



Global Product Compliance *Annual Summary Report 2022*

Australia

Background

The Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (AICIS) was established under the Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 to regulate the importation and manufacture (known as introduction in Australia) of industrial chemicals. The AICIS came into force on 1 July 2020, replacing the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).

The objective of the AICIS is to protect human health and the environment through restriction, regulation, assessment, evaluation, and by managing risks arising due to introduction of industrial chemicals. The AICIS regulates industrial chemicals (including polymers) introduced to Australia, such as in inks, paints, adhesives, and solvents.

This report summarizes key regulatory activities in 2022 and important dates for compliance.

Key news from 2022

Amendments to the Industrial Chemicals Act 2019

Ban on mercury and mercurycontaining products

Australia ratified the Minamata Convention and therefore in March 2022 the Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 was amended regarding mercury.

Due to the amendment, the import and export to Australia of elemental mercury, also known as metallic mercury, is now prohibited.

Read more here.

New rules for introductions of 10 kg or less after consultation

The Industrial Chemicals Act 2019 was amended in December 2022 concerning the introduction (import and manufacture) of volumes of 10 kg or less. The amended rules, Industrial Chemicals (General) Amendment (Introductions of 10 kg or Less) Rules 2022, is a result of a consultation held by the AICIS in October 2022.

The new rules have simpler recordkeeping requirements for introductions of chemicals in volumes lower that 10 kg per year.

Read more <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Establishment of IChEMS

Public consultation on the roadmap and principles for IChEMS

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment held a consultation for the establishment of the Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management Standard (IChEMS). IChEMS is a national approach in Australia to help industry and governments manage the environmental risks of chemicals. Read more.

Updates to AICIS requirements

Chemical registration obligations for organizations

The AICIS clarified that registration may be necessary for organizations such as universities, research institutes, charities, and non-profit organizations that import or manufacture industrial chemicals or products even in small amounts.

Read more here.

Separate post-introduction declarations for exempted chemicals

The AICIS announced that separate post-introduction declarations (PIDs) were to be submitted for exempted chemicals. The exempted chemicals concerned are polymers of low concern (PLCs), low-concern biopolymers and chemicals categorized as very low risk for human health and the environment.

Read more <u>here</u>.

Changes to the Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals (AIIC)

Modified requirements for 1H-1,4,7-triazonine, octahydro-1,4,7-trimethyl-

In a notice published by the AICIS new requirements for the introduction of IH-1,4,7-triazonine, octahydro-1,4,7-trimethyl- (CAS No. 96556-05-7) were given.

Read more here.

New substances added to the Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals

On several occasions throughout the year the AICIS has added new chemicals to the Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals (AIIC). Chemicals are added 5 years after the issuance of the assessment certificates in accordance with Section 82 of the Industrial Chemical Act 2019.

Read more <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>

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Evaluations of chemical use and associated risks

The AICSI has published evaluations of the chemical use and associated risk for 9 chemicals. The evaluations were carried out under section 78 of the Industrial Chemicals Act 2019.

Read more here.

Consultation on draft evaluation statements

As a part of Australia's evaluation roadmap for 2024 and beyond, published in September 2021 and the accompanying rolling action plan for prioritizing chemicals for evaluation, the AICIS has consulted on 18 draft evaluations covering 187 industrial chemicals.

Read more here.

Key dates for 2023

On 1 January 2023 the transition to GHS7 is complete so only GHS7 can be used to classify and label chemicals in Australia.

The deadline for submitting the Annual Declaration for introductions made in the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 is **30 November 2023**.



IDEON Science Park (Beta 5) Scheelevägen 17 223 63 Lund, Sweden



+46 46 211 4615



compliance@gpcregulatory.com



www.gpcregulatory.com (Corporate website)



www.gpcgateway.com (Regulatory Intelligence Portal)



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