

Chronic aquatic toxicity (Category 4): H413 – May cause longlasting harmful effects to aquatic life (ND)

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette/numbers/2019/chemical-gazette-april-2019/final-report-secondary-notification-assessment-on-irgalube-232

PEC Report: Decabromodiphenyl Ether

7 May 2019: Background: Decabromodiphenyl Ether (decaBDE; CAS No. 1163-19-5), was declared a priority existing chemical (PEC) for a full risk assessment under the Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989 (Cwlth) (the Act) by notice in the Commonwealth Chemical Gazette of 7 June 2005. DecaBDE was declared because it represented 42% (180 tonnes) of all polybrominated flame retardants (PBFRs) imported into Australia in 2004 and some animal studies reported that decaBDE caused liver degeneration and fibrosis of spleen in rats, liver hypertrophy and follicular cell hyperplasia and neuro-behavioural changes in mice at a critical phase of neonatal brain development. There were also concerns that it cans photodegrade to lower brominated diphenyl ether congeners (breakdown products) that are hazardous to human health and /or the environment.

The declaration also listed the breakdown products of decaBDE. The breakdown products of decaBDE may be various, and dependent on the mechanism of breakdown (photolysis, species-dependent metabolism or pyrolysis). Very little information is available on the identity, concentrations, or the effects of the breakdown products other than lower brominated diphenyl ethers. Some lower Brominated Diphenyl Ether congeners are known to bioaccumulate and cause developmental toxicity in animals.

Recommendation: Having regard to the human health and environmental effects of decaBDE and fate in the environment, and noting that it is listed on Annex A of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to which Australia is a signatory, it is recommended that the Australian Government explore options for managing the use of decaBDE and its import into Australia, taking into account the information in this report.

Final PEC Assessment Report for decaBDE (PEC Report No. 41 – May 2019) [docx, 104 pages]

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette/numbers/2019/chemical-gazette/numbers/2019/chemical-gazette-may-2019/Decabromodiphenyl-Ether-final-PEC-assessment-report

Reforms: Early Regulatory Changes are in Effect

8 April 2019: Whilst the new scheme will begin on 1 July 2020, early regulatory changes are now in effect under the current scheme (NICNAS). These changes will reduce regulatory burden for introducers of some lower risk chemicals, such as polymers of low concern.

- no more Annual Reporting for permit holders and selfassessed assessment certificate holders
- shorter timeframes for Approved Foreign Scheme assessments
- Polymers of Low Concerns (PLCs) are exempt from notification

Go to the NICNAS revised PLC section for more information on PLC criteria *

- expansion of the PLC criteria
- changes to the definition of a New Synthetic Polymer (>2%)
- no more Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and labels required for cosmetics introduced at low volumes

e.g. Cosmetic Chemicals Exempt from Notification: SDSs and Labels no longer have to be provided if the cosmetic is introduced under the 'No Unreasonable Risk' category in volumes greater than 10kg per annum.

* To be eligible as a PLC, a polymer must:

Have a Number Average Molecular Weight greater than or equal to 1000 g/mol & meet the Low Molecular Weight species requirements and Reactive Functional Group requirements.

OR be a Polyester manufactured solely from allowable reactants. Links to the Polyester requirements.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/New-scheme-1-July-2020/Early-commencement-whats-already-changed-for-importers-and-manufacturers

Reforms: Questions about the New Scheme

22 May 2019: Key information about the new scheme

New Scheme Implementation Date: 1 July 2020

Subscribe to the NICNAS Stakeholder Update e-newsletter.

Link: The new Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 (pdf 157 pages)

Link: The Transitional Provisions Act (pdf 36 pages)

Editor's Comment: Read these Acts to understand how your business is, or may be, affected. (Alerted by a colleague)

The Draft General Rules are under development.

Previous 9 March 2018 Draft General Rules (pdf 86 pages)

The General Rules frequently refer to the 'Guidelines'. These are the Industrial Chemicals Categorisation Guidelines which must be read in conjunction with the General Rules.

In April 2019 NICNAS consulted on some specific changes we need to make to the draft General Rules because of Amendments contained in the IC Act 2019 — read more about this consultation here. Consultation Paper 4 April 2019 [pdf 32 pages]. Public consultation started 4 April 2019, closed on 17 May 2019. See separate Note for more details.

The Draft Transitional Rules are under development.

Previous 9 March 2018 Draft Transitional Rules (pdf 48 pages)

The Transitional Rules covers how the following certificates, permits and processes under the current laws will operate once the new laws are in effect:

1/ Assessment Certificates;
 2/ Commercial Evaluation Permits;
 3/ Low Volume Permits;
 4/ Controlled Use Permits;
 5/ Early Introduction Permits;
 6/ Secondary Notifications;
 7/ Application Fees payable under the previous laws;
 8/ Inventory;
 9/ Information, Reporting and Confidentiality;
 & 10/ Movements

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/New-scheme-1-July-2020/Key-information-about-the-new-scheme

authorised under Section 106 of the previous laws.

Reforms: Proposed changes to IC General Rules

4 April 2019: Consultation Paper 4 April 2019 [pdf 32 pages].

This consultation paper proposes some changes to the General Rules to take account of amendments made during passage of the IC Act. Stakeholder feedback on the categorisation criteria in the earlier draft in the General Rules was also considered in this process.

This Consultation covers (from Executive Summary):

- Changes related to declarations for exempted introductions including:
 - information we will require in declarations
- types of introductions that will not require a declaration
- Changes related to the use of new animal test data for introductions where the chemical has multiple end uses, including in cosmetics
- Proposed categorisation criteria changes: o Increased volume threshold for non-nanoscale chemicals used for research and development – from 100kg to 250kg
 - Addition of a new reported introduction type for research and development chemicals remaining under the control of the introducer
 - Addition of a new reported introduction type for chemicals introduced in low concentrations in 'notified fragrance blends'
 - Introduction of the concept of 'human health categorisation volume' for determining the appropriate human health exposure band criterion
 - Increases in volume thresholds for lower exposure bands
 - Change in indicative risk outcome for introductions that are both low hazard and either low volume or low concentration
 - Addition of a new human health exposure band for chemicals used at very low concentrations for which there is no consumer end use.
 - Allowing the following introductions to be exempted if they meet the exposure/hazard band criteria for very low risk:
 - * chemicals with an end use in an article with food contact
 - * highly branched organic chemicals

Paper: www.nicnas.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0005/871 34/Consultation-paper-Proposed-changes-to-Rules-arisingfrom-passage-of-IC-Act -FINAL-for-publication.pdf

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/have-your-say/past-consultations2

Editor: I hope the Definition of a Research & Development Chemical is much clearer than in the current ICNA Act.

Scheduled Poisons

The Poisons Standard (SUSMP No. 24) June 2019

Poisons Standard June 2019 (SUSMP No. 24)

697 page Standard commenced 1 June 19. The SUSMP:

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

Editor: The Index, starting at page 372 is 311 pages long!

www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2019L00685/cdab040c-45a3-4a0f-a6bc-d9f119f278da (pdf)

Changes are detailed in the <u>Explanatory Statement</u> (3p pdf) supporting Poisons Standard June 2019. <u>www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2019L00685/Download</u>

The Poisons Standard June 2019 incorporates a number of changes compared to the Poisons Standard February 2019. These amendments principally involve changes to existing entries, and the inclusion of a number of specified substances in the Poisons Standard for the first time.

Specific entries are now included for: Racetams, Phenyl Methyl Pyrazolone, N,N-Dimethyloctanamide,

N,N-Dimethyldecanamide, Galcanezumab, Doravirine, Abemaciclib, Plitidepsin, Isavuconazole, Semaglutide, Cenegermin, Grapiprant, Spiropidion and Tiafenacil.

Technical amendments were also made to the current entries for the Agricultural / Veterinary Chemicals: Sodium Salicylate, Lidocaine, Bupivacaine and 6-Benzyladenine.

Minor amendments were also included, for example, Editorial amendments to the current entries for Hydrofluoric Acid, Temazepam, Midazolam, Selexipag & Sucroferric Oxyhydroxide.

Editor: I can't see there is any amendment to the entry for "Hydrofluoric Acid". I haven't checked the other examples.

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

Scheduling Delegate's Final Decisions

Editor: I have only included Chemicals Final Decisions.

26 April 2019: Final Decisions - Nov 2018: (pdf, 33 pages)

(ACCS-ACMS #20)

2.1. Salts of Boric Acid.

Final Decision to amend the Schedule 5 entry for Boric Acid aligning it with the European Union cut-off concentrations for cosmetics, to create new entries in Schedule 5 for the Salts of Boric Acid (due to be implemented on 1 June 2019) and to create new Appendix F, Part 3 entries.

2.2. Naphthalene

Schedule 10 – New Entry: NAPHTHALENE (excluding derivs.) in preparations in block, ball, disc, pellet or flake form for domestic use except when enclosed in a device which, in normal use, prevents removal or ingestion of its contents.

Schedule 6 – Amend Entry: NAPHTHALENE (excluding its derivatives) except in liquid hydrocarbons as an impurity.

(ACCS #23)

3.1. 2-Chloro-p-Phenylenediamine / 2-Chloro-p-Phenylenediamine Sulfate

Schedule 6 - Amend Entry

PHENYLENEDIAMINES including alkylated, arylated, <u>halogenated</u> and nitro derivatives not elsewhere specified in these Schedules:

Conclusion from the Delegate's Interim Decision in Feb 2019: Inclusion of 2-Chloro-p-Phenylenediame and its Sulfate as Halogenated Derivatives of Pheneyenediames in the existing Scheduling entries will provide clarity and confirmation to industry that these chemicals are captured by the existing

Scheduling entries for Phenylenediamines and will not result in any significant regulatory impact upon them.

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-delegates-final-decisions

6 June 2019: Final Decisions - Mar 2019: (pdf, 4 pages)

Editor: No Chemical Final Decisions (only Medicines)

Note: Appendix A – Amend Entry: LUBRICANTS in preparations that provide a lubricating action between machinery parts, except soluble oils and solvent-deposited lubricating agents.

Amended to clarify the meaning of Lubricants to be for lubricating action between machinery parts, as some products containing Alkyl Nitrites are sometimes labelled as "lubricants".

From:

www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-decision-final/final-decisionsmatters-referred-march-2019-joint-acms-accs-meeting

Delegate Only Final Decisions & Reasons

14 May 2019: (Editor: Veterinary chemicals are not included) Delegate-Only Decisions on Agricultural Chemicals. (pdf, 48p)

- **1.2. Spiropidion** (a new tetrameric acid derivative insecticide from the group of chemicals that inhibit acetyl CoA carboxylase. Spiropidion is the 'pro'-insecticide, being metabolised to the active form rapidly in plants and animals. Spiropidion does not appear to have been evaluated by other international pesticides regulatory agencies.)
- **1.3. 6-Benzyladenine** (Currently registered (for use in apples and pears) in the USA). After consideration of all the relevant information, the Delegate is satisfied that the weight of evidence supports that an amendment of the Schedule 6 cutoff concentration level from 2% to 10% is justified.

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-decision-final/delegate-only-final-decisions-and-reasons-agricultural-and-veterinary-chemicals

Scheduling Interim Decisions for Comment

Editor: I have only included Chemicals Interim Decisions.

6 June 2019: Interim decisions on proposed amendments referred to the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling.

2.1. Interim decision in relation to Polymer in Durazane 1500

Cyclosilazanes, di-Me, Me Hydrogen, Polymers with di-Me, Me Hydrogen Silazanes S6 (wipe in a child-resistant closure, labelled and chemical resistant gloves); or S7

2.2. Interim decision in relation to N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone

The Interim Decision is to not amend the current Poisons Standard in relation to N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone.

Further evidence on the reproductive toxicity data is requested. There is a large amount of uncertainty regarding the likely exposure to N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone to consumers & the health hazard potential from repeated use needs assessment.

2.3. Interim decision in relation to MCPB

The Interim Decision to not to amend the current Poisons Standard in relation to MCPB (Editor: It is an S5). MCPB and its salts and derivatives, where the salts or derivatives are known to have different human health risk profile to the parent compound. Delegate: The formulation contains the actives as Dimethylamine salt and a Surfactant, where both Dimethylamine and the Surfactant are known to cause serious damage to the eye. The Delegate has given substantial weight to the data gap on the identity of the formulation in the eye irritation study.

Editor: The acronym MCPB is not expanded into a chemical name in the Poisons Standard entries. A websearch finds it is likely to be Chloro Methyl Phenoxy based herbicide in a proprietary product.

Consultation Closes on 4 July 2019

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-decision-interim/interim-decisions-and-invitation-further-comment-substances-referred-march-2019-acmsaccs-meetings

Public Submissions on Proposed Amendments -1

30 April 2019: Editor: Comment on Chemicals only.

Naphthalene

- Submission: ACCORD (pdf, p2 of 8 pages)
- Submission: Chemistry Australia (pdf, 2 pages)
- Submission: ChemSkill (pdf, 2 pages)
- Submission: NSW Poisons Info Centre (pdf, 1 page)

Boric Acid & four Borate Salts

Sodium Borate; Potassium Borate; MEA-Borate; MIPA-Borate.

- Submission: ACCORD (pdf, p3-6 of 8 pages)

Accord members have advised that these 5 substances are used at very low concentrations in cosmetics as buffering/viscosity controlling agents (Sodium Borate), as enzyme stabilisers in domestic detergent products and as corrosion inhibitors in industrial products.

In the final decision issued in April 2018 some inconsistencies with existing overseas requirements for cosmetics were unfortunately included and may also affect non-cosmetic products. Along with these inconsistencies, the new proposed wording for the schedule entries as currently drafted is very complex.

Atranol and Chloroatranol

- Consultation Submission: ACCORD (pdf, p7 of 8 pages)

Re: Proposal to create new Schedule 10 entries for the substances Atranol and Chloroatranol.

Atranol and Chloroatranol are naturally occurring components of Treemoss and Oakmoss extracts, which are used as components in fragrance materials. The global IFRA standards for Treemoss and Oakmoss extracts stipulate that levels of Atranol and Chloroatranol should each be below 100 ppm in Tree/Oak Moss extracts.

An acceptable cut-off level for these substances should be determined in acknowledgement of their nature as naturally occurring components of botanical extracts. This cut-off should be aligned with the IFRA Standards i.e. 100ppm (0.01%). Any new Schedule entries "prohibiting" these substances should be limited to cosmetic use only, as this is where the risks to human health have been identified.

Solvent Yellow 33

- Consultation Submission: ACCORD (pdf, p8 of 8 pages)

Re: Proposal for a new Schedule 10 entry Solvent Yellow 33.

In the EU, NZ and ASEAN countries this substance is currently prohibited for use as a hair dye colourant, and 'not to be used in products applied on mucous membranes' when used in other cosmetic products.

The wording of the proposed entry should be clarified such that it only applies to cosmetic products, given the potential different risk / benefit consideration for therapeutic goods:

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-submission/public-submissions-scheduling-matters-referred-acms-25-accs-23-and-joint-acms-accs-20-meetings-held-november-2018

Public Submissions on Proposed Amendments -2

6 June 2019: Editor: Comment on Chemicals only.

Polymer in Durazane 1500

- Accord Australasia (pdf, p3 of 3 pages)

Re: Proposal to create a new Schedule 6 entry for "POLYMER IN DURAZANE 1500 for use in coating wipes" with associated Appendix E & Appendix F entries. Given that the chemical name and CAS number for this substance are available in the Proposal, the Schedule entry should be:

New Entry: **Schedule 6** - Cyclosilazanes, di-Me, Me hydrogen, polymers with di-Me, Me hydrogen silazanes, reaction products with 3-(triethoxysilyl)-1-propanamine (CAS number 475645-84-2) for use in coating wipes.

N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone

- Accord Australasia (pdf, p2 of 3 pages)

Re: Proposal to amend the Schedule 6 entry for N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone to capture cosmetic preparations containing ≥2% of the substance.

Information available to date indicates that the use of this substance in cosmetic products in Australia is extremely limited, with currently only 1 available product identified (a hair colour removal product).

For consistency and clarity, it would be useful to include the exception for "cosmetic preparations containing <2% of the chemical" in the Schedule 5 entry as well as the Schedule 6 entry as proposed.

Salts and derivatives should be specifically excluded from the Schedule entries to avoid inadvertently capturing other substances. There are various other Pyrrolidone substances used as cosmetic ingredients, but these do not have the same risks to human health that have been identified for N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone.

- The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (pdf,148kb)

RANZCO supports the definition of eye washing in the proposed changes to the Poisons Standard with some minor amendments. The suggested amendments are:

"If in eyes [N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone], hold eyelids apart and flush the eye continuously with running water or normal saline for at least 15 minutes. Contact a Poisons Information Centre (e.g. ph: Aust 13 11 26; NZ 0800 764 766) for further advice. An eye examination should always be performed, including slit lamp examination where possible. Ophthalmologic consultation should be obtained if there are concerns."

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-submission/public-submissions-scheduling-matters-referred-acms-26-accs-24-and-joint-acms-accs-21-meetings-held-march-2019

Consultation: Proposed Amendments - 1

Editor: I have only included consultations on Chemicals.

- 11 April 2019: Comment already closed on 13 May 2019.
- **2.1 Arbutin** CAS 497-76-7 (used in medicines & cosmetics)

Schedule 4 - New Entry: ARBUTIN in preparations for human therapeutic or cosmetic use except:

- a. when included in Schedule 2; or
- b. in hair preparations containing 0.75 per cent; or
- c. in cosmetic nail preparations containing 0.05 per cent; or
- d. in oral herbal preparations containing 500mg or less of Arbutin per recommended daily dose.

Schedule 2 New Entry (Editor: exceptions don't make sense)

One of the reasons: Available evidence shows that almost all Hydroquinone released upon ingestion of Arbutin is rapidly conjugated and eliminated with the urine;

From: www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposed-amendments-poisons-standard-accs-acms-and-joint-accsacms-meetings-june-2019

Consultation: Proposed Amendments - 2

Editor: I have only included consultations on Chemicals.

24 April 2019: Comment already closed on 24 May 2019.

1.1 Lambda-Cyhalothrin CAS 91465-08-6 (an insecticide)

Proposal to amend Schedule 5 entry for Lambda-Cyhalothrin:

Schedule 7, Schedule 6 and Schedule 5: Reasons for Proposal: The Acute Toxicity of the formulated product meets the criteria stipulated in the Scheduling Policy Framework, with the exception of the estimated Acute Oral Toxicity, which was determined based on the up-&-down method.

1.3 Broflanilide CAS 1207727-04-5 (an insecticide)

New Schedule 6 entry; and Schedule 5 (at ≤3%) entry.

Reasons for Proposal: This cut-off is considered appropriate based on the clear thresholds below which no effects are observed. All proposed products would be captured by this Schedule 5 entry.

1.4 Trifludimoxazin CAS 1220411-29-9 (a herbicide)

Proposed to amend the Poisons Standard

Appendix B, Part 3

- Substances considered to not require control by Scheduling

New Entry for Trifludimoxazin: There is low acute toxicity at the highest tested dose. The product is not intended to be used in the home garden, with intended uses limited to the agricultural sector. Due to the low toxicity, no personal protective equipment was required during use of the product.

1.5 Saflufenacil CAS 372137-35-4 (a herbicide)

Schedule 5 - Amend Entry: SAFLUFENACIL in water dispersible granules (preparations) *or a water-based suspension concentrate.*

Reasons for Proposal: The restriction of the current Schedule 5 entry to wettable granule formulations was based on data from a dermal absorption study with a suspension concentrate formulation. It is proposed that this formulation is added to the Schedule 5 entry.

From:

www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposedamendments-poisons-standard-accs-meeting-june-2019

Food Chemical Issues

A1170: Rebaudioside MD (Saccharomyces Cerevisiae)

2 April 2019: This Application is to seek approval for a Steviol Glycoside mixture (Reb MD) for use as an intense sweetener, produced from a genetically modified Saccharomyces Cerevisiae.

Call for Submissions - 2 April 2019 (pdf) | (docx) (20 pages)

Support Doc 1: Risk & Tech Assessment (pdf), (docx) (25p)

Application (pdf) (73 pages)

Executive Summary (pdf) (3 pages – more details)

Reb MD, meets the purity criteria of ≥95% Steviol Glycosides as defined in Schedule 3 of the A&NZ Food Standards Code for Steviol Glycosides from Stevia Rebaudiana Bertoni (S3-35), but does not meet the manufacturing description of being extracted from the leaves of the plant.

Comment Closed 10 May 2019.

There are 11 submissions making comment.

One of the comments caught my attention:

The Victorian Dept of Health & Human Services and the Victorian Dept of Jobs, Precincts & Regions note FSANZ has recommended that Rebaudioside MD be identified using name 'Steviol Glycosides' or INS number 960 to align with existing provisions. However, Codex Alimentarius has adopted a classification system to distinguish Steviol Glycosides from fermentation through the INS number, 960b. The Codex's labelling approach enables the source identification of Steviol Glycosides and enforcement of any applicable consumer laws that might refer to 'natural' or leaf extracts.

From Dept Health & Human Services Vic (pdf, 1 page)

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/ A1170.aspx

A1176: Steviol Glycosides - Enzymatic Production

16 May 2019: This Application is to seek approval for a new specification for Steviol Glycosides produced by an Enzymatic bioconversion method using Enzymes derived from genetically modified strains of Escherichia Coli (E. Coli).

Executive Summary (pdf) (5 pages)

Extract from Exec Summary: Steviol Glycosides are natural constituents of the Stevia Rebaudiana (S. Rebaudiana) Bertoni plant and more than 50 different Steviol Glycosides have been identified in the extracts obtained from the leaves of this plant. Although each Steviol Glycoside generally has its own unique taste profile and sweetness intensity (i.e., some are up to 350 times sweeter than sugar), the molecular structures of all Steviol Glycosides are similar, consisting of a common Steviol backbone linked to different sugar moieties (Glucose, Rhamnose, Xylose, Fructose, Deoxyglucose, Arabinose, Galactose, and/or other sugar moieties) (Figure 1). Despite these differences in the type and number of sugar conjugates at R1 and R2 (see Figure in Exec Summary), all Steviol Glycosides share a common metabolic pathway and are ultimately hydrolysed by the gut microflora in the intestine to Steviol. Steviol is absorbed into the bloodstream and conjugated with Glucuronic Acid to form Steviol Glucuronide, so that it may be excreted from the body.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1176.aspx

A1163: Food Irradiation & Herbs & Spices

6 June 2019: This Application is to vary Food Standard 1.5.3 Irradiation of Food to remove the reference to Schedule 22 in relation to the definition of Herbs and Spices.

Call for Submissions - 6 June 2019 (pdf) | (docx) (17 pages)

Support Doc 1 - International Approaches & Definitions (pdf) |
(docx) (7 pages); Application (pdf) (20 pages)

Executive Summary (pdf) (3 pages)

The Applicant currently regards that there are 4 possible interpretations of the definition "Herbs and Spices means the Herbs and Spices described in Schedule 22" for the purposes of 1.5.3-4.

The Applicant proposes that the current definition of Herbs and Spices in Standard 1.5.3 be replaced either by a fall back to the commonly understood meaning of Herbs and Spices, or by inclusion of generic definitions of "Herbs" and "Spices", in Standard 1.5.3, to align with the Codex Alimentarius.

FSANZ: "These changes would be consistent with the original intent of the permission to irradiate herbs and spices, provided in 2001." Acting Chief Exec Officer Dr Scott Crerar.

There are no public health or safety concerns associated with the proposed change. Irradiation continues to provide suppliers of Herbs and Spices with safe alternatives to chemical treatments, providing benefits to consumers.

Questions about Submissions or the Application process can be sent to: Standards.Management@foodstandards.gov.au.

Please comment by 18 July 2019 on the website or to: Submissions @foodstandards.gov.au

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1 163.aspx and

www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/cfs-clarifying-herbs-spices-irradiation.aspx

A1164: Pullulanase Processing Aid (Enzyme) from Bacillus Licheniformis

6 June 2019: This Application is to seek approval to use the enzyme Pullulanase (EC 3.2.1.41), from a genetically modified (GM) recombinant strain of Bacillus Licheniformis containing the Pullulanase gene from *Bacillus Deramificans* (BMP 139), as a processing aid in foods, specifically in brewing and starch processing.

Call for Submissions: 6 June 2019 (pdf) | (docx) (16 pages)
Support Doc 1: Risk & Tech Assess Report (pdf) | (docx) (18p)
Application (pdf) (20 pages. Executive Summary (pdf) (1p)
Questions about Submissions or the Application process can be sent to: Standards.Management@foodstandards.gov.au.

Please comment by 18 July 2019 on the website or to: Submissions @foodstandards.gov.au

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1164.aspx and

www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-forsubmissions-on-a-GM-processing-aid-application.aspx

Agricultural Chemicals

APVMA Tender for External Scientific Reviewers

4 June 2019: The APVMA has released a Request for Tender (RFT) 1819-102 on <u>AusTender</u> for External Scientific Reviewer services in the targeted disciplines of efficacy and target safety, human health and safety, and veterinary biological chemistry.

The APVMA are looking for external scientific reviewers with expertise in these disciplines who can support the APVMA by evaluating the safety and effectiveness of agricultural and veterinary medicines.

Targeted Disciplines and Sub-Disciplines:

- a) Chemistry: i Veterinary Biological
- b) Efficacy and Target Species Safety: i Agricultural; ii Veterinary Pharmaceutical; iii Veterinary Biological
- c) Human Health and Safety: i Agricultural and Veterinary

The RFT closes at 11pm (Canberra time) on **30 June 2019**. Queries: Contact Officer: <u>1819.102 @apvma.gov.au</u>.

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/48876

APVMA Senate Estimates Report - Extracts

9 April 2019: Extracts from the Senate Estimates April 2019 opening address by Dr Chris Parker, CEO of the APVMA.

The APVMA have seen, over recent quarters, a consistent and improved trend in our assessment performance, with 85% of applications being approved within timeframe in the December quarter of 2018, and that's compared with a low of 58 per cent in the June quarter of 2017.

Our efforts to relocate the organisation to Armidale by mid-2019 continue to progress well.

We now have around 90 staff based in Armidale and our interim offices are at capacity.

Our permanent office remains on track for completion by mid-2019 and our recruitment efforts are continuing to ensure we have the staff we need in Armidale by the middle of this year. These staff will be supported by the staff in the Canberra satellite office.

We continue to support our departing staff at every step of the way. In February, 45 of our remaining ongoing staff in Canberra opted to take voluntary redundancies and five chose to redeploy within in the public service.

We've been capturing the corporate knowledge of these departing staff through active knowledge retention and the digitisation of thousands of files.

We have improved our budget position and as we look to the future, we continue to work on the Cost Recovery Implementation (CRIS) Statement, which will enable us to have sustainable resourcing for our very important work of ensuring agricultural chemicals and veterinary medicines are safe and effective.

Work is progressing well on the CRIS & we will be consulting with industry and stakeholders over the coming months.

The organisation is on a much better footing than it was two years ago and I look forward to working with staff to firmly establish ourselves as a world class regulator based in regional Australia.

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/46546

Editor: The 2017 June quarter was when staff became fully aware of the relocation to Armidale and its implications.

EPA NZ: Reassessment of Methyl Bromide Fumigant

9 May 2019: The EPA NZ has received an application from Stakeholders in Methyl Bromide Reduction Inc (the applicant) to reassess methyl bromide, a hazardous substance used in quarantine and pre-shipment fumigations.

The EPA NZ have determined that this application will follow a modified reassessment process and will include a public notification process, at which time, we will invite public submissions, and include a public hearing if one is requested.

The EPA NZ lists 5 steps so far from the 25 Mar - 18 Apr 2019.

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/latest-news/reassessment-of-methyl-bromide/

APVMA New Product with New Active Constituent

Frequency Herbicide containing **Topramezone** and **Cloquintocet-Methyl** – Applicant; BASF Australia Ltd Page 20, 23 April 2019 Gazette

Summary of Proposed Use: Herbicide for post-emergence weed control in winter wheat, barley and durum.

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/47141 23 April 19 Gazette

EPA NZ New Products with New Active Constituents

25 March 2019: The Applicant is seeking approval to manufacture GF-3308 fungicide, for control of speckled leaf blotch (Septoria Tritici) and also to suppress brown leaf rust (Puccinia Triticina). It is proposed that GF-3308 would be applied by ground-based and aerial broadcast spray methods.

The active ingredient in GF-3308 - Fenpicoxamid (CAS No: 517875-34-2, Formula: $C_{31}H_{38}N_2O_{11}$) is a new active ingredient in New Zealand. It is approved in the European Union, as well as Guatemala, Panama, and Ecuador.

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/latest-news/approval-sought-for-new-fungicide/

APP203757 Final Application Form.pdf (pdf 60 pages)

HSNO Hazard Classifications of the formulated substance are listed on pages 18-20.

From: www.epa.govt.nz/database-search/hsno-application-register/view/APP203757

Consultation Closed 9 May 2019.6 Submissions are available.

<u>Submission127489 Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu.pdf(pdf)</u> opposed the introduction of the fungicide Fenpicoxamid to New Zealand and want the application to be declined.

7 May 2019: The Applicant is seeking approval to import KUSABI fungicide for use in the control of powdery mildew in grapes, apples and curcubits (a family of plants that include pumpkins, cucumber and courgettes).

The fungicide would be applied using an airblast sprayer on grapes and apples, and by aerial or ground-based broadcast sprayer for curcubits.

The active ingredient in KUSABI fungicide - Pyriofenone (CAS No: 688046-61-9, Formula $C_{18}H_{20}CINO_5$) is a new active ingredient to New Zealand.

KUSABI fungicide is currently approved for similar uses in a number of other countries, including Australia, Canada and the United States. The active ingredient in KUSABI, Pyriofenone, is already approved in Australia, Canada, Europe, Japan, USA and Korea.

From:

www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/latest-news/submissionsopen-on-application-to-import-new-fungicide/

APP203620 Final Application Form.pdf (pdf, 41 pages)

HSNO Hazard Classifications of the formulated substance are listed on pages 23-26.

and: www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/open-consu

and: www.epa.govt.nz/database-search/hsno-application-register/view/APP203620

APVMA Active Constituent: Mefentrifluconazole

9 April 2019: An Application for the approval of a new agricultural active constituent, Mefentrifluconazole. Mefentrifluconazole will be used for the control of powdery mildew in grapes, and black spot & powdery mildew in apples.

Common Name: Mefentrifluconazole; CAS Name: α -[4-(4-chlorophenoxy)-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]- α -methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazole-1-ethanol; CAS No: 1417782-03-6; Minimum Purity: 965 g/kg; Formula: C_{18} -H₁₅-Cl.F₃-N₃-O₂; MW: 397.8 g/mol; Chemical Family: Triazole fungicide; Mode of Action: Mefentrifluconazole is a fungicide belonging to the group of the Sterol biosynthesis inhibitors in the sub group of Demethylation Inhibitors. The primary mode of action of this group is the blocking of Ergosterol biosynthesis through inhibition of cytochrome P450 sterol 14-demethylase (Cyp51).

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of Mefentrifluconazole active constituent (physico-chemical properties, identification, manufacturing process, quality control procedures, batch analysis results and analytical methods) and found them to be acceptable. The APVMA has completed a toxicological evaluation of Mefentrifluconazole.

Based on the available data and with input from the Advisory Committee on Chemical Scheduling, the Scheduling Delegate made a decision to include Mefentrifluconazole in Schedule 5 of the Poison Standard, except in formulations containing ≤7.5% of Mefentrifluconazole.

Other compounds of toxicological significance are not expected to occur in Mefentrifluconazole technical active constituent. The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed importation and use of Mefentrifluconazole would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

Submissions (now closed): Director Chemistry & Manufacture, Scientific Assessments & Chemical Review Program, APVMA. Phone: 02 6210 4701. Email: Enquiries @apvma.gov.au

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 9 April 2019 p22-24 From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/46531

Dangerous Goods

ADG Code 7.6 Only is Applicable from 1 July 2019

Edition 7.6 (Sept 2018 Edition) has been reformatted and now includes a hyperlinked table of contents, list of tables and list of figures. This reformatted version was released 12 Dec 2018.

From 1 July 2019 everyone must work only to Edition 7.6

Note: Edition 7.5 will no longer be applicable

From: www.ntc.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/safety/australian-dangerous-goods-code/

AU Emergency Response Guide (avail. late June 2019)

The AU Emergency Response Guide based on the Canutec Guide (which various Dangerous Goods specialists have worked on to replace HB 76) has been brought into a single AU electronic document.

It has been agreed by CAP, and the AU ERG will soon be available to download from the National Transport Commission Dangerous Goods webpage:

www.ntc.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/safety/australiandangerous-goods-code/ (check in late June 2019) For comparison you may wish to have a look at the current (North American) Canutec Emergency Response Guidebook, on which it is based. This free ERG pdf (400 pages) is available from: www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/menu.htm

Emergency Information Panels on Placardable Units (>500 kg(L))

Editor: It is being questioned by some organisations if the EIPs are really still needed in Australia. Can it be simplified?

Even A3 EIPs mean larger DG marking, contact information, and the Hazchem Code (which otherwise needs looking up).

Please send any ideas to Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au.

Risk Assessment: D.Goods Transport & Road Tunnels

Project to investigate the Risk assessment of Dangerous Goods Transport through Road Tunnels, which is being run by AUSTROADS.

https://austroads.com.au/projects/project?id=ART6037 (Initial Scope - ends 30June2019)

https://austroads.com.au/projects/project?id=ART6122 (Expanded Scope 3Dec2018 - 30June2020)

Editor: Note Item 4) benefits and the absence of any costs (fire explosion death etc.)

Amazon: Warehouses Just for Dangerous Items

19 May 2019: Amazon is reportedly building a warehouse just for Dangerous Items (in the USA).

Following an incident inside one of Amazon's warehouses that injured 24 people, the company is reportedly building a special warehouse in which to store hazardous and potentially dangerous items.

The first one is set to open this USA summer. In one of its warehouses last year, an exploding can of bear repellent sent 24 workers to the hospital, prompting the company to pull thousands of bear repellent and pepper spray products from 30 fulfillment centers in the United States.

Amazon is also holding manufacturers to higher safety standards over their packaging. In some warehouses, there are already areas and rooms with stricter safety measures for certain times, such as being enclosed with fire-rated walls.

These new locations will sport designated storage areas for flammable goods, oxidizers, and aerosols. They'll also have special sprinkler systems in case of emergencies. Amazon will give staff proper training when it comes to handling spills. Deliveries, meanwhile, will be handled entirely on the ground and not on planes.

From: www.techtimes.com/articles/243458/20190519/amazon-reportedly-building-a-warehouse-just-for-dangerous-items.htm

(Alerted by DG Newsy Stuff: Dangerous Goods - Hazmat Global Network, https://groups.io/g/hazmat)

Widespread Safety Probe after Deadly Chemical Blast

28 Mar 2019: SHANGHAI (Reuters) - China will launch a month-long, nationwide inspection campaign into hazardous chemicals, mines, transportation and fire safety, the country's safety watchdog said, following a deadly pesticide plant blast that killed 78 people last week.

From: www.reuters.com/article/us-china-blast-safety/china-launches-widespread-safety-probe-after-deadly-chemical-blast-idUSKCN1R82QM

After China's deadly Chemical Disaster, a Shattered Region Weighs Cost of the Rush to 'Get Rich'

31 March 2019: The Washington Post

Don Johnston alerted this "reasonably well written article", that gives a local worker & region perspective of this chemical disaster.

From: www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/after-chinas-deadly-chemical-disaster-a-shattered-region-weighs-cost-of-the-rush-to-get-rich/2019/03/31/78cf3a5c-508b-11e9-bdb7-44f948cc0605_story.html?utm_term=.80d5e32afc63

(Alerted by DG Newsy Stuff: Dangerous Goods - Hazmat Global Network, https://groups.io/g/hazmat)

Chemical Enterprises in China to Relocate & Upgrade

25 April 2019: 1176 Chemical Enterprises in China to Relocate and Upgrade.

At a summit on chemical parks and industry chain development held on 20 April 2019, an official from the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) noted that initial investigations revealed that there are altogether 676 Chemical Parks in China and their infrastructure development appears worryingly inadequate.

In the wake of the Yancheng explosion which occurred last month, the relocation and upgrading of hazardous chemical enterprises is gathering pace. By the end of 2018, a list of 1176 chemical enterprises were submitted to the central government: 479 of them need to be relocated, 360 need to be upgraded, and 337 need to be shut down. Moreover, the list included 1089 small and medium-sized enterprises as well as large enterprises exposed to major hazards.

There are enormous difficulties and challenges involved in the relocation and upgrading of hazardous chemical enterprises. Some Chemical Parks earmarked for relocation may have dismal infrastructure and are unable to ensure safe and environment-friendly production, and the existing Parks are suffering from limited land and energy use quotas and insufficient discharge capacities. Meanwhile, as most enterprises in the list are traditional chemical businesses, their relocation & upgrading requires a huge amount of investment.

From: https://chemlinked.com/news/chemical-news/1176-chemical-enterprises-china-relocate-and-upgradeld

WA Dangerous Goods Risk Assessment: template

31 May 2019: This (docx 8 page) template records information about the intrinsic hazards of the Dangerous Goods arising from specific physical, chemical and toxicity properties.

It includes: Site details; Hazard identification (with 5 subsections); Application of an approved code of practice (with 4 additional sub-sections); Risk assessment table; Demonstration of compliance against Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007 (listing 18 risk control measures); Outstanding risk control actions; Risk assessment summary.

From: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Dangerous-Goods/Dangerous-Goods/Dangerous-Goods-258.aspx (then select "documents & publications")

WA D.Goods Safety: Significant Incident Report

19 March 2019: (Additional Information)

Ammonia Release during Ship Unloading (SIR 0119) (pdf 2p)

As part of a standard operation, an Ammonia tanker vessel was supplying Anhydrous Ammonia to a process plant.

While the purging operation was underway, an operator inadvertently partially closed a line valve. As the line valve was no longer fully open, a control signal was sent to the plant emergency shut-down (ESD) valve to trip closed.

This resulted in increasing internal pressure and hydraulic hammer in the loading arm, creating significant forces against the loading arm quick connect/disconnect coupler which was not sufficiently tightened for the conditions. These forces caused the loading arm to decouple from the ship's flange and release Ammonia gas.

From: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Safety/Dangerous-goods-safety-alerts-13195.aspx

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

National Pollutant Inventory Data for 2017–2018

30 Mar 2019: Each year, more than 4000 industrial facilities estimate their emissions and waste transfers of toxic substances and report them to the NPI. This data helps communities, governments and researchers understand and monitor the sources of industrial pollution and waste and helps identify priorities for decision making.

The NPI estimates emissions for 93 toxic substances and provides the source and location of these emissions around Australia: The data is collated & published on the NPI website.

For more information on how to use NPI data, please refer to Understanding NPI data.

From:

www.environment.gov.au/news/2019/03/29/national-pollutant-inventory-npi-data-2017%E2%80%9318-now-available

NEPM Variation on Ozone, NO2 & SO2 Stds

23 May 2019: The National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) has released an impact statement and draft variation to the Ambient Air Quality NEPM in relation to its standards for O_3 , NO_2 and SO_2 .

On 7 Dec 2018, Australian Environment Ministers signalled their intention to vary the Ambient Air Quality NEPM for O₃, NO₂ and SO₂ based on the latest scientific understanding of the health risks arising from these pollutants.

Info Sessions: Melbourne 27 June 19; Adelaide 3 July 19; Perth 11 July 19; Webinar 16 July 19 (see below); Newcastle 23 July 19.

Submissions on the Review close on the 7 Aug 2019,

From: http://nepc.gov.au/nepms/ambient-air-quality/proposed-variation/consultation-2019

Also: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-andupdates/news/2019/may/24/epa-calls-for-community-inputinto-national-ambient-air-quality-standards

Environment AU: Australia's Hydrogen Strategy

1 Mar 2019: Australia's Hydrogen Strategy discussion paper. (Comment closed 28 March 2019)

Hydrogen is a clean fuel that can replace or augment natural gas, coal and oil. Momentum is building worldwide for the development of a global Hydrogen market. Australia could play a leading role in this market because of our abundant energy resources and proximity to key emerging markets. The COAG Energy Council established the Hydrogen Working Group to develop a national Hydrogen strategy to:

- build a clean, innovative and competitive Hydrogen industry
- position Australia's Hydrogen industry as a major global player by 2030

To inform the strategy, consultation will take place across Australia during 2019. Visit National Hydrogen Strategy request for input to comment on the future of hydrogen in Australia. Visit Hydrogen Working Group to learn more about the strategy.

<u>View Submitted Responses</u> on: <u>Discussion Paper webpage</u>. 104 responses are available to review.

From: www.environment.gov.au/news/2019/03/01/have-your-say-australia%E2%80%99s-hydrogen-strategy

Worksafe Vic: Update on the Waste Chemical Sites

6 June 2019: A WorkSafe Victoria led taskforce is continuing to remove waste chemicals from warehouses in Melbourne's northern suburbs.

This includes eight sites in Epping and Campbellfield uncovered in December 2018 and an additional four sites discovered in Craigieburn and Campbellfield in March 2019.

The waste chemicals include flammable liquids such as paints, inks and solvents. The exact quantity of chemicals contained in the warehouses is unknown, however the maximum total storage capacity of the 12 sites is up to 30 million litres.

The taskforce includes representatives from EPA Victoria, Emergency Services, and Hume and Whittlesea Councils.

So far more than 3.5 million litres have been removed and transported to EPA Vic licensed processing facilities. Operations are expected to continue for many more months, as safety must be the number one priority.

Security: WorkSafe Vic is employing twenty-four hour security at all sites to prevent access.

Atmospheric Monitoring: 24 hour atmospheric monitoring remains in place at all sites, and is constantly checked.

Environmental Protection: Temporary bunds are installed at each site prior to any chemicals being removed. The bunds are designed to capture any leaks that may occur when containers holding liquids are disturbed, plus firewater runoff.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2019-06/update-northern-suburbs-waste-chemical-sites

15 April 2019: The WorkSafe Victoria led taskforce removing illegally stored waste chemicals from warehouses in the northern suburbs will expand its operations to clean up four additional sites uncovered last month.

Three sites in Craigieburn and one in Campbellfield were uncovered on March 8 and 15, after information was received by WorkSafe Vic and the EPA Vic.

They contain large quantities of waste chemicals being stored in a similar way to those at eight sites discovered in Epping and Campbellfield in late December 2018.

WorkSafe Vic can step in to directly ensure sites are made safe if it believes this is necessary. It can also recover costs from the duty holder.

The occupier of these four sites was issued with directions to make them safe when they were uncovered. WorkSafe has now exercised its powers under the Dangerous Goods Act to take action to safely remove the Dangerous Goods from the sites.

The exact quantity of waste being stored is not known. The removal operation is expected to take a number of months. Safety will remain the taskforce's first priority and the sites have 24-hour security, atmospheric monitoring and spill containment measures in place.

The taskforce first stepped in to directly control the clean-up of the eight sites discovered in Epping and Campbellfield in early January 2019.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2019-04/updatewaste-chemical-sites

EPA Vic: Waste Transport Certificates - Change

20 May 2019: From 1 July 2019, all duty holders will be required to submit Waste Transport Certificates (WTCs) electronically. Paper waste transport certificates can no longer be bought (nor can be used from 1 July 2019).

This will enable EPA Vic to better record the production, movement and receipt of prescribed industrial waste to monitor the movement of waste more quickly and accurately. This will help to prevent potential harm to Victorians and the environment by intervening earlier.

The transition away from paper waste transport certificates marks the first phase in the implementation of EPA's new waste tracking tool. Any unused paper waste transport certificates received by EPA by 30 June 2019 will be refunded at \$5 per certificate. To claim a refund, print and complete a refund claim form (form F1015) as a 1 page pdf.

Electronic certificates are free of charge until 30 June 2020. From 1 July 2020 certificates will be available for purchase at a cost of 50 cents each.

You can get certificates by calling EPA Vic Customer Support on 1300 372 842 (1300 EPA VIC).

Note: Waste producers should obtain electronic certificates from EPA Vic in advance to ensure they are available for the specific waste production site.

Create an <u>EPA Interaction Portal Account</u>, either on behalf of a Business; or on behalf of an Individual (to report emissions). Registration for EPA Portal access is not immediate, and it may take a couple of days for your account to be created.

Note: You must use a desktop computer operating **Internet Explorer**, or **Apple Safari** with **Adobe Reader 11** or higher to access the portal.

Video (4m 36s): How to manage Waste Transport Certificates on the EPA Vic Interaction Portal (mp4 29Mb).

For more help with your EPA Vic Waste Transport Certificates go to the EPA Vic website below.

From: <u>www.epa.vic.gov.au/portal-help/help-with-your-interaction/waste-transport-certificates</u>

Sustainability Vic: Paint, Batteries & Fluoro Lights

Permanent drop-off sites (in Vic) for <u>paint</u>, <u>batteries</u> and <u>fluorescent lights</u> are typically located at Council Depots and Transfer Stations that accept other items like gas bottles, car batteries, motor oil and so on.

In Victoria contact your local Council for other products you can drop off at permanent sites, or to check disposal fees and opening hours.

From: www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/You-and-yourhome/Waste-and-recycling/Detox-your-home/Permanentdrop-off-sites

• EPA Vic Fact Sheet: Particle Sensors

15 April 2019: EPA Vic Fact Sheet: Particle Sensors.

Particle sensors are small air monitors that measure airborne particles such as smoke and dust. This fact sheet provides information about particle sensors, including how they work, what sensors are used for, and how to interpret information from particle sensors. Although Particle Sensors are simpler and less accurate than most other types of Particle Monitors, Particle Sensors can provide useful information about air quality, particularly when used as part of a network of sensors.

The readings from a Particle Sensor should only be taken as a guide, rather than a precise measurement of air pollution.

Fact Sheet: 1745 April 2019 (2 page pdf)

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2019/april/1745

EPA NSW: Circular Economy Policy Statement:
 re: Too Good to Waste discussion paper

Feb 2019: The NSW Circular Economy Policy Statement (10 page pdf) will help guide NSW Government decision making and sets the ambition and approach for a circular economy in NSW, and provides principles to guide resource use and management.

This <u>"Too Good to Waste" Discussion Paper</u> (Oct 2018) (35 page pdf) presents an overview of the circular economy, how it can be applied in NSW and the benefits it could bring. The Discussion Paper is informed by stakeholder consultation, research on international best practice approaches and an assessment of how these approaches would apply in the NSW context.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/publications/recyclereuse/circular-economy-policy-final

And: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/publications/recyclereuse/18p1061 -too-good-to-waste-circular-economy-discussion-paper

EPA NSW: Managing Industrial Waste

e.g. <u>Hazardous and liquid wastes</u>, e.g. <u>Online Waste Tracking</u>. <u>Online waste tracking for new users</u>

The EPA NSW online waste tracking reduces paperwork, makes it easier to comply with legislation and enables users to quickly and easily track a load of waste being transported from a waste producer to a receiving facility.

From:

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/waste/industrial-waste

EPA NSW: Household Chemical Clean Outs NSW Community Recycling Centres

Find your nearest NSW Community Recycling Centre or the next NSW Household Chemical CleanOut event, where you can drop off household problem waste for free.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/household-recycling-overview/find-crcs-or-hoco

EPA NSW: New Regs on Underground Fuel Tanks

17 May 2019: Changes to the NSW UPSS Regulation are intended to retain the focus of preventing leaks which can have serious impacts on the environment and the community, while updating to reflect industry best practice. The current NSW UPSS Regulation was designed to be in place for 5 years and it needs to be remade by 1 September 2019.

The new NSW UPSS Regulation will more clearly articulate the legal requirements for operators of UPSS and make it as easy as possible for councils to determine which UPSS in their local government area are compliant with the regulation. The update coincides with Local Councils becoming the Regulatory Authority for most UPSS from 1 Sept 2019.

The EPA NSW will retain responsibility for regulating UPSS sites operated by public authorities, those in unincorporated areas of the state and those with an EPA NSW licence. The EPA NSW will also remain responsible for those UPSS where there are outstanding contamination issues to be addressed.

NSW POEO (UPSS) Proposal Documents:

Protection of the Environment Operations (Underground Petroleum Storage Systems) Regulation 2019 (22 page pdf)

Regulatory Impact Statement (25 page pdf)

A summary of feedback received in submissions to 14 June 2019, will be made available on the EPA NSW website.

For more information about the proposed remake of the NSW UPSS regulation visit: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/contaminated-land/preventing-contaminated-land/upss

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/media-releases/2019/epamedia190517-community-feedback-invited-for-new-regulation-on-underground-fuel-tanks

• EPA Vic: Webinar on Ozone, NO2 & SO2 Stds

16 July 2019 (Tuesday): 12.00 noon - 1.00pm AEST. Free.

Have your say on the proposed National Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide Standards.

http://nepc.gov.au/nepms/ambient-air-quality/proposedvariation/consultation-2019 Consultation opened 23 May 2019.

Current scientific understanding of health risks related to Ozone (O_3) , Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2) and Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2) has developed, and with it, new ambient air quality standards are being proposed.

The National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) has released an Impact Statement recommending proposed changes to these standards and the health and economic impacts of these.

Further information on the Review: Go to the NEPC website.

Submissions on the Review close on the 7 Aug 2019,

Register at: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/webinar-nationalozone-nitrogen-dioxide-and-sulfur-dioxide-standards-tickets-61770205347?aff=ebapi

OECD Webinars: Risk Reduction Initiatives for PFAS

15 May 2019: Free webinars on Risk Reduction Initiatives for Per- and Poly- FluoroAlkyl Substances (PFAS) in Canada (25 min) and in the USA (25 min). And the PFAS Background and USA EPA's PFAS Action Plan (25 min).

The PFAS webinar series brings world experts together to share vital information and best practices regarding PFASs.

Video recordings of our PFASs webinars are made available online afterwards. Register for an upcoming webinar or watch the video recordings of our past webinars below. REGISTER

From: www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/portal-perfluorinated-chemicals/webinars/

Editor: I Registered after the event but did not gain access. I assume this webinar will be added to their video recordings.

• EPA NZ: PFOS Firefighting Foams - Stores Found

4 April 2019: The aim of the EPA NZ investigation was to discover whether PFOS-containing foams had been imported, manufactured, used, stored, or disposed of in New Zealand in contravention of Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (HSNO) requirements, and the extent of these activities.

The EPA sought to ensure any non-compliant foam was removed and disposed of safely; that any places or equipment in contact with the foam were decontaminated, and that clean-up materials were appropriately disposed of.

Chief Executive Dr Allan Freeth said: "Our investigation covered 166 sites across the country. We were very surprised to find the banned foams at six airports; in equipment owned by two companies that service airports; at three sites controlled by a major oil company; in two tug boats; and at a tyre company." The EPA NZ "found no intentional non-compliance. We concluded it was highly likely that all the banned foam we identified had been imported before 2006, when it was legal."

"Firefighting foam with lower levels of PFOS was also found at some other sites. These lower levels likely resulted from contamination arising from previous use of PFOS foams."

Education and advice was considered the most appropriate approach to compliance, which the relevant entities followed.

EPA NZ expect there will be enduring behavioural change for the better regarding PFAS chemicals being achieved through the approach undertaken as a result of this investigation.

Read the Full Report for more information. Findings of the EPA National Investigation into Firefighting Foams containing PFOS, 4 April 2019 (34 page pdf).

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/latest-news/epa-investigation-into-pfos/

Vic Fact Sheet: Storage & Abandonment of Waste

20 May 2019: EPA Vic Publication 1680.2 (1 page pdf). Landlords and Agents Fact Sheet: Storage and Abandonment of Waste. This Fact Sheet helps commercial landlords and real estate agents to understand the risks associated with stockpiled and abandoned waste and the requirements for due diligence.

Waste poses fire, environmental pollution and health risks. These risks may result in unexpected costs, and potentially decrease property values. If tenants abandon waste on a property, landlords may also become liable for the cleanup. EPA investigated several cases where landlords received significant financial penalties &/or inherited the cost of cleanup.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/publications/publication/2019/may/1680-2

work/publications/publication/2019/may/1060-2

• EPA Vic Suspends Campbellfield Company Licence

21 Mar 2019: Bradbury Industrial Services Pty Ltd was found to be storing more waste than permitted under its EPA Vic licence, storage containers are not adequately labelled and are being handled outside an adequately bunded area.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2019/march/21/epa-suspends-campbellfield-company-licence

• EPA Vic Statement: Campbellfield 5 April Fire

5 Apr 2019: The MFB was called to a large industrial fire at a factory in Campbellfield this morning (5 April 2019).

The EPA Vic was made aware of the situation soon after.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-us/news-centre/news-and-updates/news/2019/april/05/campbellfield-fire-epa-statement

WorkSafe Vic: Update on Waste Chemical Sites

15 Apr 2019: The WorkSafe Vic led taskforce removing illegally stored waste chemicals from warehouses in the northern suburbs will expand its operations to clean up four additional sites uncovered last month.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2019-04/update-waste-chemical-sites

Plastic Waste Recycling: the CreaSolv® Process

Editor: Following on from the Note in the previous edition I have been alerted by a colleague to the CreaSolv® Process.

"Proprietary <u>CreaSolv</u>" Formulations with the lowest risk potential possible for user and environment (ideally not to be classified according to GHS criteria) dissolve selectively the target polymer. This reduces besides the hazard also the cost for the equipment.

After cleaning "it of" impurities the desired polymer precipitates when a special CreaSolv® Precipitation agent is added.

The ingredients of our formulations are commercially available and are not research products."

From: www.creacycle.de/en/the-process.html

Standards & Codes

Standards – https://infostore.saiglobal.com/

https://infostore.saiglobal.com/store/Default.aspx?SearchType=power

<u>ISO 18889:2019</u>: Protective Gloves for Pesticide Operators and Re-entry Workers - Performance Requirements. Pub: 10 Apr 2019, 12p, pdf (Personal Use): \$87.18; Hardcopy: \$96.87.

I.S. EN 943-2:2019: Protective Clothing Against Liquid and Gaseous Chemicals, Including Liquid Aerosols and Solid Particles - Part 2: Performance Requirements for 'gas-tight' (type 1) Chemical Protective Suits for Emergency Teams (et). Pub: 14 Apr 2019, 20 pages, pdf (Personal Use): \$85.20; Hardcopy: \$99.17.

Draft Stds – https://infostore.saiglobal.com/

https://infostore.saiglobal.com/store/Default.aspx?SearchType=power

DR AS ISO 14040:2019: Environmental Management - Life Cycle Assessment - Principles and Framework. Comment closed 16 May 2019.

DR AS/NZS 4114:2019: Spray Painting Booths, Designated Spray Painting Areas and Paint Mixing Rooms. Published 20 May 2019, 40 pages, pdfs (Networkable / Personal Use): Free; Hardcopy: \$48.97. Comment closes 20 July 2019

https://www.hub.standards.org.au/hub/public/listOpenCommentingPublication.action

Note: Comment must be via the Hub. Any emails or forms sent to Standards Australia by fax or mail will not be considered by the Committee when it reviews the Public Comment received.

NFPA Codes, Reports, News

Newly Published NFPA Codes

All NFPA documents are at: <a href="https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes

Hazardous Materials Reports

From: www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Data-research-and-tools/Hazardous-Materials

Latest Report: <u>Combustible Dust Flame Propagation and Quenching in Pipes and Ducts, Dec 2018</u> (pdf, 47 pages)

NFPA News: now only appears accessible by being emailed. http://ebm.cheetahmail.com/r/regf2?a=0&aid=272412627&n=210

Standards Seeking Public Input

For a complete listing of NFPA standards accepting Public Input, please go to www.nfpa.org/publicinput

Standards Seeking Public Comment

For a complete listing of NFPA standards accepting Public Comment, please go to www.nfpa.org/publiccomment

Both of the above take you to the various Committees:

As part of its commitment to enhancing public safety, NFPA makes its codes & standards available for **free online**.

Seminars, Conferences, Courses

• Fundamentals of Process Safety, Brisbane & Melb Brisbane, 17-21 June 2019; Melbourne, 7-11 Sept 2019

For staff keen to develop or improve their knowledge of process safety, hazards, risk and their management.

Cost: Non-Members \$4090, IChemE Members \$3565.

Email: austcourses@icheme.org, ph: 03-9642-4494

From: www.icheme.org/career/training/courses/fundamentals-of-process-safety/24-28-june-2019-australia/ (Brisbane)

From: https://www.icheme.org/career/training/courses/fundamentals-of-process-safety/7-11-october-2019-australia/ (Melbourne)

DGAG Meeting, MFB Burnley, 1 Aug 2019, Melb

Dangerous Goods Advisory Group meeting, Thurs 1st Aug 2019, 5.30pm for 6pm - 8.15pm meeting at the MFB Burnley Complex. No Cost to attendees. There will be tea / coffee and biscuits and for those interested will go for a meal after.

Info: www.haztech.com.au/click-this-tab-for-a-list-of-all-meetings-conferences-seminars-workshops/

For those who would like to be added to my Dangerous Advisory Group / Chemical Hazard Communication Network email meeting issues list, please email me at: Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au.

Chemicals in the Environment, 6 Aug 2019, Burnley

Speakers & Discussion Forum organised by RACI HS&E Group with 6 presentations. It includes a light stand-up dinner served at about 7pm with the opportunity for networking.

Registration: 5:30-6:00pm; Symposium: 6:00-8:30pm.

Cost: RACI/RES/SCAA/Kindred Societies Member: \$60;

Non Member: \$80; Student: \$30.

From: www.raci.org.au/events/event/health-safety-environment-group-symposium-chemicals-in-the-environment

ACTRA 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting 29-30 Aug 2019

Reproductive/Developmental Toxicology & Risk Assessment – Advances & Practice. Held at, Oaks on Market, in Melbourne.

From: https://clems.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/actra-asm-2019/welcome Cost: (non member) \$790

HAZOP Leaders & Team, 10-12 Sept 2019, Melb

Melbourne, 10–12 Sept 2019: This revamped integrated course provides effective, realistic training for HAZOP team members and leaders using examples drawn from a range of industry sectors.

As well as presentations covering all the essential aspects of the method, you will participate in workshops on HAZOP for continuing processes, sequential operations and computer-controlled plant. You will also learn more about the relationship between HAZOP and other hazard identification methods and hazard studies.

Cost: Non-Members \$4040, IChemE Members \$3515.

Email: austcourses@icheme.org, ph: 03-9642-4494

From: www.icheme.org/career/training/courses/hazop-study-for-team-leaders-and-team-members/10-12-september-2019-australia/

AIDGC Aerosol Workshop 12 Sept 2019, Sydney

The Storage & Handling of Aerosols Workshop is at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde is organised by the AIDGC. The Workshop details are from the AIDGC May 2019 newsletter. No details yet at: http://aidgc.org.au/news-events/ Registration (preferably by late Aug 2019) (not yet available).

AIDGC D.Goods Conference, 13 Sept 2019, Sydney

The AIDGC Dangerous Goods Conference:

Modern Warehousing of Dangerous Goods in Mixed Classes, at the PARKROYAL, Darling Harbour, Sydney. Cost (not yet available). Registration (preferably by late Aug 2019)

No details yet at: http://aidgc.org.au/news-events/

Conference details are from the AIDGC May 2019 newsletter.

Chemeca 2019: 29 Sept - 2 Oct 2019, Sydney

Theme for 2019: Engineering Megatrends & the Elements.

"How will the significant challenges facing the world today, the emerging megatrends in engineering and our roots as a discipline in manipulating and combining the fundamental chemical elements drive the development of the next chemical engineering paradigm?"

Full non member Registration - \$1653 (Welcome & Dinner) Website: www.chemeca2019.org/

Hazards Australasia 2019, 13-14 Nov 19, Brisbane

Hazards Australasia 2019 will share best practice, latest developments and lessons learned in Process Safety, promoting a continuous focus on improving process safety performance. Non Member Cost \$1470 (by 11 Oct 19)..

Many Themes are relevant to managing chemicals safely.

From: www.icheme.org/career/events/hazards-australasia/

IChemE Training – On-Line Courses

Editor: These on-line courses are available to purchase as ondemand recordings for the costs shown below.

An Introduction to HAZOP 2 CPD Hrs £149 + VAT

An Introduction to LOPA 3 CPD Hrs £199 + VAT

Confined Space Entry 3 CPD Hrs £199 + VAT

Dust Explosions 4 CPD Hrs £235 + VAT

<u>Dust Explosion Risk Reduction</u> 4 CPD Hrs £235 + VAT

Mentoring for Chemical Engineers 4 CPD Hrs £235 + VAT

Runaway Reactions 3 CPD Hrs £199 + VAT

Plus several other relevant on-line courses.:

From: www.icheme.org/career/training/online-courses/

Haztech Environmental: Chemical Hazard Classifications done & reviewed. SDSs prepared & reviewed. Labels prepared & reviewed. Chemical Management & Safety Regulatory Compliance: checked for NICNAS, APVMA, FSANZ, TGA; prepared & reviewed for Dangerous Goods & Combustible Liquids, GHS Hazardous Chemicals / Workplace Hazardous Substances, Environmentally Hazardous Substances, Scheduled Poisons, and other Chemical and Physical Hazards.

I can come and work in your office, which provides better access to data with improved security, plus good technical contact with relevant personnel. This allows the work to be done more quickly and comprehensively. *I also work from my home office*, in Ashburton, Victoria, where I maintain an extensive reference library, developed over 28 years whilst preparing these Notes.

Contact: Jeff Simpson, Hazardous Materials & Regulatory Affairs Consultant, Haztech Environmental, 18 Laurel St, Ashburton 3147, Australia, 61-(0)3-9885-1269, 61-(0)403-072-092, Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au, Website: www.haztech.com.au.

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