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2004

CHEMWATCH NEWSLETTER
QUARTERLY CD RELEASE 2004/1

Dear ChemWatch User, Please find enclosed the newest release of the ChemWatch Package, CD 2004/1.

LATEST AT CHEMWATCH

Enhancements to ChemGold II

The latest release of ChemGold II brings a number of significant new and improved features.

Two new options have been provided in the Tool Bar, 'Language' and 'Format'.



Users will now be able to alter the User interface to reflect a new language, anywhere in the program. Similarly, Formats may also be altered throughout the program (MSDS formats differ in the EC, US, Malaysia, Japan, New Zealand and in Australia).

Additional Formats:

As of this month Chemwatch has adopted the new Australian format for the MSDS based on the 16 part Globally Harmonized System format. This brings the MSDS into line with the International 16 part MSDS

In addition you will see new Format Options under the headings 'Scale' and 'Level'.



In a sense these new formats produce an MSDS with a 'built-in' Risk Assessment. For products used exclusively in the household, or available only in small quantities, an extensive Emergency Responder's section is not needed, nor is a section covering Major Spills. Therefore, one of the new options allows Users to produce a 'Domestic' MSDS. Other options allow the production of Laboratory-scale as opposed to Commercial-scale MSDS.

The MSDS 'Level of comprehension' can also be selected. Because different people are able to understand different concepts, based on their professional training, 'Simple' and 'Technical' MSDS are now available. Users can also select MSDS with 'Editorial' content. These include a description of pertinent recent research.

Legs and Regs

The Regulatory Affairs Officers, of many companies, show a vital interest in whether all Ingredients, in any product the company produces or uses, have not been included on the so-called National Inventory for a particular country.

The new Legs and Regs button now produces such information for all National Inventories throughout the world.

In addition, Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs) for 39 countries are recorded under a separate menu sub-heading.

But wait, there's more. Other sub-menu items include Carcinogens/ Mutagens Lists; Hazardous Substance Lists; Reproductive Toxins Lists (including those for the Scandinavian countries).

The lists presented here are drawn from our new regulatory product, Galleria Chemica and are updated in real time by the

Galleria team. If ChemGold II is provided from Chemwatch Servers, any new information is also provided in real time.

Such information is often required in the body of an MSDS (including the new Australian-formatted MSDS) and such feeds from Galleria prove invaluable to companies distributing Chemwatch MSDS for their products.

In addition lists may be sorted by region (EC, the Americas; Asia/ Pacific) so, for example, an MSDS for the US will include all OELs and National Inventory listings for Canada and South American countries.

(G)HSNO

New Zealand has introduced new legislation requiring suppliers to evaluate their materials under HSNO Rules. These are a modified set of Rules produced under the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) that will soon be implemented throughout Europe.

Chemwatch has now produced a new document, the (G)HSNOTICE which we believe complies with the GHS classification and New Zealand HSNO requirements. The document is currently located on the mini-MSDS sub-menu. Our New Zealand partner, Phil Tse of Chemie-Tech can provide the authoritative position on its standing in New Zealand for interested partners (see profile elsewhere in this newsletter).

New Format mini-MSDS

We have altered the look of the popular mini-MSDS and believe its 'readability' is also improved. Colour-coding has always been a feature of the mini but we believe that the present version makes a clearer distinction between really 'nasty chemicals' and those which are 'just plain unfriendly' (and we think it looks good as well).

Supplier Naming Options:

From the deep vaults of the Chemwatch citadel a new 50,000 strong suppliers' database has been unleashed. This extensive list has now fully integrated itself into Galleria Chemica and Collection; both of which are now being offered in Chemwatch Modules. Shortly this list will invade and integrate with all Chemwatch programs including the soon-to-be-released MSDS and Labels package 'AuthorITe'.

A list of this magnitude can only be managed by the newly developed Supplier management tool. This innovative tool will allow users to specify their preferred supplier for the product. By using this tool users may also add, edit and delete any additional suppliers. Users may now identify most suppliers for a particular product, or specify their preferred Supplier for the product, using the new features enabled under the Supplier button.

Suppliers may be divided by region through a new supplier search feature, which has been added to both ChemGold II and the LAN version of Chemwatch. Individual suppliers may be singled out and a full range of their products displayed.



Supplier Searches

A new search feature has been added to both ChemGold II and the LAN version of Chemwatch. Users may now search on a Supplier to determine the full range of products produced by the Supplier (for which MSDS are available) or refine the search to find whether a particular Supplier produces a particular product (Advanced Search option).



Search Speeds:

Karl has continued to improve on his imaginative works and has once again improved search speeds as well as the logic to produce a powerful fuzzy search tool. At the present rate of progress it won't be long before the program spits out the result before you look for it.

Assessing Products prior to a Chemwatch Evaluation.

For companies wishing to assess the Risks associated with a product prior to purchase or manufacture, the new Assess module now offered in the Tool bar, provides a convenient alternative. Users simply create a List of chemicals and their concentrations and the Assess Tool returns the appropriate Risk Phrases associated with that mixture (as defined under EC Directives).

Often the user of a chemical is asked to make an evaluation of the associated hazards prior to purchase (independent of the Supplier's assessment) and 'Assess' provides such information.

Input Methods

Those in receipt of the LAN version of Chemwatch will notice a new feature in the Search screen. If the User has selected, say, Chinese as the interface language, the moment (s)he conducts a search, the inputs are in Chinese characters. Similarly, Japanese, Korean, Thai and Hindi inputs replace other inputs, as required.

This feature is currently being implemented in ChemGold II and may well be included in the release issue of January. If it doesn't make it on this release, it will be available soon after.

New Help Screens

The brothers Arthur and Chris have been working on an entertaining way to help Chemwatch clients use the new ChemGold II program. No longer will people have to sift through pages upon pages of text manuals, they now have fully interactive, animated GIFs to take them step-by-step through the program. These are spread throughout ChemGold II and may be accessed from within most text-based Help screens.

Arthur and Chris have let themselves loose upon an unsuspecting public with their comic animations and appropriate punch lines in the hope of keeping the user riveted. ...what more could you want? Keep an eye out for their work and Oral Rat's exploits (by the way, what is a pachyderm?) when the movies are released with ChemGold II.

Trip to Moscow

Our erstwhile leader, Bernie Bialkower, will be addressing the Institute of Biomedical Chemistry (of the Russian Academy of Medical Science) in Moscow on January 19th. He will be discussing:

The Impact of QSAR on new European Community (EC) REACH Regulation.

The Editor and editorial staff have no idea what this means – he tends to be vague at the best of times – but we imagine certain of our Readers will have an inkling (for which penicillin is a cure).

Copies of the Paper available on request.

Galleria Chemica team on the move

...Welcome Back

After seven months, Dr. Claudio Neri and Prof. Amber Sinclair have both returned to Chemwatch head quarters in Melbourne. Claude had been heading up the London office, working relentlessly on the new functionality of Galleria Chemica including the highly anticipated chemical incompatibilities. The structure database has grown considerably in the past months, which will greatly improve the scope of chemicals for which all of the QSAR techniques can be applied to. Most importantly, these structures will provide the user with a variety of search options, which include finding data specific to chemical groups that could not be identified otherwise.

On returning from study leave, Amber has now changed her focus from Chemwatch Educational Services to head up the Galleria team, which also includes Andrea Schujman, Mayumi Kurashina and Sezer Bozkurt. Together they constitute a language base of English, Japanese, Portuguese, Turkish, Italian and German, further demonstrating a commitment to producing a world-class product. Moving forward, the team has recently added over 30 new databases to the already impressive number that make up Galleria Chemica.



Another landmark in the short history of Galleria Chemica is the design of a new user interface. Principal Dr. Bialkower has worked along with Web Interface Developer Anindita Sain to produce a new look for GC that is even more intuitive to users than its predecessor and offers increased functionality. See insert (above) for a sneak preview.



The Galleria Gang (l to r) Amber, Mayumi, Sezer and Claude

THE NEW ZEALAND FRONTIER



Our New Man in New Zealand – Phillip Tse

Phillip Tse has agreed to be our Chemwatch 'frontman' in New Zealand. Phillip's impressive background includes a BSc majoring in Chemistry and Biochemistry (1971) and MSc in Chemistry (1973). He has broad industry experience ranging from chemical manufacture to cosmetics.

The achievements of Phillip's company – Chemie-Tech – are closely linked to the knowledge and experience he contributed as founder and Managing Director. Chemie-Tech was formed in 1986 as a consultancy in Regulatory Affairs and Risk, Quality, Safety & Environmental Management. The company specialises in the management of chemicals and hazardous substances.

Contact to Chemwatch came about when our man in Sydney, Warwick Luxon contacted some of Phillip's NZ colleagues looking for a suitable agent in NZ.

Phillip had known of Chemwatch for many years and was familiar, on a practical level, of how our systems work. He broadly thought it was a good way NZ could take 'the pain' out of the new HSNO reform, if it could be customised to suit NZ's paperwork. That was Phillip's strategy and marketing plan, to offer NZ a great service.

The HSNO reform consolidated 6-8 pieces of legislation. As some background, these sections of legislation became conflicting over the years with no proper guidance as to which piece of legislation took precedence over another, ultimately, in some cases, preventing full compliance.

Phillip had an active role as a team leader of the HSNO reform process for the Ministry of the Environment. He spent three years reviewing and sorting policy and procedures and produced the legal drafting required for the Act. So he knows as much as anyone, about the reforms that took place.

Phillip has also represented NZ at some important international meetings such as the United Nations committee on Export and Transport of Dangerous Goods.

Phillip strongly believes that Chemwatch has the potential to ease and take the pain out of the practicalities NZ companies need to comply with HSNO regulation.

He commented that a Comprehensibility Standard for warnings and precautions must, essentially, be understood by someone with a reading age of 12. At the current point in time, everything fails that communication standard.

For Chemwatch to serve the NZ market, existing data will be customised to suit the regulations. This will produce a very powerful tool for anyone in NZ who wants HSNO compliance – without fuss.

You can contact Phillip at Chemie-Tech Limited

Phone +649 572 0063 or email pgtse@chemie-tech.com

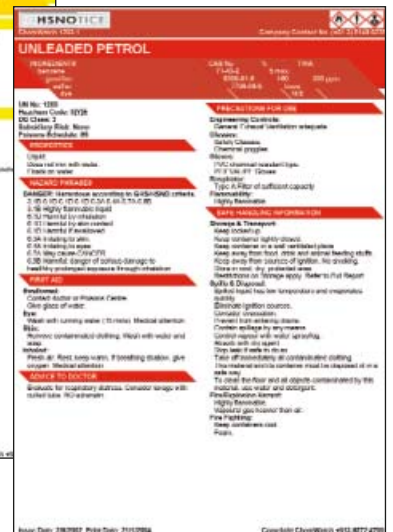
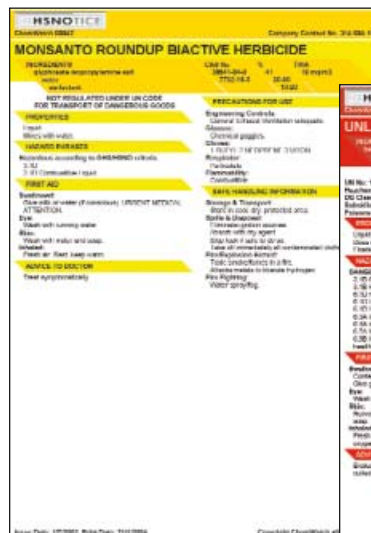
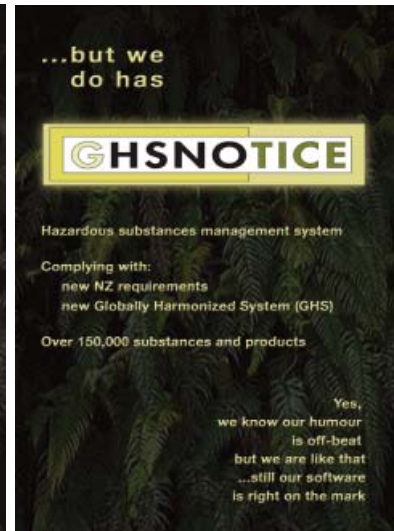
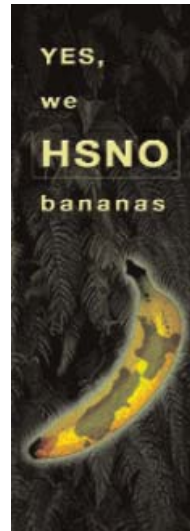
CHEMWATCH GOES HSNO

HSNOtice

With this latest CD release, Chemwatch introduces a new format Summary report - the GHSNOtice. This is an adaptation of our existing Mini MSDS report, which provides the same concise overview of the Material's properties and hazards.

The name GHSNOtice indicates that the report format and assessment is consistent both with the Globally Harmonized System of classification of chemicals, and the New Zealand HSNO system which is based on it.

As you can see, our marketing team has outdone itself...



ASIA PACIFIC REGION

The final quarter of the year for the distribution of Chemwatch within the Asia/Pacific region was dominated by the staff training of our Japanese partners, the Japanese Chemical Data Base Company(JCDB). Training on the program was initially conducted in Japan with the timing to coincide with the Inchem Conference. The Chemwatch database was demonstrated successfully during the conference, and much commercial activity resulted. The training was then renewed in Singapore where the JCDB trainer received further training to permit teaching the database operations to our Japanese clients. A further round of training, and consultancy on the Japanese content and the refinement of the technical language, was conducted in Melbourne at Chemwatch headquarters. This training concentrated on the IT requirements to permit easy introduction of the JCDB web server distribution of the Chemwatch database.

Chemcare Asia Consultants, the exclusive agent for Chemwatch sales within the ASEAN region has also decided to offer a local based web server distribution of Chemwatch to their clients in the region. These new server locations will greatly assist the high speed access to the safety information provided by Chemwatch, supplementing and providing load sharing capabilities with the existing server set-ups in Australia and the USA. The ASEAN server is undergoing testing at the time of writing the newsletter.

Several significant clients were added within the region, with one using our services to author all of their MSDS within the region. To date we are adding over 1500 MSDS for the one client. Major MNC clients in Macao, China, Japan, Brunei, Singapore and Malaysia were all added during this period.

The Chemwatch program played a significant role recently in the presentation of publicly run "Biological Laboratory Safety Training Courses" within Singapore. The program provided critical information on the hazards of the chemicals discussed within the laboratory environment. Attendees from all aspects of the bio industries, including the newly established Biopolis, were provided with two days safety training. In fact the course was so popular we had to run it three times to handle the number of students. There has been considerable interest from attendees on the use of Chemwatch for the Biopolis campus.

Similarly, a Multinational Corporation has engaged the services of the Chemcare Asia Consultants to conduct both Chemwatch training as well as specifically designed courses on such topics as "Recognizing Hazards in the Laboratory", "Basic Chemical Awareness Safety Training" and in "Emergency Response Training". The first round has been completed in Korea and additional courses will be held in Japan, Thailand, Singapore and China over the next few months.

Barry Lynam



Who says Chemwatch isn't fun...



part of the Japanese team undergoing training in recent months.

Japanese connection

Currently in Japan, there is a move toward two standards between the MSDS for the Japanese and overseas markets. This phenomena is the bipolarisation of global standards (future GHS) and the Japanese practice, which cannot make a shift to the future GHS. This is due to the peculiarity in the Japanese language and the logic of MSDS composition based on Japanese regulations.

Based on this fact, I believe that the MSDS composition system, which is equipped with both of these standards, will take the Japanese market in hand.

My visit to ChemWatch, this time, was to deepen the mutual understanding and to establish the alliance regarding this double standardisation.

I hope that our Japanese MSDS composition system will be the leverage for both ChemWatch and JCDB to cultivate a new market. We would welcome the sharing of our experience and knowledge with ChemWatch to accomplish this aim.

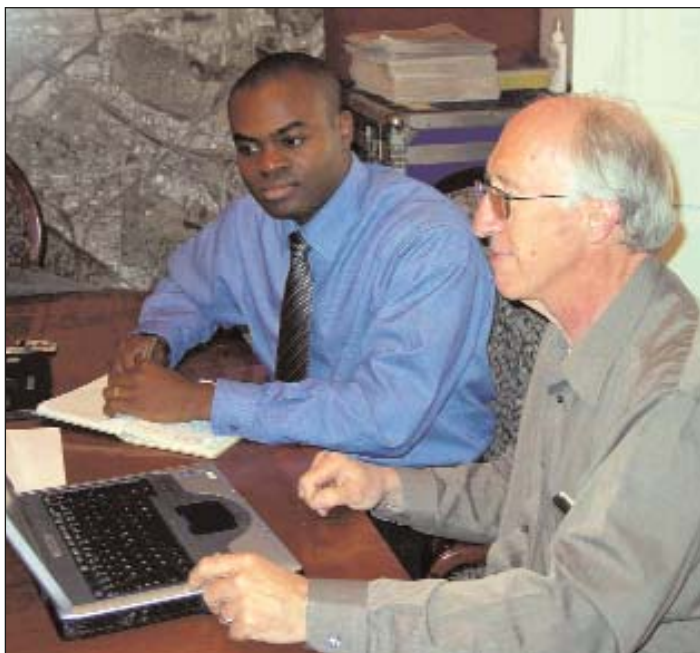
Yamagami Toshitaka

AMERICAN DIARY

ChemWatchNA sends a New Year's greeting to our clients – old and new – and to the growing ChemWatch family around the world. Jim and Paul sit in awe at Bernie's travel schedule but recognise what important work he does as he builds and then supports offices on every continent (are we in Antarctica yet?).

It should not be surprising that good news (ChemWatch!) travels fast and there is an encouraging amount of co-ordination between the various offices as clients on one continent recommend ChemWatch to their offices around the world. Teekay Shipping is an excellent example. Our Melbourne office has been serving Teekay out of Australia and Jim and Paul recently received a call from Teekay's Vancouver, BC office. We are pleased to now serve them through ChemWatch North America.

Other new clients include Shell Oil (offshore drilling rigs). Yemi Okeremi, a corrosion engineer for Shell, recently met with Jim Wood for some training (see pic). Another new client is Texas Tech and its EHS Director, Tom Doyle.



Pictured above is Jim Wood (rt) and Yemi Okeremi, a corrosion engineer with Shell Oil Exploration engrossed in some ChemWatch training.

Surmodics, Inc., the Minneapolis based company specialising in cutting edge surface modification technology for biomedical devices, has ChemWatch linked to the Vertere Inventory Control Software system for both chemical tracking and chemical information. As the accompanying article from Vertere mentions, we are also pleased to serve the University of Rhode Island in the coming year.

Because ChemWatchNA serves so many different markets we have to find a way to reach them on a regular basis. This puts us at a growing number of trade shows where we have the opportunity to meet with existing clients as well as many interested prospects. Our schedule through the Spring of 2004 will take us to the Chicago Convention Center for Pittcon March 8-11; the FDIC (Fire Department Instructors Conference) in Indianapolis, IN April 26-May 1; and the AIHCE (American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition) in Atlanta, GA May 8-11. We will be showing many of the new products talked about in recent newsletters and if you would like to set up some time to meet with us, call or email (info@chemwatchna.com).

A special note from our friends at ChemSW on the West Coast. Paul will join Brian Stafford and Pat Spink of ChemSW for a series of demonstrations of the CISPro chemical inventory software and the ChemWatch System link in the San Francisco area on Tuesday, February 3 (Holiday Inn in South San Francisco) and Wednesday February 4th (Holiday Inn in Emeryville, CA). The seminar and demonstrations are free and will show some new technology for chemical tracking and information. Register online at www.chemsw.com/register or call ChemSW at (+1)707-864-0845.

The final bit of news is part of a continuing story – new technology and equipment to fortify our online services out of Nashville. Jim reports the installation of a new server that would be known as a 'barn burner' on the Nascar circuit. We have now optimised the delivery speed of all of our products with a 20Mb/sec connection to the internet, 2 Gb of RAM and six times the hard disk storage space of all our previous servers. We have also linked our servers for load balancing and quicker response time. Dial in and try it!

We hope to see you in the coming year!

Jim and Paul

ChemWatchNA

Chemical Inventory Solutions

Vertere, Inc., a ChemWatchNA partner, tells us that 2004 may be the right time to put their new tools to work to help solve your inventory problems.

Vertere's new Inventory Manager (VIM) is a powerful enterprise software application for scientific materials management – equipment, chemicals, and supplies. Advancing from the Vertere chemical management software that has served hundreds of clients for more than a decade, Vertere has added new features for security, ease of data loading and entry, and reporting – plus web capability and links to ChemWatch.

For US clients and others around the world that require cradle-to-grave controls, Vertere delivers a start-up catalog of 200,000 vendor- and size-specific products including the Sigma-Aldrich, Mallinckrodt-Baker, and Lancaster lines. For container-based records, just enter the catalog number and any other information you need such as location or current user and you have a permanent record that can include a bar coded tracking number as shown below.



Barcodes provide identification and container-based control.

Vertere's software for Palm OS-based barcode readers speeds inventory tasks reducing the time for transfers, disposals and audits.

The ChemWatch link is an important new tool in this re-development process and has provided Vertere clients such as the University of Rhode Island, the University of Michigan, Battelle, SurModics, and Kraft Foods with easy access to safety, regulatory and physical data as well as emergency response and electronic MSDS management.



Barbara Ray, Coordinator of Hazardous Materials and Chemicals, and Andy Clapham, Chemistry Department Storeroom Manager at the University of Rhode Island, add new chemicals to the Inventory Manager now linked to the ChemWatch system.

Talk to Jim Vivona or Sharon Stasko at Vertere (1.800.628.9917) or send a note to sales@vertere.com to find out how the Vertere Inventory Manager could help your organisation.

New Atmospheric Dispersion Tool integrated with Chemwatch

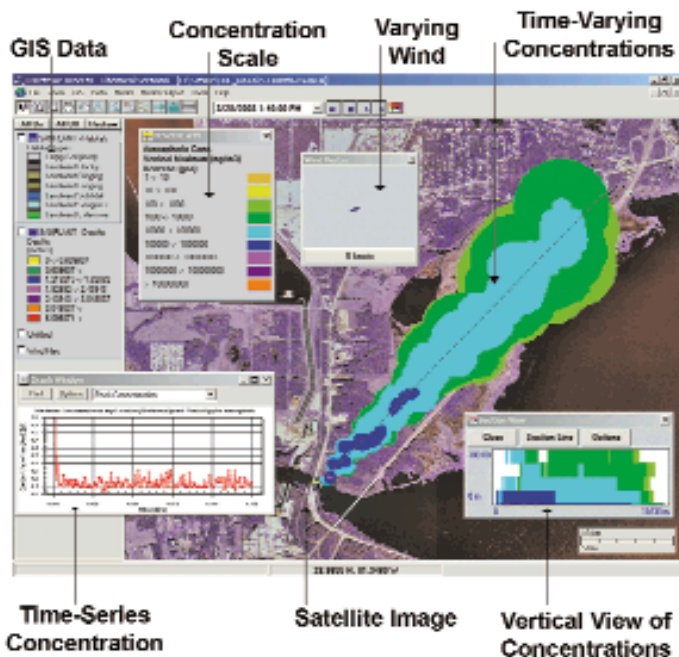
Are you prepared for a chemical release? What happens if your tank of LNG (liquid natural gas) or ammonia begins to leak? How do you know if you are within the flammable limits or toxic concentrations?

ASA's atmospheric dispersion model, AIRMAP, linked to the ChemWatch database can answer all your questions. AIRMAP predicts the trajectory and fate of a wide variety of chemical substances and biological agents in the atmosphere. The model uses physical and chemical properties, such as vapour pressure and environmental degradation rates, to predict the fate of substances that have been released into the atmosphere. ChemWatch exposure standards can then be compared to AIRMAP's predictions to determine if appropriate action is needed.

As with our other model systems, AIRMAP is easily applied and can be used for a wide variety of conditions. AIRMAP's features include:

- Use either ASA's standard Geographic Information System (GIS) or ESRI's ArcView GIS
- Output presented with a variety of easily-interpreted visual displays
- Define winds using either time-varying point sources or spatially variable data
- Run as either a forecast or a hindcast

For more information please contact Nicole Whittier (nwhittier@apscs.com).



Wot's been happening

The festive season seemed to be upon us before we knew it last year. The Melbourne office celebrated with two Christmas parties, one hosted by Bernie, and the other held at the Clocktower with staff each bringing a dish from their country of origin. We counted about 12 nationalities. Everyone agreed it was one of the best banquets they had had and was definitely worth repeating when time permits. We also had a Kris Kringle with some very interesting presents given. Richard received some rather stunning socks which he immediately changed into, prompting the remark not to give him underwear next year.

ChemWatch chemists in Australia enjoyed a presentation given by Professor Nazmi Oruc from Anatolian University in Eskisehir, Turkey. Professor Oruc has been working in Medical Geology over the last 25 years. His presentation highlighted the accurate fluoride levels in drinking water and the effects of fluoride on human and cattle health.

Janet Hider Smith and Peta Reeve will be attending Towards Australia's Safest Workplaces 11, presented by Comcare in Canberra, Australia March 17&18 2004.

Come and see us for the opportunity to win a six-month free subscription to Chemgold II.

With the ever-expanding team at Chemwatch Australia some staff will be relocating from Kynaston to the Clocktower in February, new contact details will be sent once this takes place.

Peta Reeve, Customer Service

Contact ph. +61 3 9573 3505 or email peta@chemwatch.net

New Server Technology

Chemwatch is making plans to add a new server to its web hosting facilities. This will be based around the latest technology from AMD - a dual AMD Opteron 248 server (with a couple of gig of RAM and plenty of disk space for all of Chemwatch's new offerings), which is expected to drop the response time on our primary web services considerably.

Quality Assurance

During the month of November, the Chemwatch Quality System was audited as part of the triennial review of the system. In addition, the final auditing of the system to ISO9000-2000 was undertaken.

We are all very pleased to announce that apart from a couple of points to further enhance the system, our accrediting body signed off on both parts of the audit process.

We have achieved the upgrade to ISO9000-2000 a full 12 months before our time limit and fully within the scope of the ISO9001 registration - which encompasses the Research and Development processes.

A true test of the system during the audit was that the results were achieved without the presence of the previous Quality Manager who left Chemwatch only a month prior.

Chemwatch Australian Training Dates – 2004

Adelaide

March 9 Level 1
March 10 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels
Or ChemGold II

June 15 Level 1
June 16 ChemGold II

September 21 Level 1
September 22 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels

November 30 Level 1
December 1 ChemGold II

Sydney

March 17 Level 1
March 18 ChemGold II

June 2 Level 1
June 3 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels

August 31 Level 1
September 1 ChemGold II

November 9 Level 1
November 10 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels

Hobart/Launceston

May 11 Level 1
May 12 ChemGold II

Canberra

May 18 Level 1
May 19 ChemGold II

Brisbane

March 24 Level 1
March 25 ChemGold II

June 8 Level 1
June 9 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels

September 14 Level 1
September 15 ChemGold II

November 23 Level 1
November 24 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels

Melbourne

March 2 Level 1
March 3 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels
Or ChemGold II

May 25 Level 1
May 26 ChemGold II

September 7 Level 1
September 8 Risk Assessment/Custom Labels

November 16 Level 1
November 17 ChemGold II

Perth

May 4 Level 1
May 5 ChemGold II

Contact us now for ChemGold II bridging courses, or dates in
NZ (late March 2004), Darwin or for onsite course dates