

Product Stewardship - Australia AICIS - (updated April 2025)

Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (AICIS)

Detailed Material

Introduction

The Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme (AICIS) serves as the regulatory framework for the introduction (importation and manufacture) of industrial chemicals in Australia. Established to safeguard human health and the environment, AICIS assesses the risks associated with new and existing chemicals, ensuring their safe use. This report provides an in-depth look at the obligations of manufacturers and importers under AICIS, alongside a detailed overview of the categories for new chemical introduction.

Recent Material

Obligations of Manufacturers and Importers

Under AICIS, manufacturers and importers of industrial chemicals are subject to specific obligations designed to mitigate potential risks associated with chemical substances. These obligations include:

Registration

Entities must register with AICIS annually before introducing any industrial chemicals into Australia, authorizing them to engage in activities involving industrial chemicals.

Record-Keeping

Manufacturers and importers are required to maintain accurate records of all chemicals introduced, including quantities, categories of introduction, and any information or reports submitted to AICIS. These records must be kept for at least 5 years and be readily available for regulatory authorities upon request.

Reporting and Notification

Depending on the introduction category, entities may need to report specific information to AICIS, including the chemical's identity, volume, use, and risk assessments. Notifications are particularly crucial for chemicals new to Australia and those under the assessed introduction category.

Compliance with Conditions

For chemicals introduced under categories such as exempted or reported introductions, entities must adhere to any conditions set by AICIS, including volume, use, and risk management measures.

Risk Management

Manufacturers and importers bear the responsibility for managing the risks of the chemicals they introduce, ensuring safe usage, providing adequate information to users, and implementing measures to mitigate potential adverse effects on human health and the environment.

Information Provision

Entities are obliged to provide AICIS with necessary information for regulatory purposes, including updates on chemical hazards, uses, and exposure, and must respond to AICIS's information requests, aiding in compliance monitoring or chemical risk assessments.

Categories for New Chemical Introduction

AICIS categorizes chemicals for introduction based on their characteristics and associated risks:

1. **Listed Introduction:** For chemicals already registered with AICIS, meeting specific conditions for introduction without further assessment.
2. **Exempted Introduction:** Applies to very low-risk chemicals, introduced without a detailed assessment process, requiring self-assessment of compliance.
3. **Reported Introduction:** Low-risk chemicals requiring reporting to AICIS before introduction, including detailed information on identity, hazards, and intended use.
4. **Assessed Introduction:** For higher-risk chemicals, necessitating a comprehensive risk assessment by AICIS before introduction.
5. **Commercial Evaluation Authorization:** Allows the introduction of chemicals for commercial evaluation under specific conditions for a limited period.

Conclusion

The AICIS framework plays a pivotal role in ensuring the responsible introduction and use of industrial chemicals in Australia, protecting human health and the environment. Manufacturers and importers must fulfill their obligations under AICIS and accurately determine the applicable category for new chemicals, adhering to the corresponding procedures. The regulations and guidelines established by AICIS facilitate the safe management of industrial chemicals, contributing to sustainable practices and regulatory compliance.



Contact

More informations ? please contact patricia.villers@syensqo.com or sunmin.park@syensqo.com