

File No PLC/968

December 2010

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

POLYMER OF LOW CONCERN FULL PUBLIC REPORT

Polymer in Neorez R-9603

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 with Canada. The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) is administered by the Department of Health and Ageing. In conjunction with the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, 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**

APPLICANT AND NOTIFICATION DETAILS**Applicant(s)**

Karpelo Holdings Pty Ltd (ABN 79 003 741 035)
Suite 2B, 14 Glen Street
Eastwood NSW 2122

Exempt Information (Section 75 of the Act)

Data items and details claimed exempt from publication:

Chemical Name, CAS Number, Molecular and Structural Formula, Molecular Weight, Polymer Constituents, Residual Monomers/Impurities, Use Details, and Import Volume.

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 (2007)

IDENTITY OF POLYMER**Marketing Name(s)**

Polymer in Neorez R-9603

Molecular Weight (MW)

Number Average Molecular Weight (Mn) >10,000 Da

Reactive Functional Groups

The notified polymer contains only low concern functional groups.

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 Hazardous 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**

<i>Year</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Tonnes</i>	<15	<15	<15	<15	<15

Details of Use

The notified polymer will be imported at up to 40% concentration for reformulation into paint products at up to 10% concentration.

Reformulation will take place using largely automated or semi-automated processes.

The final coating will be applied using automated spray equipment in an enclosed spray booth. Once cured the notified polymer will be a part of an inert matrix and the substrates are generally over-coated with another surface coating.

HUMAN HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Hazard Characterisation

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

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Human health and environmental risk assessment

The notified polymer is expected to be of low risk to human health and the environment.

Recommendations

Occupational Health and Safety

- 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.

- Spray applications should be carried out in accordance with the Safe Work Australia *National Guidance Material for Spray Painting* [NOHSC (1999)] or relevant State and Territory Codes of Practice.
- A copy of the MSDS should be easily accessible to employees.
- If products and mixtures containing the notified polymer are classified as hazardous to health in accordance with the *Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances* [NOHSC:1008(2004)], workplace practices and control procedures consistent with provisions of State and Territory hazardous substances legislation must be in operation.

Disposal

- The notified polymer should be disposed of to landfill.

Emergency procedures

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

Regulatory Obligations

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 coatings/paints or is likely to change significantly;
 - the amount of notified polymer being introduced has increased from 15 tonnes, 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 chemical 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 MSDS of the product containing the notified polymer provided by the notifier was reviewed by NICNAS. The accuracy of the information on the MSDS remains the responsibility of the applicant.