

SCHC Monthly Newsletter

Issue 40 | February 24, 2021



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Hazcom and Mars

On February 18th, 2021, the [NASA/JPL](#) venture landed its [2020 Mission Perseverance Rover](#) and the helicopter Ingenuity on the surface of Mars. The mission is investigating the composition of Mars, hunting for water and signs of life, and exploring Mars' viability to one day host Earthlings. While not all of us dream of living on Mars, some of us may already be working like we do. Onboard the rover is a collection of [scientific instruments](#) similar to what our companies already use.

Did you know snowflakes on Mars are made of carbon dioxide? [Mars' composition](#) may be something our industry has to think about when writing safety data sheets in the not too distant future.

News from OSHA

OSHA has new leadership: [James Frederick](#) named Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, [Leah Ford](#) named Chief of Staff, [Joseph "Chip" Hughes, Jr.](#) named Deputy Assistant Secretary for Pandemic and Emergency Response, and [Ann Rosenthal](#) joined as a Senior Advisor.

REMINDER: 2020 Work-related [Injury and Illness Data](#) Due March 2

Mark Your Calendar

February 26, 2021 - [SCHC Ballots Due for Board of Directors](#)

March 1-2, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [Basic Toxicology](#)

March 8-9, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [Advanced Toxicology](#)

March 17-18, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [Introduction to Basic SDS Writing](#)

April 7-8, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [UK REACH & GB CLP Practicalities: Linking UK and EU Processes](#)

April 20-28, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [CLP Classification](#)

May 5-6, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [CLP Labelling](#)

May 18-19, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [Basic Ecotoxicology](#)

June 15-16, 2021 - CHCS Distance Learning: [Poison Centre Notification](#)



SCHC

From the Member
Engagement Desk

From the Member Engagement Desk

Happy February Everyone! It's been a cold one here in Connecticut, with lots of snow. But right now the sun is shining and it's a little above freezing, so maybe Spring will come soon. Yesterday I saw buds on a tree and some plants pushing up from the ground. The days are getting longer here.

The introduction of the Covid-19 vaccine is such great news. While I'm not eligible yet, I know that I'm going to get in as soon as possible. It sounds like we actually may be able to have the in-person conference this year. I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone in the Fall.

And of course, we're going to have a lot to talk about! I'm not sure if everyone has seen the news, but OSHA has (finally) published the update to the HazCom standard. I don't know about the rest of our members, but I'm really happy to see this change. Many countries are updating to Revision 7 (including Australia and New Zealand) so this will be very helpful to align with other regions. For my clients, the alignment on the compressed gas cylinder for aerosols and the introduction of Aerosols Category 3 is going to be really helpful. That is one of the examples given in the OSHA publication for an area where companies aren't allowed to align with Revision 7 at this time and thus the need to update the standard. I'm a huge proponent of the updating of the regulation both for international alignment and for improving the quality of hazard communication in the US.

So, continued engagement with SCHC is very helpful. We'll have information about the updated regulations, including Canada which updated its regulations in December, and we endeavor to keep you up-to-date on all the changes occurring worldwide.

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SCHC

From the Member
Engagement Desk
(continued from pg 2)

REGULATORY

OSHA Proposed Rule to
Update Hazard
Communication Standard

From the Member Engagement Desk

We're also going to be adding a feature to our newsletters moving forward. We're going to try to highlight one benefit you get from your continued SCHC membership in each issue so you can know all the great things you get from being a SCHC member.

I hope you all stay healthy and warm. Spring is around the corner, and there are some big changes coming through in our committee. I'll check back in with you all next month!

Chandra Gioiello, Chair, Member Engagement Committee

OSHA Issues Proposed Rule to Update Hazard Communication Standard

Submitted by Denese Deeds

On February 5th, 2021, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a proposed rule to update the agency's Hazard communication standard to align with the seventh revision of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). The update is expected to increase worker protections and reduce the incidence of chemical-related occupational illnesses and injuries. Proposed modifications will also address issues since implementation of the 2012 standard.

The [proposed rulemaking](#) can be read in the Federal Register. Individuals are encouraged to submit comments to the [Federal e-Rulemaking Portal](#), Docket No. OSHA-2019-0001. The comment period closes April 19th, 2021.

OSHA has also created a [dedicated sub-page](#) to the Hazard Communication Safety and Health Topic to discuss the proposed rulemaking and forthcoming changes.

Find [this](#) and other valuable resources on SCHC's [Newsworthy page](#)



REGULATORY

US EPA to Reduce Animal Testing

Updated Alternative Testing Methods to Animal Testing

US EPA to Reduce Animal Testing

The [US Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) finalized its guidance to waive toxicity tests on animal skin to reduce animal testing and allow researchers to forego testing chemicals on animal skin in certain conditions to determine whether pesticides lead to adverse effects. The [directive](#) is expected to save up to 750 animals from unnecessary testing annually.

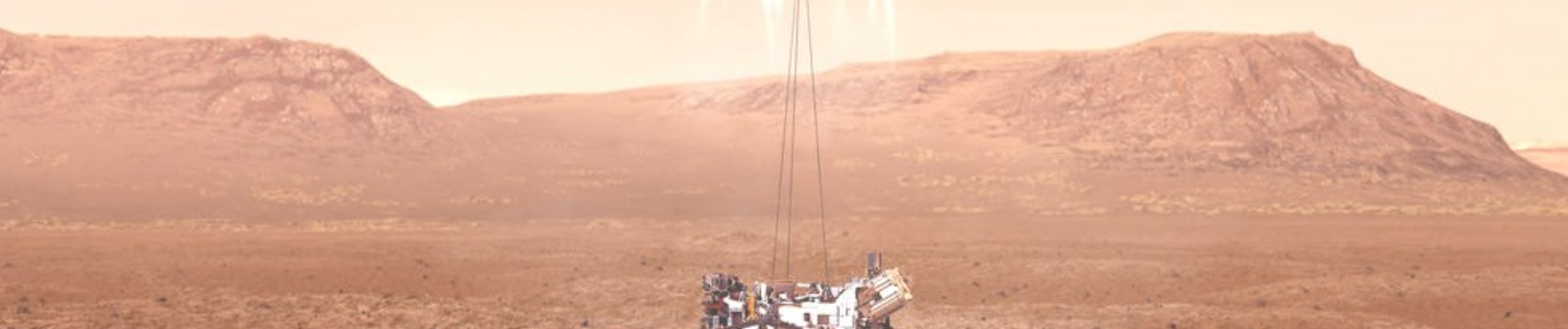


The EPA has a long-term goal of eliminating the use of mammals in chemical testing by 2035. A [directive](#) was issued in September 2019, calling for the Agency to reduce testing and funding 30 percent by 2025 and eliminate it by 2035. EPA launched a webpage to support the efforts called the [EPA New Approach Methods: Efforts to Reduce the Use of Animals in Chemical Testing](#). The [New Approach Methods \(NAMs\) Work Plan](#) coincides with the Frank. R. Lautenberg Amendments to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) call for the EPA to reduce animal testing.

Updated List of Alternative Testing Methods to Animal Testing

To tie-in with the article above, the US EPA has updated its [list of alternative test methods or strategies](#) (New Approach Methodologies or NAMs) that do not require new vertebrate animal testing. The updated list incorporates the following changes from the 2019 List:

- Added one new test guideline that relates to human health effects.
- Incorporated two additional EPA guidance documents that reduce the use of animal testing.
- Added version 9.0 of the organic chemicals' module of OncoLogic™, a more user-friendly version of the most widely used piece of this system that evaluates a chemical's potential to cause cancer.



REGULATORY

EPA Clarifies PFAS SNUR

Updated TSCA Inventory List & Reopened Reporting Period

EPA Clarifies PFAS SNUR

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and issued a [final guidance document](#) to help clarify the [July 2020 final Significant New Use Rule \(SNUR\)](#). The SNUR prohibits companies from manufacturing, importing, processing, or using certain long-chain PFAS without prior EPA review and approval. The July 2020 final SNUR is part of the EPA's [PFAS Action Plan](#).

Textiles, carpet, furniture electronics, household appliances and other items that contain certain PFAS chemicals will need to be reviewed by the EPA before being imported into the United States.

Updated TSCA Inventory List & Reopened Reporting Period

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Chemical Substance Inventory list is updated biannually. The inventory contains all existing chemical substances manufactured, processed, or imported in the United States that do not qualify for an exemption or exclusion under TSCA. The Inventory List was updated on February 9th, 2021, and can be accessed in multiple ways from [this page](#). The February 9th version replaces the February 3rd version. The unique identifier data in these newer Inventory files was updated to align with [data in EPA's confidential business information review and determination](#) posted on February 8, 2021.

In January 2021, EPA announced that the agency is reopening [the reporting period](#) under the [TSCA Active-Inactive Rule](#) where companies report to the agency on which chemicals were manufactured, imported, or processed in the U.S. during the 10-year time period ending on June 21, 2016. The reporting period will reopen 30 days after publication in the Federal Register and run for 60 days after that date.



REGULATORY

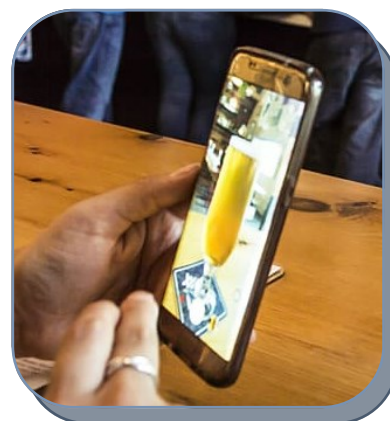
CA PROP 65 Amendment
to Article 6

FDA & MSG in Food

CA Prop 65: Amendment to Article 6 “Clear and Reasonable Warnings”

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has amended [Title 27, California Code of Regulations](#). The amendments make non-substantive changes to Section 25602 subsections (a) and (b), Section 25607 subsections (a) and (b), and Section 25607.1 subsection (a), and substantive and non-substantive changes to Section 25607.3.

Substantive changes relate to the methods for providing warnings for alcoholic beverages purchased over the internet or through mobile apps. The regulation will be effective on April 1, 2021.



FDA & MSG in Food

Submitted by Ranmi Adujolu

The Truth in Labelling organization submitted a [citizen petition](#) to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to acknowledge the health hazards cause by monosodium glutamate (MSG) in human foods. MSG is a highly concentrated sodium glutamate and is widely used as a flavor enhancer. The compound is listed by the FDA as a “Generally Recognized as Safe” (GRAS) substance. Opponents to the GRAS listing say that MSG is a neurotoxin and that the various processes of how MSG made matters. Several retailers, such as Whole Foods, Trader Joe’s, Aldi’s, H.E.B., will not carry products that contain MSG. (Source: [FoodNavigator.com](#))





REGULATORY

ECHA Adds Two to Candidate List & New Diisocyanates Restrictions

ECHA Adds Two to Candidate List & New Diisocyanates Restrictions

The [European Chemicals Agency](#) (ECHA) [announced](#) its intention to add two chemicals as substances of very high concern (SVHCs) to the [REACH Candidate List](#). The chemicals are:

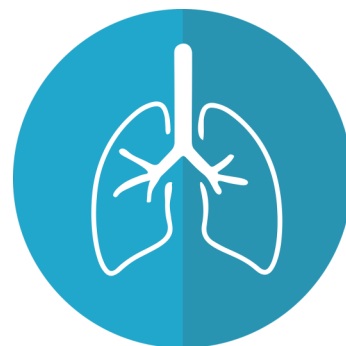
Diocetyl tin dilaurate, stannane, dioctyl-, bis(coco acyloxy) derivs., and any other stannane, dioctyl-, bis(fatty acyloxy) derivs. wherein C12 is the predominant carbon number of the fatty acyloxy moiety

and

Bis(2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl)ether.

These chemicals were identified as being toxic for reproduction.

Germany submitted to the ECHA that diisocyanates be recognized as a respiratory sensitizer category 1 and a skin sensitizer category 1. The ECHA's Committee for Risk Assessment adopted a modified restriction, which includes limiting use, training throughout the supply chain, a .1% cut-off limit by weight, and deadlines as outlined in this [document](#).



[Watch REACH-IT new functionalities with a LIVE Q&A March 4, 2021](#)



REGULATORY

NP and NPE Restricted in
Textiles

SVHC 2020 Roadmap
Report

Nonylphenol and its Ethoxylates Restricted in Textiles

The ECHA [restriction](#) aimed to reduce emissions of [nonylphenol ethoxylates \(NPEs\)](#) to the environment went into effect February 3rd, 2021. NPEs have been identified as toxic to plants and plants living in the surface waters. When clothing and other textile articles containing these chemicals are washed, their residues are released into the environment through wastewater.

The restriction will prevent 15 tonnes of NPEs from being released each year to surface waters and will reduce pressure on biodiversity. Originally, Sweden proposed the restriction in 2013.

SVHC 2020 Roadmap Report

The Council of the EU launched the [SVHC Roadmap](#) in 2013 as a guide with goals on how to identify and include all relevant and currently known substances of very high concern (SVHCs) onto the ECHA Candidate List by 2020. This month, as part of their [annual reporting of their progress](#), the Council shared that they did meet the bulk of their goals, including successfully adding 211 substances to the Candidate List, faster identification of new substances by focusing on groups of chemically similar substances instead of one substance at a time, and increased transparency and predictability on the work of substances of concern.

One key factor of their success was the adoption of systematically screening registered substances and using a new approach called regulatory management option analysis (RMOA) to decide whether regulatory actions were needed and what would be the most appropriate ways to manage their risks.



SCHC

Scam Alert

Scam Alert



We have been informed by a few members and/or former event attendees that they have been contacted directly by persons claiming to be taking hotel reservations for the SCHC Fall Meeting. Please do not fall for this scam tactic.

We have reserved our Fall event with the Crystal Gateway Marriot, however, the hotel will **NOT** be contacting attendees/guests about making a reservation. If you have questions about your reservation after we elect to launch an in-person event, please look up the hotel information and contact the hotel directly to confirm your reservation. In these technologically advanced times, hitting call back may not connect you to a legitimate representative. If you suspect something is amiss or if you did not contact the hotel yourself, please avoid giving out personal information, including travel dates and payment information.

CONTACTS

Member Engagement and
Newsletter Committee
Reminder

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MEMBER ENGAGEMENT AND NEWSLETTER REMINDER

Please send all newsworthy newsletter topics to the Member Engagement Committee by email to socialmedia@schc.org.