Chemicals of Security Concern
Australian Fertilizer Industry Conference
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Background

- In 2002, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) recommended a national review of hazardous materials, including:
  - Ammonium Nitrate (SSAN)
  - Radiological Sources
  - Security Sensitive Biological Agents
  - Chemicals of Security Concern
- In 2008, an Inter-Governmental Agreement was signed for the Management of Security Risks associated with Chemicals of Security Concern.
- 96 Chemicals were identified as of Security Concern.
- A two stage approach has been adopted:
  - Risk Assessment
  - Risk Treatment
Key Messages

- Risk assessments currently being used as evidence base for policy response
- Chemical use not confined to any one sector
- Risk management may involve adapting current industry practices
- Chemicals assessed on an ongoing basis
- Opportunities for collaboration to increase sector resilience

Key Messages

- The Chemicals of Security Concern Program is a ‘wedge of the pie’ in Australia’s Government and Industry response to counter-terrorism

- The Program aims to complements law enforcement and intelligence efforts to combat the misuse of chemicals by terrorists
Hydrogen peroxide and Nitric acid have been assessed as **HIGH** and **VERY HIGH** for both chemicals across the supply chain.

Funding has been secured for the project up to the end of 2011 financial year.
Guiding Principles

- Proportionality
- Coordination and consistency
- Built on existing arrangements
- Cost efficiency
- Partnership
- International experience

Risk Management Working Group

- Identify and prioritise appropriate risk treatment strategies for NGAG
- Based on the outcomes of the risk assessment processes
- Strategies likely to focus on identified vulnerability areas
- Based on guiding principles
- First meeting on 23 June 2010
Awareness Campaign

• Phase 1 launched 3 December 2009
• Phase 2 developed mid-late 2010
• Posters and brochures for industry and consumers
• Website: www.chemicalsecurity.gov.au

Campaign Messages

• Industry tagline: ‘Know your customer’
• Consumer tagline: ‘If you suspect it, report it’
• Report your suspicions to the National Security Hotline (1800 123 400)
Awareness Campaign

Next Steps

- Ongoing assessment of chemicals
- Development of strategies through Risk Management Working Group
- Phase 2 of Campaign
- Review of Chemical Security Program

• Example assessment for hydrogen peroxide
Thank you

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