

File No PLC/1117

November 2013

**NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT
SCHEME
(NICNAS)**

POLYMER OF LOW CONCERN FULL PUBLIC REPORT

Polymer in RC-49812

This Assessment has been compiled in accordance with the provisions of the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989* (Cwlth) (the Act) and Regulations. This notification has been carried out under the signed cooperative arrangement(s) with Canada. The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) is administered by the Department of Health. In conjunction with the Department of the Environment, NICNAS conducts the risk assessment for environmental, public health and occupational health and safety.

For the purposes of subsection 78(1) of the Act, this Full Public Report may be inspected at our NICNAS office by appointment only at Level 7, 260 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010.

This Full Public Report is also available for viewing and downloading from the NICNAS website or available on request, free of charge, by contacting NICNAS. For requests and enquiries please contact the NICNAS Administration Coordinator at:

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**Director
NICNAS**

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SUMMARY

The following details will be published in the NICNAS *Chemical Gazette*:

ASSESSMENT REFERENCE	APPLICANT(S)	CHEMICAL OR TRADE NAME	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	INTRODUCTION VOLUME	USE
PLC/1117	Axalta Coating Systems Australia Pty Ltd	Polymer in RC- 49812	No	≤ 150 tonnes per annum	Component of industrial paint

CONCLUSIONS AND REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS

Human health and environmental risk assessment

Based on the information provided, the notified polymer is expected to be of low risk to human health and the environment.

Health and Safety Recommendations

- No specific engineering controls, work practices or personal protective equipment are required for the safe use of the notified polymer itself. However, these should be selected on the basis of all ingredients in the formulation.

Guidance in selection of personal protective equipment can be obtained from Australian, Australian/New Zealand or other approved standards.

- A copy of the (M)SDS should be easily accessible to employees.
- Spray applications should be carried out in accordance with the Safe Work Australia Code of Practice for *Spray Painting and Powder Coating* (Safe Work Australia, 2012) or relevant State or Territory Code of Practice.
- If products and mixtures containing the notified polymer are classified as hazardous to health in accordance with the *Globally Harmonised System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)*, as adopted for industrial chemicals in Australia, workplace practices and control procedures consistent with provisions of State and Territory hazardous substances legislation should be in operation.

Disposal

- The notified polymer should be disposed to landfill.

Emergency Procedures

- Spills and/or accidental release of the notified polymer should be handled by physical containment, collection and subsequent safe disposal.

Secondary Notification

This risk assessment is based on the information available at the time of notification. The Director may call for the reassessment of the polymer under secondary notification provisions based on changes in certain circumstances. Under Section 64 of the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act (1989)* the notifier, as well as any other importer or manufacturer of the notified polymer, have post-assessment regulatory obligations to notify NICNAS when any of these circumstances change. These obligations apply even when the notified polymer is listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

Therefore, the Director of NICNAS must be notified in writing within 28 days by the notifier, other importer or manufacturer:

- (1) Under Section 64(1) of the Act; if

- the notified polymer is introduced in a chemical form that does not meet the PLC criteria.
- or
- (2) Under Section 64(2) of the Act; if
- the function or use of the notified polymer has changed from a component of industrial paint, or is likely to change significantly;
 - the amount of notified polymer being introduced has increased, or is likely to increase, significantly;
 - the notified polymer has begun to be manufactured in Australia;
 - additional information has become available to the person as to an adverse effect of the notified polymer on occupational health and safety, public health, or the environment.

The Director will then decide whether a reassessment (i.e. a secondary notification and assessment) is required.

(Material) Safety Data Sheet

The (M)SDS of a product containing the notified polymer was provided by the applicant. The accuracy of the information on the (M)SDS remains the responsibility of the applicant.

APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS

Applicant(s)

Axalta Coating Systems Australia Pty Ltd (ABN: 53 158 497 655)
15-23 Melbourne Road
RIVERSTONE NSW 2765

Exempt Information (Section 75 of the Act)

Data items and details claimed exempt from publication:

Chemical Name, CAS Number, Molecular and Structural Formulae, Molecular Weight, Polymer Constituents, Residual Monomers/Impurities, Use Details, Import Volume, and Site of Reformulation

Previous Notification in Australia by Applicant(s)

None

Notification in Other Countries

The notified polymer was assessed under the Schedule 9 RRR criteria in Canada (2012)

USA (2012)

Korea

IDENTITY OF POLYMER

Marketing Name(s)

RC-49812 (contains the notified polymer at < 60% concentration)

Molecular Weight (MW)

Number Average Molecular Weight (Mn) > 1,000 Da

Reactive Functional Groups

The notified polymer contains a high concern functional group with a functional group equivalent weight (FGEW) of > 5000 Da; it therefore meets the PLC criteria.

PLC CRITERIA JUSTIFICATION

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Criterion met</i>
Molecular Weight Requirements	Yes
Functional Group Equivalent Weight (FGEW) Requirements	Yes
Low Charge Density	Yes
Approved Elements Only	Yes
Stable Under Normal Conditions of Use	Yes
Not Water Absorbing	Yes

Not a Hazard Substance or Dangerous Good

Yes

The notified polymer meets the PLC criteria.

INTRODUCTION AND USE INFORMATION

Maximum Introduction Volume of Notified Polymer (100%) Over Next 5 Years

Up to 150 tonnes per annum

Details of Use

The notified polymer will be imported as a component of industrial and automotive refinish paints at < 50% concentration. The notified polymer will also be imported as a resin solution at < 60% concentration for formulation of refinish paints. The paint will be applied by professionals by spray and brush in spray booths or in an adequately ventilated area.

HAZARD ASSESSMENT

No toxicological data were submitted. The notified polymer meets the PLC criteria and can therefore be assumed to be of low hazard.