

March 2005

Volume 9

Issue 1



Northwest Evaluator

The Pacific Northwest

Drug Recognition Expert Newsletter

INSIDE

Scheduling of Alpha-Methyl-Tryptamine
and 5-Methoxy-N,N-
Diisopropyltryptamine
Page 1

Idaho College Student Dies
Using 5-MeO-AMT

Drug Use a Key Part of 'Narc' Video
Game

Black Cocaine
Page 2

5-MeO-AMT Found in Oregon

Marijuana Seizure Laced with
Barbituric Acid

Seizure of Ecstasy in Oregon
Page 3

New Report Summarized Current
Patterns of Club Drug Use in the U.S.

Metal Thefts are Helping Fund
Meth Addicts
Page 4

1 in 5 Young People Drink and Drive

Restrictive Driver Licensing Laws
Page 5

SCHEDULING OF ALPHA-METHYL-TRYPTAMINE (AMT) AND 5-METHOXY-N,N- DIISOPROPYLTRYPTAMINE (5-MeO-DIPT)

This is to provide you with an update on the Emergency scheduling of alpha-methyl-tryptamine (AMT) and 5-methoxy-N,N-diisopropyltryptamine (5-MeO-DIPT) into Schedule I of the CSA. AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT are tryptamine derivatives and share chemical and pharmacological similarities with the Schedule I tryptamine hallucinogens, alpha-ethyltryptamine (AET) and N,N-dimethyltryptamine (DMT), respectively. AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT are stimulant/hallucinogens abused for their abilities to induce hallucinatory states. AMT can produce nervous tension, irritability, restlessness, inability to sleep, blurry vision, pupillary dilatation, hallucinations and dextroamphetamine-like mood elevating effects. 5-MeO-DIPT can produce talkativeness, disinhibition, pupillary dilatation, nausea, jaw clenching, muscle tension and overt hallucinations with both auditory and visual distortions. There are no legitimate medical or scientific uses of AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT. The safety of human consumption of these substances has not been determined. Since 1999, law enforcement officials in several states have encountered AMT. The abuse by teens and young adults of AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT is an emerging problem. There have been reports of abuse of AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT at clubs and raves. Many tryptamine-based substances including AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT are illicitly available from United States and foreign chemical companies and from individuals through the Internet. There is also evidence suggesting the attempted clandestine production of AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT.

In response to this apparent growing problem and to avoid an imminent harm, a Final Notice temporarily placing AMT and 5-MeO-DIPT into Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) pursuant to the temporary scheduling provisions of the CSA was published in the Federal Register on April 4, 2003 (68 FR 16427). This adds to three other substances, namely N-benzylpiperazine (BZP), 1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl) piperazine (TFMPP), and 2,5-dimethoxy-4-(n)-propylthiophen-ethylamine (2C-T-7), that were temporarily scheduled into Schedule I through a Final notice published in Federal Register on September 20, 2002 (67 FR 59161 and 67 FR 59163).

The Drug and Chemical Evaluation Section within the Office of Diversion Control is collecting information to support the final scheduling actions for these substances.

Information obtained from Microgram Bulletin
Vol. XXXVI, No. 5, May 2003



IDAHO COLLEGE STUDENT DIES USING 5-MeO-AMT

An 18-year-old Caucasian female college student died at Coeur d'Alene hospital on October 15, 2004, as a result of consuming the synthetic hallucinogen 5-MeO-AMT (5-methoxy-alpha-methyltryptamine). On October 12, 2004, the woman placed two drops of what she thought was LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide) under her tongue. She also ingested orange juice spiked with the liquid at a party in Coeur d'Alene. Shortly after ingesting the substances the woman began to vomit, became incoherent and combative, and was unable to stand. She was taken to the hospital and began experiencing seizures and lapsed into a coma. She was placed on life support and died three days later.

The suspect who gave her the drugs is an 18-year-old Caucasian male confessed to police. He told police that he purchased a breath mint vial purported to contain LSD from an African American male in Spokane Washington. Police were able to retrieve the vial and sent it to the Idaho State Police Forensic Services for testing. The forensic examination of the remaining substance in the vial was that it was 5-MeO-AMT and not LSD.

5-MeO-AMT is taken in an oral dosage usually between 2.0-4.5 milligrams although the amounts vary widely. The dose of this drug taken by the victim has not been established. 5-MeO-AMT is often sold as LSD because the hallucinogenic effects are similar. Overdoses on LSD are rare; however tryptamine overdoses can be life threatening. The drug is illegal for human consumption.

Information obtained from Narcotics Digest Weekly
Volume 3, Number 47 - November 23, 2004

DRUG USE A KEY PART OF 'NARC' VIDEO GAME

'Narc,' a video game coming out on PlayStation 2 and Xbox next week, includes drug use as a key component of game play, with different drugs having different effects on characters, the New York Times reported March 17.

For example, while the game involves arresting dealers, players also can sample their confiscated goods. Smoking marijuana temporarily slows down game play, while taking a hit of ecstasy mellows players out. Smoking crack temporarily sharpens focus, making the player a more accurate shooter.

The game is designed so that using drugs in small doses can improve play. On the other hand, drug use also can lead to addiction and blackouts, which can cause players to get expelled from the police force. Players who use crack twice get addicted; addiction to other drugs requires more use. To get "clean," players need to pass a coordination skill challenge while going through withdrawal.

It is possible to play the game without using drugs at all, according to officials with Midway, which publishes Narc.

The latest iteration of Narc a far cry from the original, 1988 arcade version of the game, which had an anti-drug theme and the message, "Say No or Die."

Another forthcoming game, Snow, will allow players to oversee a drug cartel. Snow will be published by Take Two Interactive, the creator of the controversial Grand Theft Auto series. Vivendi Universal is planning a game based on the cocaine-suffused movie Scarface, as well as Bulletproof, which follows rapper 50 Cent through his past profession as a New York drug dealer.

Some observers say that the trend in video games is not so much about drugs specifically but rather towards greater realism and more provocative content. "If you can blow someone's head off, I don't see why you can't have drugs, as long as it fits the context," said game designer Doug Walker of Guerilla Games.

But industry analyst Michael Pachter of Wedbush Morgan Securities said, "Narc was a bad idea. Violence is embraced in our culture, which is why you see violence in video games. I don't believe society believes drugs are an appropriate thing. I think that alienates consumers."

Information obtained from Join Together Online
March 17, 2005

BLACK COCAIN: IT IS NOT PRINTER INK!

"Coca Negra" or "Black Cocaine" has been funneling into the United States. Recently, an overseas seizure produced a large quantity shipping out of Jamaica. Black cocaine is produced by mixing pure cocaine with Ferrorhodanide. The process turns cocaine into a dark, brittle substance that can be dark red, blue-violet or black. In this state, it can evade detection in field drug tests or by

(Continued from Page 2)

drug-sniffing canines (the presence of Iron Thiocyanate prevents/masks a positive reading). Further, drug traffickers have been shipping the 'powder' in IBM brand printer toner cartridges. Black cocaine is not sold on the street in its 'black' form. It has to be mixed with a solvent like acetone or ether in order to be extracted. "Securetec Drugwipe-Test" is one of the few field tests that has been working on the mixture. Shipments of black cocaine have been detected in the New England area. There is evidence that heroin traffickers are employing this same method for moving drugs into the United States. All law enforcement personnel should be made aware of the possibility of the concealment, recognition and field testing of this drug while on traffic stops and during search warrants.

Information obtained from Training Alert - Drug Enforcement Section

5-MeO-AMT FOUND IN OREGON

The Oregon State Police Forensic Services Division Laboratory (Ontario) recently received a single squeeze bottle of a commercial, spearmint-flavored breath freshening solution, suspected to contain a controlled substance. The exhibit was seized by the Ontario City Police at an express mail facility. The bottle (label partially removed) contained a clear liquid with a slight odor of spearmint. Analysis by GC/MS indicated 5-methoxy-alpha-methyltryptamine (5-MeO-AMT), probably dissolved in water. The only slight odor of spearmint suggested that the original breath freshening solution had been removed and replaced with the solution of 5-MeO-AMT. The suspect in the case is suspected to have synthesized the drug himself.

Within a week of the submission of the above exhibit to the Ontario Laboratory, the Oregon State Police Forensic Services Division Laboratory (Springfield) received a submission of two capsules containing an off-white powder (total net mass 0.2 grams) and a paperfold of an off-white powder (total net mass 0.1 grams), all suspected methamphetamine. The exhibits were seized by the Lincoln City Police Department, pursuant to a shoplifting arrest. The suspect in the case claimed that the material was Vitamin B. Analysis by GC/MS, however, indicated not methamphetamine but rather 5-MeO-AMT.

Information obtained from Microgram Bulletin Vol. XXXVII, No. 7, July 2004

MARIJUANA SEIZURE LACED WITH BARBITURIC ACID

In October 2004, Chicago Police Department narcotics seizure involving 5,000 lbs. of Marijuana hidden in a false wall in a semi-tractor trailer. At first it appeared to be and had an odor of powder chlorine. Further analysis revealed it to be bundles of Marijuana with Barbituric Acid spread over the plastic wrap of the bundles. Barbituric Acid is a dry compound usually found as white or off white crystalline form and can affect the central nervous system. Several officers needed medical attention as a result of contact with the powder.

Be alert for any strange odor or unusual behavior on the part of K-9's or responding officers. Smuggling organizations are known to use "dog repellent" and caustic/poisonous materials to protect their contraband from discovery. Avoid contact and isolate the area if contact is made with any substance resembling Barbituric Acid. This compound should be treated as a level 1 Haz-Mat situation.

Information obtained from U.S. Customs and Border Protection - Officer Safety, January 11, 2005

SECOND LARGEST ECSTASY SEIZURE IN OREGON

On February 27, 2005, a 35 year old male from Henderson, Nevada, was driving a 2005 Pontiac Bonneville southbound on Interstate 5 when he was stopped near milepost 246 for a traffic violation by Sergeant Mike Dingeman, Oregon State Police. During the stop, a search of the vehicle led to the discovery of approximately 6.5 pounds of Ecstasy concealed in the vehicle. Over 9,800 tablets and cash were seized. The Ecstasy has an estimated value of about \$250,000.

According to the Oregon State Police Drug Enforcement Section and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Ecstasy seizure is believed to be the second largest seizure in Oregon history, and is the largest seizure in the last five years. The DEA has termed this seizure as being "significant" in any region of the country.

The subject was taken into custody and lodged at the Marion County Jail for Possession of a Controlled Substance - Schedule I and Delivery of a Controlled Substance - Schedule I.

NEW REPORT SUMMARIZES CURRENT PATTERNS OF CLUB DRUG USE IN THE U.S.

The drugs MDMA, GHB, ketamine, LSD, methamphetamine, and Rohypnol® are often referred to collectively as club drugs, due to their popularity at raves and dance parties. This distinction, however, fails to take into account that “each of these drugs has very different pharmacological, psychological, and physiological properties” and “that there are important differences in the characteristics of people who use each of these drugs and the patterns of their use”, according to a recent report from the Center for Excellence in Drug Epidemiology. Using qualitative and quantitative information from five national substance abuse data sources, the report provides a summary of current patterns of club drug use in the U.S. Following are highlights from the report, which is available online at <http://www.utexas.edu/research/cswr/gcattc/Trends/ClubDrug-2004-web.pdf>.

Ecstasy (MDMA): While ecstasy use is now decreasing after a period of rapid increase, use is spreading from raves and the dance scene to other venues. Ecstasy users are among the youngest club drug users, and users cite the psychic effects and dependence as reasons for using the drug.

GHB: While GHB use is decreasing, users “are the most likely of all club drug users to use other drugs at the same time, especially alcohol.” GHB users are typically older than other club drug users and use the drug for its psychic effects.

Ketamine: Levels of ketamine use have historically been low. Ketamine users are likely to use multiple drugs, including cocaine and heroin. The primary motive for using ketamine is the psychic effects of the drug.

LSD: The highest number of new LSD users ever was reported in 2000, but then dropped in 2001, and is declining sharply in most areas today. LSD users are the youngest of all club drug users and report using the drug for the psychic effects and because of dependence.

Methamphetamine: Methamphetamine use is one of the largest drug problems in the U.S. Initially popular on the west coast, use of methamphetamine is spreading eastward. While use in the urban party scene is most typical, it is also becoming popular in rural areas. Methamphetamine users are the oldest of all club drug users and the least likely to use multiple drugs. The primary reason for using methamphetamine is dependence, followed by psychic effects.

Rohypnol®: Since becoming illegal to import into the U.S., use of this drug has declined. However it still remains popular among Hispanic populations on the Mexico border and in Miami (68% of Rohypnol® users are Hispanic), and is more likely than any other drug to be used for its psychic effects.

Information obtained from Cesar FAX
Vol. 13, Issue 20, May 17, 2004

METAL THEFTS ARE HELPING FUND METH ADDICTS

Methamphetamine addicts are turning to a relatively new crime to feed their habit. It is called 'metal for meth.'

In one 24-hour span, police made three different busts in the Portland area where suspects were likely stealing metal to finance meth purchases.

One of the busts halted both directions of traffic on Highway 26 Friday morning, causing a major backup during the morning rush hour commute. The bust came after an Oregon State trooper pulled over a yellow pickup truck with stolen license plates and a cache of bulk aluminum that police suspect was from stolen highway signs. Police not only found a lot of metal, but they also confiscated drug paraphernalia from the truck. "In the back of the truck is a large load of all sorts of assorted scrap metal. Very heavy metal," says Oregon State Police Trooper Steve Carlson.

Police say heavy metal that is sold for drugs are becoming more common because of many factors, including a crackdown on ID theft.

Beaverton's Quantum Resources buys scrap metal and their management told KATU the company always has their eye out for stolen metals, like aluminum from highway signs and copper wiring pulled from homes under construction. They have even seen highway guardrails brought in.

"Theft goes up as the prices have increased. That is just a troublesome fact," said Quantum Resources Vice President Michael Ingalls. "They don't realize we are an honest business looking to stay honest and we are going to turn them in."

The metal is also a tempting item because it can potentially bring an addict a lot of cash. With prices at a record 40-65 cents per pound for aluminum, a large highway sign could net a meth addict about \$100.

(Continued from Page 4)

A single street sign theft can be considered small when compared to a bust Thursday night. Police busted a metal thief that ripped-off over \$15,000 worth of metals from Pascor Manufacturing in Forest Grove over the past few months. Also, two suspects were arrested Wednesday in Salem for attempting to sell nearly \$6,000 worth of stolen stainless steel.

All of the cases have been directly linked to meth.

Information obtained from KATU 2 News, 3/5/2005

1 IN 5 YOUNG PEOPLE DRINK AND DRIVE

More than four million people younger under age 21 drove under the influence of drugs or alcohol last year, according to a government report. That's one in five of all Americans aged 16 to 20.

"That's an awful lot of kids if you think about it," said Charlene Lewis, acting director of the Office of Applied Studies at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which produced the report.

The report, based on a large household survey of drug use, found a small drop in driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol between 2002 and 2003. In 2002, 22% drove under the influence; 2003 it was 20%.

Just four percent of these young people reported being arrested and booked for driving under the influence in the year before they were interviewed.

The data come from face-to-face interviews in the homes of people ages 12 and up, part of the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. People were asked to define for themselves what driving "under the influence" of drugs or alcohol means.

Young people were most likely to drink alcohol and then drive, with 17% admitting this. Fourteen percent said they had driven under the influence of illicit drugs, and eight percent reported driving after consuming a combination of alcohol and drugs.

The survey also found that a substantial number of teens rode in cars where drivers had been drinking, adding to the number of young people at risk.

Researchers did not have data to compare 2002-03 rates to earlier years. But a similar survey of teen behavior found that drunken driving fell steadily between 1984 and the early 1990's, as media campaigns pleaded "friends don't let friends drive drunk" and urged partygoers to choose a designated driver.

The rates remained level from 1992 to 1995 before

jumping a bit in the late 1990's and then declining a little in 2003.

Information obtained from Associated Press, Dec. 30, 2004

States with More Restrictive Graduated Driver Licensing Laws Less Likely to Have Teens Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

The percentage of drivers aged 15 to 17 who drove under the influence of alcohol increased as the restrictiveness of state graduated driver licensing (GDL) laws decreased, according to data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). While all 50 states have some form of GDL laws, such as requiring that new drivers be accompanied by an adult, placing limits on driving hours, and restricting the number of passengers, the laws vary in the extent that they restrict driving behaviors. States with the most restrictive GDL laws had the lowest percentage of teens reporting driving under the influence of alcohol in the past year (8%) while states with the least restrictive GDL laws had the highest percentage of teens reporting driving under the influence (12%). Additionally, young drivers in states with the most restrictive GDL laws had lower rates of heavy alcohol use than did young drivers in states with the least restrictive driving laws.

Information obtained from CESAR FAX

Vol. 13, Issue 24, June 14, 2004

11th Annual DRE Training Conference

The location and dates for the 11th Annual IACP DRE Section Training Conference on Drugs, Alcohol and Impaired Driving have been determined.

The dates for the conference are Friday August 5, 2005 through Sunday August 7, 2005. The State Coordinator's meeting will be held on Thursday August 4, 2005. The conference will be held in Arlington, Virginia at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel.

The hotel is offering an outstanding rate of \$99/night plus tax and complimentary parking. The hotel is situated on the Metro, which will provide access to all the museums, Pentagon, Capitol Mall, Arlington Cemetery as well as the monuments.

The agenda and registration brochure is available on IACP's website at http://www.theiacp.org/div_sec_com/sections/DREBrochure.pdf. Pencil in the dates on your calendar and plan on attending this event in our nation's capitol.

Oregon Drug Evaluation Classification Program
Oregon State Police
255 Capitol Street NE 4th Floor
Salem, Oregon 97310

The "NW Evaluator" is edited and published by the Oregon Drug Evaluation Classification Program and the Oregon State Police Patrol Services Division. It is available online at odot.state.or.us/transafety/DRE.htm. All materials appearing in the NW Evaluator are in the public domain and may be reproduced without permission. Citation of the source is appreciated.



**11TH ANNUAL IACP
"Drugs, Alcohol, &
Impaired Driving Conference"**

**August 5 - 7, 2005
Arlington, Virginia**

For more information, visit the conference website at www.dreconference.com