Hazmat & Environment Notes Jan-Mar 2020

Hazmat & Environment Notes are prepared & edited by: Jeff Simpson Screen ISSN: 1441-5534

Prepared by Jeff Simpson, Haztech Environmental, 18 Laurel St, Ashburton Vic 3147, ph: 03-9885-1269, email: Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au

Hazardous Chemicals

• ECHA SCIP Database – Substances of Concern

SCIP is the database for information on **Substances of Concern In** articles as such or in complex objects (**Products**) established under the EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD).

The prototype of the database was released in February 2020 and the first full version will be launched in October 2020.

Go to SCIP Database Prototype *https://echa.europa.eu/scip-database*

13 Feb 2020: Companies supplying products that contain REACH Candidate List substances need to start submitting information on these products to the SCIP database from 5 January 2021. This marks the start of a new era for waste treatment operators. The information is expected to make sorting waste easier and improve the quality of recycled materials.

Whether a product is complex, such as a car built from thousands of articles made of different materials, or something simpler like an envelope, waste treatment operators need to know exactly which chemicals those products include when they enter the waste stage. Currently, it is very difficult to find that information and to guarantee that all hazardous waste is separated correctly.

https://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/cleaning-up-europe-s-act-with-the-scip-database

Video of Webinar: Introducing the SCIP database prototype (YouTube Video 1hr 11min)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VlKWD1ENy0

• Updated W. Exp.Std: Respirable Crystalline Silica

The latest update to the Workplace Exposure Standard (W.Exp.Std / WES) for Respirable Crystalline Silica under the model WHS laws reduces the TWA to 0.05 mg/m^3.

The implementation dates of the updated Workplace Exposure Standard for Respirable Crystalline Silica.

Victoria: 17 Dec 2019 South Australia: 1 July 2020 Queensland (WHS): 1 July 2020

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/workplace-exposure-standards-airborne-contaminants (at 16 Dec 2020)

• UN GHS 8 Guidance for Dust Explosion Hazards

There is now extensive Guidance on Other Hazards Not Resulting in Classification, for Dust Explosion Hazards in A11.2 pp 553-564.

The key starting points are in Figure A11.2.1: Flow chart for decision on combustible dusts

- Does the solid include particles of a nominal size ≤ 500µm?
- Is there a potential to form particles of a nominal size ≤500 µm in supply and transfer operations?

A11.2.3.2.2 Clear evidence for a combustible dust may be obtained from publicly available incident reports relevant to the substance, mixture, or solid material in question. Similarly, if experience has shown that the substance, mixture, or solid material is combustible in powder form, a dust explosion risk can be assumed. If a substance, mixture, or solid material is not classified as flammable, it may still have the potential to form an explosible dust-air mixture. Specifically any organic or metallic material handled in powder form or from which a powder may be formed in processing, should be assumed to be a combustible dust unless explicit evidence to the contrary is available.

From: www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev08/08files_e.html

Editor: Businesses need to be alerted by Manufacturers / Suppliers SDSs to Dust Explosion Hazards, for e.g. fine, dry organic powders, which may be inherently present or may created.

• EPA USA: Next 20 Chemicals for Risk Evaluation

20 Dec 2020: The EPA USA announced the next 20 chemicals to undergo risk evaluation under the amended USA Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

1. p-Dichlorobenzene; **2.** 1,2-Dichloroethane; **3.** trans-1,2- Dichloroethylene;
4. o-Dichlorobenzene **5.** 1,1,2-Trichloroethane; **6.** 1,2-Dichloropropane
7. 1,1-Dichloroethane; **8.** Dibutyl phthalate (DBP) **9.** Butyl benzyl Phthalate (BBP);
10. Di-ethylhexyl Phthalate (DEHP) **11.** Di-Isobutyl Phthalate (DIBP); **12.** Dicyclohexyl Phthalate
13. 4,4'-(1-Methylethylidene)bis[2, 6-Dibromophenol] (TBBPA) **14.** Tris(2-Chloroethyl) Phosphate (TCEP)
15. Phosphoric Acid, Triphenyl Ester (TPP) **16.** Ethylene Dibromide **17.** 1,3-Butadiene
18. 1,3,4,6,7,8-Hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-Hexamethylcyclopenta [g]-2-Benzopyran (HHCB)
19. Formaldehyde **20.** Phthalic Anhydride

By June 2020, EPA USA (hope to) finalize the scoping documents (with public comment) which will include the hazards, exposures, conditions of use, and the potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulations EPA USA expects to consider during each chemical's risk evaluation.

For info: www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/chemical-substances-undergoing-prioritization.

From: www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-list-next-20-chemicals-undergo-risk-evaluation-under-tsca

• EPA USA Releases PFAS Action Plan Update

26 Feb 2020: PFAS Action Plan: Program Update

This Report highlights EPA USA's aggressive and unprecedented efforts to address PFAS in the environment. Over the past year, EPA USA has made significant progress under the Action Plan to help states and local communities address per- and PolyFluoroAlkyl Substances (PFAS) and protect public health and the agency's Program Update highlights those efforts.

For more information & a copy of the Report: www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-action-plan-program-update-february-2020

PFAS Action Plan: Program Update February 2020 (20p pdf)

From: www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-pfas-action-plan-program-update-0

• EFSA: PFAS Public Consultation: Draft Explained

24 Feb 2020: Certain PFASs don't break down in the environment or in the human body, and can accumulate over time. Exposure to PFAS may lead to adverse health effects.

People can be exposed to PFAS in different ways, for example through food. Food can become contaminated through contaminated soil and water used to grow the food, through the concentration of these substances in animals via feed and water, through food packaging containing PFAS, or equipment that contained PFAS during food processing.

Prof Dr Tanja Schwerdtle is the chair of the working group that helped EFSA's Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM) to draft its Opinion on PFASs, currently under public consultation until **20 April 2020**.

Document Part I (239 page pdf), Document Part II (221 page pdf Plus Spreadsheet Annex's A; B & C

Submit written comments by 20 April 2020.

From: www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/pfas-public-consultation-draft-opinion-explained

• Canadian Chemicals Management Plan Website

This Government of Canada website enables you to see the chemicals Implementation Table 2016-2020 and chemicals being currently assessed by Canadian Authorities, and look back at previous assessments in 2011-2019.

www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan/implementation-table-at-a-glance-2016-2021.html

Recent Issues that caught the Editor's attention:

Updated *Science Approach Document for the Ecological Risk Classification of Inorganic Substances* [2020-01-06]

Draft Science Assessment of Plastic Pollution published: 60-day public comment period. Now ending 1 May [2020-02-01]

New fact sheet on approaches for addressing data needs in risk assessment was published. [2020-03-13]

New fact sheet on the use of analogues and read-across in risk assessment was published. [2020-03-13]

Draft Screening Assessments:

Draft Screening Assessment for Sodium Cyclamate and Cyclohexylamine published: 60-day public comment period [2019-12-13]

Draft Screening Assessment for the Poly(alkoxylates/ethers) Group published: 60-day public comment period [2019-12-13]

Draft Screening Assessment for Heptamethylnonane published: 60-day public comment period [2020-02-01]

Draft Screening Assessment for Fluorescent Brightener 367 published: 60-day public comment period ending 22 April 2020 [20-02-22]

Draft Screening Assessment for Sodium Ortho-PhenylPhenate (SOPP) published: 60-day public comment period ending 29 April 2020 [2020-02-29]

Draft Screening Assessment for the Parabens Group published: 60-day public comment period ending on 13 May 2020 [20-03-14]

Draft Screening Assessment for the Salicylates Group published: 60-day public comment period ending on 13 May 2020 [20-03-14]

Draft Screening Assessment for the Acyclic, Monocyclic, and Bicyclic Monoterpenes Group published: 60-day public comment period ending on 13 May 2020 [2020-03-14]

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

• ECHA: How to Make Tattoo Inks Safer

21 Jan 2020: ECHA has assessed the safety of pigments used in tattoo inks. ECHA is not proposing to ban tattoos, nor all green and blue tattooing colours.

Together with three Member States and Norway, ECHA has proposed to restrict over 4000 substances in tattoo inks and permanent make up. Some of these substances are already restricted under the EU's Cosmetic Products Regulation and are not allowed to be used on the skin. They are also, therefore, not safe to be injected under the skin either.

ECHA's proposal includes Carcinogenic, Mutagenic and Reprotoxic (CMR) substances, Skin Sensitisers or Irritants, substances Corrosive or damaging to the eye, metals as well as other substances already regulated in cosmetic products.

From: www.echa.europa.eu/-/echa-is-working-to-make-tattooing-inks-safer

14 Mar 2020: ECHA's Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) has adopted its opinion on the Restriction Proposal on hazardous substances in tattoo inks by consensus. The proposal includes concentration limits for the substances within its scope.

From: www.echa.europa.eu/-/seac-concludes-to-restrict-hazardous-substances-in-tattoo-inks

• ECHA: 7 Substances proposed for Authorisation

5 March 2020 19: ECHA invites comments, in particular on uses and exemptions, of the substances on its proposal to include seven hazardous substances in the REACH Authorisation List. Comments can be given by 5 June 2020.

In parallel to ECHA's consultation, the European Commission is calling for information on the possible socio-economic consequences of including these seven substances in the Authorisation List.

D4,D5,D6 [PBT,vPvB]; Terphenyl, Hydrogenated [vPvB]; Dicyclohexyl Phthalate (DCHP) [Toxic for Reproduction, Endocrine Disrupting]; Disodium Octaborate [Toxic for Reproduction]; Trimellitic Anhydride (TMA) [Respiratory Sensitising]. Annex to the News Release 5 Mar 2020 (1p pdf)

Frm: *https://echa.europa.eu/-/do-you-have-further-information-on-uses-of-seven-substances-proposed-for-authorisation-*

• ECHA: SVHC Hazardous Substances in Products

5 March 2020: ECHA invites comments and further information, in particular on uses of the substances, on possible exemptions from the Authorisation requirement as well as on the structure and complexity of the supply chains. Comments can be given by 5 June 2020. Annex to the News Release (1 page pdf)

Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D4), Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane (D5),
Dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane (D6), PBT, vPvB Electronic articles, non-metal surface treatment

Terphenyl, hydrogenated; vPvB; Heat transfer fluids, adhesives, sealants, coating, paints

Dicyclohexyl phthalate (DCHP); Toxic for reproduction, endocrine disrupting properties – human health; Plasticiser for plastics and rubber, phlegmatiser for organic peroxides

Disodium octaborate; Toxic for reproduction; Coatings, paints, construction materials, adhesives, fertilisers

Benzene-1,2,4-tricarboxylic acid 1,2-anhydride (trimellitic anhydride; TMA); Respiratory sensitising properties; Currently no registered EU use in the scope of authorisation

Comments can be given by 5 June 2020.

From: echa.europa.eu/-/do-you-have-further-information-on-uses-of-seven-substances-proposed-for-authorisation-

Editor's Comment: In Australia we don't have clear regulations for managing and communicating such chemicals. As I see it, the ACCC should be regulating these chemicals in products

• ECHA: Restriction Proposal - D4,D5,D6 Cyclosiloxanes

16 Mar 2020: The Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) adopted its opinion on the restriction proposal for cyclosiloxanes (D4, D5, D6) in personal care products while the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) adopted its opinion, among others, on skin sensitising substances used in textile and leather products.

Scope of the Intended Restriction: Leave on personal care products and other consumer/professional products (e.g. dry cleaning, waxes and polishes, washing and cleaning products) containing D4/D5/D6 in concentrations >0.1% shall not be placed on the market. In addition, wash off & rinse off cosmetic products containing D6 in concentrations >0.1% shall not be placed on the market.

Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D4); Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane (D5); Dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane (D6)

www.echa.europa.eu/registry-of-restriction-intentions/-/dislist/details/0b0236e181a55ade

From: www.echa.europa.eu/-/echa-s-committees-conclude-on-five-restrictions

• ECHA: Updated Requirements for Nanoforms

From 1 Jan 2020 the updated REACH Annexes for the nanoforms of substances began to apply.

The updated Annexes introduce new concepts: nanoform and a set of similar nanoforms. The updated REACH Annex VI also defines specific characterisation parameters for the nanoforms of substances.

The first part of this webinar explains what a nanoform is and how to build a set of similar nanoforms. It also explains how to fulfil data requirements for the characterisation of nanoforms. The second part introduces new IUCLID fields for reporting the characterisation parameters of nanoforms

From the ECHA Nanoforms Webinar (12 Nov 2019)
https://echa.europa.eu/-/revised-reach-information-requirements-for-nanoforms-are-you-ready- *(53 min. approx.)*
Webinar Questions and Answers (Dec 2019, 27 Page pdf)

https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/28526626/reach_nano_annexes_qa_en.pdf/b30fede8-0624-69f1-b86e-549c9d9c5f8b (The download address for the 27 Page pdf)

From: https://echa.europa.eu/webinars/2019

• ECHA 1 Jan 20: Nanoform Substances in Europe

Nov 2019 ECHA Newsletter: Guest column: Solvay's view on new requirements for nanomaterials to apply to companies producing or importing nanoforms in Europe from 1 Jan 2020.

From: https://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/guest-column-solvay-s-view-on-new-requirements-for-nanomaterials and https://echa.europa.eu/-/updated-guidance-for-registering-substances-in-nanoform

• ECHA 24 Feb 2020: Nanoforms - More Data Needed

By 1 Jan 2020, only 36 substances covering nanoforms have been registered according to the updated REACH requirements – 10 % of what ECHA expected.

ECH had expected to receive updated registrations for approx. 300 substances, based on data from the Belgian and French national inventories and the European Commission's catalogue of Nanomaterials used in cosmetic products.

From: https://echa.europa.eu/-/companies-need-to-provide-more-data-on-nanoforms

• EPA Vic: Smoke & Carbon Monoxide from Peat Fires

19 Feb 2020: Public'n 1831 (1 page pdf): This Fact Sheet contains information about smoke and Carbon Monoxide from Peat Fires. It includes what peat fire smoke looks like, what is in peat fire smoke, why we measure Carbon Monoxide around a peat fire, and general smoke-related health information.

Peat usually smoulders (burning slowly at a low temperature) rather than burning with an open flame. Peat smoke contains fine particles, water vapour and gases including Carbon Monoxide, Carbon Dioxide and Nitrogen Oxides. When Peat burns it produces gases that have a distinct acrid smell and can be irritating to your airways.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1831

• EPA Vic: Ash from CCA Treated Timber

15 Jan 2020: Public'n 1720.1 (2 page pdf): **Ash from Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA) treated timber.** This Fact Sheet provides information about collection and disposal of CCA-treated timber ash after a fire, and protecting your health when collecting ash from CCA-treated timber.

When cleaning up the ash after a fire, remember:

- it is not possible to tell if ash contains arsenic just by looking at it, so you should treat the ash as containing copper, chromium and arsenic
- the remaining ash and char can contain up to 10 per cent (by weight) copper, chromium and arsenic
- this ash may pose a health hazard if it is swallowed by young children or grazing animals.
- Do not bury CCA-treated timber ash or other building waste. This practice could contaminate your land or water and potentially expose your family, animals and the broader environment.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1720-1

Chemical Management

• WHO Guide to Hand Sanitiser Formulations

This guide to local production of World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended handrub formulations is separated into two discrete but interrelated sections:

- Part A provides a practical guide for use at the pharmacy bench during the actual preparation of the formulation.
- Part B summarizes some essential background technical information and is taken from WHO guidelines on hand hygiene in health care (2009).

WHO Guide: www.who.int/gpsc/5may/Guide_to_Local_Production.pdf?ua=1 (April 2010, 3 page pdf)

From: www.who.int/gpsc/information_centre/handrub-formulations/en/

Frequently asked Questions about:

WHO Alcohol-based Handrub Formulation & Production

www.who.int/gpsc/tools/faqs/abhr1/en/

Editor: *Dilute more concentrated Hydrogen Peroxide to 3% v/v and add it to the Water rather than the Alcohol, to minimise any chance of hazardous chemical reactions, if errors occur.*

If you make a Hand Sanitiser with Ethanol denatured with the bittering agent Denatonium Benzoate it will discourage you putting your sanitised hands onto your lips.

Note for NZ: *Your NZ Methylated Spirits **can't** be used to make Hand Sanitiser, as it is denatured with toxic Methanol!*

• NICNAS: Hand Sanitiser Regulation in Australia

25 Mar 2020: In Australia, Hand Sanitisers are regulated either as cosmetics or therapeutic goods depending on their ingredients and the claims made about their effects.

To be regulated as a cosmetic includes **not** making any claims about viruses (including COVID-19). Hand Sanitisers must comply with all the requirements set out in Schedule 2 of the Therapeutic Goods (Excluded Goods) Determination 2018.

Ingredients Labelling on Cosmetics: Supplier Guide (29p pdf)

From: www.productsafety.gov.au/publication/ingredients-labelling-on-cosmetics-supplier-guide

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/cosmetics-and-soaps/hand-sanitisers

• TGA: Hand Sanitisers and Covid-19

29 March 2020: Hand Sanitisers contain antiseptic ingredients. An antiseptic is a substance that is used on the skin to kill microorganisms or prevent the growth of microorganisms.

Hand Sanitisers can be either hand washes for use with water or handrubs for use without water, and are regulated as either a Cosmetic or Therapeutic Good (see below) depending on how they are used, what they contain & what they claim to do.

Hand sanitisers, or antibacterial skin preparations, are considered to be 'general consumer products' (cosmetics) and are not regulated by the TGA if they:

- are for personal or domestic use only and not for use in a health care setting (this includes aged care facilities), and
- have claims that are limited to general low level activity against bacteria or germs (for example, kills 99.9% of germs), and
- have no claims against viruses, and
- that contain only low-risk ingredients (i.e. does not contain a substance included in Sched 2, 3, 4 or 8 of the Poisons Std).

From: www.tga.gov.au/hand-sanitisers-and-covid-19

• Specific Hand Sanitisers excluded from TGA Regs

28 Mar 2020: Specified Hand Sanitiser formulations were excluded from TGA regulation, as long as they:

- only contain particular ingredients in particular quantities in the final formulation, and
- comply with certain manufacturing practices, and advertisement and labelling conditions.

Provided that the exact formulation and other requirements are followed, **this formulation is permitted for use in both healthcare facilities and consumer use.**

This exclusion will facilitate the urgent and continued supply of large volumes of Hand Sanitisers in Australia.

The formulations are based on advice by the WHO and similar decisions by the USA FDA. The final formulation of the Hand Sanitiser **must contain ONLY the following ingredients**:

- EITHER Ethanol 80% v/v (Pharmacopoeial grade or Food Standard grade) OR Isopropyl Alcohol 75% v/v (Pharmacopoeial grade) in an aqueous solution;
- sterile distilled water or boiled cold water;
- Glycerol 1.45% v/v (Pharmacopoeial grade);
- Hydrogen Peroxide 0.125% v/v (Pharmacopoeial grade); &
- does Not Contain any other active or inactive ingredients, including colours, fragrances or emollients.

There are strict requirements for Labelling of these products. Manufacturers must also test the Alcohol concentrations of each batch, manufacture under sanitary conditions and maintain production record-keeping. The legislation enabling production of these Sanitisers is the Therapeutic Goods (Excluded Goods - Hand Sanitisers) Determination 2020.

Exclusion Legislative Instrument (10 pages) pdf docx Exclusion Explanatory Statement (6 pages) pdf docx (includes Front Labels and Back Labels)

From: www.tga.gov.au/hand-sanitisers-and-covid-19

• TGA: Regulation of Cleaners and Disinfectants

27 Mar 2020: Information for Sponsors and Manufacturers

There is significant interest from potential sponsors and manufacturers on how disinfectants are regulated and how to supply them. What disinfectants claim to do will determine how they are regulated by the TGA.

Medical Device Cleaners and Disinfectants: must be included on the Australia Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) prior to supply in Australia.

Hard Surface Disinfectants: Claims that a product kills, or is active against, viruses, spores, tuberculosis, mycobacteria or fungi are "specific claims". Disinfectants that make these claims require listing on the ARTG prior to supply in Australia.

Disinfectants that do not make "specific claims" do not require inclusion on the ARTG prior to supply, but must still meet all regulatory requirements for exempt disinfectants.

General cleaners and sanitisers that do not make disinfectant claims (except those for use on medical devices) are not regulated by the TGA.

From: www.tga.gov.au/regulation-cleaners-and-disinfectants-information-sponsors-and-manufacturers

• Adoption of GHS7 in Australia

10 Jan 2020: At their meeting in November 2019, Safe Work Australia Members agreed to adopt the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Revision 7 under the model WHS laws for Workplace Hazardous Chemicals.

Safe Work Australia is working towards adopting GHS Revision 7 under the model WHS laws from 1 July 2020, with a two-year transitional period for manufacturers and importers to allow time to prepare new classifications, labels and safety data sheets for hazardous chemicals to meet GHS Revision 7 requirements.

Suppliers and users of Hazardous Chemicals will not be affected by the move to GHS Revision 7 and will be able to continue to supply and use chemicals classified and labelled under GHS Revision 3 until their stocks run out.

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/media-centre/news/adoption-ghs-revision-7-under-model-whs-laws-0

Victoria currently permits use of GHS 3, 4 or 5 in the OHS Regulations. NSW, ACT, Tasmania, SA, NT and QLD only allow GHS 3 to be used. WA allows either GHS 3 or the Approved Criteria for Classification of Hazardous Substances [NOHSC:1008] to be used.

Summary of updates to GHS since GHS Third revised edition:

GHS 4 Clarification of aerosol classification, including addition of classification of non-flammable aerosols.
Alteration to several key precautionary statements.
Skin Corrosion Categories for mixtures cutoffs

GHS 5 Precautionary Statements, Eye Damage in vitro test

GHS 6 Desensitised Explosives added as hazard class.
A new hazard category for Pyrophoric Gases
Physical properties pertaining to physical classification, including combustible dusts in SDS Part 9.

GHS 7 Revised criteria for categorisation of flammable gases within Category 1; miscellaneous amendments intended to clarify the definitions of some health hazards; additional guidance to extend the coverage of Section 14 of SDSs to all bulk cargoes transported under IMO instruments, regardless of their physical state; revised and further rationalized Precautionary Statements in Annex 3; and a new example in Annex 7 addressing labelling of small packagings with fold-out labels.

Download the GHS 7 and its Corrigenda from:
www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev07/07files_e.html

Future changes in GHS 8 are:

- new classification criteria, hazard communication elements, decision logics and guidance for chemicals under pressure;
- new provisions for the use of in vitro/ex vivo data and non-test methods to assess skin corrosion and skin irritation;
- miscellaneous amendments to clarify the classification criteria for Specific Target Organ Toxicity;
- revised and further rationalized Precautionary Statements and an editorial revision of Sections 2 and 3 of Annex 3;
- new examples of Precautionary Pictograms to convey the Precautionary Statement "Keep out reach of children";
- a new example in Annex 7 addressing labelling of sets or kits; and
- Guidance (In Appendix 11) on the identification of **Dust Explosion Hazards** and the need for risk assessment, prevention, mitigation, and hazard communication.

Comment: Dust Explosion Hazards are NOT included as a GHS Hazard Class (also see the Note under Hazardous Chemicals)

From: www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev08/08files_e.html

• SWA: Hazardous Chemical Information System

19 Feb 2020 email: Some entries in the Hazardous Chemical Information System were not displaying correctly as at 19 Feb 2020. *(Editor: and fixed with the following week)*

The issue affected workplace Exposure Standards entries which had been updated since June 2016, had resulted in the carcinogen notations for these chemicals **not** being displayed.

Safe Work Australia fixed this issue within the following week.

Also refer to the AU Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants for such information on Workplace Exposure Standards (16 Dec 2019, 42 pages)

www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/workplace-exposure-standards-airborne-contaminants *pdf* *docx*

• UN Manual of Tests and Criteria: 7th Rev. 2019

Dec 2019: Seventh Revised Edition (covers DG & GHS)

Amendments, include:

A full review of the text of the Manual to facilitate its use in the context of the GHS;

A new test in series 8, to determine the sensitiveness of a candidate Ammonium Nitrate emulsion or suspension or gel, intermediate for blasting explosive, to the effect of intense localised thermal ignition under high confinement (18.8);

New provisions addressing classification of polymerizing substances for transport;

Stability tests for Nitrocellulose mixtures (**new** Appendix 10); &

A compilation of classification results on industrial Nitrocellulose in accordance with Chapter 2.17 of the GHS which can be used for the classification of industrial Nitrocellulose based products (**new** Appendix 11).

www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/danger/publi/manual/Rev7/Manual_Rev7_E.pdf (536 page pdf)

From: www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/manual/rev7/manrev7-files_e.html

• SWA - Workplace Exposure Standards Update

16 Dec 2019: The latest update from Safe Work Australia (SWA) the WES for Respirable Crystalline Silica under the model WHS laws to a TWA of 0.05 mg/m3.

The updated WES for Respirable Crystalline Silica will not have effect in a jurisdiction until it is implemented by that jurisdiction.

Implementation of the updated WES as at 16 Dec 2019

Vic: 17 Dec 2019; SA: 1 July 2020; Qld (WHS): 1 July 2020

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/workplace-exposure-standards-airborne-contaminants

• Workplace Exposure Std Drafts: Release Schedule

Late March 2020 Update:

PLEASE NOTE: In late March 2020, Safe Work Australia paused the release & public consultation for the Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) Review until further notice.

Safe Work Australia has been evaluating the *Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants* to ensure they are based on the highest quality, contemporary evidence and supported by a rigorous scientific approach.

The anticipated schedule for public comment is available on Safe Work Australia's website. Public comment will be open for each release (up to Release 14) for a period of four weeks on Engage at:

https://engage.swa.gov.au/workplace-exposure-standards-review

Releases 15 & 16 are deferred to later in 2020.

Draft **evaluation r**eports and recommendations for.

Release 10: Methacrylic Acid to 4,4'-Methylene Dianiline: Jan20

Release 11: 5-Methylheptan-3-one to Osmium Tetroxide: Jan20

Release 12: Oxalic Acid to Picric Acid: 14 Feb 2020

Release 13: Pindone to Silicon Tetrahydride: 28 Feb 20

Release 14: Silver to Tetryl: 13 Mar 2020

Release 15: Thallium, sol. cpds to n-Valeraldehyde: 27 Mar20

Release 16: Vanadium to Zirconium cpds: 10 April 2020

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/release-schedule-review-workplace-exposure-standards

• Exposure Standards with >25x Reduction or Low New

Editor: It was only at a recent technical meeting that the >25x or more degree of Reduction in some of the Exposure Standards, was highlighted to me.

Some of the values have been so dramatically lowered (≥1000x) or introduced with a new very low value (where there isn't a current ES), that even residual monomer impurities in final polymers may require health monitoring for your customers (where nothing was previously needed).
E.g. when a polymer (with residual monomer) is being heated to mould or extrude it into articles, may now exceed ES limits.

Some of these chemicals are:
1,3-Butadiene; beta Chloroprene; Diacetyl; Diethanolamine; Dinitrotoluene; Ethylene Dichloride; Ethylene Oxide; Ethylimine; Hydrazine; Maleic Anhydride; Natural Rubber Latex; 2,3-Pentanedione; Phenyl Isocyanate; Phthalic Anhydride.

• SWA Health Monitoring - Guide for Crystalline Silica

Tuesday 18 Feb 2020 Update from Safe Work Australia:

Health Monitoring is carried out or supervised by a Registered Medical Practitioner. It involves examining and monitoring workers to see if exposure to Crystalline Silica at work is affecting their health.

The most common form of Crystalline Silica is Quartz (CAS 14808-60-7). Crystalline Silica is found in varying proportions in aggregates, mortar, concrete and stone. Granite contains 25-40% Quartz, shales average 22% and sandstones average 67% quartz. Quartz is the major component of sand in locations like stream beds, beaches and deserts. Other polymorphs of Silicon Dioxide, including Cristobalite (CAS 14464-46-1) & Tridymite (CAS 15468-32-3) are less common.

An increase in the number of workers diagnosed with Silicosis and progressive Massive Fibrosis has been linked to working with composite stone. Composite stone products can contain up to 97% Silica. The high amount of Silica means that there is a very high risk of workers developing breathing problems and Silicosis if they breathe in dust made from these products.

Guide: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/health-monitoring-guidance-crystalline-silica-pdf-doc (27 page pdf; docx)

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/media-centre/news/health-monitoring-guide-crystalline-silica

Also: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/book/crystalline-silica-health-monitoring-guide

Editor: If you accessed the Health Monitoring Guide for Crystalline Silica prior to 4pm Tues 18 Feb, please ensure you have the latest version of the guide.

Editor: I am surprised that this is not called the SWA Health Monitoring - Guide for **Respirable** Crystalline Silica, as it is the Respirable Crystalline Silica that may cause lung damage and disease. Also that the pdf and docx documents are not dated.

• SWA: Workers Hazardous Chemicals Guide

19 Feb 2020: Safe Work Australia (SWA) - Health Monitoring when you Work with Hazardous Chemicals - **Guide for Workers** (17 pages pdf docx)

The Guide explains what you and your Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) must do to monitor your health and keep you as safe as possible. This Guide is covered by the SWA Model Work Health & Safety (WHS) laws. *Note:* A worker doesn't have Health Monitoring duties.

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/workers-hazardous-chemicals-guide-doc-pdf

And: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/book/health-monitoring-when-you-work-hazardous-chemicals-guide

Editor: The pdf and docx documents are not dated.

• SWA: Register & Manifest Template Updates

19 Sept 2020: Safe Work Australia (SWA)Template Updates.

Hazardous Chemical Register Template (19 Sept 2019, 2 page pdf or docx)
www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/hazardous-chemical-register-template

Hazardous Chemicals Manifest Template (19 Sept 2019, 4 page pdf or docx)
www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/hazardous-chemicals-manifest-template

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/registers-manifests-and-placards

Editor: You may have missed seeing these updates (like me), as there were no SWA emails nor alert information on the Safe Work Australia (SWA) website.

• SWA: Asbestos: Dealing with Prohibited Asbestos

10 Mar 2020: A total ban on Asbestos came into effect in Australia on 31 Dec 2003 making it illegal to make, use or import asbestos in Australia. Despite this ban, Asbestos that has been fixed or installed since 2003 is still being found in Australian workplaces.

The changes to the Model WHS Act ensure greater certainty in the regulation of prohibited asbestos. In this context, prohibited Asbestos means Asbestos fixed or installed in a workplace after the prohibition on Asbestos was introduced.

Under the changes, the WHS regulator must issue a 'Prohibited Asbestos Notice' if they reasonably believe Prohibited Asbestos is present in a workplace. This is even if the Asbestos is discovered long after any work involving it has been completed.

From: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/media-centre/news/asbestos-dealing-prohibited-asbestos

• UK HSE: EH40/2005 Workplace Exposure Limits

17 Jan 2020: UK HSE EH40/2005 (ISBN: 9780717667031) has been updated to include new and revised Workplace Exposure Limits (WELs) for Carcinogenic Substances. This introduces or revises 13 binding occupational exposure limit values for a number of Carcinogenic Substances. 4th Edition 2020, Free 61 page pdf

New or Revised entries for the following substances: Hardwood dusts (including mixed dusts); Chromium (VI) compounds; Refractory ceramic fibres; Respirable crystalline silica; Vinyl chloride monomer; Ethylene oxide; 1,2-Epoxypropane; Acrylamide; 2-Nitropropane; O-Toluidine; 1,3-Butadiene; Hydrazine; Bromoethylene.

New Skin Notations added for the following substances: Ethylene oxide.

Substances that require Reductions to the existing WELs: Hardwood dusts; Chromium (VI) compounds; Refractory ceramic fibres; Vinyl chloride monomer; Ethylene oxide; 1,2-Epoxypropane; Acrylamide; 2-Nitropropane; O-Toluidine; 1,3-Butadiene; Hydrazine.

From: www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/eh40.htm?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=coshh-17-jan-2020&utm_term=intro&utm_content=eh40

• ACCC Consultation: Button Battery Safety

19 Mar 2020: Button Battery Safety - Assessment of Regulatory Options – **ACCC Consultation Paper,** which includes detailed policy options as well as a series of questions for stakeholder consideration. Responses will inform the ACCC's development of a Final Recommendation to the Commonwealth Government in 2020.

In the Battery Industry, the term 'Coin' is associated with Lithium batteries and the term 'Button' is associated with Non-Lithium batteries.

The ACCC has prepared the industry factsheet which includes a summary of the ACCC's proposed requirements to improve button battery safety.

Background: Button batteries can cause severe injury and death, particularly in children aged 0–5 years. Young children are at the greatest risk due to their narrower oesophagus and tendency to place small objects into their mouths, ears & noses. Two children in Australia have tragically died from injuries caused by swallowing a button battery and many thousands of Australian children have presented at hospital emergency departments. Globally, there have been at least 64 confirmed child deaths from button battery ingestions and thousands of exposures and injuries, including lifelong injuries to some children.

Button Battery Safety - Assessment of Regulatory Options - Consultation Paper (19 Mar 2020, 92 page pdf)

Button Battery Safety - Assessment of Regulatory Options - Industry Factsheet (19 Mar 2020, 2 page pdf)

Submissions are due by 30 April 2020.

From: https://consultation.accc.gov.au/product-safety/button-battery-safety-consultation-paper/

• EPA NZ: Hazardous Substances Update #195

Jan 2020:

Grounds Exist for Five Neonicotinoids to be Reassessed
These insecticides have been the topic of international discussion about their impacts on bee populations.

The Decision covers: Clothianidin, Thiamethoxam, Imidacloprid, Thiacloprid, and Acetamiprid.

Read the Decision on Grounds (16 Dec 2019, 7 page pdf)

Information Sought on Hydrogen Cyanamide

Hydrogen Cyanamide (CAS: 420-04-2 (NH2-C≡N) is used by orchardists and particularly kiwifruit growers to promote bud growth. The EPA NZ are looking for information relating to the use, practices, and effects of Hydrogen Cyanamide-containing substances. And any information relating to the effects of the substances, positive or adverse, such as toxicology, ecotoxicology, economic impact, environmental fate studies, or monitoring results.

Grounds for Reassessment document (Aug 2019, 6 page pdf)

From: https://environmentalprotectionauthority.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/r/C3E95BC44D60688D2540EF23F30FEDED

• EPA NZ: Hazardous Substances Update #196

Feb 2020:

New Hazardous Substances Risk Assessment Methodology Guide: Explains the EPA NZ approach to assessing risks, costs and benefits when approving a new hazardous substance for import or manufacture in NZ. Written primarily for Applicants, the Guide (Jan 2020, 123 page docx) includes the technical details of the qualitative and quantitative modelling that we use during our assessments.

High-level Summary of the Guide (Jan 2020, 6 page docx)

Stockholm Convention consultation on new POPs

Consultation opened in Feb 2020 and closed on the 30 Mar 2020 on a proposal to ban Dicofol and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), in line with the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

Stockholm Convention EPA NZ Consultation document (Feb 2020, 16 page pdf)

From: https://environmentalprotectionauthority.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/r/9655C49D9D1F10DD2540EF23F30FEDED

• EPA NZ: Hazardous Substances Update #197

31 Mar 2020:

Methyl Bromide: 2nd Expert conferencing has been held:

As part of information gathering, a second round of expert conferencing took place on 19 March. The panel of independent experts discussed models used to predict how methyl bromide disperses in open air from a fumigation source (for example, log stack). The agenda of this second meeting was a continuation of the panel's 30 January session.

The Decision-Making Committee (DMC) considered if it has jurisdiction to issue an Interim Decision to allow Methyl Bromide to be used without recapture past the 28 October 2020 deadline. The Committee directed the EPA to provide advice on the statutory powers available to it.

Reassessment of Methyl Bromide (as 27 Feb 2020):
www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/latest-news/reassessment-of-methyl-bromide/

Ethanedinitrile (EDN) Safe Work Instrument (SWI): to specify WorkSafe NZ SWI requirements for fumigation work using Ethanedinitrile. Consultation closes Friday 10 April 2020

Read the WorkSafe information on the EDN proposed SWI

Public Consultation document (Feb 2020 16 page pdf):
https://worksafe.govt.nz/dmsdocument/25445-public-consultation-safe-work-instrument-specifying-requirements-for-using-ethanedinitrile-edn/latest

WorkSafe NZ does not consider that the default requirements in the Hazardous Substances Regulations that would apply to EDN are adequate to manage the risk posed by work with this substance, and that there is a need for a SWI to put in place additional and modified requirements.

Reassessment of Benzyl Alkonium Chlorides (BACs)

This is a modified reassessment of BACs looks specifically at the hazard classifications assigned to a number of these substances. Comment opened 19 Dec 19, closed 27 Feb 20.

See: www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/in-progress/reassessment-of-benzyl-alkonium-chlorides/

Update Report for the Benzyl Alkonium Chlorides reassessment (26 Mar 2020 12 page pdf)

Upcoming Consultations: *www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/upcoming-public-consultations/*

EPA NZ propose to amend (in April or May), the **NZ Hazardous Substances (Storage and Disposal of Persistent Organic Pollutants) Notice 2004**.

Proposed Amendments re: Disposal; new provisions for manufactured articles that contain POPs.

From: https://environmentalprotectionauthority.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/r/C79BCD7C0D32833F2540EF23F30FEDED

• ECHA Newsletter: Feb 2019

13 Feb 2020: ECHA Newsletter tells why compliance matters, gives tips to companies preparing their poison centre notifications and explains ECHA's vision for improving the flow and usability of safe use data throughout the supply chain.

Editor: Some of the Topics relevant around the world are:

Working towards one global IUCLID

The IUCLID data is used to assess the safety of the chemicals and to find appropriate ways to manage their risks. Most of it has also been published on ECHA's website, but there are plans to make the data and our knowledge around it available for even broader use in the future.

Countries, such as Australia and New Zealand, will start using IUCLID once the tool is fully configured to fit their regulatory contexts. In general, we see that more and more authorities are using IUCLID as their chemical information database.

The more widely the IUCLID format is accepted globally, the better the news for industry, authorities and animal welfare. Needing to maintain only one dataset for a particular chemical would significantly reduce the administrative burden for companies with regulatory obligations in more than one region.

Users of NMP – how to Comply with the EU Restriction

From 9 May 2020, *1-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone*, also known as *NMP*, must not be placed on the EU market, nor used, on its own or in mixtures, unless certain conditions are met. The substance is widely used as a solvent, for example in the petrochemical, surface treatment & pharmaceutical industries.

IF the substance is produced or used in concentrations of **≥0.3%**, manufacturers, importers and downstream users must put appropriate risk management measures and operational conditions in place to protect their workers from any exposure.

ECHA NMP Compliance Guideline (July 2019, 41 page pdf)

Cleaning up Europe's act with the SCIP database

Companies supplying products that contain REACH Candidate List substances need to start submitting information on these products to the **S**ubstances of **C**oncern **I**n articles as such or in complex objects (**P**roducts) SCIP database from 5 Jan 2021. This marks the start of a new era for waste treatment operators. The information is expected to make sorting waste easier & improve the recycled materials quality.

EUCLEF – Helping Companies Navigate Through the Legislative Maze in the EU

Over the past 15 years, the Legislation governing substances and products, and the laws protecting health and environment have evolved enormously – at both the EU & national levels in Member States. The outcome is an extremely complex regulatory framework which covers all areas along value chains with chemical substances and downstream products.

From: https://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/ and:

https://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/1/2020

• ECHA: 44% of hazardous mixtures Not compliant

17 Dec 2019: 44% of hazardous mixtures are not compliant (in some way) with classification and labelling obligations.

17% of reported mixtures were using an incorrect classification, which may result in incorrect Labelling on the mixtures, and thereby incorrect safe use advice.

33% of reported mixtures had incorrect Labelling.

33% of the checked Safety Data Sheets were non-compliant with the requirements checked in the project.

The most common mixtures checked were washing and cleaning products; biocidal products; coatings, paints, thinners and paint removers; adhesives and sealants; room fragrances and air freshener products – these are known to commonly contain hazardous ingredients.

Altogether, Inspectors in 29 countries checked 3391 mixtures and inspected 1620 companies (manufacturers, importers, downstream users and distributors).

Manufacturers, importers and downstream users **have to put more effort into** deriving the **right classification** for mixtures and communicating it down the supply chain.

From: https://echa.europa.eu/-/44-of-hazardous-mixtures-not-compliant-with-classification-and-labelling-obligations

• EU Chemicals Legislation Finder (EUCLEF)

11 Mar 2020: EUCLEF Launched

EUCLEF gives you an overview of the European Union's legislation on chemicals. You can search for information on your substances, find applicable laws and check what obligations you may have.

For each piece of legislation below, you can find a summary of all the relevant information, including the scope, obligations, exemptions, regulatory activities, lists of impacted substances, together with links to the full legal texts in all EU languages.

Webinar: Getting to know the EU Chemicals Legislation Finder
(19min29sec) Webinar Q&A

Video tutorial: Navigating (How to Use) EUCLEF
(9min37sec) YouTube Video

https://echa.europa.eu/legislation-finder?utm_source=Twitter.com&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=EUCLEF_Twitter

Editor: Since the rest of the world uses the ECHA for data etc, this EU Chemicals Legislation Finder (EUCLEF) is very useful.

• USA Chemical Safety Board (CSB) - Updates

23 Mar 2020: CSB Releases New BP Texas City Animation

The USA Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released an updated animation detailing the tragic events which occurred 15 years ago today at the BP America Refinery in Texas City, TX, when a massive hydrocarbon release and ensuing explosion and fire killed 15 and injured 180 others. The massive explosion was a landmark investigation for the CSB and revealed safety gaps at refineries across the country.

View the Animation (11 min YouTube video)

The BP America refinery explosion and fire was the most serious refinery accident ever investigated by the CSB. The CSB's final report on the incident, released in 2007, found organizational & safety deficiencies at all levels of BP Corp'n.

The CSB's investigation revealed a lack of corporate management understanding and commitment to safety. As a result of our investigation, there is a new standard of care for corporate boards of directors and CEO's throughout the world, which calls for the same level of scrutiny for process safety management as financial management.

CSB's Investigation Information Page

From: www.csb.gov/csb-releases-new-bp-texas-city-animation-/

18 Dec 2019: CSB Releases AB Specialty Silicones Factual Update into the 3 May 2019, Explosion and Fire

The CSB Factual Update provides a comprehensive incident timeline, detailing the events that led up to the massive explosion and fire that fatally injured four workers and seriously injured another.

While the CSB's investigation is ongoing, the 22-page Factual Update provides details of the incident collected through witness interviews and examination of physical evidence.

From: www.csb.gov/csb-releases-ab-specialty-silicones-factual-update-/

17 Dec 2019: CSB Releases Midland Resource Recovery Final Report

CSB released its Final Investigation Report (50 page pdf) on two pressure vessel explosions that occurred at the Midland Resource Recovery (MRR) facility in West Virginia. Two workers were fatally injured, and another was severely injured during the first incident, which occurred on 24 May 2017. While the CSB was investigating that explosion, the MRR facility experienced a 2nd explosion on 20 June 2017. The second explosion fatally injured a contractor employed to perform investigation and mitigation work at the facility following the original incident.

CSB said, "MRR did not have, and Federal Regulations did not require, a comprehensive safety management system to identify and control hazards from reactive chemicals. As a result, two serious explosions occurred."

The chemical treatment to remove (mercaptans) odour involves filling the (natural gas) odorizing equipment with diluted sodium hypochlorite, or bleach, and sealing it shut for a period of time during which a liquid is formed that MRR referred to as "process water." *Editor:* Explosions occurred.

In its Report, the CSB provides key lessons for companies that deal with reactive chemistry:

From: www.csb.gov/csb-releases-midland-resource-recovery-final-report-/

From: www.csb.gov/

• USA OSHA Quick Takes e-News: Jan 20-Mar 20

16 Jan 2020: **1/ Amputation and Chemical Violations:** USA OSHA also cited the company for exposing employees to hazardous paint fumes, failing to separate Propylene and Oxygen cylinders, and not properly labelling hazardous chemicals.

6 Feb 2020: **1/ Chemical Violations.** A refinery was cited for process safety management hazards and fined $132600 after a fire and explosion. **2/ Coronavirus Protection.** USA OSHA's new OSHA webpage focuses on protecting workers from exposure to the novel coronavirus Covid-19..

10 Feb 2020: **DYK – 50SHA:** Do you know how USA workplace safety has transformed over the past five decades? President Nixon signed the USA Occupational Safety and Health Act on 29 Dec 1970. The USA OSHA opened its doors on 28 April 1971. In its first decade, USA OSHA issued the first standards for Asbestos, Lead, Carcinogens, & Cotton Dust.

20 Feb 2020: **1/ Chemical Violations**: A company was fined $280874 for overexposing workers to toxic Hexavalent Chromium fumes. The USA OSHA initiated an investigation in July 2019 after receiving a complaint of overexposure to the toxic chemical. USA OSHA also cited the company for failing to train employees on the hazards of Hexavalent Chromium, and maintain a respiratory protection program.

23 Mar 2020: **1/ Coronavirus Response -** New USA DOL website offers the latest USA Dept of Labor resources.
Workplace Safety - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for Covid-19 (35 page pdf).
OSHA Alert lists steps to Prevent Worker Exposure to Covid-19 (1 page pdf).

From: www.osha.gov/quicktakes/

NICNAS (Industrial Chemicals)

• NICNAS Chemical Gazettes

Chemical Gazette Jan 2020 (goes to the initial webpage)

Chemical Gazette Feb 2020 (goes to the initial webpage)

Chemical Gazette Mar 2020 (goes to the initial webpage)

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

• Secondary Notification: Organo-Borate Chemical

4 Feb 2020 Chemical Gazette: The Director of NICNAS requires the Secondary Notification (SN) of the existing Organo-Borate chemical, Ethanol, 2-[2-(2-Methoxyethoxy)Ethoxy]-, 1,1',1"-Triester with Boric Acid (H3BO3), CAS No: 30989-05-0.

It applies to persons who manufacture or import the chemical and products containing the chemical for use in brake fluid formulations.

Based on the original Assessment data the chemical was not classified as hazardous to human health or the environment.

Based on a new developmental toxicity study, the notified chemical may be classified as a hazardous substance.

Therefore, a reassessment of the human health hazard and risks for the chemical is required.

Those affected had to submit the SN Form by 3 March 2020

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette/numbers/2020/chemical-gazette-february-2020/secondary-notification-of-ethanol,-2-2-2-methoxyethoxyethoxy-,-1,1,1-triester-with-boric-acid-h3bo3

• Secondary Notificat'n: Ascorbyl Tetraisopalmitate

3 Mar 2020 Chemical Gazette: The Director of NICNAS requires the Secondary Notification (SN) of L-Ascorbic Acid, 2,3,5,6-Tetrakis(2-Hexyldecanoate) (INCI name: Ascorbyl Tetraisopalmitate) by Ceechem Australia Pty Ltd.

Particularly: Additional toxicology data that are available for the notified chemical, specifically in regard to Skin Sensitisation; and any additional ecotoxicology data.

The SN must have been received by the 31st March 2020

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/news-and-events/chemical-gazette/numbers/2020/chemical-gazette-march-2020/secondary-notification-of-l-ascorbic-acid,-2,3,5,6-tetrakis2-hexyldecanoate-inci-name-ascorbyl-tetraisopalmitate

• IMAP Tranche 28 Existing Chemical Assessments

18 Dec 2019: Tranche **28** of the **I**nventory **M**ulti-tiered **A**ssessment and **P**rioritisation (IMAP) framework for existing chemicals was open for public comments until **21 Feb 2020.**

Tranche 28 Existing Chemicals include:

1087 Chemicals with Tier I Health Assessments at:
www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments/human-health-assessments

Editor: There are many Siloxanes & Silicones CAS Numbers.

Editor: Please allow time for the website to load.

Editor: Please Note that Tier 1 Health Assessments include Site Limited chemicals which can have significant hazards and use only by highly trained specialist workers.

445 Chemicals with Tier II Health Assessments at:
www.nicnas.gov.au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0014/40820/Tier-II-HH-summary-all-tranches-published-6-Feb-2020.XLSX

- 140 HCIS Classifications are proposed amended/added:

Editor: The chemicals that caught my attention are:

Wastes, petroleum

33 Alkoxylates of Aliphatic Alcohols (C≥6)

14 Fatty Acid Amido Propyl Dimethylamines

19 Further Azo Dyes that may release Carcinogenic Amines

Tranche 28 Hydrates of Sodium Carbonate (also has H314 severe skin burns and eye damage) is not consistent with Tranche 7 Alkaline Salts-Carbonates (which has H318 serious damage to eyes)

Editor: This change (if it remains) should make Sodium Carbonate Dangerous Goods Class 8 in Australia (but not elsewhere such as in the EU nor in NZ)

- No Chemical is proposed for Tier III Health Assessment

- 40 Chemicals are proposed to be SUSMP chemicals:

Editor: The chemicals that caught my attention are:

2-Hexenal;

33 Alkoxylates of Aliphatic Alcohols (C≥6) & Ethoxylates of Aliphatic Alcohols (>C6) (both may have 1,4-Dioxane impurity)

9 chemicals under Tier III Health Assessment
www.nicnas.gov.au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0015/40821/Tier-III-HH-summary-all-tranches-published-13-Dec-2019.XLSX

Nine Isothiazolinones (with HCIS Amendments of 0.0015% and 0.0500% as identified in the Assessment; & SUSMP additions proposed)

1221 Chemicals with Tier 1 Environment Assessments
www.nicnas.gov.au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0016/40822/IMAP_Environment_Tier_I_summary-all-tranches-13-Dec-2019.XLSX

42 Chemicals with a Tier II Environment Assessment
www.nicnas.gov.au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0017/40823/IMAP_Environment_Tier_II_Summary_all-tranches-published-13-Dec-2019.XLSX

Phenol, 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bis- in Binding agents in adhesives and as stabilisers in plastics.
Various Cadmium Salts and Compounds but only one use in the manufacture of solders and metal alloys

1 Chemical with a Tier II Environment Assessment
www.nicnas.gov.au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0008/85931/IMAP_Environment_Tier_III_Summary_all-tranches-published-13-Dec-2019.XLSX

Cyclohexenebutanal, .alpha.,2,2,6-tetramethyl-
65405-84-7

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/chemical-information/imap-assessments/imap-assessments

• NICNAS: Revamped Cosmetics Questionnaire

28 Jan 2020: NICNAS have revamped the "Is my product a cosmetic?" questionnaire, making it easier to understand with more information to help us.

Questionnaire: www.nicnas.gov.au/cosmetics-and-soaps/is-my-product-a-cosmetic2#questionnaire

Your product is considered to be a cosmetic if it:

- *is used on a relevant part of the human body*
- *does relevant things to the human body*
- *has no therapeutic uses*
- *has ingredients on the Poisons Standard you're using for non-therapeutic reasons*

Some of the issues also covered are:

NICNAS have got detailed Guidance about Prohibited and Restricted Cosmetic Chemicals.

NICNAS have a list of who you ought to contact if you need to know about labelling.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/cosmetics-and-soaps/is-my-product-a-cosmetic2

• Removal of Non-Industrial Chemicals from AICS

30 Mar 2020: Removal of non-industrial chemicals from the Inventory before the new scheme, AICIS, starts.

List of excluded use chemicals: www.nicnas.gov.au/forms/provide-information-on-industrial-uses-of-certain-chemicals-on-the-Inventory/list-of-excluded-use-chemicals

Editor: I have submitted the 5 chemicals I found on the ECHA Registered Substance Database and my concerns that I highlighted in my previous Notes.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/have-your-say/current-consultations

Editor: 1/ I am very concerned about the ability of companies that have previously submitted (maybe 30+ years ago) all their ingredients to be on the AICS, for their current staff to have adequate knowledge and time to do this checking.

and, 2/ does it really matter that these excluded use chemicals remain? e.g. food additives that for animals don't come under any of the other schemes, so by default have ended up on the AICS under the Industrial Chemicals Regulations.

• AICIS Educational Videos – 1st Topic Group

31 March 2020:

NICNAS to AICIS: (23 min slide video & presenter's voice) Slides pdf (22p) Voice Transcript for each slide pdf (10p)

This video provides a general overview on the journey to a new regulatory framework for industrial chemicals.

NICNAS to AICIS TRANSITIONS: (25 min slide video & presenter's voice) Slides pdf (20p) Voice Transcript for each slide pdf (10p)

This video provides a general overview on transitions for those of you who already deal with NICNAS and how your current dealings will transfer across to AICIS.

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/New-scheme-1-July-2020/aicis-educational-videos

• AICIS: Overview / Guidance on the New Scheme

26 Feb 2020: Overview of AICIS (starts 1 July 2020)

17 Mar 2020: AICIS Educational Videos cover topics such as:

- Transitioning from NICNAS to AICIS
- Assessed Introductions and Evaluations
- Confidential Business Information
- Use of Animal Test Data
- Categorising your Chemical Introductions
- Searching the New Inventory and Understanding Listings
- Compliance, Reporting and Record Keeping; Enforcement

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/New-scheme-1-July-2020/aicis-topics

• AICIS: Key Information about the New Scheme

2 Dec 2019: The Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 creates a new Regulatory Scheme for the importation and manufacture of industrial chemicals in Australia (to replace NICNAS) from 1 July 2020. This law also gives effect to the ban on the use of new animal test data for ingredients solely used in cosmetics.

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

• AICIS Rules & Guidelines: Stakeholder Feedback

27 Feb 2020: Community and industry feedback received in 2018 (29 submissions) & 2019 (26 submissions) while the General Rules and the Categorisation Guidelines were developed.

AICIS will extend the transition time for:
- Current Exemptions to 2 years
- Permits to 2 years or the permit period (whichever is longer)
- Exemption Criteria to cover introductions after 1 July 2020 so introducers can continue to use current scheme criteria while waiting for the full details of the new scheme

Use of animal test data
- The Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 restricts the use of new animal test data for chemicals used solely in cosmetics, & chemicals with several end uses that include an end use in cosmetics.

Categorisation of Industrial Chemicals
- several measures to simplify the categorisation process and improve clarity.

Before the AICIS scheme starts, NICNAS will help introducers by publishing:
- Guidance on how to determine Indicative Risk
- Online Tools to help with the Categorisation process
- Guidance on Categorising Chemical Introductions and meeting your obligations, such as Record-Keeping and Pre-Introduction Reporting
- Categorisation examples

From: www.nicnas.gov.au/New-scheme-1-July-2020/Key-information-about-the-new-scheme/Stakeholder-feedback-on-the-General-Rules-and-Categorisation-Guidelines-and-our-responses#industry

• AICIS Proposed Fees & Charges: *Editor*

9 Mar 20209: I resubmitted **my concerns** regarding 31 Jan 2020 consultation on the Proposed Fees & Charges for the AICIS. *The consultation information is no longer available.*

What is your preferred option for calculating the registration levy from those proposed in Tables 6-9 of this consultation paper and for what reasons?

NONE of the options are acceptable. My original submission provided a sensible option for minimising preparation costs.

The current NICNAS system is very straightforward for Companies in the $5M+ introduction value group.

As the top introduction values were set up 20+ years ago, the introduction current dollar value has approximately doubled (based on the RBA cpi) since then, so additional $10M and $20M+ introduction value groups could be considered.

The new system would continue to be very straightforward for Companies in the $20M+ introduction value group.

I suggest: Level A $200, B 100-<500K $500, C 0.5-<5M $2500, D 5-<10M $7.5K, E 10-<20M $15K, F ≥20M $25K

The lower group ranges are simpler to decide than having to provide a % of a detailed financial turnover value, and if near the top of a range, the step up in AICIS charge should be less than the detailed financial data evaluation and management costs.

The % of turn over creates a tax like auditable value that has a significant finance department cost to determine, then becomes auditable for errors by the AICIS authority!!!!

Now that fees and charges have been quantified in this consultation paper, what are the potential impacts of the proposed fees and charges on your business?

As we now have the cost to prepare the Exempt and Reported Introduction documents there should be a reduction in costs to run the AICIS Authority rather than the increases indicated!

The STD Notification cost has risen dramatically (as virtually no chemicals are Health or Environmental focus only) , which might be appropriate for the high hazard chemicals that require it, however a STD Notification instead for a Reported Introduction should have a lower cost (suggest similar to or lower than the current charges). This would encourage the costs to be up front for a new chemical rather than the ongoing maintenance costs over decades.

Are there other economic conditions or changes to fees and charges payable to the Australian Government that will have business impacts in addition to those arising from AICIS's proposed fees and charges? Please provide details.

The ongoing cost to maintain an Exempt Introduction or a Reported Introduction over decades will have a detrimental impact compare to the one off cost to have a STD Introduction.

Clearly over time, there will be changes to information and additional information and hazards will become available, that will need to be reviewed on a regular basis for every Exempt Introduction or Reported Introduction by a qualified and competent specialist. This will create the need for each Industrial Chemical Introducer under these requirements to continue to engage a Toxicologist (for both Health and Environmental issues) who can sign off this has been done to the professional standard required. Such specialists will need continuing access to the expected databases to achieve this. This will also create the need to re-activate Toxicology Degrees in a couple of the Australian Universities.

• NICNAS Stakeholder Update e-Newsletter

30 March 2020 e-Newsletter covers:

AICIS education videos: 2 are here, rest - coming soon
Hand sanitiser regulation in Australia'
Coming... Priority Existing Chemical draft report for comment
AICIS: List of chemicals with high hazards
Consultation on non-industrial chemicals closes 31 March
March Chemical Gazette

Subscribe at: www.nicnas.gov.au/forms/sign-up

Note: This and previous e-Newsletters cannot be downloaded.

Editor: These issues are already covered in my Notes.

Scheduled Poisons & TGA Issues

• Poisons Standard Feb 2020

SUSMP No. 27 (Poisons Standard February 2020) (available

767 page Standard **commenced 1 Feb 2020**. Also there are 2 pharmaceutical entry amendments since the 1 Feb 2020.

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 pdf page 424 is 338 pages long!

www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2020C00148/Download

www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2020C00148/84ebfbba-592e-47eb-a7d9-293b913a8b71 (pdf)

Changes are detailed in the Explanatory Statement (html) (& 3 page pdf) supporting Poisons Standard February 2020
www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2020L00017/Download

Note: I haven't included changes for pharmaceutical chemicals

The Poisons Standard February 2020 incorporates the introduction of a number of new substances to the Poisons Standard for the first time – specific entries for Acalabrutinib, Alanylglutamine, Baloxavir Marboxil, Enasidenib, Entrectinib, Gilteritinib, Siponimod, Sodium Glycerophosphate Hydrate, Upadacitinib, Vonicog Alfa and Voretigene Neparvovec in Schedule 4.

A small number of minor amendments were also included in this instrument, including editorial amendments to the current entries for Methylchloroisothiazolinone, Methylisothiazolinone, and Mercuric Nitrate.

The decision to introduce the new substance and to make the above minor amendments were delegate-only decisions that were not open to public consultation.

• TGA: New Science Strategy for Regulatory Scientists

20 Jan 2020 TGA: New science strategy prepares regulatory scientists for the future.

The Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) in the Australian Dept of Health has published a New Regulatory Science Strategy to ensure regulatory scientists are prepared for future challenges and emerging technologies.

The Strategy sets the direction over the next five-years for scientists in the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), which regulates medicines and medical devices, and the Office of Drug Control (ODC), which regulates the import, export and manufacture of controlled drugs as well as the cultivation of medicinal cannabis.

The ways in which Australians manage their health are changing. Gene therapies, 3D-printing and new health software applications are just a few examples of developments in a rapidly evolving field.

www.tga.gov.au/publication/health-products-regulation-group-regulatory-science-strategy-2020-2025

www.tga.gov.au/sites/default/files/health-products-regulation-group-regulatory-science-strategy-2020-2025.pdf
(V1.0 Nov 2019 17 page pdf)

The Strategy is focussed on four key areas:

- Maintain and build skills in regulatory science
- Improve domestic and international collaboration with other government agencies, scientific organisations and regulators
- Increase responsiveness to emerging technologies
- Improve communication and engagement with stakeholders about regulatory science.

Regulatory Scientists within the AU Dept of Health, Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG), are highly skilled professionals who apply knowledge and skills from different disciplines to contribute to or make risk-managed & evidence-based decisions regarding Therapeutic Goods and Controlled Drugs. Additionally, Regulatory Scientists contribute to the development of regulatory standards, tools and policies.

From: www.tga.gov.au/new-science-strategy-prepares-regulatory-scientists-future

• SUSMP: Proposed Poisons Standard Amendments
- New Entry: Definition of Marker Dyes and Pigments

6 Jan 2020: Part 1 of the Poisons Standard, Interpretation - New Entry

"Marker dyes or pigments" means any substance used to temporarily impart colour to:

i. an agricultural product intended for spot- or boom -spraying to detect missed spots or to avoid spraying a plant or area multiple times; or
ii. a veterinary product for the purpose of identifying treated or selected animals.

Key Uses / Expected Use: Veterinary and agriculture use

- As of Oct 2019 there were 47 products sold as marker dyes registered with the APVMA. All of the Registered Products are marketed purely as Marker Dyes, and may be primarily used to assist in the identification of treated plants or areas, & in the case of animal products, to identify treated or selected animals.
- There is a lack of clarity regarding the Scheduling of markers dyes used in the agricultural and veterinary industry.

Agricultural Products Active Constituents listed:

Rhodamine B; Rhodamine; Sulphonated Aromatic Acid Dye; CI Acid Blue 9, Disodium Salt (Hidacid Azure Blue 65%);

Direct Red254; Acid Blue9 Liquid; Sodium Alkyl Ether Sulfate; 1-Dodecanol; Blue Colourant; Sodium Lauryl Ether Sulfate;

Fatty Alcohol; Sodium Alkyl Ether Sulfate

Comment closed on the 10 Feb 2020. An Interim Decision for further comment will be published 10 June 2020

From: www.tga.gov.au/consultation-invitation/consultation-proposed-amendments-poisons-standard-joint-accsacms-meetings-march-2020

• Interim Decisions & Invitations for further Comment

6 Feb 2020: *Editor: Comment on Chemicals only.*

Note: Comment closed on 5 March 2020

3.1. Interim decision in relation to Caffeine (p116-117)

3.2. Interim decision in relation to N-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone (p135-141)

Re 3.2 – Delegate - "Given these uncertainties, and the lack of safety signals warranting an Amendment, the weight of evidence supports that on balance, the current scheduling of NMP remains appropriate.

I note that the USA EPA has recently (November 2019) published a Draft Risk Evaluation for N-Methylpyrrolidone (NMP) & has sought public comment on it draft risk evaluation. The finalised report (date to be determined by the Authority) may provide information that reduces the uncertainty around the toxicity, & in particular the developmental toxicity, of NMP."

www.tga.gov.au/sites/default/files/interim-decisions-and-invitation-further-comment-substances-referred-november-2019-acmsaccs-meetings.pdf (141 page pdf)

From: www.tga.gov.au/scheduling-delegates-interim-decisions-invitations-further-comment

• Notice of a Final Decision to Amend / Not Amend

31 Mar 2020 check:

Editor: No entries for chemicals only, just medicine chemicals.

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

• TGA: Update to Listed Medicine Ingredients

10 March 2020: 108 changes have been made in the updated TGA Determination on Listed Medicine Ingredients.
The Changed Ingredients are listed on the webpage.

www.tga.gov.au/update-listed-medicine-ingredients-march-2020

• TGA: Permissible Ingredients Determination Changes

25 March 2020: This instrument specifies all of the ingredients that are available for use in listed medicines and the requirements for their use. The Determination is continually reviewed by the TGA to ensure that all ingredients are safe for use in low-risk medicines.

The Determination may be changed to incorporate new ingredients or requirements following a paid application to update the instrument. The TGA also undertakes safety reviews of existing ingredients when the TGA receives information that warrants further investigation.

Ingredients already on the Determination may also occasionally be amended to correct errors, provide clarification, or update the name following revision of a scientific or botanical name.

From: www.tga.gov.au/changes-permissible-ingredients-determination

Food Chemical Issues

• FSANZ: Novel Coronavirus and Food Safety

March 2020: Key points & selected Additional Information

- There is no evidence that COVID-19 is transmitted through food. *Additional Info:* It is suspected COVID-19 may have originated in animals. It is not likely to be transmitted to humans from meat in Australia. WHO recommends cooking meat properly and not eating any meat from diseased animals.

- Extra care should be taken with hygiene and health to reduce the risk.

Additional Info: 1/ For Sanitising, current advice is that Coronavirus is destroyed by hot water (e.g. by dishwashers operating above 60°C), or by commercial sanitisers normally used (e.g. Sodium Hypochlorite, Hydrogen Peroxide, and 70% Ethanol). No change in concentration or exposure times is needed. Follow manufacturers' instructions.
See our Cleaning and Sanitising Fact Sheet webpage.

E.g. Cleaning vs Sanitising: Cleaning is removing general dirt, grease and food waste. Santising destroys micro-oganisms. You need to clean items before you Sanitise them.
www.foodstandards.gov.au/foodsafety/standards/Pages/Cleaning-and-sanitising.aspx

2/ Normal soap and warm running water is adequate for hand washing. Hand Sanitisers can be used as an added measure but should not replace hand washing. Persons wearing gloves should be mindful that gloves are clean and changed as necessary, and hands are washed between changes.

- Anyone with suspected symptoms of respiratory illness should avoid preparing food for other people.
- Businesses need to follow any social distancing requirements requested by the Australian Government.

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/safety/Pages/NOVEL-CORONAVIRUS-AND-FOOD-SAFETY.aspx

• A1194 – Glucoamylase from GM as PA (Enzyme)

17 Jan 2020: This application is to permit the use of Glucoamylase sourced from GM Trichoderma Reesei as a processing aid, for use in bakery, brewing, potable alcohol, and starching processing.

In all these applications:

Glucoamylase converts the starchy substrate to simple sugars, which can increase fermentation efficiency, and/or be converted to something sweeter in the case of starch processing. Glucoamylase will be used as a processing aid where the enzyme is either not present in the final food or present in insignificant quantities having no function or technical effect in the final food.

Executive Summary (1 page pdf)

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1194.aspx

• A1195 – Alpha-Amylase as a Processing Aid

17 Jan 2020: This application is to permit the use of Alpha-Amylase enzyme as a processing aid in brewed beverages and potable alcohol production.

The enzyme Alpha-Amylase is derived from a selected non-pathogenic, non-toxigenic strain of Trichoderma Reesei which is genetically modified to overexpress the Alpha-Amylase gene from Aspergillus Kawachii.

In brewing and potable alcohol production, Alpha-Amylase increases extraction and saccharification of starch, maximizing the conversion of starchy substrate to fermentable carbohydrates. In all of these applications, Alpha-Amylase will be used as a processing aid where the enzyme is either not present in the final food or present in insignificant quantities having no function or technical effect in the final food.

Executive Summary (1 page pdf)

From: www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/applications/Pages/A1195.aspx

• EFSA: Chemical Hazards Data & Modelling Boost

27 Mar 2020: EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) has updated its **OpenFoodTox** database which now includes toxicity data on almost 5,000 chemicals drawn from over 2,000 scientific evaluations carried out by EFSA since 2002.

OpenFoodTox was launched in 2017 to provide a single point of access for summary data on substances assessed by EFSA that previously had been available only separately in thousands of scientific publications. It describes for each substance the food/feed areas, such as additives, pesticides, contaminants, and the affected populations, such as humans, farm animals and wild animals.

The latest update adds over 150 substances, several of them included for multiple food/feed areas and populations, from an additional 200 scientific assessments.

- Infographic - OpenFoodTox: Chemical Hazards Database (updated 27 Mar 2020 – a 1 page pdf is also downloadable)
- EFSA's Chemical Hazards Data
- Also Download OpenFoodTox: Chemical Hazards Database via EFSA's Knowledge Junction (updated 27 Mar 2020)

  Go to the bottom of this page for the Spreadsheet data.

  e.g. OpenFoodToxTX22525.xlsx with the web link:
  https://zenodo.org/record/3693783/files/OpenFoodToxTX22525_2020.xlsx?download=1

In order to disseminate OpenFoodTox to a wider community, two sets of data can be downloaded:

1. Five individual spreadsheets providing for all compounds: **a)** substance characterisation, **b)** EFSA outputs, **c)** reference points, **d)** reference values and, **e)** genotoxicity.
2. The full database. *Editor: To access it you may need to "Sign Up".*

From: www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/chemical-hazards-data-and-modelling-boost

Agricultural Chemicals

• APVMA News and Updates – Email Notifications

30 March: Instead of distributing news and updates via the APVMA fortnightly Regulatory Update newsletter, they will now be sending email notifications to APVMA stakeholders as soon as a news item is published on the APVMA website.

In addition, APVMA stakeholders can also choose to opt-in to receive real-time email notifications when Media Releases, Recall Notices, Public Consultations and the APVMA Gazette are published.

To opt-in to receive these email notifications, please complete a Subscription Form.

Editor: If your email address is already in the APVMA system they will send you an email to update your preferences.

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/65366

• EPA NZ: Regulating Pesticides in New Zealand

11 March 2020: When making decisions that affect New Zealand, the EPA NZ need to take into account our specific environment, how a chemical is used, economic practices and values, and to make sure our decision-making follows our laws. Because New Zealand differs from other parts of the world, the EPA NZ must take a case-by-case approach.

2019 Video about how the EPA NZ make decisions about Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (1 min 48 sec)

From: www.epa.govt.nz/news-and-alerts/latest-news/regulating-pesticides-in-new-zealand/

• EPA USA: Guidance reducing pesticide testing on birds

19 Feb 2020: The EPA USA has released the final Guidance intended to Reduce Pesticide Testing on Birds while ensuring continued protection of public health

When considering approving the use of an outdoor pesticide, EPA USA typically considers up to four separate avian toxicity studies. Today's *Final Guidance for Waiving Sub-Acute Avian Dietary Tests for Pesticide Registration and Supporting Retrospective Analysis (Feb 2020 27 page pdf,)* waives some of these studies when the agency has enough information to ensure a pesticide registration decision is protective of public health and the environment. With a typical average of six new chemicals registered per year, the adoption of this guidance is expected to reduce the number of birds tested by approximately 720 birds per year.

From: www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-important-step-reduce-unnecessary-animal-testing

• APVMA: Importation of AgVet Chemicals & Covid-19

25 Feb 2020: The Australian Government has put in place extra border measures that may affect sea vessels that have left, or transited through, affected countries. This may affect the availability of agricultural/veterinary chemicals for import into Australia and/or cause supply chain disruptions.

Participants in the APVMA National Registration Scheme are reminded Active Constituents and Formulated Chemical Products must be sourced from Approved Sites.

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/63721

• APVMA Review: Some Swimming & Spa Pool Sanitisers

24 Mar 2020: The APVMA has received reports of adverse experiences associated with a lack of efficacy that highlighted the need for a review of the registration of Hydrogen Peroxide and/or Polyhexanide Hydrochloride domestic swimming pool and spa pool sanitiser products. No commercial products containing these active constituents are registered as swimming pool and spa pool sanitiser products.

Submissions are due by 28 April 2020 *From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/65156*

Also: Ag&Vet Gazette, 24 Mar 2020 p33 (pdf | docx *From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/65151*

• APVMA: Anti-Fouling Paint Guidance & Labelling

18 Feb 2020: Anti-fouling paint is used on underwater structures, including the hulls of boats, to prevent the settlement and growth of unwanted marine organisms.

1/ The Active Constituents of Anti-Fouling Paints must be approved by the APVMA. 2/ Anti-Fouling Paints are required to be registered by the APVMA.

a/ Guidance on the Registration & Assessment Of Anti-Fouling Paints. b/ Information on Labelling of Anti-Fouling Paints.
c/ The Environmental Assessment that supports this guidance.

The Guidance on the registration and assessment requirements for anti-fouling paints, aims at clarifying and streamlining the Application process for Registrants.

Registrants may choose to use this Guidance to fully or partially support an Application for Registration of a new Anti-Fouling Paint from 1 March 2020.

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/63841 (18 Feb 2020) And: https://apvma.gov.au/node/64276 (5 Mar 2020)

• APVMA: Spiropidion – New Insecticide Active

17 Dec 2019: An application for the approval of a new active constituent, Spiropidion, for use in agricultural chemical products as an insecticide.

Common Name: Spiropidion (ISO); CAS Name: 3-(4-Chloro-2,6-dimethylphenyl)-8-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxo-1,8-diazaspiro[4.5]dec-3-en-4-yl ethyl carbonate; CAS No: 1229023-00-0; Formula:$C_{19}H_{18}ClF_4N_3O_5S$; MW:511.87; Chemical Family: A Pyrimidinedione-based cpd.

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of Spiropidion active constituent (identification, stability, physicochemical properties, manufacturing process, specifications, quality control procedures, batch analysis results and analytical methods) & found them acceptable.

The APVMA has considered the toxicological aspects of Spiropidion, and concluded that there are no toxicological concerns regarding the approval of this active constituent.

The Scheduling Delegate has made a final decision to include Spiropidion in **Schedule 6** of the Poison Standard.

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 17 Dec 2019 p30-31 (pdf | docx)

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/59966

• APVMA: Tiafenacil – New Ag Active

17 Dec 2019: An application for the approval of a new Ag active constituent, Tiafenacil, for use in agricultural chemical products as a herbicide.

Common Name: Tiafenacil (ISO); CAS Name: Methyl N-[2-[[2-chloro-5-[3,6-dihydro-3-methyl-2,6-dioxo-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1(2H)-pyrimidinyl]-4-fluorophenyl]thio]-1-oxopropyl]-β-alaninate; CAS No: 1220411-29-9; Formula: $C_{21}H_{27}ClN_2O_5$; MW: 422.9; Chemical Family: Crystalline polymorph of N-Alkyl Amide Substituted Spiroheterocyclic Pyrrolidine Dione Derivative; Mode of Action: Inhibitor of Acetyl CoA Carboxylase (Group 23)

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

The APVMA has considered the toxicological aspects of Tiafenacil, and concluded that there are no toxicological concerns regarding the approval of this active constituent.

Tiafenacil is to be entered in Appendix B, Part 3 of the Poison Standard (Substances Not requiring control by Scheduling).

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 17 Dec 2019 p28-29 (pdf | docx)

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/59966

• APVMA: Bixlozone – New Ag Active

17 Dec 2019: An application for the approval of a new active constituent, Bixlozone which is proposed for use in products for the selective herbicide control of certain grasses and broad leaf weeds in barley, canola and wheat.

Common Name: Bixlozone; CAS Name: 3-[(2,4-dichlorophenyl)methoxy]-4,5-dihydro-4,4-dimethylisoxazole; CAS No: 81777-95-9; Minimum Purity: 960 g/kg; Formula: $C_{12}H_{13}Cl_2NO_2$; MW: 274.14; Chemical Family: Isoxazolidinone group of herbicides; Mode of Action: Bixlozone herbicide inhibits the Terpenoid synthesis pathway between Isopentenyl Pyrophosphate and Geranylgeranyl Pyrophosphate. This pathway provides the precursors for the major plant pigments, Chlorophyll and Carotenoids.

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of Bixlozone 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 Bixlozone. Bixlozone has very low acute oral toxicity, and there were no effects observed in repeat dose studies that were reasonably attributable to a single dose.

Bixlozone is to be entered in Appendix B, Part 3 of the Poison Standard (Substances Not requiring control by Scheduling).

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 17 Dec 2019 p24-25 (pdf | docx)

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/59966

• APVMA: Methiozolin – New Ag Active

10 Mar 2020: An application for approval of a new Ag active constituent, Methiozolin, for control of winter grass in turf.

Common Name: Methiozolin; CAS Name: 5-[[(2,6-difluorophenyl)methoxy]methyl]-4,5-dihydro-5-methyl-3-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)isoxazole; CAS No: 403640-27-7; Formula: $C_{17}H_{17}F_2NO_2S$; MW: 337.4; Chemical Family: Oxazole cpd.

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

The APVMA has considered the tox. aspects of Methiozolin. There are currently no proposed uses in food crops.

The Scheduling Delegate has made an interim decision to include Methiozolin in **Schedule 5** of the Poison Standard, with no cut-off.

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 10 Mar 2020 p25-26 (pdf | docx)

From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/64531

• APVMA: Tetraniliprole – New Insecticide Active

10 Mar 2020: An application for approval of a new Ag active constituent, Tetraniliprole, for use in agricultural chemical products as an insecticide.

Common Name: Tetraniliprole; CAS Name: 1-(3-chloro-2-pyridinyl)-*N*-[4-cyano-2-methyl-6-[(methylamino)carbonyl]phenyl]-3-[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-2*H*-tetrazol-2-yl]methyl]-1*H*-pyrazole-5-carboxamide; CAS No: 1229654-66-3; Minimum Purity: 900 g/kg; Formula: $C_{22}H_{16}ClF_3N_{10}O_2$; MW: 544.88; Chemical Family: Anthranilamide insecticide; Mode of Action: Tetraniliprole is a diamide insecticide of the anthranilamide group of insecticides that works by activation of the ryanodine receptors in the calcium release channel, leading to loss of muscle control and paralysis of the insects.

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of Tetraniliprole active constituent (physico-chemical properties, identification, stability, manufacturing process, quality control procedures, batch analysis results and analytical methods) & found them acceptable.

The APVMA has completed a toxicological evaluation of Tetraniliprole.

The Scheduling Delegate made an interim decision to include Tetraniliprole in **Schedule 5**, except in preparations containing 20 per cent or less if Tetraniliprole.

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 10 Mar 2020 p30-31 (pdf | docx) *From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/64531*

• APVMA: Lemongrass Cochin Oil – New Ag Active

24 Mar 2020: An application for the approval of a new Ag active constituent, Lemongrass Cochin Oil, for use in personal insect repellent products.

Common name: Lemongrass Cochin Oil; Botanical name: Essential oil of leaves of Cymbopogon Flexuosus or Cymbopogon Citratus; Chemical composition: Lemongrass Cochin Oil contains a mixture of Terpenoid compounds, mainly Geranial and Neral. Noting that this is a botanical extract, the composition is variable and dependent on the species, variety and growing conditions; CAS No.s: 8007-02-1, 91844-92-7; Minimum purity: Must be manufactured to a standard suitable for use in cosmetic and/or personal care preparations for topical application; Chemical family: Essential Oil; Use: Insect repellent.

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of Lemongrass Cochin Oil active constituent (identification, manufacturing process, specifications, and batch analysis results) and found them to be acceptable.

The APVMA has considered the toxicological aspects of Lemongrass Cochin Oil, and concluded that there are no toxicological concerns regarding the approval of this active constituent. Lemongrass Cochin Oil is not proposed for use in food production.

At the levels in the proposed product, no changes to scheduling under the Poison Standard are required. The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed use of Lemongrass Cochin Oil would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 24 Mar 2020 p24-25 (pdf | docx *From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/65151*

• APVMA: Palmarosa Oil – New Ag Active

24 Mar 2020: An application for the approval of a new Ag active constituent, Palmarosa Oil, for use in personal insect repellent products.

Common name: Palmarosa Oil; Botanical name: Essential oil of leaves of Cymbopogon Martinii Roxb. var. Martinii; Chemical composition: Palmarosa Oil contains a mixture of Terpenoid compounds, mainly Geraniol and Geranyl acetate. Noting that this is a botanical extract, the composition is variable and dependent on the growing conditions; CAS No: 8014-19-5; Minimum purity: Must be manufactured to a standard suitable for use in cosmetic and/or personal care preparations for topical application; Chemical family: Essential Oil; Use: Insect repellent.

The APVMA has evaluated the chemistry aspects of Palmarosa Oil active constituent (identification, manufacturing process, specifications, and batch analysis results) and found them to be acceptable.

The APVMA has considered the toxicological aspects of Palmarosa Oil, and concluded that there are no toxicological concerns regarding the approval of this active constituent. Palmarosa Oil is not proposed for use in food production.

At the levels in the proposed product, no changes to scheduling under the Poison Standard are required. The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed use of Palmarosa Oil would not be an undue toxicological hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

From: Ag&Vet Gazette, 24 Mar 2020 p28-29 (pdf | docx *From: https://apvma.gov.au/node/65151*

Dangerous Goods

• Challenges in the Lithium Battery Supply Chain

Webinar: "Challenges In The Lithium Battery Supply Chain" **23 April 2020, 10:30am UK GMT** (7.30pm AU EST)

Presenter: Paul Horner, Director of Dangerous Goods Safety Group (UK) Ltd and Dangerous Goods Online Training Limited
Paul Horner - Biography (1 page pdf)

The Webinar will use the GoToWebinar system. The Webinar is expected to cover:

- Evolution of the air transport regulations over the past decade
- UN 38.3 test summary
- UN informal working group on classification of lithium batteries
- G27 package performance standards
- Lithium Battery Aviation Safety Advisory Committee
- E-Commerce
- Operator risk assessment & new ICAO Doc 10102 AN/540 “Guidance for Safe Operations involving Aeroplane Cargo Compartments”.

Flyer: www.badgp.org/resources/events-public/2020/badgp-lithium-battery-webinar-230420.pdf (2 page pdf)

Free to BADGP & CHCS members, and UK£25 (approx. AU50-$55) for non-members (note: full BADGP membership is UK£70 and can be taken out prior to booking for the webinar. Joining now will give you membership until 31 Dec 2020).

To join BADGP please visit Join BADGP. To join CHCS please visit: https://chcs.org.uk/join-chemical-hazards-communication-society/. Also see CHCS Note later. *From: www.badgp.org/event-3806050*

• Next Version of the ADG Code (7.7) is Proceeding

4 Nov 2019 + minor Ltd Quantity changes: The ADG Code draft 7.7 aligns with Revision 21 of the United Nations (UN) Model Regulations and incorporates changes adopted by the UN along with other Australian-specific changes.

The draft 7.7 incorporates two key changes to bring Australian practices in line with accepted overseas practices and remove unnecessary burden on Australian businesses and the broader public.

Two of the Key Changes aim to:

1. simplify the requirements relating to the transport of dangerous goods in Limited Quantities by removing the Australian-specific sub-categories and aligning with the International agreement for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail;
2. provide a more consistent practice for Australian manufacturers by removing the additional requirements that only apply to inner packaging filled in Australia.

Editor: See *Explanatory Document* for key changes & details.

Comments on the draft closed on 31 Dec 2019

The draft Code and Explanatory Document are still accessed at: www.ntc.gov.au/transport-reform/ntc-projects/australian-dangerous-goods-code-maintenance

Explanatory Document for public exposure draft.pdf (6 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Intro and Part 1.pdf (68 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Part 2.pdf (132 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Part 3.pdf (514 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Part 4.pdf (179 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Part 5.pdf (65 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Part 6.pdf (211 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Parts 7, 8 and 9.pdf (30 pages)
Draft Code Edition 7.7 - Parts 10-13 & Appendices.pdf (90p)
Competent Authorities Panel Rules (July 2018) (16 pages)

Editor: I am informed that Placarding Rules around Limited Quantities have been adjusted. This will also make some Placarding changes in the proposed Code.

• Alert: Dangerous Goods Recurrent Training Expiry

14 Mar 2020: For the air transport of Dangerous Goods you may run into difficulties with maintaining dangerous goods currency for various categories of employees.

The ICAO Technical Instructions and IATA DGR specify that dangerous goods training must be conducted at intervals not exceed 24 months, DGR 1.5.0.3, the civil aviation authority in your State can authorise an extension of the current training validity.

Under the current circumstances it is recommend that you take a proactive approach and consider seeking a 90-day extension (through your Civil Aviation Authority) rather than leaving it to the last minute and finding yourself in a position where the employee's dangerous goods training may no longer be valid.

Alerted by IATA Cargo Safety & Standards email.

• NSW: Road Amdt (Dangerous Goods) Rule 2019 under the NSW Road Transport Act 2013

5 July 2019: The object of this Rule is to make further provision for the carriage of Dangerous Goods **on certain roads** and **in certain tunnels** in New South Wales.

e.g. This NSW Rule amends:

Rule 300–2 NSW rule: carriage of dangerous goods in prohibited areas

(2) A driver of a dangerous goods transporter does not contravene subrule (1) if: …. And

(2A) A driver of a dangerous goods transporter in a prohibited area specified in item 16 or 17 of the Table to this rule does not contravene subrule (1) unless: …..

Rule 300–2 (3); & Rule 300–2 (3), note 1; & Rule 300–2, Table with the Table—Prohibited areas with 17 locations specified.

From: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/regulations/2019-316.pdf

From: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2013/367/part3/div1/sec18

From: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2013/367 NSW Road Transport (General) Regulation 2013
Info: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2014/398 NSW Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Reg 2014

Editor: I missed this in 2019, so have included it now.

Environmental Notes on Chemicals

• EU Circular Economy Action Plan (for Chemicals)

12 Mar 2020: The EU Circular Economy Action Plan under Europe's new agenda for sustainable growth, will:

Focus on the sectors that use most resources and where the potential for circularity is high such as: electronics and ICT; batteries and vehicles; packaging; plastics; textiles; construction and buildings; food; water and nutrients;

Ensure less waste;

Make circularity work for people, regions and cities,

Lead global efforts on circular economy.

EC Communication 11Mar20: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1583933814386&uri=COM:2020:98:FIN

Examples of Specific Issues for chemicals include:

The Commission will address the presence of microplastics in the environment.

EU chemicals policy and legislation, in particular REACH, encourage a shift to 'safe-by-design chemicals' through the progressive substitution of hazardous substances to better protect citizens and the environment. However, the safety of secondary raw materials can still be compromised, for instance, where banned substances persist in recycled feedstock.

The forthcoming **Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability** will further address the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation and strengthen synergies with the circular economy.

Horizon Europe will support the development of indicators and data, novel materials and products, substitution and elimination of hazardous substances based on "safe by design" approach, circular business models, and new production and recycling technologies, including exploring the potential of chemical recycling.

From: https://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm

• EPA Vic: PFAS a Quick Reference EPA Guide

11 Mar 2020: Public'n No: 1836 (1 page pdf). EPA Vic takes a precautionary approach to PFAS & has rigorous Regulations to ensure it is safely managed, transported and disposed.

There are a number of options to safely reuse soils with low levels of PFAS including infrastructure development, old quarry site rehabilitation and the like. Anywhere where soil is proposed to be stored, reused or deposited, the safety of the surrounding community will be ensured.

While scientific research continues to be undertaken, EPA, consistent with federal guidelines from the Environmental Health Standing Committee (enHealth), takes a precautionary approach and advises people to reduce their exposure to PFAS. It is also recommended that people follow EPA Vic's health advice for specific sites, which is published on our website at: www.epa.vic.gov.au/pfas

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1836

• DMIRS WA: Hydraulic Fracturing Stakeholder Guideline

19 Dec 2019: Consultation on Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Guideline for Hydraulic Fracturing.

The public consultation paper relates to Action 4 of the Implementation Plan for the WA Government's response to the Independent Scientific Panel Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation in Western Australia.

Proposed Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Guide – Public Consultation Paper (8 page pdf)

Proposed Iconic Natural Heritage Places – Public Consultation Paper (9 page pdf)

It is proposed that an addition will be made to the Guideline for the Development of Petroleum and Geothermal Environment Plans in Western Australia to specify further requirements for Hydraulic Fracturing projects.

To assist stakeholders, the Consultation Paper includes information about the lifecycle of Hydraulic Fracturing projects.

From: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/News/Consultation-opens-on-proposed-26392.aspx

• EPA NSW: Aerial Pesticides Spray Operator Fined

31 Mar 2020: The EPA NSW has fined an aerial spray operator in Moree NSW, $1500 for the misuse of pesticides.

On 6 Feb 2020, on the southern side of Moree NSW, an EPA NSW officer observed an aerial spray operator applying pesticides in overcast conditions and with light rain falling.

The label for the pesticide being applied at the time clearly states: "Do not apply if rain is expected within 6 hours".

For information on Pesticide usage in NSW: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/pesticides/pesticides-nsw-overview

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/media-releases/2020/epamedia200331-epa-fines-aerial-spray-operator-$1500-for-misuse-of-pesticides

• EPA NSW: Fine for Release of Chlorine Gas

23 Mar 2020: The Land and Environment Court has penalised Hardman Chemicals Pty Ltd $60,000 for an incident in which a large amount of chlorine gas was released at its Seven Hills premises in Western Sydney. Hardman Chemicals was also ordered to pay the NSW Environment Protection Authority's (EPA NSW) legal costs of $100,000 as well as investigation costs.

Hardman Chemicals pleaded guilty to breaching its environment protection licence when it added 160 litres of hydrogen peroxide to a large hydrochloric acid storage tank, resulting in the release of chlorine gas. Workers on site and community members at surrounding

businesses reported experiencing breathing difficulties, violent coughing, burning sensations and headaches following the incident. Three employees of Hardman Chemicals were also hospitalised.

Before adding the chemicals, Hardman Chemicals staff failed to conduct an adequate risk assessment and also failed to consult any literature or safety data sheets available to it which contained warnings about the incompatibility of those two chemicals.

From: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/media-releases/2020/epamedia200323-court-orders-company-to-pay-over-$160000-for-release-of-chlorine-gas

• EPA Vic Fine: Cytotoxic exposed Hospital Waste

10 Feb 2020: A shipment of hospital waste that had been exposed to cytotoxic chemicals has been secured and sent for proper disposal during an investigation by EPA Vic

EPA Vic has fined the company $8261 for depositing industrial waste at a site that is not licensed to accept that type of waste.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/news-media-and-updates/news-and-updates/toxic-hospital-waste-attracts-an-epa-fine

• EPA Vic: Former Sunshine Landfills Contain

11 Mar 2020: Information about the former Sunshine Landfills, for the residents of Denton Av, Toora Crt & Karen Place, St Albans.

EPA Vic is regulating Brimbank City Council to make sure they understand, communicate & manage the risks with all those affected.

Independent tests have reported that risks to public health and safety are low and that, with appropriate management, the site is safe for residents and the community.

These tests compared vapour and landfill gas against health guidelines. EPA is requiring further testing to confirm the independent findings.

EPA Vic is requiring Brimbank City Council to continue to measure for landfill gas and vapour on and around the former landfills, including at nearby residential properties. This will happen on an ongoing basis.

The new laws include a duty to notify EPA Vic of contaminated land. Residents who live on the former Sunshine landfill site will not receive fines or be criminally punished in any way for this historical contamination under the new legislation.

The Council continues to be responsible for managing impacts from the former landfills site. The EPA Vic understand that appropriate land use planning tools are being proposed by Brimbank City Council

EPA Vic Publication 1837 (March 2020, 2 page pdf)
www.epa.vic.gov.au/-/media/epa/files/publications/1837.pdf

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1837

• EPA Vic: Waste Classification Assessment Protocol

10 Mar 2020: Public'n No: 1827 (13 page pdf). From 1 July 2020, waste (in Victoria) must be classified to meet waste duties under the amended *Vic Environment Protection Act 2017*. The proposed Vic Environment Protection Regs 2020 (Part 4.2) specify the process for Classifying Waste. This protocol establishes a process for complying with the proposed Regulations.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1827

• EPA Vic: Waste Disposal Categories - Details

10 Mar 2020: Public'n No: 1828 (10 page pdf). Waste Disposal Categories – Characteristics and Thresholds. From 1 July 2020, waste (in Victoria) must be classified to meet waste duties under the amended *Vic Environment Protectn Act 2017*. Lists Criteria against which certain priority wastes must be assessed to determine which waste disposal category applies.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1828

• Toxic Tip Site in St Albans Vic Authorities forgot

The Age website:

28Feb20 11.25pm - Unearthed then Buried.

The toxic site the authorities forgot. Both the toxic waste beneath St Albans and Albion and the knowledge of its existence have been buried and unearthed many times since seven huge garbage dumps were closed in the mid-1970s.

At each step, the EPA and the council have known much more than they have told the public. Extraordinary information provided to Brimbank City Council in confidence late last year shows it was an EPA Vic executive who authorised 9 million gallons per year (about 34 million litres) of "intractable liquid waste" being poured into the old bluestone quarries.

And it was the council - then the City of Sunshine - which encouraged a local developer to turn the northern part of this dump site into a housing estate.

www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/unearthed-then-buried-the-toxic-site-the-authorities-forgot-20200228-p545gv.html

28Feb20 11.45pm - Toxic Tip: Homeowners Exposed to 'Unacceptable' Cancer, Explosion Risk.

A large section of St Albans land adjacent to the Western Ring Road was used as a tip between 1967 and 1978. Dozens of people in St Albans are living on land potentially contaminated by radioactive materials, solvents, paints, oil, acids, poisons, manure and other household and industrial waste from the former Sunshine Landfills site.

www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/toxic-tip-homeowners-exposed-to-unacceptable-cancer-explosion-risk-20200228-p545g8.html

***Editor**:* The above Age news articles remind me of the **Love Canal tragedy in New York State USA in the 1950s**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Love_Canal

Love Canal became a dump site during the 1920s for municipal refuse for the city of Niagara Falls. During the 1940s, the canal was purchased by Hooker Chemical Company, now Occidental Chemical Corporation, which used the site to dump 21800 short tons of chemical by products from the manufacturing of dyes, perfumes, and solvents for rubber and synthetic resins.

After its sale to the local school district in 1953, which occurred after the threat of eminent domain, Love Canal attracted national attention for the public health problem originating from the former dumping of toxic waste on the grounds. This event displaced numerous families, leaving them with long-standing health issues and symptoms of high white blood cell counts and leukemia. Subsequently, the USA federal government passed the Superfund law. The resulting USA Superfund cleanup operation demolished the neighbourhood, ending during 2004.

• Environmental Risk Mgmt of Industrial Chemicals

"The National Standard has been developed by all Australian governments to efficiently and effectively manage the impacts of industrial chemicals on the environment, while providing consistent requirements for businesses across Australia."

“The legislative framework will allow the Commonwealth Environment Minister (the Minister) to make principles that set out the risk characteristics to categorise industrial chemicals (or particular uses) according to their level of concern to the environment. These principles will inform the making of a scheduling decision for a chemical and assigning risk management measures to the chemical or its use. All scheduling decisions will be recorded in the ICEM Register, to be adopted and implemented by jurisdictions. This process will be informed through consultation with the public, state and territory Environment Ministers and advice from a technical advisory committee to be established under the ICEMR Bill”.

There are many supporting documents. Comment **closed** 21 Feb 2020

From: www.environment.gov.au/protection/chemicals-management/national-standard/draft-legislation

Editor: This legislative framework starts with the Very Ecotoxic chemicals but eventually will cover all chemicals.

There will be additional evaluation costs charged for new chemicals under this legislation.

I am informed it will begin with specialist/admin staff in the order of 10-20 persons.

The UN GHS Environmental Hazards and building the Risk Management approach by this international framework, that large AU businesses have effectively worked to (for about 20 years without regulations, but under Common Law), needs to at least be a recommended building block.

There is a significant overlap with existing legislation around managing use, disposal and discharge to the environment. It is very unclear how this will be workable across the States and Territories.

• Worksafe Vic: Bradbury Chemical Stockpile Charges

7 Mar 2020: WorkSafe Vic has charged Bradbury Industrial Services Pty Ltd (now in liquidation) with an additional 21 alleged breaches of the Dangerous Goods Act relating to chemical stockpiles at three Craigieburn warehouses.

These charges are in addition to 7 charges filed against Bradbury in Jan 2020 for alleged offences at a Campbellfield site. The new charges allege that Bradbury failed to take all reasonable precautions to prevent a fire or explosion of Dangerous Goods at the three Yellowbox Drive warehouses.

The Craigieburn stockpiles were uncovered during a joint WorkSafe Vic & EPA Vic investigation into the Dangerous Goods storage in Melbourne's northern suburbs in Jan 2019.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2020-03/company-faces-new-chemical-stockpile-charges

Also: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2020-01/company-charged-over-chemical-stockpiles-campbellfield

• EPA Vic: Bradbury Chemical Waste – EPA Charges

19 Mar 2020: The EPA Vic has laid 10 charges against chemical storage operator Bradbury Industrial Services Pty Ltd and its Director Paul Anthony Bristow.

On 5 April 2019, Bradbury’s Thorneycroft St, Campbellfield facility was engulfed in a fire. EPA Vic will allege the source of the fire was toluene being ‘decanted at the premises from a 1000L Intermediate Bulk Container (IBC) into a 60L drum without there being any or adequate control of ignition sources.’ and that chemicals were stored exceeding the licensed limit. The resulting fire caused an environmental and human health hazard.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/news-media-and-updates/news-and-updates/chemical-waste-company-faces-more-charges

• Worksafe Vic: G.L.White Chemical Stockpile Charges

23 Dec 2019: WorkSafe Vic has charged a Harkness man Graham Leslie White, 58, over the alleged illegal stockpiling of dangerous goods at 5 sites in Melbourne’s northern suburbs.

WorkSafe Vic alleges that White failed at each site to take all reasonable precautions to prevent any fire or explosion of dangerous goods in his ownership, control or possession, or neglected to dispose of them safely.

White also faces aggravated charges for each site of failing to take reasonable precautions against fire or explosion despite knowing this failure could endanger the safety or health of people, property or the environment.

From: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2019-12/charges-laid-over-chemical-stockpiles

• EPA Vic: Illegal Chemical Warehouses Charges

10 Mar 2020: EPA Vic has laid 12 charges against a male in his late 50s under the Environment Protection Act 1970 following a comprehensive investigation into the illegal storage of dangerous chemicals at three warehouses in Epping.

The charges, relate to activity that occurred between May and Dec 2018, which the prosecution will allege created a serious threat to public health and substantial risk of damage to the environment.

From: www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/news-media-and-updates/news-and-updates/chemical-charges

• NZ: Recent Environment Court Chemicals Decision

3 Mar 2020: Excerpts –

[5] On 9 June 2008 the Council granted a resource consent to Sustainable Waste Management Limited to store up to 50,000 litres of solvents and chemicals in conjunction with the operation of a plant designed to recycle solvents

[15] A further inspection of 15 June 2018 showed there to be approximately 1,000,000 litres of solvents and chemicals at the site, with waste still stored on unsealed ground or with no secondary containment, contrary to the abatement notice.

[16] The removal of solvents and contaminated wastewater was not achieved.

3. The Respondents, jointly and severally, are required within ten (10) working days to identify to the Whangarei District Council (the Council) and engage one or more suitably qualified and reputable persons to:

i. undertake a risk assessment prior to undertaking any of the works required by these orders; and **ii.** undertake representative sampling to determine the exact type and nature of the hazardous substances currently stored on the property; and **iii.** provide to the Council a full inventory of all hazardous substances currently stored on the property; and

iv. ensure that all hazardous substances that are situated on the Property are securely stored by: **a.** securing and otherwise making stable all containers and drums; **b.** decanting all liquids constituting hazardous substances currently in old, damaged, rusty or leaking drums and containers into secure and appropriate drums and containers; and **c.** sealing all such containers and drums.

[2020] NZEnvC 020 Whangarei District Council v Sustainable Solvents Group Limited (15 page pdf) Also:

www.environmentcourt.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/2020-NZEnvC-020-Whangarei-District-Council-v-Sustainable-Solvents-Group-Limited.pdf

From: www.environmentcourt.govt.nz/decisions-publications/read-recent-environment-court-decisions/

Also: www.newsroom.co.nz/2020/03/12/1078166/ten-day-ruakaka-toxic-waste-deadline

Standards & Codes

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

https://infostore.saiglobal.com/en-au/Search/Standard/?sortKey=date-desc&productFamily=STANDARD

No Updated / New Standards re: chemical management

• Draft Standards Open for Public Comment

Standards Australia has updated its process for downloading a Draft Standard. Visitors are no longer able to download the drafts from the SAI Global Store. **All drafts are now available directly from Standards Australia** by clicking on "Download draft". There is a simple "word" search function.

https://sapc.standards.org.au/sapc/public/listOpenCommentingPublication.action

AS 1807: Separative devices, including horizontal and vertical HEPA filtered controlled air workstations, biological safety cabinets, cytotoxic drug safety cabinets, isolators and mobile HEPA filtered pressurised units — Methods of test. *58 page pdf. Please Comment by 22 April 2020.*

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.

Also Joint NZ/AU Draft Standards:
https://shop.standards.govt.nz/default.htm?mod=drafts&action=browseDrafts&draftTypeId=2

DR AS/NZS 8124.4:2020 (Committee CS-018 Safety of Children's Toys). Safety of toys, Part 4: Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities. The objective of this Standard is to specify requirements for the maximum amount and, in some cases, the maximum concentration of certain substances and mixtures used in experimental sets for chemistry and related activities. 6 page pdf Appendix ZZ lists the variations to ISO 8124‑10:2019 (which is not included)

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/docserv/drafts/DR_AS_NZS_8124.4_2020.pdf

• NZ Standards - www.standards.govt.nz/

Free availability of COVID-19-related ISO standards in NZ.

www.standards.govt.nz/news/media-releases/2020/apr/free-availability-of-covid-19-related-iso-standards/ e.g.

ISO 374-5:2016, Protective gloves against dangerous chemicals and micro-organisms - Part 5: Terminology and performance requirements for micro-organisms risks

ISO 13688:2013, Protective clothing – General requirements ISO 31000:2018, Risk management – Guidelines

Updated/New Standards

AS/NZS 4114:2020: Spray painting booths, designated spray painting areas and paint mixing rooms. It amalgamates the two parts of the 2003 standard. 40 Pages, Cost pdf $128.70 NZD (ex GST) Cost Hard Copy: $143.00 NZD (ex GST).

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/catalog/4114%3A2020%28AS%7CNZS%29/view

BS EN ISO 16106:2020: Transport packages for dangerous goods. Dangerous goods packagings, intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) and large packagings. Guidelines for the application of ISO 9001. 68 Pages, Cost pdf $507.49 NZD (ex GST) Cost Hard Copy: $507.49 NZD (ex GST).

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/catalog/16106%3A2020%28BS+EN+ISO%29/view

PD IEC TS 62607-4-8:2020: Nanomanufacturing. Key control characteristics. 20 Pages, Cost pdf $259.74 NZD (ex GST) Cost Hard Copy: $259.74 NZD (ex GST).

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/catalog/62607-4-8%3A2020%28PD+IEC+TS%29/view

BS ISO 29903-1:2020: Comparison of toxic gas data from different tests. 28 Pages, Cost pdf $363.64 NZD (ex GST) Cost Hard Copy: $363.64 NZD (ex GST).

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/catalog/29903-1%3A2020%28BS+ISO%29/view

DR AS/NZS 1596:2014 Amd2:2020 (Committee ME-015). The storage and handling of LP Gas (Comment by 19 May 20)

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/docserv/drafts/DR_AS_NZS_1596_2014_AMD_2_2020.pdf (17 Mar 2020, 8 page pdf)

DR AS/NZS 1604.1:2020 (Committee TM-012 Timber Grading and Preservation). Preservative-treated wood-based products - Part 1: Products and treatment

https://shop.standards.govt.nz/docserv/drafts/DR_AS_NZS_1604.1_2020.pdf (18 Mar 2020, 75 page pdf)

• NFPA Codes, Reports, News

Newly Published NFPA Codes

All NFPA documents are at: www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards

Current NFPA Stds Newsletter: *www.nfpa.org/Codes-and-Standards/Standards-development-process/NFPA-News (pdf)*

NFPA News-&-Research: *www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research*

Standards Seeking Public Development 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

Choose a document for comment from the List Of NFPA Codes & Standards or filter by Development Stage for "codes accepting public comment". *Editor: I could not "filter"??*

I did find: www.nfpa.org/Codes-and-Standards/Standards-development-process/How-the-process-works/First-Draft-Reports-and-Second-Draft-Reports and:

www.nfpa.org/Codes-and-Standards/Standards-development-process/How-the-process-works/First-Draft-Reports-and-Second-Draft-Reports/Annual-2020-First-Draft-Reports

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

Courses, Seminars etc, Networks

• UK Chemical Hazards Communication Society

There are several benefits to being a member of the CHCS.

For chemical management consultants and specialists in Australia and New Zealand it is an excellent way to keep current and be part of relevant discussions.

Their Training Courses (such as Advanced Preparation of Safety Data Sheets) are now being changed to online training so this will become a very useful educational resource.

For consultants they can be on the
CHCS Chemical Hazards Consultants List *https://chcs.org.uk/chcs-chemical-hazards-consultants*
Which means companies can find you more easily.

Cost for Australian and NZ members is UK£85.00. *https://chcs.org.uk/join-chemical-hazards-communication-society/*
CHCS also has a have a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK-based British Association of Dangerous Goods Professionals, known as BADGP. This relationship offers benefits to members of both organisations.

From: https://chcs.org.uk/ and: https://chcs.org.uk/chemical-hazards-communication-society-membership and: https://chcs.org.uk/badgp

• DGAG Webinar Chat Meeting, 22 or 29 April 2020

Dangerous Goods Advisory Group Webinar meeting, **Wed 22nd or Wed 29th April 2020**, 5.30pm – 7.30pm Chat Meeting.

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 chat meeting issues list, please email me at: Jeff.Simpson@haztech.com.au. You don't have to be in Melbourne, to be on this email chat meeting & issues alert list.

• RACI HS&E Webinar: Reactive Chemical Hazards

23 April 2020 7.00-8.30pm: To commemorate World Laboratory Day and the late Mr Leslie Bretherick, an iconic and inspirational chemist who championed the concept of laboratory & chemical safety. His work, Bretherick's *Handbook of Reactive Chemical Hazards*, was first published in 1975, and documented hundreds of potential chemical hazards.

Our speaker, Associate Professor Colin Rix, School of Science, RMIT University, will focus on Reactive Chemical Hazards in relation to his own extensive experience in teaching and research in Inorganic Chemistry, where he developed curriculum materials in topics relating to the Chemical, Biological and Environmental sciences; and also contributed to an on-line Masters in Toxicology program.

Cost: RACI/Kindred Societies $ ***Free****; Non-Member $* ***Free****; Student Member $* ***Free****; Student Non-Member $* ***Free***

From: www.raci.org.au/events/event/the-leslie-bretherick-memorial-lecture-agm-awards-presentation-night

To download a Flyer, and to Register.

• RACI HS&E Seminars: Chemicals in the Environment

Seminar 1: Heavy Metals in the Environment and Soil Remediation. **When:** 30th April 2020, 5.30pm-7.00pm AU E.StdTime.
Speakers: Research Specialist and 2 Students

Seminar 2: New MS Detection Methods for Organic Environmental Contaminants.
When: 18th June 2020, 5.30pm-7.00pm AU E.StdTime.
Speakers: Research Specialist and 2 Students

Price: RACI / Kindred Society Members / Students; **$Free**. For everyone else: **$10**

Details and Registration: Please check the RACI Events website for these Seminars at www.raci.org.au/events

From: www.haztech.com.au under "Networking Meetings"

• IChemE Face to Face Courses and Covid-19

March 2020: IChemE Training Courses will not be delivered face-to-face before June 2020 at the earliest (Sept 2020 in the UK / Ireland). Many IChemE courses will be delivered virtually instead; please see the Online Courses Section for details.

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

Editor: I suggest July at the earliest and more likely it will be Sept or Oct 2020 at the earliest.

• IChemE Fundamentals of Process Safety, Brisbane

Brisbane, 13-17 July 2020 (Covid-19 may delay)

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/13-17-july-2020-brisbane-australia/

• IChemE Bulk Solids Handling for Chemical Engineers

Melbourne: Delayed - probably to Late 2020.

Process Operations. The flow of bulk solids is complex and not well covered in undergraduate courses.

Tailored specifically for chemical engineers and addresses this Blind Spot by providing a fundamental understanding of the science underpinning bulk solids flow behaviour together with simple, practical steps that can be taken to solve but ideally avoid common problems.

Cost: Non-Members $1220, IChemE Members $1100. *Email:* austcourses@icheme.org, ph: 03-9642-4494.

From: www.icheme.org/career/training/courses/bulk-solids-handling-for-chemical-engineers/date-to-be-advised-melbourne-australia/

• IChemE Practical Distillation Technology Course

Melbourne: 17-19 August 2020 (Covid-19 may delay)

Process Operations. This course gives comprehensive coverage of distillation technology with particular emphasis on the problems that occur & how to solve them. It provides an excellent opportunity to develop a working knowledge of key techniques that can promote trouble-free operation and reduce distillation cost.

Cost: Non-Members $4040, IChemE Members $3515. *Email:* austcourses@icheme.org, ph: 03-9642-4494.

From: www.icheme.org/career/training/courses/practical-distillation-technology/17-19-august-2020-melbourne-australia/

• IChemE HAZOP Leaders & Team, Sept 2020, Melb

Melbourne, 8–10 Sept 2020 (Covid-19 may delay)

This 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/8-10-september-2020-brisbane-australia/

• IChemE Training – On-Line Courses

Editor: The on-line course examples below are available to purchase as on-demand recordings for the costs shown:

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
Creativity for Chemical Engineers 4 CPD Hrs £235 + VAT
Dust Explosions 4 CPD Hrs £235 + VAT
Dust Explosion Risk Reduction 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/

• Other On-Line Courses

1/ Chemical Watch eLearning Courses:
https://events.chemicalwatch.com/elearning

Some examples relevant to everyone around the world are:

Beginner's Guide to Toxicology (V2): This course provides knowledge to recognise the ways in which chemicals may interact with living organisms and the precautionary measures which are needed to prevent harm to humans. Online;
17 modules; 90 videos; 295 audios; 17 handouts; Cost €550

https://events.chemicalwatch.com/65687/beginners-guide-to-toxicology-version-20?pa=true

Metals and Inorganic Metal Compounds in Toxicology and Ecotoxicology: This course focusses on the properties and approaches for the appropriate assessment and management of risks associated with metals. It will help you develop an understanding of the properties of metals and the impact of their toxicity on humans and the environment.
Online; 7 modules; Quizzes; Audio; 7 Handouts; Cost €450

https://events.chemicalwatch.com/73622?pa=true

• AITAC Online DG & Chemical Training Courses

See https://aitac.edu.au/training-courses/ Dangerous Goods DG

DG - General Awareness $37.00 *Details: www.yourlicence.edu.au/product/dangerous-goods-general-awareness/*
DG - Properties & Hazards $147.00 *Details: www.yourlicence.edu.au/product/properties-hazards-of-dangerous-goods/*
DG - Road Awareness $197.00 *Details: www.yourlicence.edu.au/product/dangerous-goods-road-awareness/*
DG - Sea Awareness $197.00 *Details: www.yourlicence.edu.au/product/dangerous-goods-sea-awareness/*
Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals $197.00
Details: www.yourlicence.edu.au/product/globally_harmonised_system_ghs/

Haztech Environmental: Chemical Hazard Classifications done & reviewed. SDSs prepared & reviewed. Labels prepared & reviewed. Chemical Management & Safety Regulatory Advice & 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 29 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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