



Staying Ahead of the Game

More than 100 chemical suppliers and their guests, WorkSafe NZ inspectors and Emergency Service personnel were briefed on the status of workplace health and safety legislation, together with the future Fire and Emergency NZ organization.

Responsible Care NZ Chairman Tom Barratt welcomed presenters and delegates to the free forum, noting the capacity audience reflected the importance chemical suppliers and their customers attached to meeting and exceeding community expectations for safely managing workplace chemicals.

Departing WorkSafe NZ Chief Executive Gordon MacDonald canvassed the development of the Health and Safety at Work (HSE) Act, highlighting progress in preparing his organisation for the additional responsibilities arising from assimilation of the Hazardous Substances Regulations, which will require continuing chemical industry support.

Well known Industry expert Kim Comben described progress with ensuring the new Hazardous Substances Regulations are fit for purpose when implemented in mid-2017. He commended chemical suppliers for their contributions throughout the public submission opportunities, particularly RCNZ participation in the critical Advisory Groups.

Matt Adams reviewed the status of the Major Hazard Facility (MHF) Regulations, focusing on preparations to identify sites which will require a safety case as part of an enhanced compliance regime triggered by the Pike River Mine disaster.

Internal Affairs Minister Peter Dunne enthusiastically canvassed the rationale for a review of the NZ Fire Service, resulting in the Fire and Emergency NZ (FENZ) Bill presently before Parliament. The restructure involves fully integrating urban and rural brigades in a streamlined and upskilled resource, better prepared to respond to a wide range of incidents, including chemical events.

The Minister announced there would no longer be a charge for attending chemical incidents. He thanked RCNZ for supporting the Fire Service with the unique CHEMCALL® 24/7 Emergency Response Advisory Service and was looking forward to chemical industry support for the new organization, delivered through a reinvigorated and mutually beneficial partnership.

The following question and answer session engaged presenters in an often vigorous and passionate exchange of views, including the ability of WorkSafe NZ inspectors to advise and enforce new chemical regulations, the future of the faltering Test Certification regime, together with Industry concerns about watering down well-established chemical safety performance standards.

RCNZ Chief Executive Barry Dyer highlighted the argument against removing the mandatory Approved Handler requirement, questioning the likelihood of employers maintaining the important qualification under general HSW Act provisions. He explained RCNZ was seeking a peer review of the draft Hazardous Substances Regulations to avoid the many mistakes and shortcomings arising from the HSNO Regulations revealed by and Industry-led team.

Summarising the four-hour session, Dyer noted the enthusiastic response to the free event reinforced the importance of ensuring SMEs in particular, received the accurate and timely compliance advice they needed without relying on complicated websites, non-specific call centre responses and expensive commercial conferences.

He assured presenters of continuing chemical supplier support, particularly the invaluable 0800 CHEMCALL® 24/7 Emergency Response Advisory Service, Suppliers' compliance advice and product stewardship initiatives, together with specialist qualification and chemical safety training.

RCNZ products and services provide WorkSafe NZ, the NZ Fire Service and the future FENZ with a valuable resource, delivered through mutually beneficial partnerships.

Dyer thanked the presenters for their contribution to a very successful event. He hoped it would be the first of many such opportunities to keep Industry informed of changing workplace health and safety compliance requirements, particularly where chemical safety is paramount. The presentations are on our website www.responsiblecarenz.com

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2016 AGM Returns Directors

Members were updated on their Association's progress throughout FY 2015/16. Membership continues to grow as requests for chemical compliance advice increase. Chairman Tom Barratt welcomed a new director, Shayne Porter of **Mainfreight**.

The CEO's Report and keynote speakers' presentations are at www.responsiblecarenz.com/Latest



New WorkSafe NZ Chief Executive

Nicole Rosie, Director of Health and Safety at Fonterra, is to take the helm of WorkSafe NZ from well-known Gordon MacDonald, who is returning to the UK after three years. A lawyer, Nicole has wide experience in ACC and injury management, together with roles in the forestry, transport infrastructure and energy sectors. Nicole was instrumental in KiwiRail joining the global Responsible Care® SH&E protection initiative.



We are proud to welcome two new Partners and two new Members: **Delarente Corporation**, the **Hawkes Bay District Health Board**, the **NZ Blood Service** and **SMSA**.



The **Hawkes Bay DHB** provides public health services to around 160,000 people throughout the Hawkes Bay region. HBDHB works with consumers, stakeholder communities and social service organisations to measure and report on community health and health system performance, train the health workforce, promote disease prevention, reduce adverse social and environmental effects and provide comprehensive health and disability services.



NZ Blood offers four key services: blood collection, processing of blood donations, accreditation of blood donors and blood banking.

Laboratory processing involves 147,000 donations each year. The service operates a nation-wide network for donors in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. Mobile collection teams service local communities.



Founded in 1987, **Delarente Corporation** imports a range of cleaning products, adhesives and paints for retail sale.

Based in Petone and trading as Uncle Bills Wholesale Club, Delarente has 120 employees with customers throughout NZ.



Safety Management Systems Aotearoa (SMSA) specializes in managing the risks associated with asbestos. SMSA provides comprehensive advice and operator training, site assessments and surveys, together with clearance of commercial and public buildings, residences and demolition sites.

These are our Members



Has purchased a 17% share in Bio Spectrum of South Korea. The Swiss family-owned **Clariant** uses renewable raw materials to manufacture predominantly cosmetics.



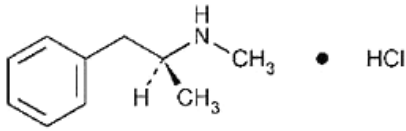
Iconic NZ resins manufacturer **Nuplex Industries** is now owned by **Allnex Belgium Sa/NV** and was delisted from the NZ Stock Exchange on 13 September 2016. Nuplex was a foundation member of the former NZ Chemical Industry Council led by Fred Holland, the first NZCIC President and RCNZ Life Member.

Under the new logo, Allnex becomes one of the world's leading industrial coatings and resin suppliers with operations on four continents, serving customers in more than 100 countries.



Z Energy teams with dairy giant Fonterra as a foundation customer for the new biodiesel fuel used in 560 milk tankers nationwide.

The high-quality fuel from Z Energy's leading edge Auckland refinery comprises 5% biodiesel blended with regular diesel and meets the NZ fuel specifications required by international vehicle manufacturers (European Biodiesel Standard EN 14214). The biodiesel is expected to reduce GHG emissions from tankers travelling thousands of kilometres every day by 4%, against the national transport fleet GHG contribution of 20%.



Methamphetamine Scare Tactics

Despite evidence that levels of methamphetamine detected in predominantly social houses is often no greater than those routinely found on NZ bank notes, the media continues to publicise claims by cleanup contractors that occupiers are in immediate danger - which only expensive remediation can prevent.

Occupational health experts are calling for greater precision in the use of the label “contamination” which often inaccurately implies a serious health risk. The first national standard for classifying methamphetamine contamination is not expected until 2017.



Seizures Set Record

More than \$170m of methamphetamine and precursor chemicals have been seized by Customs officers. Smugglers are using toys, furniture, suitcases with concealed compartments and even hollowed-out reams of paper to illegally import the Class B drug.

Chemical suppliers have a close working relationship, including a Memorandum of Understanding with government agencies involved in detecting breaches and policing New Zealand’s strict illegal drug legislation.



Driver Drug Test Closer

A Victoria University team developing a reliable, low-cost, real-time saliva test for roadside testing of motorists suspected of being under the influence of methamphetamine has received a \$1m grant. The team is also working on a device to detect and map methamphetamine contamination in homes and workplaces.



Asbestos Products Banned

Government has extended the ban on importing raw asbestos to products containing the toxic substance, such as brake linings, gaskets and seals. A limited range of asbestos products require a ‘Special Purpose’ Certificate, issued when the importer provides an effective management plan.



Overweight Shipping Containers Targeted

New Zealand port management now require verification of container weights before loading the consignment. The crackdown is due to the danger of overloading vessels which could founder due to instability or over-stressing capacity. Industry experts report nett weight is being erroneously reported as gross weight.

Shippers became responsible for accurate container weight reporting from 01 July 2016.

Chemical Incidents Continue

A small spill of Hi-cane (Hydrogen Cyanamide) agrichemical spray used in kiwifruit orchards from a drum being transported through the main street of Motueka, resulted in residents being advised to stay inside while the product was washed away.



A leaking bottle of bleach likely left by cleaners in the overhead locker of a Christchurch-bound Air NZ flight resulted in the return of the aircraft to Wellington when passengers reported feeling unwell. Emergency services treated several people reportedly suffering from the fumes.



Sustainability

Sustainable Practices



Waste Management NZ is converting its trucks and cars to electric power to demonstrate the company's commitment to sustainable business practices.

The first of 800 trucks are being converted in the Netherlands and will be progressively introduced following a successful evaluation under NZ operating conditions. More than 200 cars will be replaced with electric vehicles (EVs). Corporate Sustainability measures include capturing 95% of gas emissions from company operated landfills which is then used to generate electricity for the national grid. The company also produces 60,000 tonnes of compost from greenery and food waste.



Global Warming Records Fall

The UN reports global temperatures for 2015 were the highest ever recorded. In New Zealand, the mean temperature during our traditional Winter months of June to August rose by an average 1°C, another record.



Amalgamations Gather Pace



China National Chemical Corporation (ChemChina) has the required government approvals to purchase agrichemical giant Syngenta AG.

The US \$46b deal is expected to be settled by December 2016. ChemChina grew out of Adama Agricultural Solutions in Israel. The new company will provide about 25% of global agrichemicals.



Bayer clinched the purchase of Monsanto for US\$ 65b. Monsanto is the largest producer of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and the new company will supply more than 25% of the world's seed and pesticide products.

The ongoing amalgamation of agrichemical producers has alarmed some farmers and industry commentators, concerned the consolidation of major suppliers will result in higher prices for a shrinking product range. Government approval is required.

LANXESS Lanxess to Acquire Chemtura

Energizing Chemistry

The world's largest producer of specialty chemicals and synthetic rubber is to buy US-based Chemtura, a major producer of flame retardants, lubricant additives and synthetics used in the plastics, rubber, colourants and lubricant sectors.

Lanxess has 16,700 employees in 29 countries and 55 production sites world-wide. Acquiring Chemtura products will enable Lanxess to better compete with Lubrizol and flame retardant suppliers Israel Chemicals and Albermarle.

If approved by regulators, the new Lanxess branded business will launch mid 2017. The purchase follows the acquisition last month of Chemours commercial cleaner and disinfectant business.



Watch Those Batteries!

Airline warnings not to use or charge the new Samsung 7 mobile phone in flight have overshadowed new IATA constraints on shipping lithium batteries by air.

IATA is calling for strict enforcement as evidence emerges of consignments being mis-labelled and re-routed to avoid detection, increasing pressure to ban battery consignments on passenger carrying aircraft.

The FAA advises cabin attendants that an overheating lithium-ion phone battery should be immersed in a jug of water or soft drink.



Update: UNRTDG – Chlorine and Ammonia

Ton Tanks / Thomson Drums / One Ton Corrosive Gas Transport Vessels a.k.a. **Big Yellow (Chlorine)** and **Big Grey (Ammonia)** Bullets

The UN Sub-Committee has amended Model Regulations ISO 21172-1:2015 - Gas Cylinders - Welded Steel Pressure Drums up to 3000 Litres Capacity for the Transport of Gases – Design & Construction - Part 1: Capacities up to 1000 Litres. This new Standard no longer allows the container design commonly known as ‘Ton tanks’ or ‘Thompson drums’ for the transport of Corrosives.

Canada, Australia and the United States agreed Thompson drums have a long-standing safety record and should remain as an approved design in the Model Regulations. Given millions of drums have been in use world-wide for decades, common sense prevailed and the proposal was accepted. It is intended to insert a note into the Model Regulations stating Thompson drums **remain approved for use.**

Test and Tag Regime for Portable Electrical Appliances and Flexible Supply Cords



Test and Tag is a widely accepted procedure to deliver not only an electrical safety test but also a visual inspection by a competent person. The definition of a ‘competent person’ remains contentious. To implement this regime for your electrical equipment, ensure your provider is a competent operator able to comprehensively evaluate electrical safety.

Question the Contractor’s qualifications and the work they actually do - and don’t be afraid to watch. You will soon identify a good, technically capable operator.

A comprehensive electrical check involves a physical inspection of the item(s) to confirm ‘fit for purpose and continued use’. This must include safety checks of all machine safety guards as well as the intended use of an electrical item in a specific environment.

Do not accept a lone printout electrical test report. Request a physical inspection report for the item(s), which should include equipment withdrawn from service, together with the reasons.

This 'Test and Tag' process alone will not withstand the 'reasonably practical steps' test. Residual Current Devices (RCD) are a highly regarded safety mechanism which, combined with Test and Tag, go a long way to ensuring personal safety when using the equipment.

Compliance is secondary, whereas individual safety is paramount. Achieve safety first and compliance will follow. Reference: AS/NZS 3760:2010 - In-Service Safety Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment.



Latest EPA Consultation Documents

The EPA is requesting submissions on proposed changes to New Zealand's chemical management regime as part of the changeover to new workplace health and safety legislation. Proposed EPA Notices to streamline the adoption of new chemical management requirements have been issued for consultation.

The draft Notices involved are:

- Classification
- Minimum Degree of Hazard
- Import certification for explosives
- Safety Data Sheets
- Labelling
- Packaging
- Forms and information required in hazardous substances applications

The Notices will enable the EPA to change compliance standards without the prolonged effort required to amend legislation. While acknowledging a more efficient process, chemical suppliers are wary proposed Notices will not receive the wider scrutiny justifying new compliance requirements.

It is therefore critical Industry confirms the acceptability of proposed changes to existing chemical safety performance standards, particularly any implications for 'dumbing down' existing proven Industry best practice for chemical safety, together with future compliance requirements arising from the draft Hazardous Substances Regulations 2017.

The status of existing ACoPs affected by an EPA Notice is not yet clear. In general, chemical suppliers want approved and enforceable performance standards represented by Industry codes to continue and does not support overriding Codes with performance requirements which have not undergone the same rigorous, formal examination by Industry and interested parties.

Submissions close **Friday 14 October 2016**.

Please advise RCNZ ken@responsiblecarenz.com of your views **not later than Wednesday 12 October 2016** to ensure a comprehensive Industry response.



Consultation on ISO Standards

Successful international Industry performance standards depend on the expertise and advice of those most affected. **Your views are important.** Interested parties can register for access to draft AS/NZS Standards.

The latest request concerns Standard Consultation Committee TM-012 Timber Grading and Preservation.

Just follow the Standards Australia process: www.standards.org.au to obtain access to draft AS/NZS Standards, including Technical Committee papers.



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