

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

This Assessment has been compiled in accordance with the provisions of the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989* (the Act) and Regulations. This notification has been carried out under the signed cooperative arrangement with Canada. The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) is administered by the Department of Health. In conjunction with the Department of 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**

**August 2015**

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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/1264	Axalta Coating Systems Australia Pty Ltd	Polymer in RC-50274	No	≤ 15 tonnes per annum	Ingredient of industrial and automotive paint

## CONCLUSIONS AND REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS

### Human Health Risk Assessment

Based on the assumed low hazard and the assessed use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unreasonable risk to the health of workers and the public.

### Environmental Risk Assessment

Based on the assumed low hazard and the assessed use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unreasonable risk to 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.

- If aerosols are formed during the use of the notified polymer, engineering controls and respiratory protection should be used to prevent inhalation exposure.
- Spray applications should be carried out in accordance with the Safe Work Australia Code of Practice for *Spray Painting and Powder Coating* or relevant State or Territory Code of Practice.
- A copy of the (M)SDS should be easily accessible to employees.
- If products and mixtures containing the notified polymer are classified as hazardous to health in accordance with the *Globally Harmonised System of 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

- Where reuse or recycling are not appropriate, dispose of the notified polymer in an environmentally sound manner in accordance with relevant Commonwealth, state, territory and local government legislation.

### 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 an ingredient of industrial and automotive paints, 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 the 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.

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

### 1. APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS

**Applicant**

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, Other Names, CAS Number, Molecular and Structural Formulae, Molecular Weight, Spectral Data, Polymer Constituents, Use details, Purity, Residual monomers/impurities, Import Volume and Site of Manufacture/Reformulation

**Previous Notification in Australia by Applicant(s)**

None

**Notification in Other Countries**

Canada (2011) - Schedule 9 RRR  
USA (2010)

### 2. IDENTITY OF POLYMER

**Marketing Name(s)**

RC-50274 (Product containing the notified polymer)

**Molecular Weight (MW)**

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

**Reactive Functional Groups**

The notified polymer contains only low concern functional groups.

### 3. PLC CRITERIA JUSTIFICATION

*Criterion*

Molecular Weight Requirements  
Functional Group Equivalent Weight (FGEW) Requirements  
Low Charge Density  
Approved Elements Only  
Stable Under Normal Conditions of Use  
Not Water Absorbing  
Not a Hazard Substance or Dangerous Good

*Criterion met*

Yes  
Yes  
Yes  
Yes  
Yes  
Yes  
Yes

The notified polymer meets the PLC criteria.

#### 4. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance at 20°C and 101.3 kPa	Clear semi-viscous liquid (product)
Glass transition Temp	33.7 °C (Calculated)
Density	1.01 kg/m <sup>3</sup> at 25 °C (polymer solution)
Water Solubility	Expected to have low water solubility based on the predominantly hydrophobic structure
Dissociation Constant	Not determined. The notified polymer does not contain any functional groups that are expected to dissociate in water.
Particle Size	Not determined, imported in solution
Reactivity	Stable under normal environmental conditions
Degradation Products	CO, CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub>

#### 5. INTRODUCTION AND USE INFORMATION

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

Up to 15 tonnes per annum

##### **Use**

The notified polymer will not be manufactured in Australia. It will be imported as part of a resin solution which will be reformulated into industrial and automotive refinish paints (at < 40% concentration). The paints will be used only in industry. The paints will be applied by professionals in spray booths or in an adequately ventilated area. After application, the paint containing the notified polymer is cured into an inert matrix and the polymer is thus expected to be unavailable to exposure.

#### 6. HAZARD ASSESSMENT

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

Although not considered in this risk assessment, NICNAS notes that the notified polymer contains residual monomers that are classified as hazardous according to the *Globally Harmonised System of the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)*, as adopted for industrial chemicals in Australia. These are not present in the notified polymer as introduced above the cut off concentrations for classification.