

Comments on specific issues/changes only (due to lack of time due to my other chemical management work)

1.8 Changes: Chapter 1.8 incorporates administrative controls relating to the transport of dangerous goods into the Code. These provisions are currently found spread across the Code, the model legislation and Competent Authority policies and procedures. Thus, many of the changes in this chapter consist of relocating into the Code those provisions that are only found outside of the Code. Including this content into the Code will support:

- More effective understanding of industry's compliance obligations.
- Greater uniformity of how administrative controls are applied across States and Territories.

I agree with:

Q1/ "including information in the Code, that is currently only found in the regulations" will help the businesses I consult for to more easily understand what is required, as there will effectively be just the one (1) document to consult. *JS HTE Comment:* It is usual to find business senior executive managers transporting Dangerous Goods to not look any further than the ADG Code. It is only their chemical management specialist (if they have one) who should know to also look at the underlying Regulations, where they may need to explain them to their managers.

a/ Having expertise in Dangerous Goods transport would be expected to reduce instances of non-compliance and support more effective transport operations for Dangerous Goods.

Background (Jeff Simpson HTE Comment): In many small (non MHF) businesses today, Financial Executive Managers and Marketing Executive Managers have taken over running the businesses, but many of these Senior Executive Managers do not even have the basics of technical understanding of chemical management. (E.g. working with flammable solvents that cause electrostatic charge buildup, and if a spark occurs a major fire and maybe a death then results! E.g. Or assume that an operation can be contracted out, such as occurred for the Engineered Stone work that caused the Silicosis inhalation danger and seriously impaired the direct and nearby workers!)

1.8.3 Change: Creation of the DG Safety Adviser Role (DGSA). A Safety Adviser is mandatory under the ADR. At present this is a recommendation for the future AU Code, rather than mandated.

Consignors and Carriers should already have suitable expertise in DG, this (change) makes clear that there is significant value in appointing a person (who) has expertise in DG transport.

Rationale for the DGSA Role: Greater internal expertise within consignors, carriers and other participants.

Question for Consultation. Should the Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser role be made mandatory?

Background via Jeff Simpson HTE:

From ADR 2023 Vol 1 – "1.8.3.1: Each undertaking, the activities of which include the consigning or carriage of Dangerous Goods by road, or related packing, loading, filling or unloading shall appoint one or more safety advisers for the carriage of Dangerous Goods, responsible for helping to prevent the risks inherent in such activities with regard to persons, property and the environment."

"1.8.3.3: The main task of the Adviser shall be, under the responsibility of the Head of the Undertaking, to seek by all appropriate means and by all appropriate action, within the limits of the relevant activities of that undertaking, to facilitate the conduct of those activities in accordance with the requirements applicable and in the safest possible way.

With regard to the Undertaking's activities, the Adviser has the following duties *in particular*:

- monitoring compliance with the requirements governing the carriage of Dangerous Goods;
- advising his undertaking on the carriage of Dangerous Goods;
- preparing an annual report to the management of his undertaking or a local public authority, as appropriate, on the undertaking's activities in the carriage of Dangerous Goods. Such annual reports shall be preserved for five years and made available to the national authorities at their request."

(Jeff Simpson's comments on the proposed DG Safety Adviser (DGSA) Role are on the next page.)

Comments from Jeff Simpson on the DG Safety Adviser (DGSA) Role.

Q2/ I (JS HTE) agree with the Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor (DGSA) role **to be made mandatory**.

Background: At around the start of the year 2000, the DG (S&H) Regulations in most States went away from Licencing small (non MHF) businesses managing Dangerous Goods. This meant the specialist chemical management regulatory role disappeared in most States. Also, 2 tertiary level degree courses in chemical management in Victoria (VUT and Deakin Uni) ceased at the end of 2005 for two reasons (1/ Only 10-20 students per year graduating (not meeting the Federal Govt >30 students/year req't); AND 2/ the difficulty to find lecturers knowledgeable in the various chemical management areas (relevant to industry) to take the tertiary course subjects.

There is now no required technical knowledge basis for this tertiary level chemical management role in most States Regulations. Only the now old consultants (who came from industry experience prior to 2000), still work in this area as technical specialists in chemical management.

Before we lose these old chemical management specialists, there is an important need to re-setup the requirement for the knowledge of a Dangerous Chemicals Safety Advisor role, in Industry and in Authorities (both answerable to the Owners/Senior Executive Managers in each case).

Comment: Even “non-hazardous” chemicals, IF mixed together, can create a Dangerous Goods hazard.

A Possible Way Forward: We need to have those chemical management specialists who are still actively working in Australia and who preferably have tertiary technical education skills, outline the scope of knowledge that needs to be initially known when the Dangerous Chemicals Safety Advisor role is first activated (with care to be a restricted as possible knowledge scope, so the initial role is not overwhelmed by complexity. Then as time goes by, the chemical management knowledge area covered can be carefully added to).

It is particularly important to focus on the Dangerous chemical scenarios the most Senior Executive Managers must be kept aware of (in a similar way to Accountants keeping them aware of potentially Dangerous Financial scenarios), so a business or an Authority does not cause major problems due to lack of such chemical management knowledge in their most Senior Executive Managers.

Regards

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[Dangerous-Chemicals-Safety-Advisors-Needed-ppt by Jeff Simpson-Aug2024 \(ppt pdf\)](#) (10 pages with 19 slides August 2024)

I am creating a Chemical Management Information webpage on my website \ with a specific focus on Dangerous Chemicals Situations that Must be Avoided.

<https://www.haztech.com.au/chem-mgmt-info-via-hte/>

Also, I suggest a starting point might be the OHS Body of Knowledge chapters at www.ohsbok.org.au/ 17.1 Managing Hazardous Chemicals (2023); and 17.4 Process Hazards (Chemical) (2019 & under review).

<https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-17-chemical-hazards/>

<https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-17-chemical-hazards/#1548328004983-899b528e-01e4>

Also: Review the ADR training programs and examinations for the DG Safety Advisor role in the UK <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/carriage-of-dangerous-goods-guidance-note-19/employing-a-dangerous-goods-safety-adviser>

Training and Certification: Download the [DGSA Syllabus for Safety Adviser \(UK\)](#) (Feb 2022, 27 page pdf)