SOP

Storing VTAs

Keeping vertebrate toxic agents secure until they are used

Key point: a VTA that needs a CSL must stay in a CSL holder's possession, under lock and key. Keep stock to a minimum, in the original packaging, with its label and SDS.

Where can it go?

ALLOWED

Locked cabinet, secure area in a shed, or separate chemical shed
Away from water, food and anything that could ignite it, with the key kept from children and unauthorised people.

ONLY IF NEEDED

In a vehicle during an operation
Only when there is no more secure storage. Use a locked, labelled container, out of sight and bolted to the vehicle body, and stay in control of it. Above the location thresholds, give WorkSafe 24 hours' notice.

NOT ALLOWED

An old fridge or freezer, or a food container
Never, and never loose in a ute or with food, feed or chlorine.

How much triggers a certified location?

	Class 6.1A	Class 6.1B
Workplace	50 kg or L	250 kg or L
Farm of 4 ha or more	100 kg or L	500 kg or L

Over the threshold in one location, for more than 2 hours if tracked, or 24 hours if not?

YES

Hazardous substance location
Notify WorkSafe 30 working days before commissioning. Get a location compliance certificate and renew it every 36 months.

NO

Secure store or cabinet
Still locked, labelled and separated. Check the Calculator for what else applies.

Using an indoor cabinet?

25 kg or L	50 kg or L	250 kg or L
Most class 6.1A in a cabinet	Most class 6.1B in a cabinet	Most toxic product in total

No incompatible substances in a cabinet. Keep it near water for washing hands. Multiple cabinets must be 3 m apart or stay within these totals.

Next page: siting the store, what it needs, signs, and what to do if something goes wrong

Where to put the store

- [ ] Away from streams, wells, tanks, open drains and flood-prone areas
- [ ] Away from chlorine, non-agrichemicals and foodstuffs
- [ ] Away from electrics, welding, grinding and furnaces
- [ ] Meeting your local council's rules

What the store needs

Security
Lock and key at all times. Best practice is to lock away all VTAs.

Signs
Tell people what is stored, what to do and who to call. Readable from 10 m.

Inventory
Name, UN and HSR numbers, maximum amount and location, for every container.

SDS folder
A current SDS for every product in the store.

Ventilation
Where toxic dust, mist or vapour is a risk.

Bunding and spill kit
Containment and clean-up gear as required for the class and quantity.

How much needs signs?

50 kg or L	100 kg or L	250 kg or L	1,000 kg or L	10,000 kg or L
Sodium cyanide. 1080 gel or solution 5% or more.	Potassium cyanide. DRC 1339. PAPP paste A. 1080 bait or gel 0.15 to 1%.	Alphachloralose solid.	1080 pellets and paste 0.1% or less. Pindone liquid concentrate.	Brodifacoum. Pindone bait. PAPP bait.

Examples for one site. Check the Calculator for your product. It is best practice to always have signs.

Keep it fresh

Keep stock low
Fresh bait works better, less goes out of date, and it may cut compliance costs.

Watch for moisture
Products deteriorate with moisture. Feratox lasts about 6 months. Check the label.

Used Feratox
Do not store pellets for long after use. The casing breaks down and gives off toxic gas.

If something goes wrong

111	0800 764 766	0800 030 040	0800 76 88 45
Fire, injury or major spill	National Poisons Centre, 24 hours	WorkSafe, notifiable events	Environment Southland pollution

1. Stop, move people away and keep others out. Call for help before you get involved.
2. Poisoning suspected: get medical help straight away and follow the SDS first aid. Most VTAs have no antidote, and cyanide has none.
3. Have the label or SDS ready for the Poisons Centre or emergency services.
4. Follow your emergency plan. Contain spills, keep them out of water, and tell your employer or CSL holder.

Summary only. Check the label, SDS, your licence, certificate and any permission conditions: Adroit Solutions VTA manual; WorkSafe guidance on location compliance certificates and VTAs; National Poisons Centre.