

New Toxic Chemical Substance Control

Measures Take Effect on 1 January 2016

To simplify administration for the public's convenience, the EPA announced a raft of new environmental measures that entered into effect on 1 January 2016. These include revisions to the online reporting of industrial waste, amendments to the *Regulations Governing Air Quality Models and Simulations*, discounts on recycling fee rates for environmentally friendly products, the tightening of mercury maximums for cylindrical batteries, and the banning of chromated copper arsenate as a wood preservative.

The following are major foci of the new measures.

1. Tightening maximum mercury value for cylindrical batteries

Improve the regulation of one-time use cylindrical batteries in Taiwan, the EPA has referenced methods used by the EU, the UN and several other countries to regulate heavy metal content in dry-cell batteries. In order to diminish environmental impacts, regulations have been tightened for mercury content to 1 ppm, and new restrictions have been added for cadmium content effective 1 January 2016.

2. Banning the use of chromated copper arsenate as a wood preservative

Chromated copper arsenate is a water-soluble wood preservative that is composed of arsenic and copper. Weather conditions, rain and acidic soil can all cause these heavy metals to be released into the environment. Since arsenic and hexavalent chromium have been proven to be hazardous to human health and the environment, the EPA decided to tighten control over the use of chromated copper arsenate and ban its use as a wood preservative.

New measures effective 1 January 2016

Measure	Note
For cylindrical batteries, maximum mercury value tightened to 1 ppm and maximum cadmium value tightened to 20 ppm	The EPA has amended the regulations covering restrictions on the manufacturing, import and sale of batteries. Effective 1 January 2016, the maximum mercury value for cylindrical batteries is tightened to 1 ppm and a maximum cadmium value of 20 ppm is also added. From 1 January 2017, a new set of controls on the mercury and cadmium content of button batteries will be implemented.
Banning the use of chromated copper arsenate as a wood preservative	From 1 January 2016, the use of chromated copper arsenate as a wood preservative is banned to better protect the environment.