

WHAT IS AICIS?

The Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 established the Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (AICIS) to regulate the importation and manufacture (introduction) of industrial chemicals in Australia.

AICIS replaced the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) on 1 July 2020. The AICIS regulates chemicals (including polymers) introduced for an industrial use, such as in inks, paints, adhesives, solvents, cosmetics and personal care products, cleaning products, as well as in manufacturing, construction, and mining applications and to promote the safe use of industrial chemicals in order to protect human health and the environment.

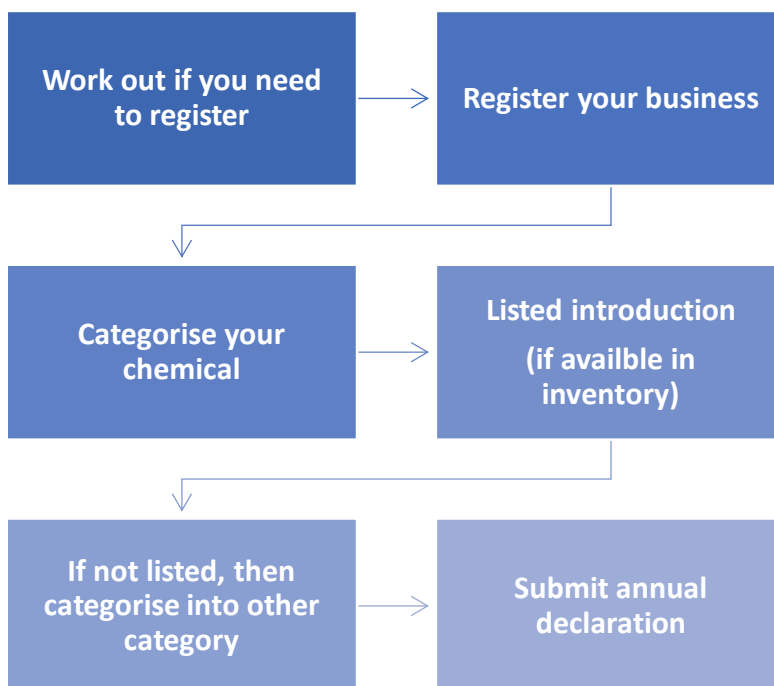
HOW TO COMPLY?

Importers and manufacturers (introducers) of industrial chemicals for commercial purposes need to register their business under this scheme. All industrial chemical introducers must categorise their chemical importation or manufacture (introduction) into the following categories i.e., Listed introduction, exempted introduction, reported introduction, assessed introduction, commercial evaluation before placing into Australian territory.

If the introduction is listed in the Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals (the Inventory), then it is categorized as Listed introduction, and can be placed in the market in complying with the regulatory obligations (if any). If the introduction is not in the listed category, then it must be authorized into any one of the other categories.

ANNUAL DECLARATION

Regardless of introduction category, one must submit an annual declaration at the end of every registration year. This declaration is to make about the industrial chemicals imported or manufactured in the previous registration year and confirms that introductions were authorised under Australian laws.







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Fig. 1: compliance flow chart

Introduction Categories

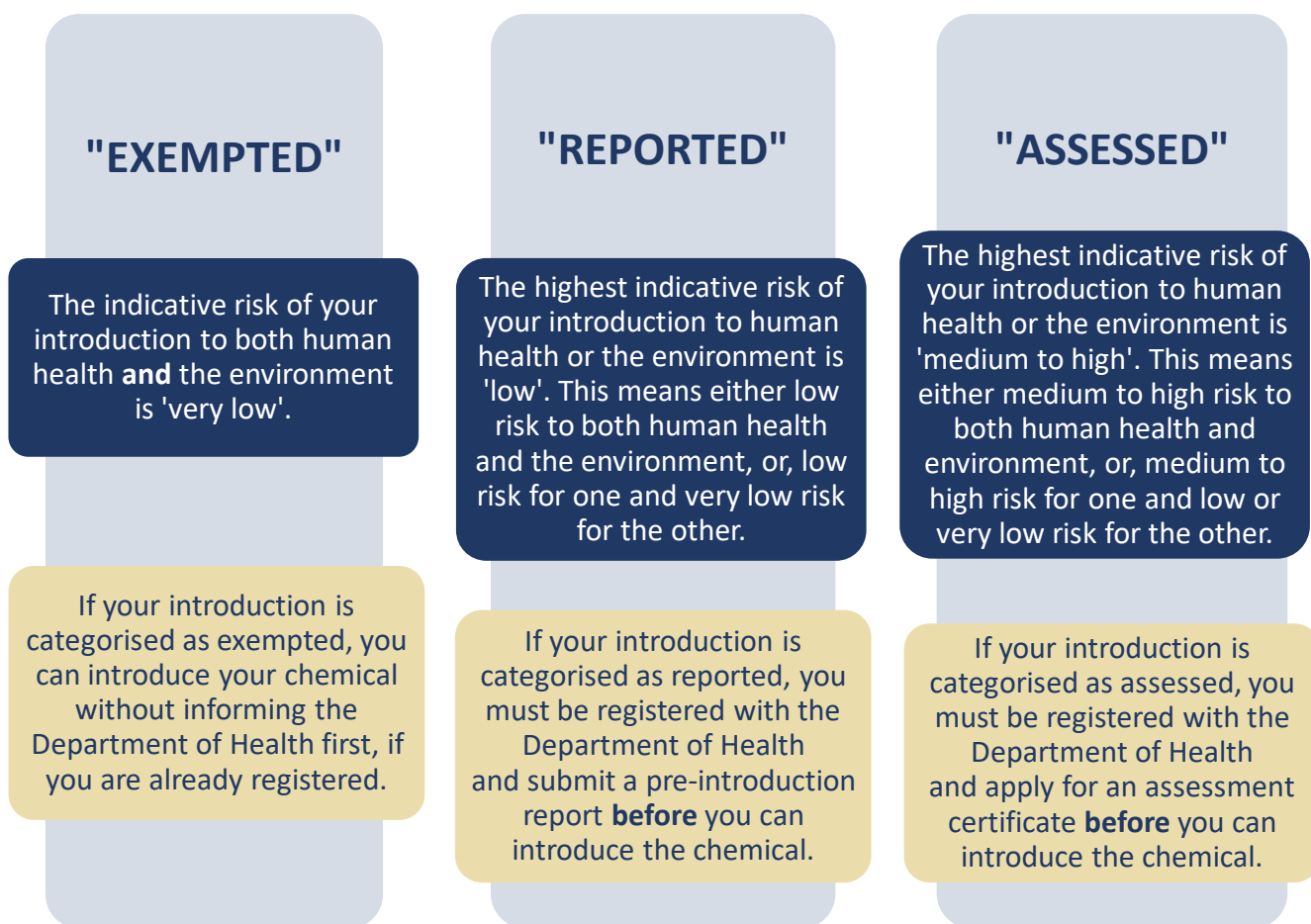


Fig. 2: introduction categories for chemicals regulated under AICIS

OBLIGATIONS FOR NON-AUSTRALIAN INTRODUCERS

It is important for Non-Australian introducers to register their business and meet compliance & reporting requirements for uninterrupted exports to Australia. Australian Registered Business Number (ARBN) is mandatory for the same. Non-Australian introducers can also appoint an Australian agent for compliance requirements if they are unable to obtain Australian Registered Business Number (ARBN). We are glad to inform you that GPC has a legal entity in Australia and can help non-Australian companies to meet their compliance requirements as an Australian agent.

ACTION POINTS:

- Identify the industrial chemical to be placed in the Australian market.
- Check if the industrial chemical is in the inventory.
- If not available inventory, collect technical data with respect to the risks associated for humans and the environment.
- Work out on categorization based on the risk associated.
- Submit annual declaration at the end of registration year (1 September – 31 August each year).
- Keep the records even after the introduction.