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# GLOBAL SMART UPDATE 2011

## About the SMART Update

The threat of synthetic drugs is one of the most significant drug problems worldwide. Global estimates of past-year amphetamine-type stimulants users (ATS) exceed those for heroin and cocaine, combined. Since 1990, ATS illicit manufacture has been reported from more than 65 countries and the figure keeps rising. Trends on the synthetic drug market evolve quickly each year.

The UNODC Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme enhances the capacity of Member States in priority regions to generate, manage, analyse, report and use synthetic drug information to design effective policy and programme interventions. Global SMART was launched in September 2008 and provides capacity-building to 11 countries in East and South-East Asia. In January 2011, operations expanded into the Americas. For the Pacific, a review of ATS situation was conducted in selected Pacific Island countries and territories.

The Global SMART Update is designed to provide regular brief reporting on emerging patterns and trends of the fast changing global synthetic drug situation. Given the speed at which changes in the ATS markets occur, it is especially important to have a simple sustainable mechanism for frequent information sharing from different parts of the world. The bi-annual report is published in March and October and is available in English and Spanish.

The Update reports synthetic drug information in several categories, such as significant or unusual drug or precursor chemical seizures, new locations or methods for clandestine manufacture, new trafficking groups or routes, changes in legislation to address the problem of synthetic drugs, environmental impact from their illicit manufacture and destruction, emerging drugs or user groups, and health implications related to their use.\*

## In this issue

Each issue of the Update contains special coverage and thematic segments. In its first issue, the Update highlighted new incidents of illicit manufacture in Latin America. In the second issue, the Update focused on new types of synthetic drugs and their precursor chemicals, which are often specifically engineered to circumvent international and national controls by subtle modification to the chemistry. The third issue of the Update illustrated the environmentally-friendly approaches to the disposal of safrole-rich oils which are a natural source of the precursor required in the illicit manufacture of ecstasy.

As of the fourth issue of the Update (October 2010), the special segment has been enlarged to provide a more in-depth review of an issue that deserves particular attention. In addition, short regional overviews were added to provide snapshots of the situation in the regions of the world. Since 2010, the Update has been available in English and Spanish.

The special segment of the current issue concerns South Asia, a region which has traditionally been associated with opiates, not synthetic drugs. However, over the past years, the region has emerged as a source for ATS and the precursors needed to manufacture them. Traffickers increasingly go to South Asia to obtain ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, the two key precursors used in the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine. Ketamine, a hallucinogenic substance is also frequently trafficked from the region.

While information on law enforcement activities is often abundant, information about the demand for ATS is often scarce and anecdotal in nature. Nevertheless, the Update continues to make a determined effort to highlight the human toll of ATS use. Various demand-related subjects are covered in this issue, including facts that have come to light about the use of synthetic drugs in Australia, China, Chile and the United States.



\* The information and data contained within this report are from official Government reports, press releases, scientific journals or incidents confirmed by UNODC Field Offices. Additional or updated information from previously reported incidents may also be included where appropriate. Information denoted with an asterisk (\*) are from 'open sources' where UNODC is waiting for official confirmation and therefore should be considered only preliminary. This report has not been formally edited. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of UNODC or contributory organizations and neither do they imply any endorsement. Suggested citation: Global SMART Update Volume 5, March 2011.

## Regional overviews

This section provides a short overview on the current situation and what might be new from a key regions perspective. The summaries begin in Oceania and East Asia, where the use of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) is among the highest in the world, and then move westward.

**Oceania.** Australia and New Zealand continue dismantling ATS laboratories which are often supplied by trafficked pseudoephedrine from Asia. Little data and information on ATS is available from the small Island States and territories in the Pacific. Limited data on methamphetamine use among youth show high rates in some communities (e.g. *American Samoa, Guam, Marshall Islands, Palau*), indicating ATS availability.

**East and South-East Asia.** East and South-East Asia remains the region with the greatest numbers of past year amphetamine users, currently estimated at between 3.4 and 20.7 million. Methamphetamine pill seizures for 2009 were at some of the highest levels ever recorded and preliminary data for 2010 suggests that this trend continued. Crystalline methamphetamine continues to arrive via Iranian couriers to various countries in the region. West Africa has also emerged as a source for crystalline methamphetamine trafficked to East Asia, particularly Japan.

**South Asia.** South Asia continues to be targeted by organized crime groups as a source for ATS precursors. Illicit methamphetamine manufacturing sites are uncovered at regular intervals. Significant amounts of ketamine are trafficked to other parts of Asia and to other countries, e.g. Canada. Very little information continues to be available on the prevalence of ATS use in South Asia.

**West Asia and the Middle East.** Countries in this region (e.g. Jordan, Saudi Arabia) report significant seizures of amphetamine pills, often sold as *Captagon*. Information flow from the region, particularly related to drug use in the Middle East and others, remains inadequate.

**Europe.** New psychoactive substances appear on the illicit drug markets. Mephedrone, one of these substances, was banned in all 27 European Union Member States in December 2010. Recent data from countries in the North of Europe show that amphetamine could be increasingly replaced by methamphetamine on the markets of some

Scandinavian and Baltic countries. While survey data show a relatively low prevalence of amphetamines use in most European countries, in some countries, it is estimated that more than 2 percent of young people between the ages of 15 and 34 have used the drug in the last year, according to the European Monitoring Centre Against Drugs and Drug Addiction.

**Africa.** Africa poses one of the greatest emerging ATS threats, with the first cases of trafficking of methamphetamine from Africa dating back to mid-2008. West Africa, in particular, has become a source of methamphetamine for markets in East Asia, notably Japan and the Republic of Korea. Traffickers often transit European, Gulf Cooperation Council and East African countries. Few countries in Africa have the capacity and stable governance structures to fight the drug issue. Drug trafficking has a destabilizing effect on the region and the potential to corrode good governance.

**North America.** The United States reports growing use of ecstasy. Currently, the main source of ecstasy on the North American market are organized crime groups in Canada, but there are indications that ecstasy output could be increasing from groups operating in the United States and Mexico. Methamphetamine is supplied by large operations from Mexico. Mexico continues to make enormous efforts in addressing the illicit manufacture and trafficking of methamphetamine by organized crime groups.

**Central and South America.** Organized crime groups continue to obtain precursor chemicals from countries throughout Latin America to continue the manufacture of methamphetamine. These groups exploit countries with lax or non-comprehensive regulations and limited awareness. There are indications of increasing use of ecstasy and methamphetamine in some countries in South America, including Brazil, Chile and Colombia.



## Special segment - ATS in South Asia

Located at the crossroads of drugs supply between the sources in South East and South West Asia, South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka) has traditionally been affected by illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of drugs, mostly opiates. Over the past few years, however, South Asia has emerged as a source for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) and the precursors needed to manufacture them.

**Manufacture.** The geographical proximity to East and Southeast Asian source countries of illicit methamphetamine is one of several factors which makes South Asia a vulnerable target for illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants. The first clandestine ATS manufacture operation was detected in India in May 2003. Since then, several additional facilities have been uncovered between 2004 and 2010. In August 2010, a methamphetamine laboratory was discovered in India. However, attempts at illicit ATS manufacture are not just limited to India, they have also been reported from Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. In Sri Lanka, for example, a large-scale methamphetamine laboratory was dismantled in May 2008.

### Precursor chemicals.

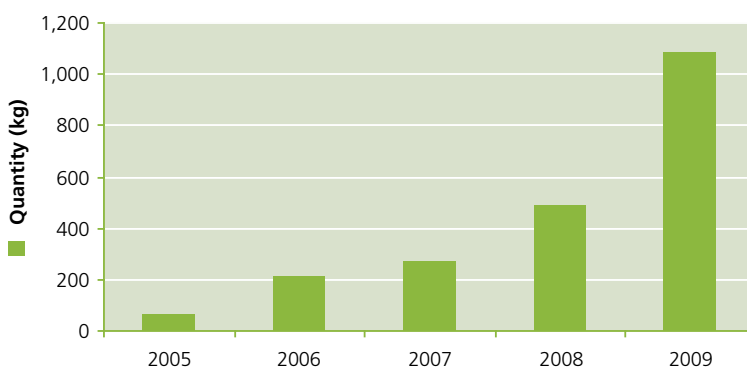
South Asia has become one of the main regions used by drug traffickers to obtain ephedrine and pseudoephedrine for the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine. India is one of the world's largest manufacturers of precursor chemicals and Bangladesh also has a growing chemical industry. Despite efforts to control precursor chemicals, both countries have been identified in a number of cases as the source of diverted precursor chemicals for a range of drugs, including methamphetamine. Several significant seizures of pseudoephedrine in Central America and the Caribbean (Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras) are believed to have originated in Bangladesh. Many countries in Central America and the Caribbean are vulnerable as destinations for these shipments. Africa also remains at risk at being used by traffickers to obtain precursor chemicals.

**Trafficking.** Amphetamine, methamphetamine and ecstasy have been regularly seized in South Asia over the past five years. Methamphetamine pills originating

from Myanmar are trafficked into Bangladesh, India and Nepal. The recent upsurge of methamphetamine seizures originating from Myanmar (highlighted in the Global SMART ATS situation assessment on Myanmar) may therefore be felt acutely in the region.

Ketamine, a hallucinogenic substance, is also frequently trafficked in the region, particularly from India. Seizures of ketamine in India have increased from 60 kg in 2005 to more than 1000 kg in 2009. Ketamine has also been trafficked to countries in East and South-East Asia or Canada.

### Seizures of ketamine in India (2005-2009)

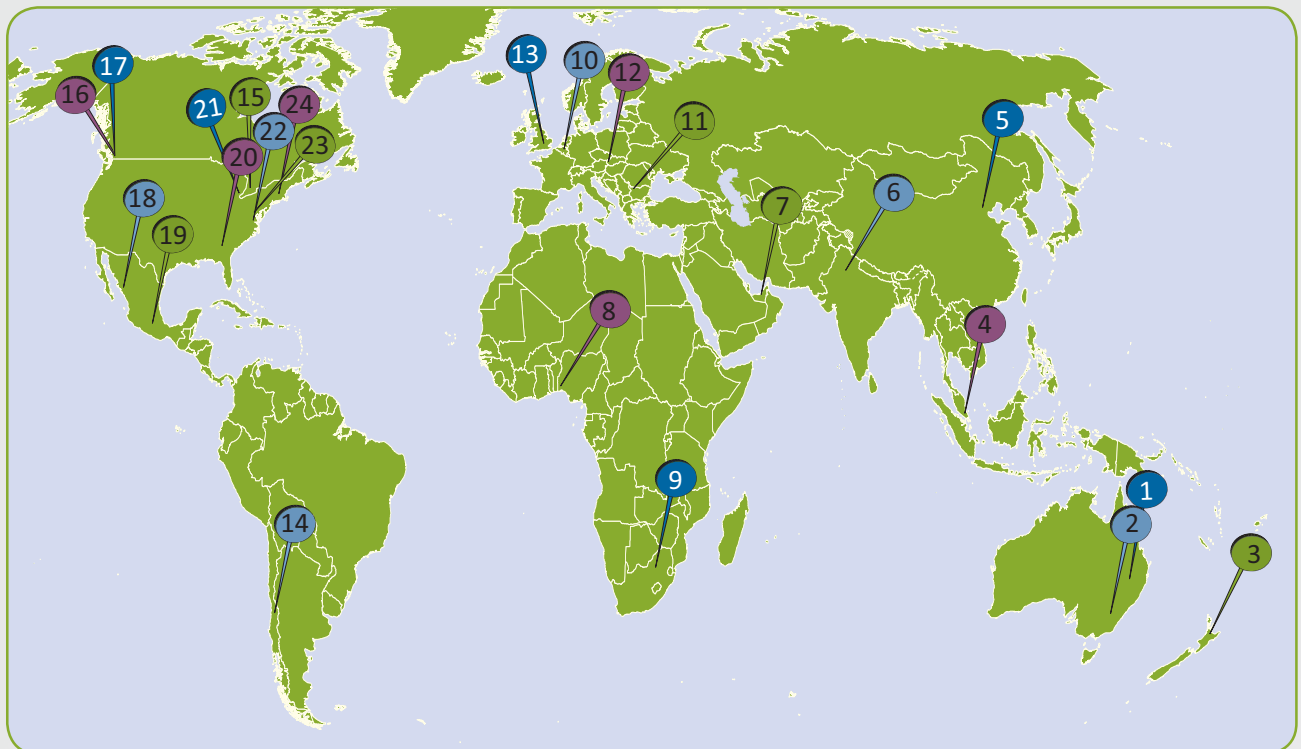


Source: Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Narcotics Control Board India

**Data situation.** Official statistics only partially reflect the situation as comprehensive assessments to determine the nature and extent of the ATS situation have not been made. There is no systematic profiling of ATS seizures with respect to their constituents, markings or colour nor identifications or backtrack investigations to identify the origin of precursors and equipment.

**Use.** The lack of data also affects the drug use situation. Methamphetamine and ecstasy are believed to be used in the major metropolitan areas but reports are largely anecdotal in nature. The true extent and patterns of ATS use in the subregion is largely unknown due to the absence of timely and representative data, particularly among youth which is generally one of the most vulnerable groups to drug use. In fact, the only general population survey ever performed in the region was in 2001 (India), however there were no questions specific to amphetamine-type stimulants. Representative school-based survey of drug use or comprehensive reporting of drug treatment data are also non-existent in a region housing 20% of the world's population. The human toll of drug use therefore remains unknown.

## Regions covered in this issue



Note: The boundaries, names and designations used herein do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Global SMART segments are arranged based on regional threat. Oceania has among the highest prevalence rates for ATS use in the world, while the number of ATS users are greatest in East Asia. Therefore, the map and corresponding index of segments begins with recent events from Oceania and East Asia and then moves geographically westward. The numbered pins on the map above correspond with the index of segments below.

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## Significant seizure of ecstasy in Australia

**TAMWORTH, Australia – 20 December 2010.** Almost AUD 20 million worth of ecstasy has been uncovered inside a van in northern New South Wales. According to the New South Wales police, the van was stopped for a random breath test. A search of the vehicle allegedly uncovered seven cardboard boxes of chemical glassware used to make drugs. A forensic examination resulted in the discovery of 19.5 kg of ecstasy. Two men were charged with possessing drug manufacturing apparatus and manufacturing a commercial quantity of ecstasy.

## Australia: amphetamine use lower among students, ecstasy stable

**CANBERRA, Australia – 18 January 2011.** The Federal Government released the findings of the 2008 Australian secondary school students' use of tobacco, alcohol and over-the-counter and illicit substances. For amphetamine, the survey showed that among all 12- to 17-year-olds, the proportion of students using amphetamines in their lifetime in 2008 was significantly lower than the proportion found in 2005. Similarly, the proportion of all students reporting monthly use of amphetamines in 2008 was lower than the proportion found in 2005. For lifetime and past month use of ecstasy, the proportion of all students aged 12 to 17 remained stable. However, the proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds reporting to have used ecstasy in the month before the survey was significantly higher (3.4 percent) in 2008 than in 2005 (2.3 percent).



Photo: New Zealand Police

## "Operation Safari" results in seizures of methamphetamine in New Zealand

**BAY OF PLENTY, New Zealand – 1 October 2010.** A major six-month operation, called Operation Safari, resulted in the uncovering of six clandestine laboratories, the seizure of methamphetamine estimated at NZ\$ 268,000 and the chemicals used in its manufacture. Ten people have been arrested and will face more numerous charges including conspiring to manufacture methamphetamine, the manufacture and supply of methamphetamine, supplying precursor ingredients used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, attempting to pervert the course of justice, possession of firearms and receiving stolen property.

## BZP, TFMPP and mephedrone classified as controlled drugs in Singapore

**SINGAPORE – 12 November 2010.** Effective 15 November 2010, BZP (1-benzylpiperazine), TFMPP (3-Trifluoromethylphenylpiperazine) and mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) were classified as Class A controlled drugs in the First Schedule of the Misuse of Drugs Act in Singapore. BZP and TFMPP are both piperazines which are known to produce stimulant and hallucinatory effects similar to ecstasy. Mephedrone is another stimulant drug and is often marketed as a substitute to 'Ecstasy' and amphetamines. There is currently no known legitimate use for these drugs in industry, research or medicine.



Photo: Central Narcotics Bureau

## Users of synthetic drugs account for 28 percent of all registered drug users in China<sup>(\*)</sup>

**BEIJING, China – 20 January 2011.** China had 432,000 registered synthetic drug users by the end of 2010, accounting for 28 percent of the country's drug abusers, according to an official of the Ministry of Public Security. The Director of the Narcotics Control Bureau of the Ministry stated that the number of people using synthetic drugs has been growing in China, with 2010 seeing 118,000 more registered synthetic drug users than in 2009. In recent years, China has seen rising illegal activities related to synthetic drugs use, such as methamphetamine (also known as "ice") and ketamine. Out of the 31 provincial-level areas in the Chinese mainland, police seized more methamphetamine than heroin in 16 provincial-level areas.

## More than 100 kg of ketamine seized in India

**NEW DELHI, India – 10 November 2010.** Reports from the Department of Revenue Intelligence of India highlight a landmark case of ketamine trafficking from India to Canada. A Delhi-based exporter attempted to export approximately 102 kg of ketamine concealed in a container of clothing items to a Canada-based consignee. The shipment was seized in India. Based on the sharing of information, another consignment of 100 kg of ketamine was interdicted by the Canadian authorities. Export of ketamine requires a 'no objection certificate' from the Narcotics Commissioner of India. Ketamine is a hallucinogenic substance not controlled by the United Nations drug control treaties.

## Dubai Customs detects shipment of methamphetamine

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates – 8 December 2010.** A team of Dubai Customs inspectors detected 113 kg of crystal methamphetamine. The drug was carefully hidden in a cargo shipment said to originate from the Islamic Republic of Iran. The final destination of the shipment was Malaysia. Authorities exchanged information about the seized shipment with the concerned authorities in Malaysia and Singapore where the shipment was planned to transit after moving from Dubai. Joint cooperation between Dubai and the related authorities of the two countries led to the seizure of the shipment in Kuala Lumpur Airport and the receiver of the shipment was caught.



Photo: Dubai Customs

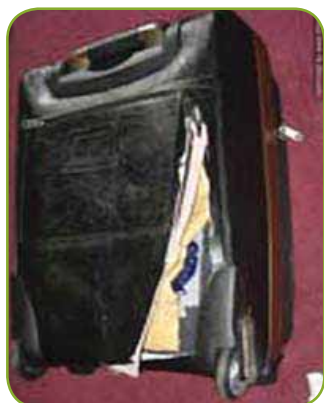


Photo: NDLEA

## Methamphetamine trafficker arrested in Nigeria

**SEME, Nigeria – 3 January 2011.** In a renewed offensive by operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) of Nigeria, a 27-year old man was intercepted by the Seme Border Command with more than 2.5 kg of methamphetamine. The suspected drug trafficker was arrested at Gbaji check point along the Lagos-Badagry expressway. The methamphetamine was hidden in a false bottom compartment of his luggage. The suspect intended to travel to Indonesia via Ghana.

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## Methamphetamine laboratory discovered in South Africa

**BIRCHLEIGH NORTH, South Africa – 24 November 2010.** The South African Police Service discovered a drug manufacturing laboratory worth in a residential area in Birchleigh North in Kempton Park (near Johannesburg), following an intensive investigation. Chemicals such as ephedrine, iodine and hydrochloric acid worth an estimated ZAR 26 million were found in large quantities. Methamphetamine worth an estimated ZAR 14 million was also found.

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## EU-wide ban on mephedrone

**BRUSSELS, Belgium – 3 December 2010.** The Justice Ministers of the European Union Member States agreed to ban mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone), a substance often sold as “legal alternative to ecstasy”. The decision bans the manufacturing and the marketing of mephedrone, submitting it to criminal sanctions. Mephedrone is a stimulant whose physical effects are comparable to those produced by ecstasy (MDMA) or cocaine. A scientific risk assessment carried out by the European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) showed that mephedrone can cause acute health problems.



Photo: Talk to Frank, UK

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Photo: Ministry of Interior

## Amphetamine laboratory discovered in Bulgaria

**SOFIA, Bulgaria – 15 January 2010.** Following a specialized police operation, officials discovered an illicit amphetamine-manufacturing laboratory. The facility located on the outskirts of Sofia. Law enforcement authorities discovered and seized laboratory equipment for the synthesis of drugs, the precursor 1-phenyl-2-propanone and chemicals required for the chemical process. One person was arrested. The production capacity of the laboratory was estimated at approximately 3 kg amphetamine.

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## ‘Masked’ PMK seized by law enforcement authorities in the Slovak Republic

**BRATISLAVA, Slovakia – 15 October 2010.** Customs Officers, in collaboration with investigators of KR PZ Bratislava, confiscated 4 drums of 200 kg weight containing a mixture of chemicals PMK (3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone), piperonal and PMK-glycidate. This particular mixture was last found in Europe in the Netherlands in May 2010 in a clandestine laboratory for the manufacture of ecstasy and methamphetamine, along with instructions for the conversion to PMK. According to preliminary findings, the total weight of the 200 kg seized drug precursor mixture could have resulted in the manufacture of about 113 liters PMK, which could have produced more than 1 million Ecstasy tablets.

## UK bans import of 2-DPMP

**LONDON, United Kingdom – 4 November 2010.** The United Kingdom banned the importation of a drug found in some samples of so-called “legal high” Ivory Wave. The importation ban on 2-DPMP (2-diphenylmethylpiperidine) follows advice from the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs which recommended the move to cut the supply of this potentially harmful substance and stop it from gaining a foothold in the United Kingdom.



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Photo: DEA

## Chile: more positive tests for methamphetamine use in arrestees

**SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Chile – 18 November 2010.** Between 2005 and 2010, the number of arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine increased from 1,5 per cent to 12,3 percent, according to a study presented by the Fundación Paz Ciudadana. The data provides an important perspective into the part of the population not readily accessed through population surveys.

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## Canada: three men charged with diversion of ephedrine

**LONDON (Ontario), Canada – 5 November 2010.** About 550 kg of ephedrine were seized by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in London, Ontario. The seizures were the result of a long-term investigation known as Project OVICE, an investigation targeting the large-scale diversion of precursor chemicals by organized crime groups involved in the illicit manufacturing of methamphetamine. Three men were charged with conspiracy to commit and attempt to divert ephedrine. One of the three men was also charged with the unlawful import of 800 kg of GBL (gamma-butyrolactone).

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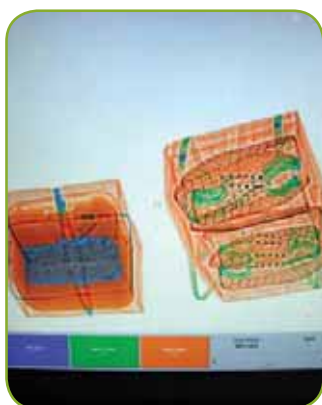


Photo: RCMP

## More than 6 mt of precursor P2P seized in Canada

**VANCOUVER, Canada – 24 November 2010.** More than 6 mt of the precursor chemical P2P (1-Phenyl-2-propanone) have been seized in the latest joint operation between the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). In October 2010, CBSA identified a suspicious shipment coming into Vancouver from China, and the container was referred for inspection. While the container's documentation identified the shipment as “footwear”, during their examination, CBSA officers uncovered 150 boxes hidden within the load that each contained a 22-kilo jug of suspected P2P. P2P is a precursor used primarily in the manufacture of ecstasy as well as methamphetamine.

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### Canada reports record seizure of ketamine

**VANCOUVER, Canada – 7 December 2010.** The Canada Border Service Agency and the RCMP Drug Enforcement Program have combined forces to charge five people in the largest ketamine seizure in Canadian history. Canada Border Services Officers identified a suspicious shipment onboard a container vessel arriving from Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of China. Documentation accompanying the shipment identified the goods as 402 cartons of coffee mugs. Upon inspection, however, a white crystalline powder was found. Tests indicated that the bags contained ketamine hydrochloride. A total of 1003.9 kg of ketamine was seized.



Photo: RCMP, CBSA

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Photo: SEDENA

### Underground deposit of chemicals discovered in Mexico

**CULIACÁN (Sinaloa), Mexico – 16 December 2010.** Military personal have found an underground depot for chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of synthetic drugs. It is believed that the substances found in the depot were intended to be delivered to the illicit drug laboratory which was discovered by authorities in October 2010 where several substances, including liquid methamphetamine, acetone and toluene were found.

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### Seizure of methamphetamine precursor in Mexico

**MEXICO D.F., Mexico – 16 December 2010.** As a result of a joint operation, 240 drums with a capacity of 200 litres each of methylamine, a precursor for methamphetamine manufacture, were confiscated. The said chemical was left abandoned in an industrial zone in Altamira in the state of Tamaulipas. No information was immediately available about the final destination of the product which has not been claimed by its owner.



Photo: Secretaría de la Marina

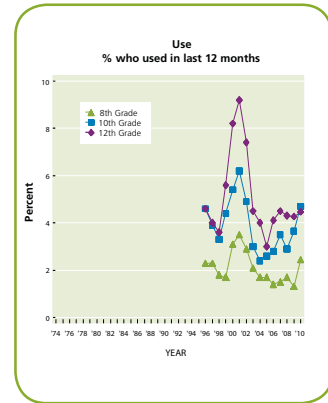
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### One of the largest ecstasy pill seizures in United States history

**ATLANTA, United States – 1 October 2010.** Pursuant to a search warrant, law enforcement officers seized approximately 700,000 tablets of ecstasy in one of the largest seizures of this substance in the history of the United States. The tablets were seized in a house in Chamblett, Georgia, where they were hidden in various places, including the insulation of the walls and in a crawl space near a bedroom. The street value of the ecstasy is estimated at \$2.8 million.

## Ecstasy use on the rise in the United States

**ANN ARBOR (Michigan), United States – 14 December 2010.** Results of the 2010 Monitoring the Future Survey indicate a surge in the use of ecstasy. Ecstasy use among teens rose sharply in the late 1990s, peaked in 2001, and then fell just as sharply over the next four years or so as perceived risk rose considerably. Perceived risk is defined as the proportion of teens that see great risk to the user from using ecstasy even once or twice. After 2004 or 2005, perceived risk fell steadily and the investigators warned that this could lead to a rebound in use. Some of that rebound now appears to be taking place, as use rose this year in all three grades, significantly so for 8th and 10th grades.



Source: Monitoring the Future Study

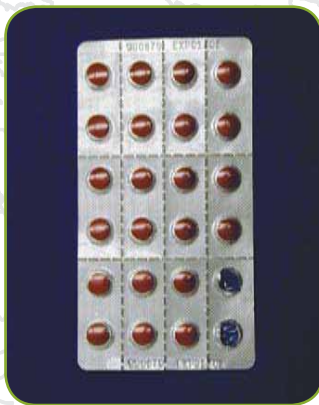


Photo: DEA

## Man pleads guilty to brokering pseudoephedrine transactions

**ALEXANDRIA (Virginia), United States – 1 December 2010.** One man pleaded guilty to brokering large amounts of pseudoephedrine from India to Mexico and Guatemala. He faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. According to court documents, the broker conspired with others to obtain large quantities of pseudoephedrine – a chemical used to manufacture methamphetamine – from India for illegal export to Mexico and Guatemala. The man admitted in court that in 2008 and 2009, he worked with an Indian supplier of pseudoephedrine to broker the shipments. In June 2009, law enforcement authorities seized one of these shipments in Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala, which contained 17.5 million tablets.

## United States drug czar warning against stimulants masquerading as 'bath salts'

**WASHINGTON D.C., United States – 1 February 2011.** The Director of the United States Office of National Drug Control Policy, Gil Kerlikowske, released a statement expressing deep concern "about the distribution, sale and use of synthetic stimulants – especially those that are marketed as legal substances. Although we lack sufficient data to understand exactly how prevalent the use of these stimulants are, we know they pose a serious threat to the health and well-being of young people and anyone who may use them. At a time when drug use in America is increasing, the marketing and sale of these poisons as "bath salts" is both unacceptable and dangerous." Recent information from poison control centres suggests that the use of these substances is on the rise.

## Large methamphetamine seizure in the United States

**GWINNETT COUNTY (Georgia), United States – 29 November 2010.** The search of a house in Norcross by investigators with the Gwinnett County Police Department resulted in a significant seizure of methamphetamine. Investigators confiscated a combined total of 447 kg of methamphetamine with an estimated street value of almost \$ 45m. This is believed to be one of the largest methamphetamine seizures in the United States. One person is in custody.



Photo: DEA

### Global SMART accomplishments for 2010

The Global SMART (*Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends*) Programme improves the capacity of targeted Member States to generate, manage, analyze, report and use information on illicit synthetic drugs. The programme launched formal operations in September 2008 in Bangkok. In 2010, the Global SMART Programme:

- produced the March and October Global SMART Updates (in English and Spanish);
- presented the latest information related to the global ATS situation at the 53rd Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna;
- convened the second annual Global SMART Programme Advisory Group meeting;
- provided substantive input into the 2010 World Drug Report chapter on ATS;
- conducted the second annual regional synthetic drug information workshops in East and South-East Asia;
- initiated and completed recruitment for Global SMART expansion into the Americas in partnership with the Organization of American States (OAS);
- reviewed the ATS situation in selected Pacific Islands countries and territories;
- redesigned *Asia and Pacific ATS Information Centre* (APAIC) website and continued development of the *Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific* (DAINAP) and the on-line *Forensic Alert*;
- disseminated information related to the synthetic drug situation at targeted conferences;
- prepared the second annual regional report on the patterns and trends of amphetamine-type stimulants (see below).

### Recent Global SMART Publications

*2010 Patterns and trends of amphetamine-type stimulants and other drugs - Asia and the Pacific (November 2010)*

The report provides detailed data and information on 15 countries in East and South-East Asia, with regional coverage of South Asia and Oceania. The report examines the threat from the illicit manufacture, trafficking and use of ATS from within the region and from neighbouring regions. The current report has expanded coverage of trafficking routes for both drugs and precursor chemicals, reporting on drug trafficking organizations, and improved forensic information.

*Myanmar - Situation assessment on amphetamine-type stimulants (December 2010)*

The report illustrates the situation with respect to the illicit manufacture trafficking and use of ATS in Myanmar. Over the past decade, Myanmar has become a key producer of ATS pills in the region, particularly methamphetamine pills.

UNODC would like to specifically recognize the following funding partners for their investment in the Global SMART Programme. UNODC would also like to acknowledge the significant contributions of our partner the Global SMART Americas, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), for their support regarding this publication.



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If you have comments on this report, or would like to contribute information that should be considered for future reports, please contact the Global SMART Programme at [globalsmart@unodc.org](mailto:globalsmart@unodc.org). Information on the Global SMART Programme can be found via the internet at [www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org) and [www.apaic.org](http://www.apaic.org) or by contacting UNODC at the Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria.