

For the purposes of the survey, the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS) was used to identify individual chemicals within the families which are produced in or imported to Australia. The inventory was developed under national occupational health and safety legislation as the basis for distinguishing between existing chemicals and new chemicals for the purposes of assessing a newly introduced chemical's health and safety impact. AICS was used in this survey as an alternative to generating a list of chemicals containing thousands of individual chemicals, most of which would not be relevant to Australia.

A copy of the Survey questionnaire is attached to this paper. It will be noted that for questions relating to families of chemicals, individual chemicals of the family are listed first, followed by a question on other members of the same family. To further assist respondents, a page of the questionnaire provides chemical information on these families.

In addition to scheduled chemicals, the survey covers a list of additional chemicals (Section C, items 18 to 40), which may be used in the production of scheduled chemicals. These additional chemicals are covered by Australian export controls.

The questionnaire was developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics with the technical assistance of the Materials Research Laboratory, chemical industry organisations and a number of chemical companies.

4. Conduct of the Survey

The survey was conducted in December 1991. Respondents were sent the questionnaire, a covering letter from the