CHEMICAL SAFETY REPORT

Legal name of applicant:	ACF Howell
Submitted by:	ACF Howell
Date:	29 th December 2024
Substance:	Chromium trioxide EC : 215-607-8 CAS : 1333-82-0
Use title:	Use of chromium trioxide for the electroplating of legacy components such as for classic/vintage cars & motorcycles with the purpose of creating a coating to match the original specification and provide specific performance characteristics.
Use number:	3 - Functional chrome plating with decorative character

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1. SUBSTANCE INFORMATION

Chromium trioxide has a harmonised classification as Carcinogen Cat. 1A and Mutagen Cat. 1B with H350 and H340 according to CLP.

Based on studies which show its genotoxic potential, the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) concluded that Chromium trioxide Cr(VI) should be considered as non-threshold substance with respect to risk characterisation for carcinogenic effect of hexavalent chromium (reference to the studies examined are included in the RAC document "Application for Authorization: Establishing a reference dose response relationship for carcinogenicity of hexavalent chromium "(RAC/ 27/2013/06 Rev.1).

RAC confirmed that it is not possible to determine a "derived no-effect level" for the carcinogenic properties of chromium trioxide and therefore Cr(VI) should be considered as non-threshold substance.

RAC established a reference dose response relationship for carcinogenicity of hexavalent chromium (RAC/27/2013/06 Rev.1) which has been used in this AfA.

Cr(VI) causes lung tumours in humans and animals by the inhalation route and tumours of the gastrointestinal tract in animals by the oral route. These are both local, site-of-contact tumours and there is no evidence that Cr(VI) causes tumours elsewhere in the body.

Dose-response relationships were derived by linear extrapolation. Extrapolating outside the range of observation inevitably introduces uncertainties. As the mechanistic evidence is suggestive of non-linearity, it is acknowledged that the excess risks in the low exposure range (below $1 \mu g/m^3$ or $1 \mu g/kg$ bw/day of Cr(VI)) might be an overestimate.

The use of chromium trioxide for the decorative chromium electroplating of legacy components such as for vintage and classic cars and motorcycles has the purpose of creating a coating to match the original specification and provide specific performance characteristics.

The metallic chromium outer layer enhances corrosion resistance, durability and achieves the recognisable surface appearance of the original article in combination with other important functional characteristics.

Functional chrome plating with decorative character represents the surface treatment of metal or other surfaces with a water-based chromium trioxide mixture (namely chromic acid) to deposit a thin metallic chromium outer layer using an electrolytic plating process. The surface of the finished product is entirely free of hexavalent chromium, with the chromium coating being essentially inert. The metallic chromium electroplated coating is fully recyclable.

The following values are used as benchmarks for controls:

PERSONAL AIR MONITORING

Analysis Method : BS ISO 16740:2005 Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) : 0.010mg/m³ [10µg/m³] (8hr-TWA) * Test Frequency : Annually Action Level : 0.005mg/m³ [5µg/m³] (8hr-TWA)

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING

Testing Method : Urine samples collected post shift. Analysis Units : Chromium µmol/mol Creatinine Biological Monitoring Guidance Value (UK) BMGV HSE Guidance Note EH40 Table 2 : 10 µmol/mol Creatinine Unexposed level : 2.9 µmol/mol Creatinine Test Frequency : Annually Action Level : 5.0 µmol/mol Creatinine

AIRBORNE MIST TESTING

Testing Method : MDHS 52/4 & MDHS 14/4. Test Frequency : Every month Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) : $0.025 mg/m^3$ [$25 \mu g/m^3$] (8hr-TWA) Process Generated Action Level : $0.01 mg/m^3$ [$10 \mu g/m^3$] (8hr-TWA)

SURFACE TENSION OF THE ELECTROLYTE

Testing Method : External Laboratory Analysis Test Frequency : Every month Industry Standard : Must not exceed 40 dyne/cm (40 mN/m) Action Level : 40 dyne/cm (40 mN/m)

* It is noted that the current binding Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL) set under the EU Directive 2004/37/EC is 10 μ g/m³ as an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) until January 17, 2025. After that date, the OEL will be reduced to 5 μ g/m³ as an 8-hour TWA.

2. COMPANY BACKGROUND

A.C.F. Howell is a micro business and specialises primarily in the refurbishment and restoration of chromed parts for vintage and classic cars and motorcycles, together with small batch work of new parts.

Founded by Adam Howell in 1986, the company is located in Victorian workshops in Walsall and employs a small team of versatile metal workers and long serving staff, experienced in the metal finishing business. The chromium plating process is carried out in a single dedicated unit on the site and is the final stage of what can be a complex process of specialist component restoration.

The company has a loyal customer base, made up of enthusiasts, prestigious restoration businesses, spares dealers and general engineering companies. Before the UK withdrew from the EU, the company had many customers in Europe but has still been able to retain its business in the United States.

Typical components include bumpers, overriders, bonnet and boot catches, light surrounds, door and window trims, exhaust systems and handlebars.

3. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Figure 3.1 is a schematic diagram of the tasks involved in the refurbishment process of a component probably taken off a classic car or motorcycle. It highlights where chrome plating takes place and the work involved in preparing a component which will meet the customer's expectations and performance requirements.





4. THE USE OF CHROMIUM TRIOXIDE

The key functionalities for chromium trioxide plated products are primarily corrosion resistance, chemical resistance, hardness and resistance to wear and abrasion, colour and shine stability, surface consistency and smoothness.

Figure 4.1 is a layout of the plating shop where the process that uses chromium trioxide is located. The plating shop is totally segregated from the rest of the factory and only the main plater and support plater are allowed to work in this unit. As can be seen in the diagram, a

restricted chrome zone has been identified (2 metres either side of the chrome plating tank) and time spent in this zone is kept to the absolute minimum needed to perform the task.

The plating line is a manually operated in-line rack plating line containing a total of 27 process stations. At the loading station 0, the plater will load jigs/frames onto a flight bar. The flight bar is lifted using an electronically operated trolly by the plater and lowered into various tanks on the line. The platers will either:

- Process components to the copper stage and then unload jigs/frames back at the loading station 0 or
- Process components to the final chrome stage and unload at the unload station 28.

Hosing down of plated components is not performed.

Figure 4.1



5. SUMMARY OF RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES

There have been regulations in place in the UK regarding the use of chromium trioxide in chromium electroplating operations since 1931 and over the years the Health & Safety Executive and the chromium plating industry have developed codes of practice which has meant that chromium trioxide can be used safely in electroplating processes with exposures similar to background levels.

The following is a summary of the Risk Management Measures which are used to control exposure to chromium trioxide.

Segregation

The plating shop is totally segregated from the rest of the factory and only the main plater and support plater are allowed to work in this unit. A restricted chrome zone has been identified (2 metres either side of the chrome plating tank) and time spent in this zone is kept to the absolute minimum needed to perform the task.

Containment

Within the plating shop there is a plating line containing 27 process stations, which in total contain approximately 30,800 litres of various rinses & process chemicals. Approximately 23,800 litres is the total of active process chemicals, with remaining volume being rinses & swills. The whole plating line sits inside a large bund of approximately 27 cu m (27,000 litres).

Waste rinse water from the plating processes, which will contain trace amounts of chromium trioxide (4 mg/l), is stored and contained on-site. This waste is sent for disposal as hazardous waste using a registered waste contractor when appropriate.

Mist Suppressants

To reduce surface tension and reduce/prevent mist development, a non-PFOS mist suppressant is used and added in small quantities to the electrolyte on a daily basis. Regular airborne misting testing and surface tension monitoring takes place.

General Ventilation

The plating shop has two independent ventilation systems. One system serves the cleaner stage process area and the other system serves the central process area. Each have recently been tested demonstrating airflows of 282.4 m³/min and 323.4 m³/min respectively.

Exposure Monitoring

A programme of personal air monitoring and biological monitoring takes place.

Personal Protective Equipment

The use and type of PPE will vary dependent on the task being performed.

• Gloves

Chemically resistant gloves: EN ISO 374-1:2016 / TYPE B (CAT III) are used as a minimum. These gloves are resistant to 96% concentrated sulphuric acid with a breakthrough time of at least 30 minutes

Offline tasks are performed using lighter weight cotton gloves and vinyl gloves. It is the employee's choice depending on the task being performed.

• Eye Protection, Chemical Proof Overalls & Safety boots

These are worn as standard.

• Emergency Eye Wash Stations

These are suitably located around the site. One station is located close to load/unload station 0 on the plating line.

• Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE)

For various tasks in the plating shop, RPE is worn. As standard, FFP3 (JSP M632 EN149:2001) half masks are used.

Training

In house training is provided on the hazards of Cr(VI) exposure and how the hazards should be controlled. Subjects that have been covered include:

- Removing gloves
- o Hygiene
- Removal and storage of PPE & overalls
- o Subcontractors

Various handouts have been downloaded from the HSE website and video clips have also been downloaded as additional training aids. HSE publication "Chromium and You" indg346 is issued to all employees. This training is also provided for new starters at induction and highlights the dangers and hazards of all chemicals being used on the site.

General Hygiene Precautions

The following disciplines are employed:

- Eating and drinking is prohibited in all shop floor areas
- Designated rest areas are provided for the purpose of eating and drinking.
- Washing facilities are available close to the plating area and rest areas
- o Platers are instructed to wash hands on leaving the plating line
- A designated decontamination area is in place for the platers
- Each plater has a personal facility for the storage of their PPE
- No plating line personnel take their overalls home

Standard Operating Procedures

Tasks that have the potential for exposure to Cr(VI) have a standard operating procedure in a series entitled "Working with Chromium". These deal with the correct method of performing a task and how exposures to Cr(VI) are controlled. Procedures that are in place are shown below:

- Checking Chrome Temperatures
- Taking Samples for Chrome Analysis
- High Results from Monitoring Surveys
- Rules For Working in Chrome Area
- Making The Chrome Additions
- Checking Condition of Anodes
- o Removing Potentially Contaminated Gloves
- o Hygiene
- Rules For Sub-Contractors
- Unloading Chemicals & Moving to Storage
- Removing PPE & overalls
- o Emptying A Chrome Tank

Regular maintenance

The good working order of the plating plant and mechanical equipment is assessed during normal operations and the plater will notify management at the first sign of malfunction.

Platers are also responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of the pollution prevention infrastructure and thus reducing the likelihood of pollution to the environment. This includes the inspection of bunding, condition of tanks, solution levels, pumps, pipework and heaters etc.

6. EXPOSURE MONITORING

6.1 Airborne Mist Testing

Airborne mist testing has been taking place for many years and provides strong viable data to assess workshop exposure. Records are available back to 22nd January 2002.

To reduce surface tension and reduce/prevent mist development, a non-PFOS mist suppressant is used and added in small quantities to the electrolyte on a daily basis.

An external chemist performs the testing process on a monthly basis using the Colour Metric Comparator (Lovibond) and testing methods MDHS 52/4 & MDHS 14/4.

An analysis of results from January 2021 to November 2024 is shown in Table 6.1 Table 6.1

	Highest	Geometric	90th
No of tests	Reading	Mean	Percentile
	mg/m ³ as Cr	mg/m ³ as Cr	mg/m ³ as Cr
33	0.03	0.0115	0.020

Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) : 0.025mg/m^3 (8hr-TWA) Process Generated Action Level : 0.01 mg/m^3 (8hr-TWA)

6.2 Personal Air Monitoring

A programme of personal air monitoring of the platers has commenced and will continue every 3 months until 10 personal exposure data points have been obtained. Each monitoring survey is carried out using method MDHS 14/4 and inhalation exposure sampling is measured on the worker's lapel and on the outside of any respiratory protection equipment that may be being worn. Samples are sent to an external laboratory for the measurement of Cr(VI).

The laboratory supplies the sample media in the form of a pre-treated quartz filter and once the sampling has been completed, the filter is despatched to the laboratory who uses the analysis methodology specified in BS ISO 16740:2005 to determine Cr(VI) exposure.

Once the 10 personal exposure data points have been obtained and provided that the 90th percentile of personal exposure to Cr(VI) does not exceed the action level of 5 μ g/m³ (8hr-TWA) we shall revert to carrying out annual surveys.

A standard operating procedure is in place which provides a corrective action plan which will be employed if any exposure readings for an employee exceeds the action level of 5 μ g/m³.

The first results from our personal air monitoring surveys are shown in table 6.2

Table 6.2

Worker	Sample Date	Activity	Laboratory	Sampling Duration mins	Cr(VI) Exposure (8hr TWA) µg/m ³
			Marchwood	259	0.927

		Marchwood	301	0.101
Static Position	Sampling unit permanently positioned within 1 metre of the chrome plating tank	Marchwood	345	0.129

Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) : $10\mu g/m^3$ (8hr-TWA) Action Level : $5\mu g/m^3$ (8hr-TWA)

6.3 Biological Monitoring

A programme of biological monitoring of the platers has commenced and will continue annually.

Urine samples are requested at the end of shift. Samples are then despatched to an external laboratory for analysis.

A standard operating procedure is in place which provides a corrective action plan which will be employed if any exposure readings for an employee exceeds the action level of 5 μ mol chromium/mol creatinine.

The first results from our biological monitoring surveys are shown in table 6.3

Table 6.3

Worker	Sample Date	Laboratory	Result µmol/mol creatinine
		RPS	1.56
		RPS	1.68

Biological Monitoring Guidance Value (UK) BMGV HSE Guidance Note EH40 Table 2 : 10 µmol/mol Creatinine Action Level : 5.0 µmol/mol Creatinine

No occupational health issues have been detected with both platers while being employed at the company. No issues with nasal septum perforation, skin ulceration, dermatitis or occupational asthma.

6.4 Surface Tension of The Electrolyte

To monitor the quality and concentration of the chrome solution, monthly checks are carried out. A sample of the solution is taken from the tank and analysed by an external laboratory.

In addition to providing a chemical analysis, the laboratory is able to determine the surface tension.

To reduce surface tension and reduce/prevent mist development, a non-PFOS mist suppressant is used and added in small quantities to the electrolyte by the support plater on a daily basis.

The results from our last two analysis reports are shown in table 6.4 Table 6.4

Sample Date	Surface Tension dyne/cm
23/10/2024	36
29/11/2024	34

Action Level : 40 dyne/cm (40 mN/m)

9. EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT (and related risk characterisation)

9.1 Introduction

This exposure assessment is part of the AfA for the continued use of chromium trioxide (CAS: 1333-82-0, EC: 215-607-8) in specific decorative chromium plating applications where a set of performance requirements must be met.

9.1.1 Overview of uses and Exposure Scenarios

Tonnage information:

The applicant is a micro enterprise for the purpose of REACH authorisation applications and only uses a total weight of 50-75 kg per annum. The chromium trioxide (CT) is purchased in a pre-made solution at a concentration of approximately 50% and the weight of CT is deduced from the total volume of solution used.

The following table lists all the exposure scenarios (ES) assessed in this CSR.

Contributing scenario	ERC / PROC	Name of the contributing scenario	Size of the exposed population
ES 1:			
ECS1	ERC 6B	Use at an Industrial Site - Use of chromium L trioxide for the electroplating of legacy components such as for classic/vintage cars & motorcycles with the purpose of creating a coating to match the original specification and provide specific performance characteristics.	
WCS 1	PROC 1	Receipt, transfer and storage of Chromium Trioxide solution	Support Plater
WCS 2	PROC 4	Offline jigging / unloading / inspection of components	One operative
WCS 3	PROC 13	Working in the Plating Shop Activity 1 : Working outside Chrome Zone Activity 2 : Working inside Chrome Zone Activity 3 : Working with contaminated components after plating	Main plater * Support plater
WCS 4	PROC 8b	Sampling the chrome tank	Support plater
WCS 5	PROC 8b	Concentration adjustment of the chrome tank (Making additions) Activity 1 : Working outside Chrome Zone Activity 2 : Working inside Chrome Zone	Support plater
WCS 6	PROC 28	Maintenance activities	Main plater * Support plater

Table 9.1 Overview of Contributing Scenarios

WCS 7 PRO	OC 28 Wastewate	er management & disposal	Support plater
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*Please note that the tasks listed in Table 9.1 can be performed together, shared or performed individually.

Further details on each WCS activity are as follows:

WCS 1- Receipt, transfer and storage of Chromium Trioxide solution

The chromium trioxide, which is purchased for the purpose of concentration adjustment of the chrome plating tank, arrives at the company in 25L heavy duty plastic containers as a pre-made up solution. Upon receipt, checks are carried out to ensure the goods are in good condition and undamaged. The containers remain unopened and are moved by the support plater to a dedicated area in plating shop. Access to this area is controlled and only approved employees are allowed access.

WCS 2 – Offline jigging / unloading / inspection of components

Before components can be processed on the plating line, they have to be either:

- A. Loaded onto specially designed jigs or
- B. Attached by copper wire to specially designed frames or
- C. Loaded directly onto the flight bar using copper wire and special attachments.

Operations A and B can be performed by one operative outside the plating shop which is included in this scenario, but no exposure to chromium trioxide is possible.

Operations A, B and C can be performed by either plater in the plating shop and is included in WCS 3.

On completion of the plating process:

- D. The jigs/frames are unloaded from the plating line and then
- E. Components are removed from jigs/frames and then
- F. Components are inspected and packed.

Operation D is performed by either plater, only in the plating shop and is included in WCS 3.

Operation E can be performed by one operative outside the plating shop which is included in this scenario and by either plater in the plating shop and is included in WCS 3.

Operation F is only performed by one operative outside the plating shop which is include in this scenario.

WCS 3 – Working in the Plating Shop

The plating shop is totally segregated from the rest of the factory and only the main plater and support plater are allowed to work in this unit. A restricted chrome zone on the plating line has been identified (2 metres either side of the chrome plating tank) and time spent in this zone is kept to the absolute minimum needed to perform the task.

The plating plant is a manually operated in-line rack plating line containing a total of 27 process stations. At the loading station 0, the plater will load jigs/frames onto a flight bar. The flight bar is lifted using an electronically operated trolly by the plater and lowered into various tanks on the line. While manually operating the plating line, the platers have the opportunity to assess quality and performance of processes and monitor the condition of the tanks, solution levels, pumps, pipes and heaters. The platers will either:

• Process components to the copper stage and then unload jigs/frames back at the loading station 0 or

• Process components to the final chrome stage and unload at the unload station 28.

In addition to operating the plating line, the platers can perform operations A, B and C (see above). Operation D (see above) is performed by either plater and only in the plating shop. Operation E (see above) can be performed by either plater whilst in the plating shop.

This scenario represents a full shift for both platers and includes estimates of the time spent on a typical range of tasks during a typical shift.

Since this scenario represents a typical shift in the plating shop, WCS4 (Sampling) and WCS5 (Making additions) will, in fact, be included in the scenario for the support plater on the day these activities take place. No allowance has been made for this situation, maintaining the worst case scenario methodology.

WCS 4 – Sampling the chrome tank

To monitor the quality and concentration of the chrome solution, monthly checks are carried out. A sample of the solution is taken from the tank and analysed by an external laboratory who will report on various parameters and recommend any adjustments that will be required to ensure that the electroplating solution remains within specified performance tolerances.

WCS 5 – Concentration adjustment of the chrome tank (Making additions)

When the result of the sample analysis shows that there is a need for additions to be made to the chrome solution, the support plater will make the addition of chromium trioxide to ensure that the optimal concentration of the electroplating solution is maintained.

WCS 6 – Maintenance activities

Periodic maintenance activities are carried out and include:

- Every 3 months Checking condition of anodes and cleaning plating rails
- Every 3 years or Emergency Emptying and replenishing chrome tank

WCS 7 - Wastewater management & disposal

Waste rinse water from the plating processes, which will contain trace amounts of chromium trioxide (4 mg/l), is stored and contained on-site. This waste is sent for disposal as hazardous waste using a registered waste contractor when appropriate.

9.1.2 Introduction to the assessment

9.1.2.1 Environment

The chromium trioxide is purchased in a pre-made solution at a concentration of approximately 50% and the used weight of solid is deduced as 50-75 kg per annum.

There are no releases to atmosphere from the site as there is no Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) in use and there are no releases to watercourses.

All chromium trioxide waste is stored and contained on-site. No plating related substances are disposed of via sewer (Severn Trent Water). Once the components have been coated, there is no residual chromium trioxide and so, there is no potential for health impacts during use of the finished articles.

9.1.2.2 Human via environment

There are no quantifiable releases of chromium trioxide to the environment as there is no LEV in use, therefore operations involving chromium trioxide make no contribution to this potential route of human exposure.

Scope and type of assessment:

The whole plating line sits inside a large bund in line with Best Practice. Waste rinse water from the plating processes, which will contain trace amounts of chromium trioxide (4 mg/l), is stored and contained on-site. This waste is sent for disposal as hazardous waste using a registered waste contractor when appropriate.

9.1.2.3 Workers

Scope and type of assessment:

In the absence of sufficient personal exposure data, the worker exposure via inhalation for the Worker Contributing Scenarios have been assessed and estimated using the Advanced REACH Tool 1.5 (ART) exposure model. ART is a model calibrated to assess exposure to inhalable dust, vapours, and mists and these Exposure Scenarios are within the scope of ART.

ART predicts air concentrations in a worker's personal breathing zone outside of any Respiratory Protection Equipment (RPE). Although RPE is used by workers in several scenarios, there is no account being taken for RPE and no adjustments made for RPE to any ART results in this CSR. Therefore, worst case scenarios are being assumed in all cases.

A programme of personal air monitoring and biological monitoring has commenced but significant statistical data is limited at this time. Arborne mist testing has been taking place for many years and provides strong viable data to assess workshop exposure.

Chromium trioxide is classified as a Category 1 carcinogen (H350: 'May cause cancer') and, as such, does not have any Derived No Effect Limit (DNEL). Therefore, WEL and BMGV values together with internally set action levels are used as benchmarks for controls.

The conditions of use detailed within this CSR specify that all handling of the substance by the worker should be done while wearing appropriate PPE relative to the task.

The conditions of storage, use and handling of the substance are detailed within this CSR and are utilised as the RMM's.

9.1.2.4 Consumers

There is no exposure to consumers from the use of chromium trioxide in accordance with this Application for Authorisation.

There are no releases of chromium trioxide to the environment from any part of the site and therefore the process operations involving chromium trioxide make no contribution to this potential route of human exposure.

9.2 Exposure scenario 1 for workers

In the absence of sufficient specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. The input values of a constant nature are summarised in Table 9.2

Constant Parameters (relating to the plating shop) used in ART tool				
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure	Far-field exposure (Where Applicable)		
Surface contamination				
Process fully enclosed?	No	No		
Effective housekeeping practices in place?	Yes	Yes		
Dispersion				

Table 9.2 Inhalation Exposure modelling – Constant Parameters

Work area	Indoors	Indoors
Room size	300 m ³ *	300 m ³ *
Risk Management Measures		
Localised controls		
Primary	No localized controls (0.00 % reduction)	No localized controls (0.00 % reduction)
Secondary	No localized controls (0.00 % reduction)	No localized controls (0.00 % reduction)
Segregation		No segregation (0.00 % reduction)
Dispersion		
Ventilation rate	10 air changes per hour (ACH) **	10 air changes per hour (ACH) **

* Actual work area volume is estimated at 450 m³

** A conservative estimate of actual ACH is well in excess of 25

Note:

Work area volume and ACH used in WCS2 adjusted for offline activity Work area volume and ACH used in WCS7 adjusted for outdoors

9.2.1 Worker contributing scenario 1 - WCS 1

This contributing scenario covers the potential exposure during receipt, transfer and storage of Chromium Trioxide solution.

9.2.1.1 Conditions of use

WCS 1 - Receipt, transfer and storage of Chromium Trioxide solution	Method			
Product (article) characteristics				
• Sealed container containing chromium trioxide solution @ approximately 50% concentration.				
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure	2			
 2x 25L containers. Every 3 months. No exposure as sealed container. Duration of activity : 30 minutes Number of workers: Support Plater only 				
Technical and organisational conditions and measures				
• Keep sealed in original container. Transfer to storage location.				
Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health evaluation	on			
 Wear chemically resistant gloves, overall, eye protection in case of accidental spillage. Training - Working with Chromium - Standard Operating Procedure in place 				
Other conditions affecting workers exposure				
• n/a				
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REACH do not apply				
 Use mechanical aids for movement and lifting where possible. Regular refresher training - Working with Chromium 				

Exposure assessment

Inhalation exposure and dermal exposure have been assessed qualitatively. As the material is received in sealed containers exposures by inhalation and skin contact are considered to be negligible.

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentrations have been assessed qualitatively. These are summarised in table 9.3

Route of exposure	Exposure value	Exposure value	Exposure value
	$(8h TWA, mg/m^3)$	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	corrected for frequency
			$(\mu g/m^3) **$
Inhalation	0	0	0

Table 9.3 Exposure concentrations and risks for workers (WCS1)

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction n/a

9.2.2 Worker contributing scenario 2 – WCS 2

This contributing scenario covers the potential exposure to chromium trioxide during the offline jigging of components in preparation for the plating process and the unloading / final inspection prior to wrapping for despatch.

9.2.2.1 Conditions of use

WCS 2 - Offline jigging / unloading / inspection of components	Method			
Product (article) characteristics				
• During unloading jigs/frames plated components contaminated with chromium trioxide solution trapped in features.				
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure	2			
 Very small amount (unquantified) Duration of activity : Daily (Typically 1 hour exposure to plated components) Number of workers: One worker outside the plating shop 				
Technical and organisational conditions and measures				
 The final stage in the plating process is the immersion of jigs & components in neutralising and rinsing solutions. Components allowed to dry before being removed from the plating line 				
Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health evaluation				
 Wear chemically resistant gloves, overalls, eye protection Training - Working with Chromium - Standard Operating Procedure in place Good hygiene practices - Standard Operating Procedure in place 				
Other conditions affecting workers exposure				
• n/a				
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REACH do not apply				
Regular refresher training - Working with Chromium				

Exposure assessment

In the absence of sufficient specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. The input values are summarised in table 9.4.

Variable Parameters used in ART tool		Total duration (mins): 480 Non-exposure period (mins): 42		
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure	Far-field exposure (Not Applicable)		
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids			
Process temperature	Room temperature			
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa			
Liquid weight fraction	Minute			
Viscosity	Low			
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Handling of contami	nated objects		
Situation	Activities with treate objects (surface 0.1-0	d/contaminated 0.3 m ²)		
Containment level	Contamination < 10	% surface		
Dispersion				
Work area	Indoors			
Room size	100 m ³			
Risk Management Measures				
Dispersion				
Ventilation rate	No restriction on ger characteristics	eral ventilation		

Table 9.4 Inhalation Exposure modelling for WCS 2 - Offline jigging / unloading / inspection of components

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentration estimated using the ART 1.5 model is reported in Table 9.5.

Exposure duration: 60 min : 90th percentile full-shift exposure : One worker

Table 9.5 Exposure concentrations and risks for workers (WCS2)

Route of exposure	Modelled Exposure	Modelled Exposure	Exposure value
	value	value	corrected for frequency
	$(8h TWA, mg/m^3)$	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	$(\mu g/m^3) **$
Inhalation	0.00000053	0.00053	0.00053

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction Every shift n/a

9.2.3 Worker contributing scenario 3 – WCS 3

This contributing scenario covers the potential exposure to chromium trioxide whilst working in the plating shop via airborne mist.

9.2.3.1 Conditions of use

WCS 3 - Working in the Plating Shop	Method
Product (article) characteristics	
Chromium trioxide solution containing approximately 23% chromium trioxide.	
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure	e

Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health evaluation				
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REACH do not apply				

Exposure assessment

In the absence of sufficient specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. This scenario consists of three activities. Each activity has been assigned a name and duration in minutes. The activities together represent one working shift and the total duration is 480 minutes.

The input values are summarised in table 9.6

Table 9.6 Inhalation Exposure modelling for WCS 3 - Working in the Plating Shop

Activity 1 : Working outside Chrome Zone				
Variable Parameters used in ART tool Total duration (mins): 315 per shift			duration (mins): 315 per shift	
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure	Far-field exposure		
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids		Liquids	
Process temperature	Room temperature		40°C	
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa		0.01 Pa	
Liquid weight fraction	Minute		23%	
Viscosity	Low	Low		
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Handling of contamin	nated objects	Activities with relatively undisturbed surfaces (no aerosol formation)	
Situation	Activities with treated objects (surface <0.1	d/contaminated m ²)	Open surface 0.3 - 1 m ²	
Containment level	Contamination < 10 g	% surface		

Activity 2 : Working inside Chrome Zone				
Variable Parameters used in ART tool Total duration (mins): 45 per shift		duration (mins): 45 per shift		
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure	1	Far-field exposure (Not Applicable)	
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids			
Process temperature	40°C			
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa			
Liquid weight fraction	23%			
Viscosity	Low			
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Activities with relativ surfaces (no aerosol f	vely undisturbed formation)		
Situation	Open surface 0.3 - 1 m ²			
Containment level				
Activity 3 : Working with conta	minated components	after plating		
Variable Parameters used in A	Variable Parameters used in ART tool Total duration (mins): 30 per shift			
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure		Far-field exposure	
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids		Liquids	
Process temperature	Room temperature		40°C	
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa		0.01 Pa	
Liquid weight fraction	Minute		23%	
Viscosity	Low		Low	
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Handling of contamir	nated objects	Activities with relatively undisturbed surfaces (no aerosol formation)	
Situation	Activities with treated objects (surface 0.3-1	d/contaminated m ²)	Open surface 0.3 - 1 m ²	
Containment level	Contamination < 10 %	% surface		

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentration estimated using the ART 1.5 model for a full shift of three activities is reported in Table 9.7.

Total duration (mins): 480 Non-exposure period (mins): 90 Exposure duration: 390 min : 90th percentile full-shift exposure : Two workers

Table 9.7 H	Exposure	concentrations	and risks	for	workers	(WCS3)
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Route of exposure	Modelled Exposure	Modelled Exposure	Exposure value
	value	value	corrected for frequency
	$(8h TWA, mg/m^3)$	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	$(\mu g/m^3) **$
Inhalation	0.0012	1.2	1.2

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction Every shift n/a

9.2.4 Worker contributing scenario 4 – WCS 4

This contributing scenario covers the potential exposure to chromium trioxide while taking samples from the chrome plating tank.

9.2.4.1 Conditions of use

WCS 4 - Sampling the chrome tank	Method			
Product (article) characteristics				
Chromium trioxide solution containing approximately 23% chromium trioxide.				
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure				
100ml typically once per month.				
 Maximum time in Chrome Zone: 10 minutes total 				
 Number of workers: Support Plater only 				
Technical and organisational conditions and measures				
 Submerge sample container into chrome trioxide solution using long handled 				
tongs.				
• Seal sample container and thoroughly neutralise and rinse before removing from				
the plating line.				
Good ventilation				
Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health evaluation				
 Wear chemically resistant gloves, overalls, eye protection 				
 Task specific Standard Operating Procedure in place 				
Training - Working with Chromium - Standard Operating Procedure in place				
 Good hygiene practices - Standard Operating Procedure in place 				
Other conditions affecting workers exposure				
• n/a				
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REACH do not apply				
 Avoid repetitive handling to keep exposure to a minimum 				
Regular refresher training - Working with Chromium				

Exposure assessment

In the absence of specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. The input values are summarised in table 9.8.

Table 9.8 Inhalation Exposure modelling for WCS 4 - Sampling the chrome tank

Variable Parameters used in ART tool		Total duration (mins): 480 Non-exposure period (mins): 470	
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure		Far-field exposure (Not Applicable)
Substance emission potential			
Substance product type	Liquids		
Process temperature	40°C		
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa		
Liquid weight fraction	23%		
Viscosity	Low		
Activity emission potential			
Activity class	Handling of contamin	nated objects	
Situation	Activities with treate objects (surface <0.1	d/contaminated m ²)	
Containment level	Contamination > 90 9	% of surface	

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentration estimated using the ART 1.5 model is reported in Table 9.9.

Exposure duration: 10 min : 90th percentile full-shift exposure : One worker

Table 9.9 Exposure concentrations and risks for workers (WCS4)

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Route of exposure	Modelled Exposure	Modelled Exposure	Exposure value
	value	value	corrected for frequency
	$(8h TWA, mg/m^3)$	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	$(\mu g/m^3) **$
Inhalation	0.00014	0.14	0.007

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction Once per month 1/20

9.2.5 Worker contributing scenario 5 – WCS 5

This contributing scenario covers the potential exposure to chromium trioxide while making concentration adjustments to the chrome plating tank. (Making additions). This scenario consists of two activities. Activity 1 represents time spent, outside the chrome zone, in preparation and cleaning up. Activity 2 represents time spent, inside the chrome zone, doing the dispensing. The activities together represent a total of 20 minutes per month.

9.2.5.1 Conditions of use

WCS 5 – Making Additions	Method		
Product (article) characteristics			
Chromium Trioxide solution containing 50% Chromium Trioxide			
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure	2		
 50L typically every 3 months Average 20 mins per month (Total activity duration) Maximum time in Chrome Zone: 5 mins Number of workers: Support Plater only 			
Fechnical and organisational conditions and measures			
 Good ventilation Keep sealed in original container, in specified area when not in use 			
Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health eva	aluation		
 Wear chemically resistant gloves, overalls, eye protection Wear FFP3 filter mask Task specific Standard Operating Procedure in place Training - Working with Chromium - Standard Operating Procedure in place Good hygiene practices - Standard Operating Procedure in place 			
Other conditions affecting workers exposure			
• Far field exposure applies for platers			
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REACH do not apply			
 Neutralise and rinse taps & jugs Regular refresher training - Working with Chromium 			

Exposure assessment

In the absence of specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. The input values are summarised in table 9.10.

Table 9.10 Inhalation Exposure modelling for WCS 5 – Making Additions

Activity 1 : Working outside Chrome Zone : Preparation and Clean up				
Variable Parameters used in A	RT tool]	Fotal duration (mins): 15	
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure	1	Far-field exposure	
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids		Liquids	
Process temperature	Room temperature		40°C	
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa		0.01 Pa	
Liquid weight fraction	50%		23%	
Viscosity	Low		Low	
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Handling of contamin	nated objects	Activities with relatively undisturbed surfaces (no aerosol formation)	
Situation	Activities with treated objects (surface <0.1	d/contaminated m ²)	Open surface 0.3 - 1 m ²	
Containment level	Contamination 10-90	0-90 % of surface		
Activity 2 : Working inside Chrome Zone : Dispensing				
Variable Parameters used in ART tool Total		Total duration (mins): 5		
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure		Far-field exposure (Not Applicable)	
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids			
Process temperature	Room temperature			
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa			
Liquid weight fraction	50%			
Viscosity	Low			
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Falling liquids			
Situation	Transfer of liquid pro - 10 l/minute	oduct with flow of 1		
Containment level	Open process			
Loading type	Splash loading, when dispenser remains at reservoir and the liqu	e the liquid the top of the id splashes freely		

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentration estimated using the ART 1.5 model is reported in Table 9.11.

Total duration (mins): 480 Non-exposure period (mins): 460 Exposure duration: 20 min : 90th percentile full-shift exposure : One worker

Route of exposure	Modelled Exposure	Modelled Exposure	Exposure value
	value	value	corrected for frequency
	$(8h TWA, mg/m^3)$	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	$(\mu g/m^3) **$
Inhalation	0.0016	1.6	0.08
1			

Table 9.11 Exposure concentrations and risks for workers (WCS5)

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction Once per month 1/20

9.2.6 Worker contributing scenario 6 – WCS 6

This contributing scenario covers the potential to chromium trioxide during maintenance of equipment on the plating line.

9.2.6.1 Conditions of use

WCS 6 – Maintenance activities	Method		
Product (article) characteristics			
• Chromium trioxide solution containing approximately 23% chromium trioxide.			
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure	e		
 Typical time spent in Chrome Zone: 60 mins Frequency : Every 3 months Number of workers: Main Plater and Support Plater together 			
Technical and organisational conditions and measures			
Plating process must be stopped before any maintenance commences.Good ventilation			
Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health eva	aluation		
 Wear chemically resistant gloves, overalls, eye protection Appropriate task specific PPE & RPE is required Task specific Standard Operating Procedures in place Training - Working with Chromium - Standard Operating Procedure in place Good hygiene practices - Standard Operating Procedure in place 			
Other conditions affecting workers exposure			
• n/a			
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REACH do not apply			
Regular refresher training - Working with Chromium			

Exposure assessment

In the absence of specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. The input values are summarised in table 9.12.

Table 9.12 Inhalation Exposure modelling for WCS 6 – Maintenance activities

Variable Parameters used in ART tool		Total duration (mins): 480 Non-exposure period (mins): 420	
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure		Far-field exposure (Not Applicable)
Substance emission potential			
Substance product type	Liquids		

Process temperature	Room temperature	
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa	
Liquid weight fraction	23%	
Viscosity	Low	
Activity emission potential		
Activity class	Handling of contaminated objects	
Situation	Activities with treated/contaminated objects (surface 0.1-0.3 m ²)	
Containment level	Contamination > 90 % of surface	

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentration estimated using the ART 1.5 model is reported in Table 9.13.

Exposure duration: 60 min : 90th percentile full-shift exposure : Two workers

1	Table 9.13 Exposure	concentrations	and risks	for workers	(WCS6)
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Route of exposure	Modelled Exposure	Modelled Exposure	Exposure value
	value	value	corrected for frequency
	(8h TWA, mg/m ³)	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	(µg/m ³) **
Inhalation	0.00085	0.85	0.014167

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction Once every 3 months 1/60

9.2.7 Worker contributing scenario 7 – WCS 7

This contributing scenario covers the potential exposure to chromium trioxide while performing tasks related to contaminated wastewater emanating from the process rinses and the disposal of this waste using a registered waste contractor.

9.2.7.1 Conditions of use					
WCS 7 – Wastewater management & disposal	Method				
Product (article) characteristics	Product (article) characteristics				
Chromium Trioxide solution containing traces of Chromium Trioxide (4 mg/l)					
Amount used (or contained in articles), frequency and duration of use/exposure	e				
Waste disposal takes place infrequently. Typically 10,000 litres every 2-3 years Typical activity time : 60 mins Number of workers: Support Plater only					
Technical and organisational conditions and measures					
 Waste rinse water from the plating processes is stored and contained on-site. Waste disposal takes place when appropriate. Activity performed outdoors but within a courtyard. Out of range of the plating line. 					
Conditions and measures related to personal protection, hygiene and health evaluation					
 Wear chemically resistant gloves, overall, eye protection in case of accidental spillage. Training - Working with Chromium - Standard Operating Procedure in place 					

9.2.7.1 Conditions of use

Other conditions affecting workers exposure	
• n/a	
Additional good practice advice. Obligations according to Article 37(4) of REA	CH do not apply
Regular refresher training - Working with Chromium	

Exposure assessment

In the absence of specific task based exposure data, personal exposure was modelled using ART 1.5 tool. The input values are summarised in table 9.14.

Variable Parameters used in ART tool		Total duration (mins): 480 Nonexposure period (mins): 420		
Operational Conditions	Near-field exposure		Far-field exposure (Not Applicable)	
Substance emission potential				
Substance product type	Liquids			
Process temperature	Room temperature			
Vapour pressure	0.01 Pa			
Liquid weight fraction	0.4%			
Viscosity	Low			
Activity emission potential				
Activity class	Bottom loading			
Situation	Transfer of liquid pro 100 - 1000 l/minute	oduct with flow of		
Containment level				
Dispersion				
Work area	Indoors (Outdoor cou	urtyard)		
Room size	3000 m ³ (Open air)			
Risk Management Measures				
Dispersion				
Ventilation rate	No restriction on gen characteristics	eral ventilation		

Table 9.14 Inhalation Ex	posure modelling for WG	CS 7 – Wastewater n	nanagement & disposal
Table 7.1 I Innalation LA	posure mouthing for the	SS / Wastematel h	nanagement & aisposar

Exposure and risks for workers

The exposure concentration estimated using the ART 1.5 model is reported in Table 9.15.

Exposure duration: 60 min : 90th percentile full-shift exposure : Two workers

Table 9.15 Exposure concentrations and risks for workers (WCS7)

Route of exposure	Modelled Exposure	Modelled Exposure	Exposure value
	value	value	corrected for frequency
	$(8h TWA, mg/m^3)$	$(8h TWA, \mu g/m^3) *$	(µg/m ³) **
Inhalation	0.000014	0.014	0.000019
	1		

*Conversion x1000 **Frequency correction Once every 3 years 1/(240*3)

10. RISK CHARACTERISATION RELATED TO COMBINED EXPOSURE

10.1 Human health (related to combined, shift-long exposure)

10.1.1 Workers

Excess lifetime risk (ELR) is defined as the additional risk of dying from lung cancer due to exposure of toxic substances incurred over the working lifetime of an individual.

With reference to RAC-27-2013-06 Rev.1, based on a 40 year working life (8h/day, 5 days/week), the following risk estimates are used: An excess lifetime lung cancer mortality risk = 4×10^{-3} per µg Cr(VI)/m³.

Table 10.1 Excess risk to workers calculation

А	Inhalation exposure $\mu g/m^3$ (from CSR)	[EXP]
В	Excess risk unit coefficient	0.004 per $\mu g/m^3$
С	Excess risk for 40 years (A * B)	[EXP] * 0.004

Table 10.2 Combined exposure and risk characterisation from this CSR

Role	Contributing scenario	Route of exposure	8hr TWA exposure values, corrected for frequency (μg/m ³)	Excess lifetime mortality risk per employee (40 years)	Total ELR per employee (40 years)
Main Plater	WCS 3 Working in the Plating Shop	Inhalation	1.2	0.00480	
	WCS 6				
	Maintenance activities	Inhalation	0.014167	0.00006	
		1	Main Plater	Total Risk	0.00486
Support Plater	WCS 1 Receipt, transfer and storage	Inhalation	0	0.00000	
	WCS 3 Working in the Plating Shop	Inhalation	1.2	0.00480	
	WCS 4 Sampling the chrome tank	Inhalation	0.007	0.00003	
	WCS 5 Making Additions	Inhalation	0.08	0.00032	
	WCS 6 Maintenance activities	Inhalation	0.014167	0.00006	
	WCS 7 Wastewater management & disposal	Inhalation	0.000019	0.00000	
			Support Plater	Total Risk	0.00521

Offline Worker	WCS 2 Offline jigging / unloading / inspection of components	Inhalation	0.00053	0.00000	
			Offline Worker	Total Risk	0.00000

10.1.2 Consumers

Exposure and risk characterisation

There is no exposure to consumers from the use of chromium trioxide in accordance with this AfA.

There are no releases of chromium trioxide to the environment from the site and therefore the process operations involving chromium trioxide make no contribution to this potential route of human exposure.

10.2 Environment (combined for all emission sources)

There are no emissions to air from the site as there is no Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) in use.

There are no emissions to ground as the plating plant is well bunded and the facilities are effectively maintained.

There are no emissions to Surface Water.

All waste solution and waste rinse water from the plating processes are stored and contained onsite. Disposal of this waste is made using a registered waste contractor. Typically 10,000 litres every 2-3 years.

11. REFERENCES

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