



IMFormation FEB 2005

CAN YOU HELP?

Sulphate Bearing Wastes

The Environment Agency is undertaking a research study of sulphate bearing wastes and the ways they react within landfills to produce hydrogen sulphide gas. The results of this research project could affect your waste disposal costs.

Hydrogen sulphide and other sulphur containing gases are among the gases produced in landfills. When these are emitted to atmosphere, the result is extremely unpleasant odours for both workers and adjacent residents, and possibly a health risk. In some cases, a runaway reaction occurs in the landfill and there are examples of landfill sites emitting foul odours for weeks and months at a time, making life in the neighbourhood a misery.

The Environment Agency needs to set acceptance criteria for sulphate bearing waste entering landfill to minimise these occurrences. However, sulphates occur in a wide variety of waste streams and there is a risk that general acceptance criteria based on sulphate concentration alone will affect too wide a variety of wastes, including those from the surface finishing industry.

The EA's problem is that, although it is clear that hydrogen sulphide is produced by sulphate reducing bacteria within the landfill, and the production is thought to be related to the proportions of organic and sulphate materials in that landfill, the

triggers that produce major releases are not known. Some sites suddenly start to produce large volumes of hydrogen sulphide, but apparently similar sites taking similar wastes do not. The two year research project seeks a better understanding of the mechanisms and risk factors, and will propose suitable acceptance criteria for sulphate bearing wastes. If we can identify specific risk factors, it would be possible to have a set of acceptance criteria to apply to different identifiable waste streams, allowing higher input tonnages to a wider number of sites for those wastes with less risk potential. The alternative is a **"one size fits all"** approach where all waste streams would be controlled by the worst case scenario. This would inevitably result in higher disposal costs.

You can help if you;

- A - send a high sulphate waste to landfill/effluent or physico-chemical

treatment plants

- B - know that you get hydrogen sulphide smells from your waste
- C - have sent wastes to a landfill that you know had a major odour problem
- D - could spare the time to answer a brief set of questions on your waste arisings, composition and the details of the disposal site?

Your answers will be treated in strict confidence. Although an Appendix to the report will list the names of companies that assisted the research, nothing in the main text will associate particular data or comments with the company name. If you can help, please telephone Liz Garnett on 0870 1906472 or

email Elizabeth.Garnett@aeat.co.uk



Health, Safety and Environment

Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

HSE has launched a new website details of which were given by Andrew Lake at a recent Health, Safety and Environment industry committee meeting for the surface engineering industry. The site can be found at www.hse.gov.uk/surfaceengineering is designed to give free access to up to date advise on health and safety. COMAH regulations open to discussion

The Health and Safety Commission (HSC) is seeking views on a draft updated guidance booklet covering the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulation 1999 (COMAH). This update is necessary because COMAH is being revised to implement a new EU directive that amends the original Seveso II Directive. HSC is keen to receive views from those who will be affected by the proposed amended regulations. The full text of the draft regulations can be downloaded or viewed from the HSE's website at www.hse.gov.uk

Defra

Consultation of a Proposal for the 27 th amendment to Council Directive 76/769/EEC – relating to the restrictions on the marketing and use of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) Defra have prepared a consultation document to restrict the supply and use of certain PAHs, primarily those used in extender oils and tyres. The document is available from the website at: www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/current.htm

The closing date for response is 28 February 2005.

IPPC Surface Treatment Guidance

The final version of the IPPC Surface Treatment Guidance has, hopefully, been published and includes some updated items viz.

- Use of ion-exchange and other techniques as an alternative to counter-flow rinsing
- Use of suppressants as an alternative to the use of fume extraction
- Phasing out of hexavalent chromium (CrVI) for some decorative specification service levels

To receive a copy contact your local Environment

Agency office or look on the Agency website at: www.environment-agency.gov.uk

BREF Document

The final draft version of the BREF document as agreed by the Surface Treatment of Metals Technical Working Group of the European IPPC Working Group as agreed at its meeting in September is expected to be available December 2004. It is then likely that the document will then be submitted to the EU Council for approval during March 2005. It is understood that whilst some amendments have been made they do not conflict with the UK guidance just released (*see IPPC above*)

Returning to Work – Guidance for Employers and Employees



HSE is launching a package of publications to help and advise in the rehabilitation of workers who have been absent from work due to illness or injury. Employers have duties under the Health and Safety at work etc Act 1974, and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, to ensure that they have a fair and consistent approach to an employee's return to work. The range of information available contains advice and guidance for both employers and employees, including small businesses.

The following leaflets are available from HSE Books:

- *Off work sick and worried about your job? Steps you can take to help your return to work.* Leaflet INDG397; ISBN 0 7171 2915 5
- *Managing sickness absence and return to work: An employer's and manager's guide* HSG249 – ISBN 0 7171 2882 5
- *Managing sickness absence and return to work in small businesses* Desk Aid INDG399; ISBN 0 7171 2914 7

Hazardous Waste Management Guide

A guide has been issued by Envirowise to help companies understand the implications and costs for their businesses and the advantages of acting now. The guide covers:

- The aim of the legislation
- Who is affected
- What is hazardous waste
- What are the implications to your business
- What are the cost implications
- Why act now
- What to do next

To order a copy or to request a waste review, call the Energy and Environment helpline on 0800 585794 or contact the website at: www.envirowise.gov.uk

Company News and Products

g.Neil Companies

g.Neil supply products designed to keep companies compliant with Health and Safety regulations and can be a way to communicate safety and emergency information to employees. For receipt of catalogue which lists details of products and prices telephone: 0800 700 345 or fax 0800 614 188

Process Automation



There has been a quiet revolution at the Hong-Kong based company with an increasing number of customers turning to one of its newest developments, the MCP-PAL (Marunaka Copper Plater) designed for vertical continuous plating. Forty-one of these revolutionary machines have been ordered since the agreement with Marunaka Kogyo Co of Japan was signed. The MCP-PAL can produce around 15,000 m² a month and can handle thin panels, micro via plating and via filling. Further information on PAL and its activities around the world can be obtained on the company's website at www.palhk.com and from PAL

(Europe) tel: 01743 860086, fax 01743 860022; Email paleurope@aol.com

All change at the SEA

2005 sees some significant changes. The Surface Engineering Association bid farewell to Sonia Cole in December, a stalwart for initially the Metal Finishing Association, who she joined as the manager's assistant in 1991, and latterly the SEA. Her many friends at the IMF wish her well. Linda Evans after three years as chair of the SEA has resigned and taking up the reins from March will be Martin Olsen currently Chairman of the Metal Finishing Association. We wish Martin well.

IMF News

Branch Events

MIDLAND

Tuesday 8 February – 'Instrumentation for Surface Finishers' seminar commencing at 2.00 pm at the Birmingham Medical Institute.

Presentations include:

Factors influencing thickness testing to avoid surprises (Elcometer Instruments Ltd)

Portable lab-measurements on the move (Mettler Toledo Ltd)

Testing for compliance with effluent discharge consents (Pallintest Ltd)

In-process temperature monitoring - quicker, smaller and easier (Datapaq Ltd)

Further details on IMF website

Opportunity for suppliers to exhibit (tabletop) –contact Branch Secretary.

No charge for delegate attendance but please advise Branch Secretary on 0121 3080777 if attending.

SOUTHERN

Wednesday 16 February 'Instrument Development for Surface Coatings' seminar commencing at 7.00 pm at the ITT Sports & Social Club, Basingstoke.

Presentations by Atotech UK Ltd, VWR International, Fischer Instrumentation & Sheen Instruments Ltd. Following the presentations there will be opportunity to tour the ITT Plating Department. Delegates intending to attend, please advise Nick Sawyer by email at: nick.sawyer@uk.itt.com



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surface engineering and coatings
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New members and transfers

Affiliate Evans C Wigan

Fellow Biddle R * Norfolk , Ryan N.R * Redditch

*transfer from Affiliate

New Sustaining Member Companies

Haden Drysys International Ltd

Equipoint, 1516-1508 Coventry Road

Yardley, Birmingham B25 8AD

Telephone 0121 765 4040, Fax 0121 765 4313

Contact : Mr Keith Taylor, Managing Director

Haden provides State of the Art Automotive-Standard Paint and Surface Finishing Treatment Solutions with proven project management expertise, delivering turnkey systems anywhere in the world.

British Society for Coating Technology

c/o ICI Packaging Coatings Ltd

Bordesley Green Road , Birmingham B9 4TQ

Contact: Mr Gerry Gough

Founded in 1928 by a group of paint technologists, the BSCT joined with the Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology (FSCT) and represents the interest of the organic coating industry internationally. Its mission is to promote education, research and communication within the organic coatings industry and supporting its members in their professional development.

Metal Finishing Golf Society

The Metal Finishing Golf Society will be holding their Golf Competition for members of the IMF and associated parties on Thursday 19 May at Handsworth Golf Club, Birmingham. 18 hole Competitions for Stableford/Medal will be in the afternoon. Tee off 1.00 – 2.45 pm. Entry forms will be available from: Asbury Brodie & Co Ltd, One Dover Street, Birmingham B18 5HN or the Hon.Sec. J.R.Bate, 21 Sunningdale Close, Birmingham B20 1LH. Previous entrants will receive Entry Forms direct. An early response would be appreciated.

Wedge helps launch Tenby lifeboat



Newport Galvanisers Ltd in Gwent, part of the Wedge Group a Sustaining IMF member is helping to launch a brand new lifeboat after winning an important contract to galvanise 250 tonnes of hollow-section steel for the craft's new slipway at Tenby, West Wales. It is part of a state-of-the-art lifeboat station and launching facility which is being built alongside the town's existing one. The new Tamar Class lifeboat is due in service by September 2005.

Standards

DRAFTS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

04/30109201 DC

EN 14879-2 Organic coating systems and linings for protection of industrial apparatus and plants against corrosion caused by aggressive media. Part 2. Coatings on metallic components

01/30123559 DC

EN 14879-3 as above but Part 3. Coatings on concrete components

BRITISH STANDARDS CONFIRMED

BS ISO 3160:- Watch-cases and accessories. Gold

Alloy coverings. BS ISO 3160-1:1998 General requirements

BS ISO 10713:1992 Jewellery. Gold alloy coatings.

BS EN PUBLICATION

BS EN 1221`5:2004

Coating plants. Spray booths for application of organic liquid coating materials.

Safety requirements

(no current standard superseded)

BS EN ISO PUBLICATION

BS EN ISO 1463:2004

Metallic and oxide coatings – Measurement of coating thickness – Microscopical method



Representing finishing professionals in
surface engineering and coatings
since 1925



Out and About

Hygienic Coatings & Surfaces Conference

16 – 17 March, Paris Expo, Porte de Versailles, France. Details can be found
via: ww.pra.org.uk or www.hygienic-coatings.com

Surface Technology + Powder Coating Europe

11 – 15 April 2005, Hannover Fair, Germany Details from Mark Decker, Tel: +49 511 89 31127

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SURFACE WORLD 2005 +

PAINT & POWDER 2005 Exhibitions

9 – 11 November, NEC Birmingham

Details Tel: 01442 826826, Fax: 01442823400 or email: hilmedia@aol.com