

## Remember

Introducing industrial chemicals is a serious business because people's health and the environment can be affected by them.

Manufacturers have legal obligations to employees and others who may be exposed to chemicals.

## NICNAS products and services

### AUSTRALIAN INVENTORY OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES (AICS)

AICS is a key tool which lists the chemicals that are available for use in Australia. Some may only be available for specified/conditional use. It is important that you know of any conditions or restrictions that may apply to chemicals you import and/or manufacture or plan to export.

For further details or to search the AICS, see our website.

## CHEMICAL ASSESSMENTS

### New Chemicals

All new industrial chemicals (i.e. those not listed on AICS) must be notified to NICNAS and assessed prior to their import or manufacture in Australia, unless they are exempt under the Act. For more information on notification see our website.

### Existing Chemicals

Existing chemical assessment activities play an important role in reducing risks from chemicals currently in use. For access to a variety of key existing chemicals information products, see our website.

### CLIENT EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

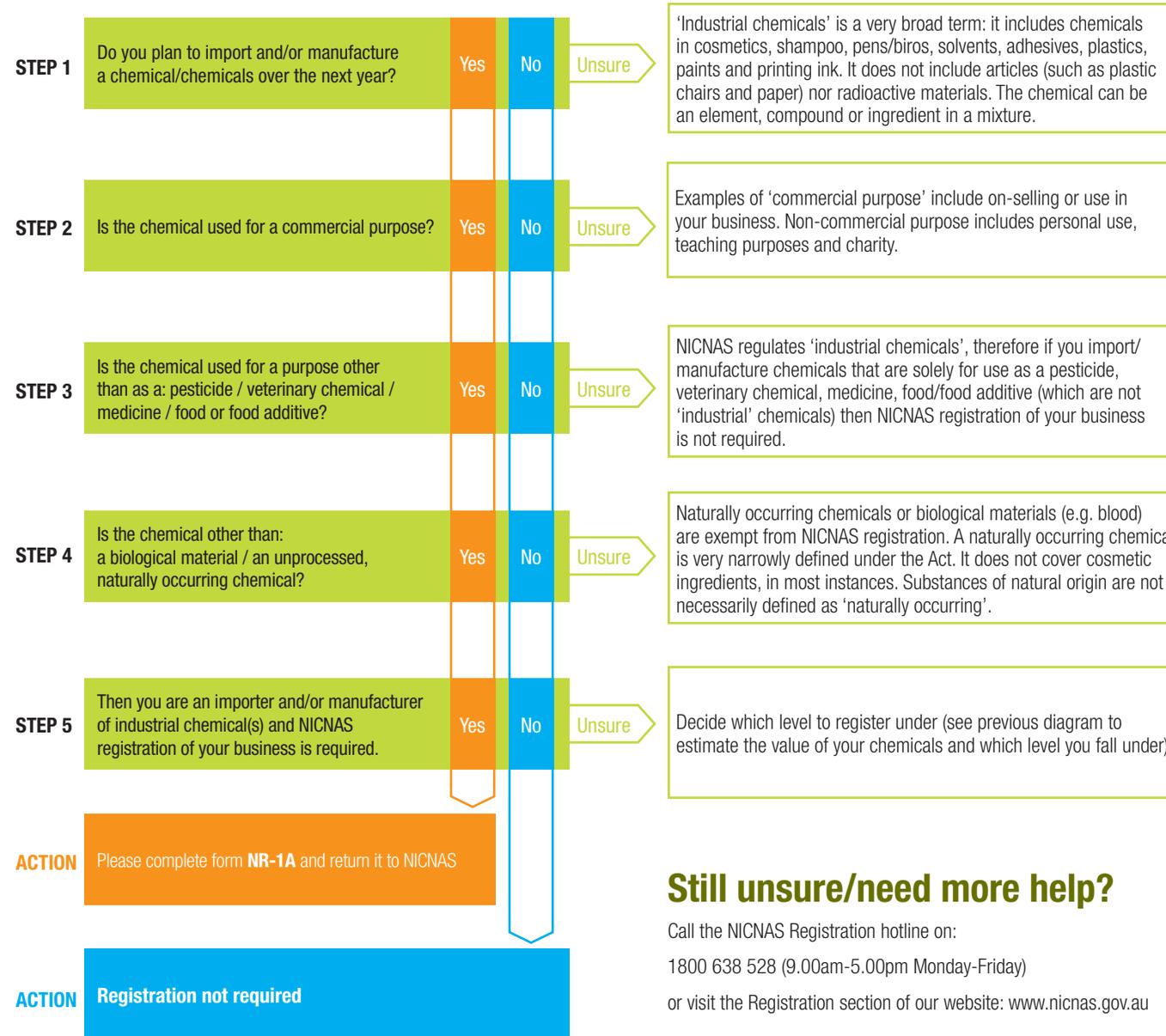
To assist you in meeting your responsibilities under the Act and to provide information on chemicals to the public, we provide a range of support and client education services. For details of our fact sheets and other publications, see our website.

We conduct workshops and seminars each year for industrial chemical introducers, to assist them in complying with their responsibilities under the scheme.

We welcome and encourage you to meet with staff to discuss any aspects of notification processes, assessment, compliance, reporting or other matters.

## How to decide if you should register with NICNAS

To help you make this decision, please follow the decision tree below.



## Need help

## Still unsure/need more help?

Call the NICNAS Registration hotline on:

1800 638 528 (9.00am-5.00pm Monday-Friday)

or visit the Registration section of our website: [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au)

## Registration hotline 1800 638 528

## Contact us

National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS)

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Freecall 1800 638 528

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Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing  
National Industrial Chemicals  
Notification and Assessment Scheme

26 Fe Iron 55.85	27 Co Cobalt 58.93	28 Ni Nickel 58.69	29 Cu Copper 63.55	30 Zn Zinc 65.39	31 Ga Gallium 69.72	32 Ge Germanium 72.61
34 Se Selenium 78.96	35 Br Bromine 79.90	36 Kr Krypton 83.80	37 Rb Rubidium 85.47	38 Sr Strontium 87.62	39 Y Yttrium 88.91	40 Zr Zirconium 91.22
42 Mo Molybdenum 95.94	43 Tc Technetium (98)	44 Ru Ruthenium 98.91	45 Rh Rhodium 106.42	46 Pd Palladium 106.42	47 Ag Silver 107.87	48 Cd Cadmium 112.41
50 Sn Tin 118.71	51 Sb Antimony 121.76	52 Te Tellurium 127.60	53 I Iodine 126.90	54 Xe Xenon 131.29	55 Cs Cesium 132.91	56 Ba Barium 137.33
58 Ce Cerium 140.12	59 Pr Praseodymium 140.91	60 Nd Neodymium 144.24	61 Pm Promethium (145)	62 Sm Samarium 150.36	63 Eu Europium 151.96	64 Gd Gadolinium 157.25
66 Dy Dysprosium 162.50	67 Ho Holmium 164.93	68 Er Erbium 167.26	69 Tm Thulium 168.93	70 Yb Ytterbium 173.04	71 Lu Lutetium 174.97	72 Hf Hafnium 178.49
74 W Tungsten 183.84	75 Re Rhenium 186.21	76 Os Osmium 190.23	77 Ir Iridium 192.22	78 Pt Platinum 195.08	79 Au Gold 196.97	80 Hg Mercury 200.59
82 Pb Lead 207.2	83 Bi Bismuth 208.98	84 Po Polonium (209)	85 At Astatine (210)	86 Rn Radon (222)	87 Fr Francium (223)	88 Ra Radium (226)
90 Th Thorium 232.04	91 Pa Protactinium 231.04	92 U Uranium 238.04	93 Np Neptunium (237)	94 Pu Plutonium (244)	95 Am Americium (243)	96 Cm Curium (247)
98 Cf Californium (251)	99 Es Einsteinium (252)	100 Fm Fermium (257)	101 Md Mendelevium (258)	102 No Nobelium (259)	103 Lr Lawrencium (260)	104 Rf Rutherfordium (261)
106 Sg Seaborgium (263)	107 Bh Bohrium (264)	108 Hs Hassium (269)	109 Mt Meitnerium (268)	110 Ds Darmstadtium (271)	111 Rg Roentgenium (272)	112 Uub Ununbium (277)

## NICNAS Registration

ASSESSING  
CHEMICALS  
FOR YOUR  
PROTECTION

# What is NICNAS?

The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) was established in 1990 under the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989* (the Act) to aid in the protection of people at work, the public and the environment from the harmful effects of industrial chemicals.

NICNAS assesses industrial chemicals that are new to Australia for their health and environmental effects before they are used and/or released to the environment. NICNAS also assesses those chemicals that are already in use in Australia on a priority basis.

NICNAS aims to ensure the safe use of industrial chemicals by making risk assessment and safety information on chemicals and their potential worker, public health and environmental risks widely available.

## NICNAS Registration

All importers and/or manufacturers of industrial chemicals for commercial purposes are required to register with NICNAS. The registration year runs from 1 September to 31 August in the following year.

NICNAS Registration is not about the toxicity or hazardous nature of your chemicals. It is also not about the registration of chemicals or products; rather it is the registration of you and your business, to enable you to lawfully import or manufacture relevant industrial chemicals.

Registration involves paying an annual registration fee and a registration charge, which varies according to the value of the chemicals you import and/or manufacture. See the NICNAS Fees and Charges flyer or go to our website: [www.nicnas.gov.au](http://www.nicnas.gov.au).

## The benefits of NICNAS Registration

NICNAS Registration enables NICNAS to deliver its goal of 'safe and sustainable use of industrial chemicals' through effective partnership between the regulator (NICNAS) and the industry. By registering all importers and manufacturers<sup>1</sup> in the chemical industry, NICNAS is able to assist and serve industry more efficiently.

Through NICNAS Registration, industry knowledge of industrial chemicals regulation in Australia is improved, and this—in turn—enhances community confidence in the chemical industry. Registration helps ensure that information and education on the safe use of industrial chemicals becomes more widely available.

A Register of Industrial Chemical Introducers is maintained by NICNAS. Through registration, NICNAS is able to build up a comprehensive client base, which allows us to keep our industry clients fully informed of their obligations under the Act<sup>2</sup>. By engaging with industry clients, we can better target our education and compliance activities to meet the needs of each industry sector.

As a registered industry client, you can be certain that you will be kept in the information loop concerning chemical safety. We will—on request—put you on our email alert for the internet publication of the *Chemical Gazette*, our formal publication for advising you of important matters, regulatory issues and requirements about industrial chemicals. We will also provide you with frequent updates through our electronic newsletter, *NICNAS Matters*.

Registration charges are used to fund compliance activities as well as education and training, especially targeting small and medium sized enterprises. Importantly, the NICNAS Registration program also funds NICNAS assessment activities relating to existing chemicals in Australia.

## What is an 'industrial chemical'?

Under the Act, 'industrial chemicals' encompasses many things: solvents, adhesives, plastics, inks, laboratory chemicals, chemicals used in mineral and petroleum processing, refrigeration, printing and photocopying, paints and coatings, household cleaning products, cosmetics and toiletries, just to name a few.

The Act specifically excludes 'articles' (such as plastic chairs and photographic film) and radioactive chemicals. Chemicals that are used solely as medicines, pesticides, veterinary chemicals, food or food additives are also outside the scope of NICNAS.

The decision tree overleaf may help you decide whether you are required to register with NICNAS as an introducer of industrial chemicals.

For further information please refer to the NICNAS FactSheet *Which industrial chemicals are within the scope of NICNAS Registration?* on our website.

## Registration fee and charges

There are several levels of registration. Your registration level, and hence registration cost, is based on the total value of industrial chemicals imported and/or manufactured each year.

Details of the current Annual Registration Fee—and of Annual Registration Charges—are detailed on the *NICNAS Fees and Charges* flyer, published each year and available on our website.

## How do I calculate the total value of the chemicals I introduce?

To determine which level you should register at, the total value of the industrial chemicals you import and/or manufacture must first be estimated. NICNAS Registration is not intended to add unduly to your accounting or record keeping requirements. You can base your registration level on reasonably justifiable estimates. These should be reconciled at the end of the year to reflect actual introduced chemicals.

It may be helpful to use relevant commercial documents such as commercial invoices, order/confirmation bills of lading/airway bills, insurance certificates or receipts for purchase of goods to estimate your registration level.

**To make this estimation, there are four options:**

### OPTION A YOU IMPORT ONLY

Annual value of all industrial chemicals = Customs value + Insurance + Freight + Customs duty (in Australian dollars)

### OPTION B YOU MANUFACTURE ONLY (AND BUY INGREDIENTS FROM LOCAL SUPPLIERS)

The total value of industrial chemicals manufactured is the cost of labour and materials (including all ingredients) involved in the manufactured industrial chemicals, plus the factory overhead expenses.

### OPTION C YOU IMPORT AND MANUFACTURE, BUT YOUR IMPORTS ARE NOT USED IN YOUR MANUFACTURING

You would apply Option A to your imports, Option B to your manufactured industrial chemicals, and add the two values together.

### OPTION D YOU IMPORT AND MANUFACTURE, BUT SOME OR ALL OF YOUR IMPORTS ARE USED IN YOUR MANUFACTURING

In this case, the total value is estimated in the same way as in Option B. However, make sure that the value of the imported chemicals (that is/are used to manufacture an/other chemical/s) is only counted once when calculating your total value of introduced chemicals.

## 'Natural Cosmetics' are regulated by NICNAS

All cosmetic ingredients are industrial chemicals. However, the definition of a cosmetic excludes products which are regulated by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

Under the Act, the term 'naturally occurring' applies only to chemicals derived from natural origins by mechanical processes (e.g. dissolution in water, cold-pressing, filtration, etc). If a chemical process (e.g. fractional precipitation) was involved, the substance derived no longer qualifies as 'naturally occurring'.

Many cosmetic chemicals do not meet this definition, even those sourced from plant materials.

## What happens if I do not register?

If you are not registered with NICNAS yet you import and/or manufacture industrial chemicals for commercial purposes, then you are in breach of the Act. The Act allows NICNAS to stop you from introducing any industrial chemicals until you have met the requirements of the Act. Penalties may apply.

NICNAS believes in achieving compliance through information dissemination and working cooperatively with industry. You are welcome to call our freecall hotline **1800 638 528** to discuss any aspects of NICNAS Registration.

We are committed to maintaining the integrity of the program, and to ensuring that the interests of members of industry who comply with NICNAS registration requirements are protected against unfair competition from those who do not. You might be subject to audits from time to time, and might be required to justify the basis for determining the total value of industrial chemicals imported and/or manufactured.

<sup>1</sup> Manufacturers produce a different chemical whereas formulators blend or mix to make a product.

<sup>2</sup> Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989