



# Bulletin

Occasional information for members

## Institute of Safety in Technology and Research

**NUMBER 39**  
**November 2004**

### CONTENTS

Membership News	2
ISTR Executive Committee 2004/2005	3
Dates for your Diary	3
ISTR Annual General Meeting 2004	3
...and after the AGM	6
Summer Symposium 2004 - Moving matters – Transport in Research and Technology	7
ISTR Executive Committee	8
ISTR Southern Bio-Safety Sub-Group	8
ISTR Award Scheme	8
Current Consultative Documents	10
Operating Civic Amenity Sites	10
National Action to restrict PFOS	11
Revised Guidance for Glass fibre Plastics	11
2004 Report, Air Quality Daughter Directive	11
EU Restrictions of Toulene and Trichlorobenzene	12
ISTR's Electronic interface	12

General enquiries about the Institute should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary:

[istr-secretary@bham.ac.uk](mailto:istr-secretary@bham.ac.uk)

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to the Membership Secretary:

[istr-membershipsecretary@bham.ac.uk](mailto:istr-membershipsecretary@bham.ac.uk)

### 2004 Annual General Meeting Sunny Southampton



Following the AGM we went to Ocean Village Marina to embark on a very enjoyable early evening cruise around Southampton's port and dock facilities along the rivers Itchen and Test. Finally, back in New College, we dined and were entertained by an after dinner speaker, Dennis Beard, the retired director of the Management Unit at the University of Reading Business School. Many thanks to Terry Harrington and the Southampton Safety staff for looking after us so well. See inside for more pictures and for even more pictures and in full colour go to ISTR website.

Earlier, at the AGM, there were the usual annual reports from the Institute's officers and the annual elections for the honorary posts of Secretary and Treasurer returned the previous incumbents unopposed. However, there could be an election for Treasurer in 2005 as Stuart Thompson draws to a close his university career. Any volunteers? A final proposal for the ISTR Award scheme was presented to The AGM – see inside for details.

# A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to another issue of the *Bulletin*. The *Bulletin* is a service to and for members. In this issue you will find news of members, details of forthcoming *ISTR* activities, reports of recent meetings a summary of Executive Committee business. If you have any item that may be of interest to other members please let me know.

**From time to time, as a further service to members, advertising material may be enclosed with the *Bulletin* but this does not necessarily mean that the *ISTR* endorses the particular products.**

**The *ISTR* is not responsible for individual views expressed in the *Bulletin*.**

The *Bulletin* is edited by: Dr FJ Young, Health and Safety Unit, The University of Birmingham EMail [f.j.young@bham.ac.uk](mailto:f.j.young@bham.ac.uk)

---

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### ***The Institute has admitted the following into membership***

Further details may be found in the updated, on-line version of *ISTR Members' Handbook 2002* in the members' only section of the *ISTR* website.

#### **Full Members:**

Mrs EJ Cameron, Mrs L Coulston, Mr C Deacy, Mr JP Emmines, Mr S Fisher, Ms A Hallam, Dr R O'Connor, Mrs KA Shipley, Dr KW Tibbles, Ms HM Toll and Dr EP Walsh

#### **Associate Members:**

Dr VM Mann and Dr CJR Thomas

#### **Upgrade to Full Member**

Dr AJ White.

---

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to the Membership Secretary: [istr-membershipsecretary@bham.ac.uk](mailto:istr-membershipsecretary@bham.ac.uk)



## ISTR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2004/2005

Mr RM (**Rob**) **Wood**, (*Chairman*),  
Health and Safety Manager  
University of Lincoln

Mrs HS (**Heather**) **Sheeley**, (*Vice-Chair*)  
Head of Safety,  
Centre for Applied Microbiological Research,  
Health Protection Agency,  
Porton Down

Dr AR (**Arthur**) **Mitchell**, (*Secretary*)  
MRC Regional Health and Safety Co-ordinator,  
University Medical School,  
Edinburgh

Mr D (**David**) **Heath**, (*Events Secretary*)  
Safety Adviser,  
Zenecca Agrochemicals,  
Jealott's Hill Research Station

Dr JS (**Stuart**) **Thompson**, (*Treasurer*)  
Biological Safety Officer,  
Health and Safety Services,  
University of Manchester

Mr MA (**Mark**) **Cheshire**, (*Membership Secretary*),  
Head of Safety Services,  
University of Bristol

Mrs MP (**Marion**) **Murphy**

Dr FJ (**Fred**) **Young**, (*Bulletin Editor*)(*Co-opted*)  
Health and Safety Adviser,  
The University of Birmingham

Mr DH (**David**) **Watson**, (*Co-opted*)  
University Safety Officer,  
University of Hull



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **Skills Development Workshop Winter 2005**

"Measuring and Monitoring for Safety" - an instrument skills update for the average safety practitioner is being planned for late February/early March 2005 at the University of Birmingham Conference Park.

The workshop will benefit generalist safety professionals to update their knowledge and skills in workplace measuring and monitoring in laboratories, workshops and offices in science and technology centres. It will not be designed for specialist hygienists.

Subjects covered will include what can the generalist reasonably be expected to do; calibration requirements what to measure, what are the standards. Demonstrations and practical work using latest instruments, will be followed by a session on interpretation of results

### **2005 AGM and Symposium**

The 2005 AGM and symposium will be held in Edinburgh at the John McIntyre Centre and Holland House in the shadow of Arthur's Seat. The AGM will take place on 5 July. The theme of the symposium on the 6 July will be Emergent technologies - Novel risks.

For more information contact the Events Secretary: [istr-eventssecretary@bham.ac.uk](mailto:istr-eventssecretary@bham.ac.uk)

---

## ISTR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2004

The Institute's Annual General Meeting took place at the University of Southampton on 6 July, and followed the Agenda sent to all members in advance of the meeting.



# HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

## 1. Executive Committee Meetings

Since the last AGM the executive committee has met five times. The meetings were held in Lincoln (October 8<sup>th</sup> 2003), Birmingham (December 8<sup>th</sup> 2003 and March 4<sup>th</sup> 2004), Manchester (April 28<sup>th</sup> 2004) and Southampton (6<sup>th</sup> July 2004). The committee deals with deciding upon topics for symposia and meetings and the administration of the organisation.

One major consideration for any meeting is obviously cost. ISTR like other organisations now find that where in the past it was possible to hold meetings at extremely favourable rates this is becoming more and more difficult to achieve. Institutions such as Universities and Research councils now have professional arms dealing with the organisation of meetings and symposia. Your committee is already aware that running costs are increasing and that future meetings will cost more to organise. We are in a fortunate position at the present time with a healthy financial balance as the Treasurer has pointed out in his report. The responsibility of the committee to select attractive topics as subject matters for future symposia and meetings becomes all the more important. Members also have a key role to play in this process and it is really important for members to come forward with suggestions for meeting topics. I like the other committee members would encourage members to contact any executive member with subject areas for meetings. The committee has asked Marion Murphy to look at sponsorship of certain meetings. This is a venture aired at last year's AGM and hopefully the symposium this November will see the first fruits of Marion's work in this direction. Sponsorship of certain events may allow the meetings fees for these events to be held at a reasonable level.

## 2. Membership

Mark Cheshire (Bristol University) is our Membership Secretary and the committee would like to thank Mark for the work he does on behalf of ISTR.

Information from Mark indicates that we have,  
138 Members  
40 Associate  
2 Fellows  
23 Retired

18 new members / associates and 1 upgrade have been approved since the July AGM last year.

## 3. Symposia and Skills Development Workshops

David Heath acts as the co-ordinator for these events.

A great deal of hard work goes into making these meetings successful. David's work ensures that all our meetings run smoothly and efficiently and it is a pleasure to record our thanks for all his efforts.

The loss of the motor cycle museum by a serious fire only weeks before our November symposium (18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>) led to a change to the "Windmill Hotel" complex at Birmingham. The Bio-safety subgroup held their first meeting on day two and was well attended and from feedback extremely successful. Dr Paul Jackett, Mrs Heather Sheeley and Dr Stuart Thompson were the main organisers. It is a pleasure to record our thanks to this team for their efforts and also to congratulate them on the success of the meeting.

In response to the wishes of last year's AGM ISTR members now have reduced meeting fees relative to non-members attending the same meeting.

## 4. Bulletin and WWW Home Page

Dr Fred Young ensures that the bulletin is published and that our Web site is maintained. Symposia and Meetings that have been organised and the responses ISTR have made to consultation documents are all included in the bulletin. Much of this work goes on "behind the scenes" and ISTR is fortunate to have Fred working for us in this capacity. The executive committee would like to record their appreciation of the work undertaken by Fred.

## 5. Correspondence

I put this paragraph in last year's AGM and it is reproduced here without any apologies. ISTR are asked for and make responses to consultation documents from time to time. Details of our responses are within the bulletin. The committee would like to encourage more members of ISTR to actively participate in putting together responses to consultation documents. Fred has publicised this in the recent bulletin. Having the names of individuals willing to help in this way would enable ISTR to respond more quickly to consultation requests. Many such requests have relatively short response times.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee for the support they have given to me over the last year.



*Arthur Mitchell*



## HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

The Hon. Treasurer reported an excess of expenditure over income of £2155 compared with last year's loss of £492.

Subscription income was up by £504 following another successful campaign to collect arrears from lapsed members. This relied on using our database to generate mail merge letters for delivery by E-mail. Your Treasurer was pleasantly surprised by the extent and rapidity of responses to reminders delivered by E-mail which have the added advantage of saving time and incurring no mailing costs for the sender. As he has received no adverse comments about this method of billing, he is minded to send all the autumn 2004 subscription invoices by this route.

The November Symposium showed a profit of £2979 compared with a profit of £1150 in the preceding year. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to cancel the March skills workshop, thereby incurring a loss of £1747. Compare this with a loss of £596 on the previous year's event which reflected the Institute's policy in recent years of subsidising the Skills Workshop by up to £1000. The year 2003 annual conference in Cardiff made a loss of £615 compared with a loss of £503 for the 2002 annual conference held in Durham. The manner in which the above figures for profits and losses on events are presented have been changed. Previously, they have placed insufficient emphasis on significant debits or credits attributable to individual events which occur outside the year in which the events themselves take place. The figures above are best estimates of the overall profit or loss made by a particular event irrespective of the financial year in which event-related transactions took place. Similar event summaries now appear in the notes to the Institute's Accounts and Balance

Sheet. They reflect the Executive Committee's response to members' requests to improve the transparency of the Annual Accounts.

Expenditure on "administration" increased to £5235 from £4634. There has also been a further increase in the cost of liability insurance despite the committee's attempts to obtain better value from an alternative source. Once again this year, we have experienced the unwillingness of employers of members of the Executive to fund their committee-related travel and subsistence to the same extent as in the past - this is inevitably reflected in increased administrative costs.

Nevertheless, the capital reserve remains reasonably robust. Since moving our bank accounts in the spring of 2002, we have found our local business manager to be very helpful. With his help, we negotiated with the Inland Revenue to establish our right to receive interest free of tax. He also arranged for us to keep our spare funds in a High Interest Deposit Bond. Although interest net of charges decreased from £431 last year to £322 in the current year, most of this decrease will be wiped out by a refund we received that will appear in the next set of accounts. We have therefore suffered very little during the period of low interest rates which now appears to be at an end.

The Treasurer summarised the current finances of the Institute as remaining in a healthy state and recommended that subscription rates remain at their current level.



*Stuart Thompson*



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The pace of the Institute has not slowed at all over the past year and the executive committee have continued to be very supportive and keen in the running of the Institute. My thanks go to them all for their hard work. I would particularly like to thank David Heath for all his work and the way that he has overcome obstacles (like the fire at the Motorcycle Museum) and just taken them in his stride.

The first internal joint event took place in November 2003 (with a last minute change of venue) with the ISTR main body and the Bio Safety Groups joint autumn seminar. It was a huge success and promises an interesting future in this area of technology and research safety. My thanks here go

also to Paul Jackett and his colleagues who put together an absolutely excellent day that encouraged an attendance well in excess of our normal meetings.

The joint event theme is being developed further for the coming November symposium where we will be running a joint event with and hosted by a major company as well as the Bio Safety Groups, where the theme will be on laboratory design for the first day and concentrating on biological safety issues to a programme organised by the Northern Biological Safety Officers Group.

The HASNET-ISTR discussion group has only seen occasional activity, probably because many members

raise their issues through the main HASNET discussion group, but it is useful to get opinions from the wider participation available through the ISTR pages.



At the last AGM we agreed to develop an award to be presented to ISTR members that have made a significant contribution to the subject area, and the

final draft of the proposal is placed before you today.

Overall, I think, an excellent year's work by all concerned and again I would like to thank the committee, the speakers, the organisers of events and most of all the members of the Institute for their contributions and support.

On a final note, Stuart Thompson has indicated that he will be retiring from the post of Treasurer at the next AGM, so we will need someone to step in to his shoes— some advance notice if anyone is interested. In the meantime I am sure that Stuart will continue to be as careful with your money as ever, and I am sure that we would all like to thank him for that.

*Robert Wood*

---

## ELECTIONS

**Elections for the honorary officers' posts of Treasurer and Secretary** are held annually. As there was only one nomination for each of the posts Dr Stuart Thompson, Honorary Treasurer, and

Dr Arthur Mitchell, Honorary Secretary, were declared elected.

There were no **Executive Committee** vacancies this time.

### ...and after the AGM

While there may have been a port at the point where the Rivers Itchen and Test meet and combine into Southampton Water since Roman times, the dock and quay developments along the rivers date from the mid nineteenth century. Until the mid-twentieth century up to half of the UK's ocean-going passenger traffic and millions of tons of cargo passed through Southampton. New dock development on reclaimed land and old dock refurbishment still goes on today and, of course, there has been a huge growth in leisure developments.



Retired lightship, high and dry



Our cruise vessel, Ocean Scene



Looking out into the River Itchen



Wind turbine blades awaiting shipment



Top heavy container ship



Top light car transporter



Sleek military transport



New household waste incinerator, guarded against seagulls by a giant stainless steel mesh canopy.



The new University Oceanography Centre, bristling with fume discharge stacks



After dinner fun

## MOVING MATTERS – TRANSPORT IN RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

ISTR SYMPOSIUM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON, 7 JULY 2004

*David Heath, ISTR Events Secretary, has produced the following account of the symposium proceedings (members may download presentations from the ISTR Members' web page)*

The annual Symposium was held in New College, attended by 48 delegates.

### Key Legislation

Bob Meldrum, HSE Principal Inspector, Education, Basingstoke.

Bob Meldrum gave a presentation on HSE regulations and the current status of the transport initiative, started in 2002. He stressed all the initiatives in revitalising health and safety can only be tackled by employers supported by HSE and other stakeholders.

Workplace transport is no different to any other activity – it requires identification of the hazards and management of the risks. Principal hazards are pedestrian / vehicle incidents, falls from vehicles, musculo-skeletal disorders for drivers and overturning vehicles. When assessing risk, the assessment may be generic for similar situations, specific for a particular case and dynamic for an 'on the spot' situation. Assessment of on-site layouts need to look as segregation of pedestrians, crossings, parking, blind bends, one way systems. Vehicles should be suitable for use, maintained and fitted with such aids (eg reversing alarms) as needed. Drivers should be health assessed for the job, receive appropriate additional training (eg tight space manoeuvring, loading deliveries)

## Road traffic laws

Guy Rippon, Hampshire Police Traffic Division

Guy Rippon talked about the road traffic act, as it may affect Universities and Research based employers. Of particular concern should be the use of 'minibuses' by University staff and volunteers, for off site trips as part of the syllabus and extra mural activities. Vehicles need to be maintained in a roadworthy manner, but who is actually arranging this? Students are adults so they are responsible for using seat belts. The individual student pays an 'on the spot' fine if spotted not wearing a seat belt. In future the DVLA will make drivers licence records available so that employers can check for penalty points.

## On site/campus transport

David Veale, Safety Officer, University of Warwick

With the multimedia projectors proving difficult to operate, David Veale resorted to OHP's for his presentation on 'on site transport'. He described the problems of the University of Warwick main campus. The University has a set of rules to regulate driving and parking and a transport policy. But from the entrance to campus, David highlighted problems, with multiple confusing signs, many different car parks, narrow roads and sharp bends. Traffic calming measures are used and cyclists are segregated to some extent. On-site vehicles are varied, from security to hospitality to estates utility vehicles. These all have to be 'fit for purpose'. Just as on the public highway, construction traffic and roadworks have to be managed with correct signage. Deliveries from suppliers also have to be managed and main routes kept clear for emergency vehicles. University drivers receive specialised training if needed and must have the appropriate licence and be fit to drive.

To sum up, David recognised that Warwick campus is continually changing and so maintaining on site transport safety is a never-ending task.

## Driving policies, driver training, risk assessment, travel planning

David Waddington, Safety Manager, BT

David Waddington described the approach of BT to occupational road risk, with a fleet of 45,00 vans and 60,000 drivers (vital to the success of BT). With the BT logo on every vehicle it is important for them to be driven properly, accident damage does not imbue confidence. Managing risk starts with a policy, based on legal compliance with the Highway Code, licenced drivers with legal vehicles and realistic driving schedules to minimise fatigue. Organisational controls are based on a partnership between the employee, manager and Company. To control costs and manage risk they have introduced a driver assessment programme to target the high-risk drivers. Monitoring and review relies on accident investigation, with employee involvement and sharing experience .

## Transport of hazardous materials, on and off site - latest regulations

Roy Boneham

Roy Boneham gave an overview of the regulatory system for the transport of dangerous goods, by road, air, rail and sea. He described the requirements to comply with the latest road transport regulations which came into force on 10 May. This brings the UK into line with the ADR and RID European regulations. The regulations are complex but there is a guide. As a result, some thresholds for dangerous substances for inclusion under the regulations have been lowered. Also because of the reduced thresholds employers may need to appoint a Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser (DGSA). Roy stressed that members of staff who are involved with the transport of dangerous goods receive formal training which should be updated every 2 years, to coincide with the legislation reviews.

The regulations cover the classification, identification, containment, marking and labelling, segregation loading and stowage, documentation and transport of dangerous goods. Looking ahead, the UN are likely to revise the regulations every 2 years, so compliance will prove to be challenging.

## Symposium Workshops

After lunch the delegates split into two groups attending both workshops in turn.

### Design of new stores delivery area

Led by Robert Naylor-Staples, Architect

A principal aim was to segregate vehicles from pedestrians. Other issues considered were emergency access, building works etc. Robert Naylor-Staples dealt with layouts at a number of sites and again delegates in groups were asked to review the existing arrangements and devise improvements for deliveries and pedestrian segregation. A summary can be found on the member's page

### Risk assessment for an overseas field trip

Led by Marion Murphy, Health and Safety Consultant

This was a transport risk assessment of a field trip taking a party of students to Spain. Split into groups the delegates were asked to consider the who, what, where and how. A summary can be found on the member's page on the website



# ISTR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee has met at The University of Southampton in July 2004 and the University of Manchester in September 2004. The following is a summary of the matters considered.

## **ISTR Logo and Bulletin Header page**

Work is still in hand to obtain readily reproduceable and scaleable computer images.

## **AGM/Symposium, 2005**

Venue confirmed, John McIntyre Centre, University of Edinburgh, 5/6 July 2005. Accommodation will be in

Holland House in the shadow of Arthur's Seat. The theme for the symposium will be Emergent technologies-Novel risks.

## **Skills Development Workshop 2005**

Topic for a workshop February/March 2004 is "Measuring for Safety". The workshop will benefit generalist safety professionals to update their knowledge and skills in workplace measuring and monitoring in laboratories, workshops and offices in science and technology centres. It will not be designed for specialist hygienists.

---

---

## ISTR SOUTHERN BIO-SAFETY SUB-GROUP

*Heather Sheeley writes.* A very successful meeting was held at the Health Protection Agency site at Porton Down. Twenty five people attended from all over the southern area and we were please to welcome members of the Biotechnology Unit at HSE. Unfortunately no-one from NATSCO or DEFRA were able to attend. The meeting opened with a historical look at the biosafety measures employed during tests and clean up that occurred at Gruinard Island. Topics discussed included DSEAR risk assessment in the biology laboratory, the HSE Guidance document

Managing Biological Risks and this led into a deeper discussion on consultation, application of registration fees, conflicting advice and incompatibly regulatory requirements. This discussion covered Human Tissue licence fees, import of tissues under DEFRA license, GM licensing and changes to licensing of clinical waste disposal. Also raised was changes to security guidance and list of agents/radiological. Following lunch there were tours of containment level 4 cabinet line, bulk nitrogen cell storage, and contained cell sorter.

---

---

## ISTR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SAFETY IN TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

This award is given in recognition of the effort and success of a named member who has, in the view of the Executive Committee, made a significant contribution to safety in the field of technology, science or research through a publication, scheme, device, campaign, training material or other.

### **The Award**

The award will comprise of a plaque and a small monetary award agreed by the executive from the Institute funds.

The award will be presented to any or all of the nominations that the executive considers meet the criteria at the AGM following nomination. An individual member or a group of the membership can make nominations. If no nominations are forthcoming for any particular year, or if the committee feels that no nomination has met the criteria then no award will be made that year.

### **Criteria**

The recipient must be a current member (any grade) of ISTR

- The results or end product are disseminated to other members or beyond
- It is an example of best practice or addresses a new problem or addresses a need
- It must be the nominees' own work or in a declared collaboration

### **The process**

Nominations may be received by the executive at any time and will be considered at a meeting prior to the AGM. The nomination must be in writing detailing:

- the initiator,
- contribution description,
- and awardee(s).

Where possible the contribution itself should be available to the Committee.

Nominations may come from other members, groups of members or the individual themselves. Nominees will be informed by the committee of their nomination and allowed to submit additional information.

Weighting/Merit will be given to nominations that have:

- Broad application (e.g. multidiscipline, applicable in a range of organisations, etc.)
- Availability to other members (e.g. is not restricted to the originating organisation, is not prohibitively expensive, etc.)
- Ease of Use (e.g. does not require prolonged or very specialist training before use)

- An effect (e.g. item, procedure, etc.) that truly addresses an issue (e.g. not just a review of literature)
- Personal effort required to produce said contribution (e.g. not a commercially available solution that has been subject to minor 'tweaks')
- Novel and innovative approaches or solutions

---

---

## Current Consultative Documents

The Executive Committee organises formal responses from the ISTR to Consultative Documents (CD's) put out by the Health and Safety Commission, etc. Each such response is intended to be based on the views of the membership co-ordinated by identified individuals. These co-ordinators need to have expertise in a particular area of interest to the *Institute* because the timescales for responses to CD's is sometimes very short and there may be little opportunity for further consultation with the membership.

If you are willing to act in this capacity of "CD" co-ordinator for ISTR please contact Arthur Mitchell, Hon. Sec., and indicate the topic area you have the expertise to cover.

### Volunteers are needed NOW for the following.

The documents may be downloaded from the web addresses provided.

---

### Health and Safety Commission REGULATION AND RECOGNITION – TOWARDS GOOD PERFORMANCE IN HEALTH AND SAFETY

This consultation document explores ways to improve standards of work related health and safety. It looks at the methods the main regulatory bodies, the Health and Safety Executive and Local Authorities, use to influence employers and others who have legal duties. Some of these methods are tried and tested, some are less so. The HSC wants your views on the best mix to use; whether to give recognition to good

performance; and how to make the most of the resources of HSE, LAs, employers and others who share its aim. That aim is to achieve ***“workplace health and safety that leads the world”***

**Closing date for comments** 24 December 2004  
[<http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd-interventions.htm>]

---

### Health and Safety Commission OPERATING CIVIC AMENITY SITES SAFELY

This draft discussion document has **not yet been agreed** as representing good practice by either the Health and Safety Executive or the Waste Industry Safety and Health (WISH) forum. Its status remains that of a **discussion document** until comments and suggestions have been received, adopted and agreed.

some of the **key** health and safety risks associated with designing and operating a civic amenity site. It does not aim to be comprehensive. The risks associated with a site, and the methods of reducing those risks, should be revealed during risk assessment.

**Closing date for comments** 21 January 2005  
[<http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/disdocs/civic.pdf>]

The draft guidance explains how you can reduce

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

## **PROPOSED NATIONAL ACTION TO RESTRICT THE USE OF PERFLUOROOCTANE SULPHONATE (PFOS) AND SUBSTANCES THAT DEGRADE TO PFOS**

PFOS has been demonstrated to be a chemical of high concern as it meets the criteria of persistence, bioaccumulation and toxicity. As a national initiative the UK has conducted a risk reduction strategy for PFOS and substances that degrade to it following European guidance as laid out under the Existing Substances Regulation Technical Guidance Document. It is hoped that our actions will help to inform any subsequent EU action.

This followed 3M's (a major global producer of PFOS based in the United States) announcement that the company would phase-out the manufacture of PFOS voluntarily from 2001 onwards. Shortly after this announcement, several OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries agreed to informally work together to collect

information on PFOS for the purpose of conducting a hazard assessment. The UK and US jointly agreed, via OECD, to work together on a hazard assessment. The US worked on human health and the UK on environment. This hazard assessment was completed and subsequently endorsed (late 2002) by OECD. The hazard assessment concluded that the presence and persistence of PFOS in the environment, combined with its toxicity and bioaccumulation potential indicated a cause for concern to the environment and human health. It has also been found widely in blood samples.

**Closing date for comments** 25 January 2005  
[<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/pfos/index.htm>]

---

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

## **REVISED PROCESS GUIDANCE NOTES FOR THE FIBRE-REINFORCED PLASTIC PROCESSES**

Guidance for polymerisation or co-polymerisation of pre-formulated resins or gel coats containing unsaturated hydrocarbons.

The Local Authority Unit (LAU) at the Environment Agency have revised the PG note for the Fibre-Reinforced Plastic Processes sector in consultation with technical working groups, including trade association organisations, local authorities and operators. Those previously consulted, together with wider interests, are being invited to comment on the final drafts of the notes, which emerged from the LAU.

The Process Guidance (PG) notes provide technical guidance on the conditions appropriate for the control

of emissions into air from certain industrial processes regulated by local authorities (also known as "Part B" processes/installations). The BATNEEC/BAT guidance notes will be issued as statutory guidance under s7(11) of Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990, Regulation 37 of The Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) and Regulation 24 of The Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2000

**Closing date for comments** 22 December 2004

[<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/pgnotes-resins/index.htm>]

---

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

## **DRAFT UK REPORT REGARDING PLANS AND PROGRAMMES TO ACHIEVE LIMIT VALUES SET BY THE FIRST AIR QUALITY DAUGHTER DIRECTIVE (2004 REPORTING YEAR)**

This consultation paper seeks views on the UK Government's and Devolved Administrations' report to the European Commission on Plans and Programmes to meet the ambient air quality limit values for pollutants set under the First Air Quality Daughter Directive (1999/30/EC), produced in accordance with requirements under the Air Quality Framework Directive (1996/62/EC).

The First Daughter Directive sets binding limit values for nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide, particulate matter, and lead, to be met by various dates between 2001 and 2010 by all Member States.

Under the Directive, Member States are required to report to the Commission each year whether or not the limit values set in the Directive have been

achieved. Here is the consultation and draft report for the 2004 reporting year:

**Closing date for comments** 22 December 2004

[<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/air-1daughter2004/index.htm>]

---

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**  
**PROPOSAL FOR THE 28TH AMENDMENT TO COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 76/769/EEC - RELATING TO THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE MARKETING AND USE OF TOLUENE AND TRICHLOROBENZENE**

This consultation document relates to Directive 76/769/EEC which harmonises Member States' controls over the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances. The Commission proposal will restrict the placing on the market and use of toluene as a substance or constituent of preparations in a concentration equal or higher than 0.1% by mass in adhesives and spray paints intended for sale to the general public. It is proposed to restrict the marketing

and use of trichlorobenzene as a substance or constituent of preparations in a concentration equal or higher than 0.1% by mass for all uses except as an intermediate.

**Closing date for comments** 3 December 2004

[<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/tcb-toluene/index.htm>]

---

## ISTR's ELECTRONIC INTERFACE



### Bulletin

Whilst this copy of the ISTR Bulletin has been posted to you, an electronic version in Adobe Acrobat pdf format and in colour can be downloaded from the member's only section of the ISTR web site:  
<http://www.istr.bham.ac.uk/members/cmam.htm>



### HAZNET-ISTR Email Discussion List



This is a closed email discussion list. That is, only ISTR members are given access to it. Members need do nothing; members are automatically added to the list by the Membership Secretary using the email

address supplied by the member. Queries about HAZNET-ISTR should be addressed to the Membership Secretary (Mark Cheshire, see page 2 for contact details).

The Executive Committee would like to see members make a lot more use of HAZNET-ISTR



### Communication with Members



Do we have your correct details? The Executive Committee will increasingly use email as a rapid and efficient means of communicating with the Membership. It is vital, therefore, that you notify [istr-membershipsecretary@bham.ac.uk](mailto:istr-membershipsecretary@bham.ac.uk) without delay if your email address changes. Email is the best way to do this because your message will confirm the correct form of your email address.

**ISTR on the World Wide Web: <http://www.istr.bham.ac.uk/>**