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#### CFATS Top-Screen Deadline Passes

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published Appendix A, the List of Regulated Chemicals in the [Federal Register](#) on November 20, 2007. Appendix A specifies the threshold quantities of chemicals that must be reviewed for compliance with the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS). Any facility that possesses (or later comes into possession of) the listed chemicals in quantities that meet or exceed the screening threshold quantity will have 60 days from the November 20th date to review and complete (if applicable) the CFATS requirements. DHS posted an announcement on its website extending the Top-Screen submission deadline date to **Tuesday, January 22, 2008** due to the weekend and Federal holiday on Monday, January 21, 2008.

#### Have you completed your CFATS requirements?

On Monday, November 5, 2007, the Asmark Institute prepared and mailed a packet of information to each of its clients and affiliates, including management and staff. The mailing required a signature from the person accepting the delivery. If you have not already completed your review and compliance with the CFATS requirements, then please locate this packet and begin immediately. (CFATS gives DHS authority to seek compliance through civil penalties of up to \$25,000 per day, and the ability to shut down non-compliant facilities.) The packet contains all the information needed to walk you through the CFATS process. Specifically, the packet included:

- How to Comply Guidance Document
- Appendix A List of Regulated Chemicals
- Cross-reference List to Agricultural Chemicals

#### Biometric Solution for Website Access

While it is perfectly legal and protected by several layers of security, the use of social security numbers for access to our website has always required a bit of explaining. Much like financial, human resource or health care websites, [www.asmark.org](#) is a portal for use by our clients in completing many of the sensitive government reports, training requirements and newhire kits. It is imperative that we know conclusively who is using the website for the protection of all. Since our first website in 1996, social security numbers have been used as the only acceptable password, primarily because individuals won't share this form of password with others, thus helping ensure the highest level of accountability for all who use the website. We have searched for an alternative form of password with a level of accountability equal to that of social security numbers for many years.



Biometrics wound up being the technology that we plan to adopt and offer in 2008. Testing is in the final stages for a new system that uses fingerprints to access the website in lieu of social security numbers. The system uses a Microsoft reader that plugs into the computer via a standard USB port. We expect the setup will take about 30 minutes to an hour. Proprietary software had to be developed

in order to develop the system we needed. Plans are to roll out the new system in the second quarter of 2008. Participation is strictly voluntary as we understand all clients may not want to transition to the new technology. The new system will require fairly current computer equipment. Each facility will receive more information when it becomes available.

#### **Reminder: Time to Post Your 300A**

It's time to complete your 2007 injury and illness recordkeeping obligations by posting the Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses (OSHA Form 300A). OSHA requires that the notice be displayed from February 1st to April 30th of each year in a conspicuous place where employee notices are customarily posted. A company official must certify the information in Form 300A was examined and is believed to be correct and complete. More information on the OSHA Form 300A requirements can be found in the Hazard Communication section of your Compliance Manual.

#### **RMP Audits Begin in Kentucky**

Until recently, the Kentucky Division for Air Quality had concentrated its Risk Management Program activities on ensuring that all facilities with anhydrous ammonia and other chemicals regulated by the Clean Air Act, had submitted a Risk Management Plan (RMP). **David Gore**, Field Operations Officer for the Kentucky Division for Air Quality, said site inspections began recently in Kentucky. Gore emphasized the inspections would be conducted by the regional staff located throughout the state and would be performed in a very positive, educational manner. Inspectors reported the initial inspections had been very positive experiences and that they had favorable findings regarding documentation being readily available onsite.

#### **Endosulfan.....RUP Alert!**

U.S. EPA re-classified endosulfan as a Restricted-Use Product (RUP) in 2002. **Amber Duke** received the first label this week that displays the new RUP wording on the product label from our partners at Crop Data Management Services (CDMS). Until any old unmarked inventory is sold or removed from the distribution chain, there will be both General-Use Product and Restricted-Use Product labels in circulation. Anyone selling endosulfan should review the product label to ensure the proper recordkeeping requirements are met.

#### **Jay Vroom Nominated to Serve on Agricultural Advisory Committee**

We extend our congratulations to **Jay Vroom**, President and CEO of CropLife America, on his recent nomination to serve on EPA's Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee. The committee is being formed under the guidelines of the National Strategy for Agriculture. The committee will advise the administrator on environmental policy issues impacting farms, ranches and rural communities, and operate under the rules of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

#### **Set of Spanish Training DVDs Set for December 2008 Release**

Work on a new set of Spanish training DVDs began this past week when **Allen Summers** traveled to the west coast to scout out scenes, settings and backdrops for filming. Allen's travels started at the Western Farm Service branch in Yuma, Arizona and will take him to the California coastal area and then north through the San Joaquin Valley. **Bob Enos**, Manager of Safety and Training for Agrium Retail, was instrumental in planning the 14-day trip, which included visits to more than a dozen facilities operated by Western Farm Service. Scripts are currently under review with filming set to start this summer.

**Randy Lawrence** heads up the video/DVD effort and is responsible for shooting the footage used in all of our videos and DVDs. Randy will also be updating the English training materials in 2008 and producing a set of DVDs to be distributed in December. Updating the English materials and developing a completely new set of Spanish in one year is by far the most aggressive filming project we have ever undertaken. Randy will be assisted by **Danielle, Misty, Kristen** and **Dustin** on this monumental project.

#### **2008 Environmental Respect Award Program Launched**

DuPont Crop Protection and CropLife magazine have announced the launch of the 2008 Environmental Respect Awards. The deadline for entry is April 30, 2008. The Environmental Respect Awards are sponsored by CropLife magazine and DuPont Crop Protection. The awards are widely recognized as the agricultural industry's highest achievement for environmental stewardship among U.S. agricultural retailers. The program

honors businesses for excellence in site design, in-plant storage and handling procedures, proper application and leadership in safety and stewardship among customers and employees. We encourage our clients and affiliates to enter. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Moving on Up....Literally!**

Construction started today on the new 4,000 square foot second floor of our office in Owensboro, Kentucky. Back in 1997, when our second office building was constructed, we built a two-story building and finished only the first floor. Acceptance to the Institute has been such that we will need additional space for offices and new technology. The new space will house the VIP Network broadcast room, an editing suite for video/DVD production, additional file space and offices. The project is expected to be finished by April 15th.

### **Decline in Pesticide Poisonings in the United States**

A recent issue of the Clinical Toxicology Journal included an article by former EPA Office of Pesticide Programs health statistician, **Jerry Blondell**, titled Decline in pesticide poisonings in the United States from 1995 to 2004. Using Poison Control Center data from the past decade and 25 years of data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics, Dr. Blondell finds that serious pesticide poisonings declined 42 percent from 1995 to 2004 and unintentional death rates declined 62 percent over the same period. Organophosphate insecticides declined 72 percent and carbamates 67 percent, the largest for any particular group of pesticides. The study attributes the decline to safer use, stewardship by the pesticide industry, and regulatory improvements by the EPA. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Do your drivers know where their hazmat shipping papers are?**

Hazardous materials shipments must be accompanied by proper shipping papers, such as bills of lading, hazardous waste manifests, etc. During transport by highway, the driver is responsible for maintaining the shipping papers in accordance with the Hazardous Materials Regulations, so that they are easily accessible to and recognizable by authorities in the event of an incident, accident, or inspection.

The following specific requirements are for hazardous materials shipping papers accompanying a shipment of hazardous materials transported by highway:

- if a hazardous materials shipping paper is carried with any other papers, it must be clearly distinguished by either distinctively tabbing it or by having it appear first;
- when the driver is at the vehicle controls, the hazardous materials shipping paper must be within immediate reach, when the driver is restrained by the seat belt;
- the hazardous materials shipping paper must be either readily visible to a person entering the driver's compartment, or in a holder that is mounted on the inside of the door on the driver's side of the vehicle;
- when the driver is not at the vehicle controls, the hazardous materials shipping paper must be in a holder mounted on the inside of the driver's door, or on the driver's seat in the vehicle.

### **30-Minute CPR classes Just As Effective As Traditional Training**

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center researchers have found that a user-friendly, 30-minute, video-based cardiopulmonary resuscitation training session, is just as effective as the traditional 3-4 hour course in teaching basic life-saving techniques to laypersons. In addition, at six months after the training, a critical point for CPR skill retention, those who took the shorter course performed CPR and used an automated external defibrillator just as well or better than those who took the traditional training.

These findings, published in the August issue of the journal Resuscitation, are the first to evaluate and document the effectiveness of long-term retention of the new 30-minute CPR-AED training. Traditional CPR courses last half a day, as six to eight people take turns practicing their skills on a shared manikin. The remainder of the time is spent listening to instruction, leaving little time for skills practice, the researchers report.

For the study, volunteers recruited in Fort Worth were selected randomly to take either the 30-minute course or a traditional three-hour session. After their respective training, the students from both groups were tested using a life-sized manikin, which was connected to a laptop computer that objectively measured parameters such as the rate and depth of ventilations and chest compressions.

Immediately after taking the class, there were no significant differences in CPR performance between the students who took the three-hour course as compared to those who took the 30-minute course. After six months, however, trainees who took the 30-minute course called 9-1-1 and provided adequate ventilation more frequently than those who took the longer course. Also, both at the initial and six-month follow-up tests, the students who took the traditional course took 30 percent longer to assess for signs of life, and they took significantly more time to pause between chest compressions to perform ventilations.

The research was supported by the American Heart Association, the Laerdal Medical Corporation, Phillips Medical Systems and American Airlines.

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