

What's New in ChemAlert v4.1 By Brad Cobb, ChemAlert Product Manager

Business Analytics Tools

The data in ChemAlert often represents hundreds or even thousands of invested person hours entering information to enable compliance reports such as the **Hazardous Substances Register** or the **Dangerous Goods Listing**. Whilst these reports are critical to compliance (especially if your organisation is audited), there is a lot more that can be achieved with this valuable resource.

The world is changing. It is no longer enough just to track data through spreadsheets and electronic systems to meet compliance. Real value comes from understanding data, and that in turns leads to greater understanding of the risks associated with chemical use within your business. This understanding leads to more efficient and effective management which reduces risk, increases safety and lowers cost - better outcomes all around.

So in ChemAlert v4.1 we've introduced the new Analytics stock module. This new tool enables users to query the stock data entered into ChemAlert to produce powerful **business intelligence**.

Analytics comes with 10 predefined queries that can be run against the Stock Register or Holdings, generate data tables and graphs. But users can also choose combinations of up to 48 data fields to produce custom queries and filter results as desired. Data tables can be exported to a spreadsheet or PDF, as well as render

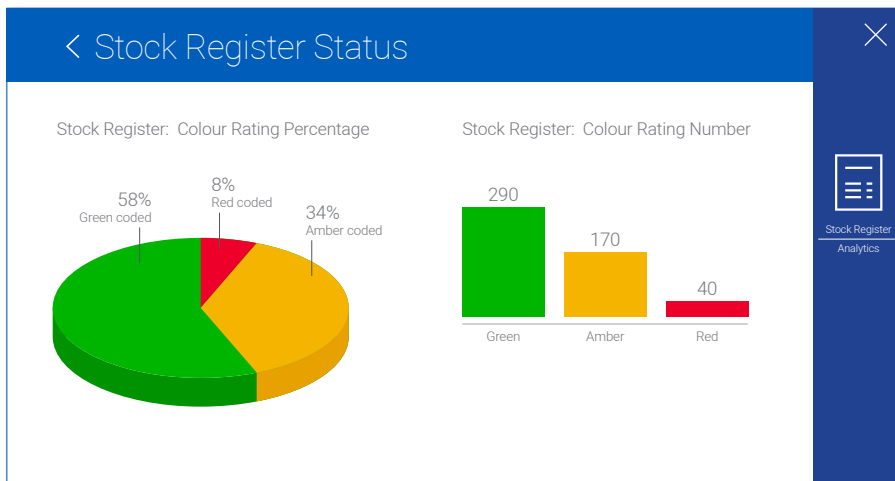
the data in one of 12 chart types that can be exported to PNG, JPEG, SVG or PDF formats. All this in one simple, user friendly interface.

We trust that the provision of this new module will help you gain greater insights into the chemicals used onsite, the risks associated with them, and assist you to make decisions that make a real and lasting impact with your workforce.

As with any new functionality, we welcome feedback and improvement suggestions to feedback@rmt.com.au.



Above: ChemAlert v4.1's predefined Analytics queries with option to add custom, user defined queries.
Below: Example of charts derived from Analytics query on Stock Register.



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Chemical Safety Audits

By Tendai Mapondera,
Occupational Hygiene/
Dangerous Goods Consultant

ChemAlert Chemical Safety Audits provide a comprehensive evaluation of your chemical management processes to ensure your key legislative obligations are being met. The Audit will also enable you to tap the significant potential of your ChemAlert application.

The provision of SDSs is simply the tip of the iceberg for a successful Chemical Management Program (CMP).

A Chemical Safety Audit Provides:

- A comprehensive hazardous chemicals register, easily accessible via your ChemAlert application.
- Unaltered manufacturer SDSs for registered chemicals. The key element of any CMP.
- Access to an array of reports to assist with your legislative requirements including segregation, placarding and manifests.
- A detailed report identifying any gaps in your hazardous chemical management against the relevant legislation and accepted best practices, in an easy to read format.
- All Audits are conducted by experts in the field, including members of the Australian Institute of Dangerous Goods Consultants.

The Benefits of an Audit

The benefits of a ChemAlert Chemical Safety Audit are not confined to just the analysis and recommendations detailed in the report. The audit also provides the foundation for meeting additional chemical management obligations, including:

Risk Assessment

Once the hazardous chemicals have been identified, they can be easily prioritised by severity of adverse effects via the ChemAlert application. This enables you to systematically conduct risk assessments, starting with those chemicals presenting the greatest risk to health or environment.

Preparation of documentation required by your local WHS authority

The comprehensive CA Audit will also capture the maximum quantities of hazardous chemical stored to enable the relevant submission of documentation to the relevant authority (eg. Hazardous Chemical Notification).

Review of Control Measures

Whilst a once-off audit offers significant value, the real value can be achieved by reviewing any implemented controls via regular periodic audits. Follow-up audits provide the added advantage of:

- Review the audited locations to determine the effectiveness of controls in place;
- Identify any new hazards that may have arisen since the last audit;
- Status update of the non-compliances detected from the prior audits

Like any information system, ChemAlert, is only as good as the data recorded.

To ensure you get the greatest benefit from your ChemAlert application, ask your Account Manager for a quote on a Chemical Safety Audit at your workplace.

SDS Database Maintenance

By Sonja Simpson,
Scientific Services Advisor/
SDS Coordinator

Did you know that over 20,000 SDSs have been updated in ChemAlert this year alone?

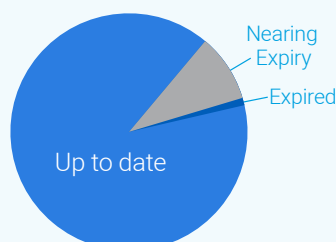
Our SDS Maintenance Team works tirelessly to ensure the currency of over 200,000 SDSs on the ChemAlert database. A typical day consists of monitoring the database, identifying SDSs which are nearing the 5 year review date. We then source updated SDSs from manufacturers' websites where available, or by contacting the manufacturers directly where they are not available. To maintain good relationships, manufacturers are only contacted directly at the beginning of the month following expiry.

We also perform regular checks on the SDS repositories of manufacturers whose products are accessed most regularly in ChemAlert, regardless of whether the SDS has expired.

This ensures that the most current SDSs are always available for ChemAlert's most frequently used products.

Once new SDSs are obtained, they are placed into a staging area for the Scientific team to review. Our Scientists constantly assess SDSs on ChemAlert for consistency, making sure that any missing or inaccurate safety data is followed up with the manufacturer, and included in ChemAlert Reports as well as highlighted as Alerts.

Currency of SDSs in ChemAlert



Stock Register Updating Service

At any given time there will always be a small number of products on the database with out-of-date SDSs, possibly because the product has been discontinued, or the manufacturer has ceased trading, or only supplies their SDSs directly to end users.

So to ensure that this doesn't affect your compliance, we offer free Stock Register Updates. This service targets your Stock Register directly, identifying all out-of-date or nearly out-of-date SDSs. Where we cannot obtain in-date SDSs for updating, such as in instances outlined previously, we will make notes accordingly.

This is particularly helpful if you have an upcoming audit, and want to ensure that your SDSs are in order. For more information, please contact me, Sonja, on sonjas@rmt.com.au

SDSs in GHS Format

By Vince Pacecca, Chief Scientific Officer

As we have previously highlighted, the ChemAlert Scientific Team at RMT have worked hard over the past few years to allocate GHS classifications to all available ChemAlert reports. During the initial stages of the transitional period, many manufacturers had not yet allocated GHS classifications to their products. But we have been able to provide our own assessments based on scientific and peer reviewed GHS classifications data.

Where reliable data was not yet available, we often used **Option 2** (read across translation) to determine the GHS classifications. Safe Work Australia's Guidance on the Classification of Hazardous Chemicals under the WHS Regulations describes **Option 2** as "the process of taking an existing hazardous substance or dangerous goods classification and translating it into the equivalent hazard classes and categories under the GHS", using Safe Work's guidance material as per the following example.

Risk/Safety	→	GHS
R36 Irritating to the eyes	=	Eye Irritation Category 2A: H319 Causes serious eye irritation
R41 Risk of serious damage to eyes	=	Eye Damage Category 1: H318 Causes serious eye damage

As we approach the 1st January 2017 deadline, we have been pleasantly surprised by the volume of manufacturers who are starting to adopt the new system of classification. At RMT, we have begun capturing the SDS Format Status in readiness for ChemAlert v4.1, where we have identified that currently about 30% of all

manufacturers' SDSs in the ChemAlert database provide GHS Classifications.

Whilst we don't expect manufacturers to get it 100% correct on their first attempt (even Safe Work Australia have no answers for many of our more complex GHS questions), manufacturers continue to make significant steps forward towards the transition.

If you have any questions relating to the GHS transition and how it may affect you, please don't hesitate to contact Vince Pacecca at vincep@rmt.com.au.

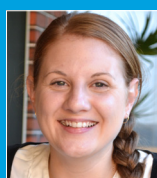
Determining SDS Format in ChemAlert v4.1

ChemAlert v4.1 includes a new search criteria, **SDS Format**, which returns the GHS SDSs classified by the manufacturer. This search criteria is at its most powerful when applied to the Stock Register as exemplified above.

Whilst SDSs may be issued in a variety of formats, in ChemAlert, they are always classified as one of the following:

- **GHS:** Manufacturer has applied GHS classification system to their SDS.
- **Risk/Safety:** Manufacturer has applied Risk/Safety classification to their SDS.
- **Other:** Format cannot be defined, or is an alternative format such as WHMIS.
- **Not Specified:** RMT yet to determine the classification system applied to SDS.

Staff Profile



Kate Miller
Scientific Services.

Kate has been with RMT since 2012 in the role of ChemAlert Trainer

/ Scientific Advisor. She holds a Bachelor of Science (Biotechnology Biochemistry) / Bachelor of Business from Swinburne University of Technology and also a Certificate IV in Workplace Assessment and Training and has over ten years of training experience.

When in the office, Kate works with the Scientific team researching and maintaining chemical information for the ChemAlert database. Kate will be soon travelling the country delivering Public and Site based ChemAlert v4.1 Training.

Public Training Dates

With the release of ChemAlert v4.1 imminent, we can now announce new dates for two types of public training courses on offer in 2015.

The **Comprehensive ChemAlert User** is a 2 day "hands on" course training participants in all aspects of using ChemAlert v4.1 and is designed for new or inexperienced users. **\$850 per person***

The **ChemAlert Up-Skill** course is a half day session for experienced ChemAlert users to refresh their knowledge and showcase the new features in ChemAlert in v4.1. **\$425 per person***

Please [see the website](#) for more details.

* Prices are quoted in Australian Dollars, exclusive of GST.

Location	Dates
Perth	15–17 July
Sydney	29–31 July
Auckland	04–05 August
Melbourne	12–14 August
Brisbane	26–28 August
Canberra	09–11 September
Adelaide	15–17 September
Hobart	23–25 September
Perth	07–09 October
Brisbane	21–23 October
Newcastle	17–18 November
Wollongong	19–20 November

Check out our brand new ChemAlert website at www.chemalert.com [CLICK HERE](#)

Register your interest now for public training dates to be announced shortly in Townsville and Mackay

ChemAlert Pro User Tip

By John Mavromatis, ChemAlert Account Manager

Site-specific Product Approvals

Differentiating your product approvals between sites or locations can be easily achieved in ChemAlert using either the Stock Number or Stock Status functions.

Custom Stock Numbers

Stock Numbers are sequentially generated when a product is added to your Stock Register/Holding. However, you can overwrite this with an internal code, allowing you to denote approval for a product at a specific location.

Using customised stock numbers in this way also allows you to reference items such as procurement codes to achieve synergy between ChemAlert and other internal systems.

Custom Stock Status

By default, Stock Status has options for *Approved*, *Banned*, *Restricted* or *None*. However you can also customise these in the Admin module. For instance "Approved for Marine Use" or "Approved for Terra Only" in order to communicate to your employees that the product may not be approved for their site.

Stock Holding Item Properties

Product Name	PROCURE812
Supplier	PROSCITECH
Site	DEMONSTRATION COMPANY
Stock Number	FPSO/123
Stock Status	Approved for Offshore
Number of Containers	Approved
Container Size	Approved for Offshore
Stock Measurement Unit	Banned
Total Quantity	None
	Restricted
	None
	Enforce Defaults
	Enforce Defaults

Enable custom **Stock Status** in the Admin module to create site specific options.

Replace the automatically generated **Stock Number** with a customised one to suit your internal requirements.

For any questions about the above functionality, please contact the ChemAlert Support Team casupport@rmt.com.au

Congratulations Joanne Scott



We are pleased to announce the winner of February's **Treasure Hunt Competition** was, **WHS Consultant, Joanne Scott**. Joanne is pictured here with her new iPad mini, which she says will be a great tool for her to use in her work at Gosford Hospital.

We'd like to thank everyone who entered the competition. The response was enormous with entries quickly flooding in from ChemAlert users from many different industries. Please watch this space for competitions in upcoming issues of the ChemAlert Newsletter.

Staff Profile



Esther Kow
Scientific Services.

Esther joined RMT in 2011 in the role of ChemAlert Scientific Advisor and holds a Bachelor of Science (Genetics), with Honours, from the University of Western Australia.

Esther currently conducts Dangerous Goods Audits on site, as well as facilitating ChemAlert training courses. She especially enjoys seeing the different ways in which ChemAlert is used, and receiving feedback from clients on how they would like to see ChemAlert evolve in the future.

When Esther is not keeping everyone at RMT on their toes, she enjoys playing tennis, jogging and new culinary experiences with good friends.

HAZMAT
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for a demo of ChemAlert v4.1

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