NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT SCHEME (NICNAS)

POLYMER OF LOW CONCERN PUBLIC REPORT

PAG-1

This Assessment has been compiled in accordance with the provisions of the *Industrial Chemicals* (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989 (the Act) and Regulations. The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) is administered by the Australian Government Department of Health, and conducts the risk assessment for public health and occupational health and safety. The assessment of environmental risk is conducted by the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy.

This Public Report is 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

May 2018

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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/1482	Cintox Australia	PAG-1	No	\leq 40 tonnes per	Lubricant
	Pty Ltd			annum	

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.

- A copy of the 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 a lubricant, 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.

Safety Data Sheet

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

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

1. APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS

Applicants

Cintox Australia Pty Ltd (ABN: 63 122 874 613) Suite 1, Level 2, 38-40 George Street PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

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, polymer constituents, residual monomers/impurities, use details and import volume.

2. IDENTITY OF POLYMER

Marketing Name(s)

Daphne Hermetic Oil SP-A2 (containing the notified polymer)

Molecular Weight

Number Average Molecular Weight (Mn) is > 1,000 g/mol.

3. PLC CRITERIA JUSTIFICATION

Criterion	Criterion met
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.

4. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance at 20 °C and 101.3 kPa Light yellow liquid

Pour Point -50 °C

Density 995.6 kg/m³ at 15 °C Water Solubility 31 g/L at 20 °C

Reactivity Stable under normal environmental conditions

Degradation Products None under normal conditions of use

5. INTRODUCTION AND USE INFORMATION

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

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Tonnes	10-20	10-20	20-30	20-30	30-40

Use

The notified polymer will be used as a lubricant for industrial uses. The notified polymer will not be manufactured, reformulated or repackaged within Australia. The notified polymer will not be sold to the public.

6. HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

No toxicological data were submitted. The notified polymer meets the PLC criteria and is therefore assumed to be of low hazard. The risk of the notified polymer to occupational and public health is not considered to be unreasonable given the assumed low hazard and the assessed use pattern.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

No ecotoxicological data for the notified polymer were submitted by the notifier. Polymers without significant ionic functionality are generally of low concern to the environment.

The notified polymer will be imported into Australia in neat form. Manufacture, reformulation and repacking of the notified polymer will not occur in Australia. Accidental spills of the notified polymer during import, transport or storage are expected to be adsorbed onto suitable materials and collected for disposal in accordance with local government regulations.

The imported neat notified polymer will be used as an industrial lubricant. As estimated by the notifier, up to 2% of the import volume of the notified polymer may remain as residues in empty containers, which are expected to be disposed of in accordance with local government regulations. Up to 1% of the import volume of the notified polymer, as estimated by the notifier, may be released as accident spills or leaks during charging of units, which are also expected to be collected and disposed of in accordance with local government regulations.

When the lubricant is spent, it will be manually drained from the unit and collected for disposal by an approved waste management facility.

No environmental fate data for the notified polymer were submitted by the notifier. The notified polymer is not expected to be bioaccumulative based on its high molecular weight. The notified polymer is not expected to be released to the air compartment at significant quantities based on its reported use pattern. The notified polymer is expected to neither be released into nor partition to the aquatic compartment in ecologically significant quantities based on its reported use pattern. The notified polymer is expected to eventually degrade via biotic and abiotic processes to form water and oxides of carbon.

Therefore, based on its assumed low hazard and reported use pattern, the notified polymer is not considered to pose an unreasonable risk to the aquatic environment.