

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Placarding vs the GHS	2
SDS Database Updates: The Never Ending Cycle	3
Designated Terms in ChemAlert	3
ChemAlert Pro User Tips	3
Need an Extra Hand?	3
About Alerts in ChemAlert	4
New Staff Profile: Lynsey	4
Scientific Support	4
New on the ChemAlert News Module	4
The Facts About Hazardous Chemicals Registers	5
New Zealand Clients Now Call For Free	5
ChemAlert Training Update	5
Shellshock No Problem	5
Getting Your SDS Out There	6
New Staff Profile: Michael	6
Use Your Account Manager	6
Answering All Your ChemAlert Questions	6

ChemAlert v4.1 Coming in 2015

By Brad Cobb, ChemAlert Product Manager

2015 will see the first major new release of ChemAlert in two years with version 4.1, which is set to provide some significant benefits. So from now until the unveiling, we'll be giving you some idea of what to expect.

We know you're all asking yourselves... how much will this cost and will it be worth the effort to upgrade? Well you'll be pleased to know the upgrade from v4.0x to v4.1 is absolutely free. Of course there will be a small amount of retraining required but v4.1 is so easy and intuitive that existing users won't find it hard to pick up. Plus we'll be announcing special-rate upgrade training packages later in the year and eLearning will be available at the release date so you can start getting up to speed before you make the leap.

Will it be worth it?... We're pretty confident you're going to love what v4.1 has to offer. In fact it will change the way you work.

The first thing you'll notice is the look and feel. ChemAlert 4.0 introduced a new interface which was limited to the search

module, but 4.1 takes this look all the way with a clean, intuitive and touch-friendly experience to better support tablets and smart phones, allowing you to take ChemAlert away from your desktop and out to where you really need it.

The major new feature in version 4.1 is the completely overhauled Stock Module. With simple, tile based navigation you can slip easily between sections. There are two new sections. The *Site Manager* section allows you to set *Site Rules* governing the quantities and locations of chemicals, and in the *Stock Reports* section you can generate detailed stock reports in the background while you carry on with your other ChemAlert tasks.

Improvements to the *Stock Register* and *Stock Holding* sections include a choice of *List* or *Tile* views which are easily sorted and filtered with a single tap. Managing your chemical stock has never been so easy.

Stay tuned for more of what to expect from ChemAlert v4.1 in 2015.

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for 'Stock' management. The title bar reads 'Stock' and 'ChemAlert stock management and reports'. Below the title bar are four main sections, each with an icon and a brief description:

- Stock Register**: Manage the central listing of all products that are used. (Categorized as 'IMPROVED SECTIONS')
- Stock Holding**: Manage the storage location of the products on-site and the maximum storage capacity. (Categorized as 'IMPROVED SECTIONS')
- Site Manager**: Manage site hierarchy and site properties. (Categorized as 'BRAND NEW SECTIONS')
- Stock Reports**: Generate various types of stock reports. (Categorized as 'BRAND NEW SECTIONS')

Chemical structures are visible in the background of the interface, including O=C-H and C-C.



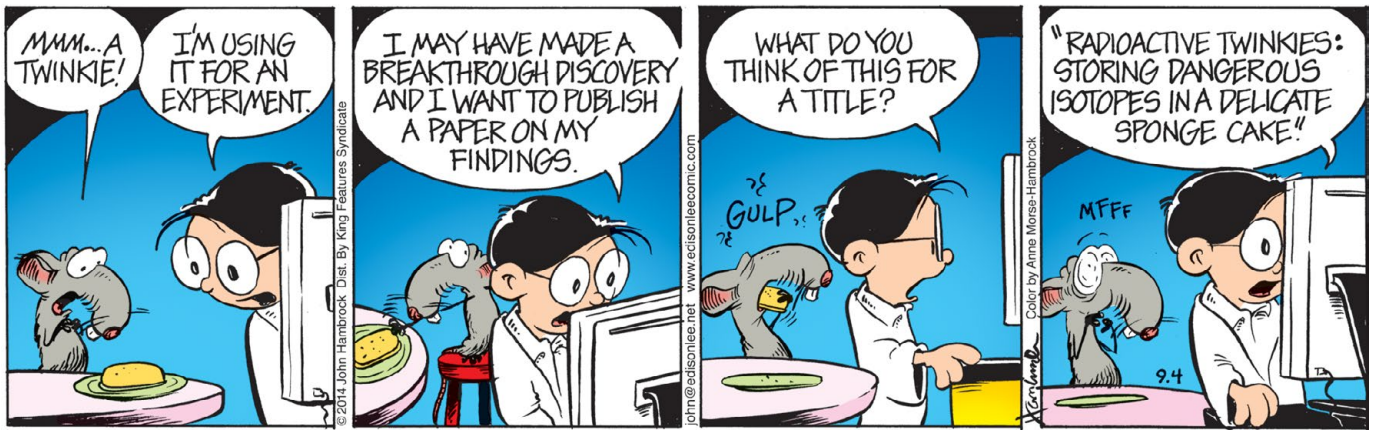
Australia: 1800 555 477
New Zealand: 0800 889 225

ChemAlert is developed and supported by

RMT
RISK MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES



Quality System
Quality Endorsed Company
ISO 9001 Lic13191



Whilst GHS labelling may, at times, be considered a little excessive, it is surely better than no labelling at all!

Placarding vs the GHS

By Vince Pacecca,
Chief Scientific Officer

As you may be aware, the ChemAlert team has undertaken a significant, four year review of all products in ChemAlert to ensure GHS classifications are included. We are very glad we didn't leave it too late for many reasons.

Schedule 11, unless you decided to classify yourself or, of course, use ChemAlert. If your product is manufactured in Victoria, you may never have GHS classifications applied by manufacturers.

apply a placard. Hence, in accordance with the strict requirements of Schedule 11, Dichloromethane does not require a Dangerous Goods Class 6.1 placard for storage, at any volume.



Above: Dangerous Goods Diamonds

In particular because the placarding requirement is now to reference GHS classifications in accordance with the WHS Regulations (Schedule 11), and not Dangerous Goods classes as was previously the case.

For example, previously the storage of greater than 250Kg/L of a Dangerous Goods Class 8 (Corrosive), Packing Group II, required a Placard. This is now equivalently referred to in the WHS Regulations (Schedule 11) as Skin Corrosion (H314), Category 1B, and requires a placard at quantities exceeding 250 Kg/L.

There are a number of issues to be aware of under the new placarding requirements, some of which are addressed in the following four points:

1. Despite referring to GHS classifications, the placards to be displayed remain the Dangerous Goods diamonds, and not GHS pictograms.
2. The large majority of products have not been reviewed by manufacturers for GHS, making it almost impossible to placard in accordance with

3. The WHS requirements assume total correlation between any GHS and Dangerous Goods classifications assigned to a product. Whilst in theory this should always be the case, in practice, I can assure you, that it is absolutely not so. Take the case of Dichloromethane. According to the ADG Code, Dichloromethane is classified as a Dangerous Goods Class 6.1, Packing Group III (UN1593). The previous assessment against Dangerous Goods would have placarding required when stored in quantities greater than 1000 Kg/L. However, when Dichloromethane is assessed for GHS, even the best experts (including Safe Work Australia's own database), do not classify Dichloromethane with the equivalent H301 and/or H311 and/or H331 (Toxic) classifications required to

4. Whilst Placard (Schedule 11) refers to GHS classifications, Major Hazard Facilities (Schedule 15) continues to refer to Dangerous Goods classes, when both relate to storage.

What is ChemAlert doing about this?

We've been in consultation with Safe Work Australia about our findings. They have been most receptive to our concerns and we will keep you informed of any resulting change to Schedule 11. ChemAlert v4.1 will also offer a new placarding report providing for Schedule 11 requirements as they currently apply. As mentioned, fortunately the ChemAlert database has been largely assessed for GHS ensuring a meaningful report can be generated!

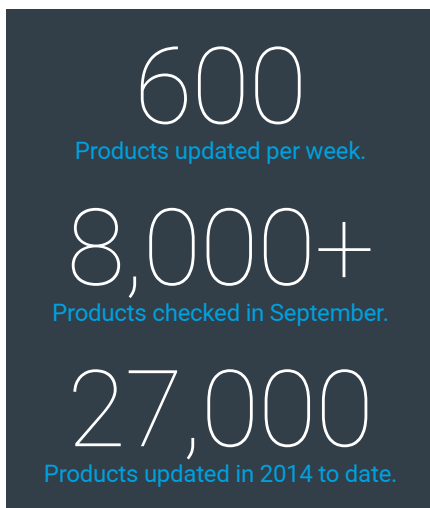
If you have any concerns about this, or want clarity on the Schedule 11 placarding requirements, please contact me directly at vincep@rmt.com.au.



Above: GHS Pictograms

SDS Database Updates: The Never Ending Cycle

By Sonja Simpson, Scientific Services Advisor / SDS Coordinator



These are some of the key statistics that illustrate just how much work goes into maintaining the vast database of chemical products that is at the heart of ChemAlert. Over 27,000 products have been updated in the ChemAlert database so far this year. That's 600+ per week, and more than half of those were products with outdated SDSs (ie past the compliance limit of five years old). In September alone over 8,000 SDSs were checked and 2,300+ updated in our continuous process of ensuring that ChemAlert users always have access to the latest SDSs available.

Statistics in this article are current as at 29/10/2014.

AIQH 2014 MELBOURNE

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENISTS INC
32ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 29 NOV – 03 DEC
 PULLMAN MELBOURNE ALBERT PARK

Come along and see us at the ChemAlert Stand #39

For more information or to register, please visit the [conference website](#).

Designated Terms in ChemAlert

By Sonja Simpson, Scientific Services Advisor / SDS Coordinator

The following terms are relatively new to ChemAlert, so we have defined them here to clear up any confusion:

Product Obsolete

- The product is no longer manufactured, supplied, or distributed; or
- The product is no longer exported to Australia.

Note: if brought back into circulation by the manufacturer/supplier, RMT will review the product's status in ChemAlert accordingly.

SDS Discontinued

- The product is non-hazardous and the manufacturer no longer supports an SDS for the product.

Discontinued

- RMT is not currently maintaining the SDS, with the main reason for this being that despite repeated requests, we are unable to source an updated SDS for the product. An Alert will typically exist for the product outlining the reason(s) why it has been discontinued.

ChemAlert Pro User Tips

Having trouble finding an SDS?

Have you tried searching for the "Product Name OR Synonym"?

Finding your specific product in such a massive database could be a difficult task if it wasn't for ChemAlert's Advanced Search module.

Advanced Search gives you the ability to search using multiple criteria such as synonyms which quite often contain older names and trade names which may be more familiar. You can even create your own synonyms if you regularly refer to a product differently to the name displayed on the SDS.

ChemAlert Advanced Search

Advanced search allows you to build up search criteria for the most precise results.

Paint stripper	
Product Name	Colour Rating
Product Name/Synonym	Hazardous/Dangerous
Synonym	DG Classification
Use	Risk Phrase
Manufacturer/Supplier	Position Schedule (Aus)
Ingredient Name	Appearance
Ingredient CAS Number	Colour

Advanced search allows you to build up search criteria for the most precise results.

Product Name/Synonym contains "Paint stripper"	
Product Name	Colour Rating
ACCENT AEROSOL PAINT STRIPPER	Amber
ACCENT PAINT STRIPPER	Red
ADDIP PC135	Amber
AEROSOL PAINT STRIPPER	Amber
APPLIFD 8770 PAINT STRIPPER/DECARBONISER	Amber

Need an Extra Hand?

By Tim Robinson, Marketing & Communications Manager

RMT's ChemAlert Services could be just what you need to keep your chemical management up to scratch.

Did you know that RMT also provide a range of Chemical Management Services to help you out when you don't have the expertise or just can't spare the manpower?

Chemical Auditing

Whether you use ChemAlert or not, RMT's auditing service is an effective way to ensure legislative compliance. Our experienced personnel will take a complete inventory of your chemicals and make recommendations on areas such as placarding, segregation, labelling, first aid, policies and procedures.

Hazardous Chemicals Registers

If you're using ChemAlert, RMT can also help implement some of the recommendations arising from your audit. This includes compiling a complete chemical register and defining the storage locations of all chemicals on your site. The information is then configured in the Stock Management module of ChemAlert, allowing you to generate various reports such as Hazardous Substance Registers.

ChemAlert Training

RMT provides tailored, on-site interactive training programmes suitable for ChemAlert users at all levels. We also run regular public courses at attractive, per-person rates. Of course we also offer eLearning packages for those who prefer to learn at their own pace.

About Alerts in ChemAlert

By Lisa Achari,
Senior Scientific Advisor / Trainer

At RMT, we have a team of over twelve university educated scientists based in Australia. We review all the data that goes into ChemAlert to assess whether the information in SDSs is accurate and consistent with relevant legislation.

In order to do this we check many national and international peer reviewed databases and publications and keep on top of all these legislative changes.

There have been many legislative updates just within the last year. Not all manufacturers have the resources to keep on top of these changes, and some information in their SDSs is inconsistent with legislation, or conflicting with other information in their SDSs.

In these cases, we will always first contact a manufacturer for clarification which may result in a new revised SDS.

For situations where we perceive a conflict still exists, ChemAlert v4.0, introduced a new way for RMT to communicate this with you through the 'Alerts' node within product details.

'Alerts' will detail significant areas of concern within the SDS, potential risks with the product that may not be clearly visible or other general comments. See example below.

New Staff Profile



Lynsey Ebbage Scientific Advisor

Lynsey joined RMT in May 2014 in the role of ChemAlert Scientific

Advisor. She holds a Bachelor of Science (Forensic Chemistry) with Honours from Glasgow Caledonian University. Lynsey works with the scientific team researching and maintaining chemical information for the ChemAlert database, with a view to conducting ChemAlert training and auditing in the future. Originally hailing from Scotland, Lynsey is settling in Australia and exploring its vast and diverse locations, and is excited at the prospect of visiting ChemAlert users in some of the more remote sites.

The screenshot shows the 'Alerts' section of the ChemAlert interface. On the left is a navigation menu with icons for Identification, Classifications, Emergency, Information, Reports, and Alerts (highlighted). The main content area is titled 'ALERTS' and contains the following text:

The following notes have been added by ChemAlert's Scientific Department in order to alert you to potential issues with the product or SDS, risk associated with the product that may not be easily visible, or other general comments about the substance. Please contact ChemAlert on +61 8 9322 1711 or email casupport@rmt.com.au should you wish to clarify any notes on this screen.

Section 3 The manufacturer has listed Alethrin (CAS 28434080-6) as an ingredient, however this CAS number is invalid. The ingredient has been added as "Pyrethrins".

Above is an example of an Alert drawing attention to inaccurate information in the SDS of an Amber rated product.

Scientific Support

Did you know that ChemAlert's Scientific Services department can provide assistance with many aspects of chemical safety management?

Apart from reviewing SDSs and compiling ChemAlert reports, we can also assist you with any questions you may have regarding legislative compliance and queries of a chemical nature.

From the GHS and Dangerous Goods through to Biological Exposure Limits and chronic exposures, you are only ever one call or email away from our scientific services. Monday to Friday, 6am WST to 5pm WST, call us on (08) 9322 1711 or email casupport@rmt.com.au.

The screenshot shows the 'New on the ChemAlert News Module' section. It features a list of new articles, each with a document icon:

- MSHA Respirable Coal Mine Dust Rule
- European RISCTOX Database Online
- Organophosphates: A Health Surveillance Guide for Employers
- ADG Code 7.3
- WorkSafe NZ Asbestos Toolkit
- Poisons Standard No.5
- USA Implements GHS Standards
- Model Work Health and Safety Legislation - WA

The Facts About Hazardous Chemicals Registers

Transcribed from Safe Work Australia's Hazardous Chemicals Register Fact Sheet.

What is a Hazardous Chemicals Register?

A Hazardous Chemicals Register (HCR) is a list of hazardous chemicals at your workplace, accompanied by the current Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each.

A HCR is required under Work Health and Safety regulations to be prepared and kept up-to-date so that information about chemicals stored, handled or used at the workplace can be easily found.

Providing access to the HCR

The hazardous chemicals register must be readily accessible to everyone involved in the use, storage and handling of the hazardous chemicals and to anyone else at the workplace who is likely to be affected by the chemical. The HCR and SDSs may be kept electronically (eg: on an intranet) provided workers have ready access to a computer. Otherwise, a hard copy should be kept in the location where chemicals are mostly used.

What must be included on the HCR?

All hazardous chemicals stored, handled or used at the workplace must be on the HCR unless they are *in-transit* or considered to be *consumer products*.

"In-transit" means they are not used in the workplace and not kept at the workplace for more than five consecutive days. However, if the workplace frequently has in-transit hazardous chemicals present or if they are in significant quantities, they should be on the HCR.

"Consumer products" are those packed for and use by household or office consumers. For example, laundry

detergent packed in a 1kg container and used once a week by individual staff for washing work clothes is considered a consumer product. However, a 30kg container of the same detergent used by a commercial laundry is not considered to be a consumer product, and therefore must be included on the HCR.

Workplaces where multiple people are responsible for the HCR

There may be instances where more than one person has responsibility for maintaining a HCR. For example in an office workplace where external cleaning staff are contracted for cleaning and where the hazardous chemicals they use for that work are stored on-site.



In this situation, the office workplace is required to maintain a HCR. This is to ensure that people other than the cleaning staff have access to information about the chemicals in the event of a spillage or exposure, even where the office workers would not normally use the chemicals themselves.



Shellshock No Problem

In response to recent hype about a security vulnerability discovered in some UNIX based systems dubbed "Shellshock" or the "Bash Bug", RMT would like to reassure Cloud hosted (SaaS) clients that this bug presents **NO SECURITY THREAT** to ChemAlert or any of our web servers.

This article provides some more information for those interested.

[The Shellshock Bug - Hype or Reality?](#)

The obligation for the office to maintain a HCR does not exempt them or the labour hire firm from its obligations to provide information about the hazardous chemicals to the cleaning workers.

If I have a HCR, do I need a Manifest?

A Dangerous Goods Manifest (DGM) is intended primarily for emergency services personnel to use when responding to an emergency. It is only required where hazardous chemicals that are classed as Dangerous Goods are present at the workplace in quantities exceeding the specified threshold.

A DGM must contain additional information to the HCR, including the hazard classes and categories as well as details of the type, size and locations of containers present at the workplace.

For more information on managing the risks associated with storage, handling and use of hazardous chemicals see the Safe Work Australia website:

www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au.



safe work australia

New Zealand Clients Now Call For Free

In order to better support our clients based in New Zealand, RMT now have a toll free number for all ChemAlert technical support, scientific advice or sales inquiries.

New Zealanders should now call on **0800 889 225** from anywhere in New Zealand to speak with us for free.

ChemAlert Training Update

By Wendy Saw, ChemAlert Training Coordinator

This year's schedule of public training courses has now finished, but in response to demand, two courses have been scheduled for early 2015 in Brisbane and Perth. If you wish to enrol for these please go to the [schedule on the website](#). Further courses will be scheduled for 2015

based on demand, so if you require training in other locations, or would like to be notified when courses are available in your area please [register your interest](#) on the website.

Alternatively please contact us directly to discuss a range of on-site training options to suit your requirements.

Getting Your SDS Out There

By John Mavromatis, Business Development Executive

Manufacturers, distributors and even retailers of chemical products need to make their Safety Data Sheets easily accessible to all potential sellers or end users. But not all companies have high-end chemical management systems such as ChemAlert.

This is where the ChemAlert SDS Hosting service comes in. RMT authors SDSs for thousands of manufacturers and chemical wholesalers worldwide.

To complement this, we also provide an SDS Hosting service allowing you to efficiently distribute the most current SDSs for the products you supply to your clients. The SDS Hosting search page can be embedded into your company website, or exist as a separate, external site with optional login, and is hosted by RMT at our Tier 1 secure data centre in Sydney.

ChemAlert SDS Hosting provides easy

to use search options such as Product Name, Stock Codes or CAS Numbers. This allows you to effortlessly disseminate your SDSs to any and all interested parties.

For further information about this service, please speak to your ChemAlert Account Manager or contact RMT at info@rmt.com.au or on one of our free call numbers shown on **page 1** of this newsletter.

New Staff Profile



Michael Lee
eLearning Developer

Mick joined RMT in May 2014 as the ChemAlert eLearning Developer.

He has over 20 years Learning and Development experience across a wide range of business sectors.

Michael works closely with the ChemAlert developers and the Science Team to build new and engaging eLearning to support ChemAlert clients. He is also redesigning the ChemAlert Web Help system making it a more intuitive user experience.

Answering All Your ChemAlert Questions

By Tim Robinson, Marketing & Communications Manager.

To complement ChemAlert's Help module and better support users, we have now introduced a "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)" page to the ChemAlert website.

Initially the FAQ page is just a list of the most common enquiries we get through the Technical and Scientific Support departments. But it is our aim to gradually grow this to a more comprehensive list. To this end, we've also included a form which enables you to submit a question directly if you can't find what you're looking for in the existing FAQs.

We'd like to encourage you to check out the FAQ page as a first resort when you have a ChemAlert question, and send us in any additional questions you might have. We will contact you directly with answer to your question and then add it to the FAQ page for future reference.

Ultimately we hope this will become a definitive, searchable resource for all ChemAlert users which will grow organically as new versions are released and also serve to inform the content for the Help module. [Check it out here.](#)

Use Your Account Manager

By John Mavromatis, Business Development Executive

As RMT Account Managers we see it as an integral part of our role to ensure that you and your business experience the greatest possible value from ChemAlert.

One of the services we offer is the performance of periodic "Health Checks" to ensure your ChemAlert system is being utilised to its greatest potential. For cloud hosted licences, this can easily be done remotely via phone and email and in these cases we don't charge for the service. But in some cases it is more effective to spend time on site with you and your staff to examine OHS systems and determine how ChemAlert can best

assist. In these cases a reasonable consultation fee can be negotiated.

We have helped many clients to build, maintain and improve their OHS policies to ensure ChemAlert is the foundation for a robust and efficient chemical management plan. So why not take advantage of our experience?

We'd be happy to speak with you and would also love to hear your thoughts on ChemAlert and any recommendations you have for improvements and new features in future version releases. So please, give us a call today and book in an appointment.

Not sure if you're getting the most out of ChemAlert?

GET YOUR FREE HEALTH CHECK

Contact your friendly ChemAlert Account Manager today at ChemAlertSales@rmt.com.au

or call free from anywhere in Australia on **1800 555 477** or from New Zealand on **0800 889 225**