

# SAFETY DATA SHEET

according to the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard



## Dexamethasone Formulation

Version	Revision Date:	SDS Number:	Date of last issue: 09/30/2023
3.10	12/12/2023	1842863-00013	Date of first issue: 07/20/2017

### SECTION 1. IDENTIFICATION

Product name : Dexamethasone Formulation  
Other means of identification : DEXAFORT AQUEOUS SUSPENSION OF  
DEXAMETHASONE AS MIXED ESTERS (37231)

#### Manufacturer or supplier's details

Company name of supplier : Merck & Co., Inc  
Address : 126 E. Lincoln Avenue  
Rahway, New Jersey U.S.A. 07065  
Telephone : 908-740-4000  
Emergency telephone : 1-908-423-6000  
E-mail address : EHSDATASTEWARD@merck.com

#### Recommended use of the chemical and restrictions on use

Recommended use : Veterinary product  
Restrictions on use : Not applicable

### SECTION 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

#### GHS classification in accordance with the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200)

Reproductive toxicity : Category 1B

#### GHS label elements

Hazard pictograms :



Signal Word : Danger

Hazard Statements : H360D May damage the unborn child.

Precautionary Statements :

**Prevention:**  
P201 Obtain special instructions before use.  
P202 Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.  
P280 Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, eye protection and face protection.

**Response:**  
P308 + P313 IF exposed or concerned: Get medical attention.

**Storage:**  
P405 Store locked up.

**Disposal:**  
P501 Dispose of contents and container to an approved waste disposal plant.

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### Other hazards

None known.

## SECTION 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Substance / Mixture : Mixture

### Components

Chemical name	CAS-No.	Concentration (% w/w)
Benzyl alcohol	100-51-6	1.04
Dexamethasone	50-02-2	0.3

## SECTION 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

General advice : In the case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately.  
When symptoms persist or in all cases of doubt seek medical advice.

If inhaled : If inhaled, remove to fresh air.  
Get medical attention.

In case of skin contact : In case of contact, immediately flush skin with soap and plenty of water.  
Remove contaminated clothing and shoes.  
Get medical attention.  
Wash clothing before reuse.  
Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse.

In case of eye contact : Flush eyes with water as a precaution.  
Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists.

If swallowed : If swallowed, DO NOT induce vomiting.  
Get medical attention.  
Rinse mouth thoroughly with water.

Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed : May damage the unborn child.

Protection of first-aiders : First Aid responders should pay attention to self-protection, and use the recommended personal protective equipment when the potential for exposure exists (see section 8).

Notes to physician : Treat symptomatically and supportively.

## SECTION 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

Suitable extinguishing media : Water spray  
Alcohol-resistant foam  
Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)  
Dry chemical

Unsuitable extinguishing media : None known.

Specific hazards during fire fighting : Exposure to combustion products may be a hazard to health.

Hazardous combustion products : Carbon oxides  
Metal oxides

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Specific extinguishing methods	: Use extinguishing measures that are appropriate to local circumstances and the surrounding environment. Use water spray to cool unopened containers. Remove undamaged containers from fire area if it is safe to do so. Evacuate area.
Special protective equipment for fire-fighters	: In the event of fire, wear self-contained breathing apparatus. Use personal protective equipment.

### SECTION 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures	: Use personal protective equipment. Follow safe handling advice (see section 7) and personal protective equipment recommendations (see section 8).
Environmental precautions	: Avoid release to the environment. Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Prevent spreading over a wide area (e.g., by containment or oil barriers). Retain and dispose of contaminated wash water. Local authorities should be advised if significant spillages cannot be contained.
Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up	: Soak up with inert absorbent material. For large spills, provide diking or other appropriate containment to keep material from spreading. If diked material can be pumped, store recovered material in appropriate container. Clean up remaining materials from spill with suitable absorbent. Local or national regulations may apply to releases and disposal of this material, as well as those materials and items employed in the cleanup of releases. You will need to determine which regulations are applicable. Sections 13 and 15 of this SDS provide information regarding certain local or national requirements.

### SECTION 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Technical measures	: See Engineering measures under EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION section.
Local/Total ventilation	: If sufficient ventilation is unavailable, use with local exhaust ventilation.
Advice on safe handling	: Do not get on skin or clothing. Do not breathe vapors or spray mist. Do not swallow. Avoid contact with eyes. Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice, based on the results of the workplace exposure assessment Keep container tightly closed. Take care to prevent spills, waste and minimize release to the environment.

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- Conditions for safe storage : Keep in properly labeled containers.  
Store locked up.  
Keep tightly closed.  
Store in accordance with the particular national regulations.
- Materials to avoid : Do not store with the following product types:  
Strong oxidizing agents  
Self-reactive substances and mixtures  
Organic peroxides  
Explosives  
Gases

### SECTION 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### Ingredients with workplace control parameters

Components	CAS-No.	Value type (Form of exposure)	Control parameters / Permissible concentration	Basis
Benzyl alcohol	100-51-6	TWA	10 ppm	US WEEL
Dexamethasone	50-02-2	TWA	10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (OEB 3)	Internal
Further information: Skin				
		Wipe limit	100 µg/100 cm <sup>2</sup>	Internal

- Engineering measures** : Minimize workplace exposure concentrations.  
If sufficient ventilation is unavailable, use with local exhaust ventilation.

#### Personal protective equipment

- Respiratory protection : General and local exhaust ventilation is recommended to maintain vapor exposures below recommended limits. Where concentrations are above recommended limits or are unknown, appropriate respiratory protection should be worn. Follow OSHA respirator regulations (29 CFR 1910.134) and use NIOSH/MSHA approved respirators. Protection provided by air purifying respirators against exposure to any hazardous chemical is limited. Use a positive pressure air supplied respirator if there is any potential for uncontrolled release, exposure levels are unknown, or any other circumstance where air purifying respirators may not provide adequate protection.

#### Hand protection

- Material : Chemical-resistant gloves

- Remarks : Choose gloves to protect hands against chemicals depending on the concentration specific to place of work. Breakthrough time is not determined for the product. Change gloves often! For special applications, we recommend clarifying the resistance to chemicals of the aforementioned protective gloves with the glove manufacturer. Wash hands before breaks and at the end of workday.

- Eye protection : Wear the following personal protective equipment:  
Safety glasses

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Skin and body protection	:	Select appropriate protective clothing based on chemical resistance data and an assessment of the local exposure potential. Skin contact must be avoided by using impervious protective clothing (gloves, aprons, boots, etc).
Hygiene measures	:	If exposure to chemical is likely during typical use, provide eye flushing systems and safety showers close to the working place. When using do not eat, drink or smoke. Wash contaminated clothing before re-use.

### SECTION 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance	:	suspension
Color	:	white to off-white
Odor Threshold	:	No data available
pH	:	7.0 - 7.8
Melting point/freezing point	:	No data available
Initial boiling point and boiling range	:	No data available
Flash point	:	No data available
Evaporation rate	:	No data available
Flammability (solid, gas)	:	Not applicable
Flammability (liquids)	:	No data available
Upper explosion limit / Upper flammability limit	:	No data available
Lower explosion limit / Lower flammability limit	:	No data available
Vapor pressure	:	No data available
Relative vapor density	:	No data available
Density	:	No data available
Solubility(ies) Water solubility	:	No data available
Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water	:	No data available
Autoignition temperature	:	No data available
Decomposition temperature	:	No data available

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Viscosity		
Viscosity, kinematic	:	No data available
Explosive properties	:	Not explosive
Oxidizing properties	:	The substance or mixture is not classified as oxidizing.
Molecular weight	:	No data available
Particle size	:	No data available

### SECTION 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Reactivity	:	Not classified as a reactivity hazard.
Chemical stability	:	Stable under normal conditions.
Possibility of hazardous reactions	:	Can react with strong oxidizing agents.
Conditions to avoid	:	None known.
Incompatible materials	:	Oxidizing agents
Hazardous decomposition products	:	No hazardous decomposition products are known.

### SECTION 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### Information on likely routes of exposure

Inhalation  
Skin contact  
Ingestion  
Eye contact

#### Acute toxicity

Not classified based on available information.

#### Product:

Acute oral toxicity	:	Acute toxicity estimate: > 5,000 mg/kg Method: Calculation method
Acute inhalation toxicity	:	Acute toxicity estimate: > 200 mg/l Exposure time: 4 h Test atmosphere: dust/mist Method: Calculation method

#### Components:

##### Benzyl alcohol:

Acute oral toxicity	:	LD50 (Rat): 1,620 mg/kg
Acute inhalation toxicity	:	LC50 (Rat): > 4.178 mg/l Exposure time: 4 h

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Test atmosphere: dust/mist  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 403

### Dexamethasone:

Acute oral toxicity : LD50 (Rat): > 2,000 mg/kg  
LD50 (Mouse): > 6,500 mg/kg

Acute toxicity (other routes of administration) : LD50 (Rat): 14 mg/kg  
Application Route: Subcutaneous

### Skin corrosion/irritation

Not classified based on available information.

### Components:

#### Benzyl alcohol:

Species : Rabbit  
Method : OECD Test Guideline 404  
Result : No skin irritation

### Dexamethasone:

Species : Rabbit  
Result : Mild skin irritation

### Serious eye damage/eye irritation

Not classified based on available information.

### Components:

#### Benzyl alcohol:

Species : Rabbit  
Result : Irritation to eyes, reversing within 21 days  
Method : OECD Test Guideline 405

### Dexamethasone:

Species : Rabbit  
Result : Mild eye irritation

### Respiratory or skin sensitization

#### Skin sensitization

Not classified based on available information.

#### Respiratory sensitization

Not classified based on available information.

### Components:

#### Benzyl alcohol:

Test Type : Maximization Test

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Routes of exposure	:	Skin contact
Species	:	Guinea pig
Method	:	OECD Test Guideline 406
Result	:	negative

### Germ cell mutagenicity

Not classified based on available information.

#### Components:

##### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Genotoxicity in vitro	:	Test Type: Bacterial reverse mutation assay (AMES) Result: negative
Genotoxicity in vivo	:	Test Type: Mammalian erythrocyte micronucleus test (in vivo cytogenetic assay) Species: Mouse Application Route: Intraperitoneal injection Result: negative

##### **Dexamethasone:**

Genotoxicity in vitro	:	Test Type: Bacterial reverse mutation assay (AMES) Result: negative  Test Type: in vitro test Test system: mouse lymphoma cells Result: negative
Genotoxicity in vivo	:	Test Type: Micronucleus test Species: Mouse Application Route: Oral Result: negative

### Carcinogenicity

Not classified based on available information.

#### Components:

##### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Species	:	Mouse
Application Route	:	Ingestion
Exposure time	:	103 weeks
Method	:	OECD Test Guideline 451
Result	:	negative

**IARC** No ingredient of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as probable, possible or confirmed human carcinogen by IARC.

**OSHA** No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is on OSHA's list of regulated carcinogens.

**NTP** No ingredient of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as a known or anticipated carcinogen by NTP.



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### Reproductive toxicity

May damage the unborn child.

### Components:

#### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Effects on fertility : Test Type: Fertility/early embryonic development  
Species: Rat  
Application Route: Ingestion  
Result: negative  
Remarks: Based on data from similar materials

Effects on fetal development : Test Type: Embryo-fetal development  
Species: Mouse  
Application Route: Ingestion  
Result: negative

#### **Dexamethasone:**

Effects on fetal development : Test Type: Development  
Species: Mouse  
Application Route: Subcutaneous  
Developmental Toxicity: LOAEL: 6 mg/kg body weight  
Result: Specific developmental abnormalities., Cleft palate

Species: Rabbit  
Application Route: Intramuscular  
Developmental Toxicity: NOAEL: 0.025 mg/kg body weight  
Result: Specific developmental abnormalities.

Species: Rabbit  
Application Route: Intramuscular  
Developmental Toxicity: LOAEL:  $\geq 0.062$  mg/kg body weight  
Result: Specific developmental abnormalities.

Species: Rat  
Application Route: Subcutaneous  
Developmental Toxicity: LOAEL:  $\geq 0.02$  mg/kg body weight  
Result: Skeletal and visceral variations ., Retardations.

Reproductive toxicity - Assessment : May damage the unborn child.

### **STOT-single exposure**

Not classified based on available information.

### **STOT-repeated exposure**

Not classified based on available information.

### Components:

#### **Dexamethasone:**

Routes of exposure : Oral  
Target Organs : Adrenal gland, Immune system, thymus gland

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Assessment : May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.

### Repeated dose toxicity

#### Components:

##### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Species	: Rat
NOAEL	: 1.072 mg/l
Application Route	: inhalation (dust/mist/fume)
Exposure time	: 28 Days
Method	: OECD Test Guideline 412

##### **Dexamethasone:**

Species	: Rat
NOAEL	: 0.0015 mg/kg
Application Route	: Oral
Exposure time	: 7 d
Target Organs	: Liver
Remarks	: Significant toxicity observed in testing

Species	: Rat
LOAEL	: 0.003 mg/kg
Application Route	: Oral
Exposure time	: 90 d
Target Organs	: Blood, Adrenal gland, thymus gland
Remarks	: Significant toxicity observed in testing

Species	: Rat
LOAEL	: 0.125 mg/kg
Application Route	: Oral
Exposure time	: 6 Weeks
Target Organs	: Adrenal gland
Remarks	: Significant toxicity observed in testing

Species	: Rat
LOAEL	: 0.4 mg/kg
Application Route	: Oral
Exposure time	: 3 Months
Target Organs	: Immune system
Remarks	: Significant toxicity observed in testing

Species	: Dog
LOAEL	: 8 mg/kg
Application Route	: Oral
Exposure time	: 3 Months
Target Organs	: Immune system
Remarks	: Significant toxicity observed in testing

### **Aspiration toxicity**

Not classified based on available information.

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### Experience with human exposure

#### Components:

##### **Dexamethasone:**

Ingestion : Target Organs: Immune system  
Target Organs: Adrenal gland  
Target Organs: Bone  
Symptoms: muscle weakness

## SECTION 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### Ecotoxicity

#### Components:

##### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Toxicity to fish : LC50 (Pimephales promelas (fathead minnow)): 460 mg/l  
Exposure time: 96 h

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates : EC50 (Daphnia magna (Water flea)): 230 mg/l  
Exposure time: 48 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 202

Toxicity to algae/aquatic plants : EC50 (Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata (green algae)): 770 mg/l  
Exposure time: 72 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 201  
  
NOEC (Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata (green algae)): 310 mg/l  
Exposure time: 72 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 201

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates (Chronic toxicity) : NOEC (Daphnia magna (Water flea)): 51 mg/l  
Exposure time: 21 d  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 211

##### **Dexamethasone:**

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates : EC50 (Daphnia magna (Water flea)): > 56 mg/l  
Exposure time: 48 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 202

Toxicity to algae/aquatic plants : EC50 (Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata (green algae)): > 9.2 mg/l  
Exposure time: 72 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 201  
  
NOEC (Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata (green algae)): 9.2 mg/l  
Exposure time: 72 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 201

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Toxicity to fish (Chronic toxicity) : NOEC (Pimephales promelas (fathead minnow)): 0.033 mg/l  
Exposure time: 32 d  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 210

Toxicity to microorganisms : EC50: > 1,000 mg/l  
Exposure time: 3 h  
Test Type: Respiration inhibition  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 209

NOEC: 1,000 mg/l  
Exposure time: 3 h  
Test Type: Respiration inhibition  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 209

### Persistence and degradability

#### Components:

##### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Biodegradability : Result: Readily biodegradable.  
Biodegradation: 92 - 96 %  
Exposure time: 14 d

##### **Dexamethasone:**

Biodegradability : Result: Not readily biodegradable.  
Biodegradation: 50 %  
Exposure time: 3.54 d  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 314

### Bioaccumulative potential

#### Components:

##### **Benzyl alcohol:**

Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water : log Pow: 1.05

##### **Dexamethasone:**

Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water : log Pow: 1.83

##### **Mobility in soil**

No data available

##### **Other adverse effects**

No data available

## SECTION 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### **Disposal methods**

Waste from residues : Dispose of in accordance with local regulations.  
Do not dispose of waste into sewer.  
Contaminated packaging : Empty containers should be taken to an approved waste

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handling site for recycling or disposal.  
If not otherwise specified: Dispose of as unused product.

### SECTION 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

#### International Regulations

##### UNRTDG

Not regulated as a dangerous good

##### IATA-DGR

Not regulated as a dangerous good

##### IMDG-Code

Not regulated as a dangerous good

#### Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code

Not applicable for product as supplied.

#### Domestic regulation

##### 49 CFR

Not regulated as a dangerous good

#### Special precautions for user

Not applicable

### SECTION 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

#### CERCLA Reportable Quantity

This material does not contain any components with a CERCLA RQ.

#### SARA 304 Extremely Hazardous Substances Reportable Quantity

This material does not contain any components with a section 304 EHS RQ.

#### SARA 302 Extremely Hazardous Substances Threshold Planning Quantity

This material does not contain any components with a section 302 EHS TPQ.

**SARA 311/312 Hazards** : Reproductive toxicity

**SARA 313** : This material does not contain any chemical components with known CAS numbers that exceed the threshold (De Minimis) reporting levels established by SARA Title III, Section 313.

#### US State Regulations

##### Pennsylvania Right To Know

Water	7732-18-5
Benzyl alcohol	100-51-6

#### The ingredients of this product are reported in the following inventories:

AICS : not determined

DSL : not determined

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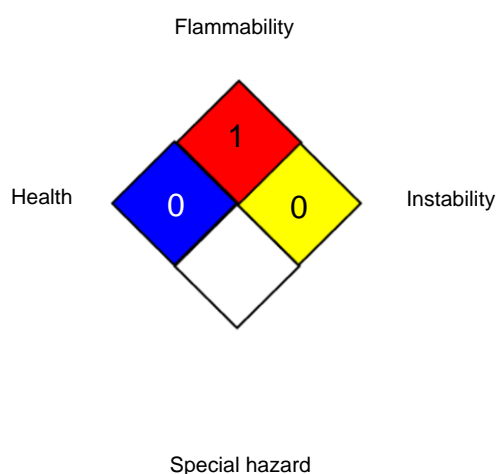
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IECSC : not determined

### SECTION 16. OTHER INFORMATION

#### Further information

##### NFPA 704:



##### HMIS® IV:

HEALTH	*	0
FLAMMABILITY		1
PHYSICAL HAZARD		0

HMIS® ratings are based on a 0-4 rating scale, with 0 representing minimal hazards or risks, and 4 representing significant hazards or risks. The "\*" represents a chronic hazard, while the "/" represents the absence of a chronic hazard.

#### Full text of other abbreviations

US WEEL : USA. Workplace Environmental Exposure Levels (WEEL)  
US WEEL / TWA : 8-hr TWA

AIIC - Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals; ASTM - American Society for the Testing of Materials; bw - Body weight; CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; CMR - Carcinogen, Mutagen or Reproductive Toxicant; DIN - Standard of the German Institute for Standardisation; DOT - Department of Transportation; DSL - Domestic Substances List (Canada); ECx - Concentration associated with x% response; EHS - Extremely Hazardous Substance; ELx - Loading rate associated with x% response; EmS - Emergency Schedule; ENCS - Existing and New Chemical Substances (Japan); ErCx - Concentration associated with x% growth rate response; ERG - Emergency Response Guide; GHS - Globally Harmonized System; GLP - Good Laboratory Practice; HMIS - Hazardous Materials Identification System; IARC - International Agency for Research on Cancer; IATA - International Air Transport Association; IBC - International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk; IC50 - Half maximal inhibitory concentration; ICAO - International Civil Aviation Organization; IECSC - Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances in China; IMDG - International Maritime Dangerous Goods; IMO - International Maritime Organization; ISHL - Industrial Safety and Health Law (Japan); ISO - International Organisation for Standardization; KECI - Korea Existing Chemicals Inventory; LC50 - Lethal Concentration to 50 % of a test population; LD50 - Lethal Dose to 50% of a test population (Median Lethal Dose); MARPOL - International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships; MSHA - Mine Safety and Health Administration; n.o.s. - Not Otherwise Specified; NFPA - National Fire Protection Association; NO(A)EC - No Observed (Adverse) Effect Concentration; NO(A)EL - No Observed (Adverse) Effect Level; NOELR - No Observable Effect Loading Rate; NTP - National Toxicology Program; NZIoC - New Zealand Inventory of

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Chemicals; OECD - Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development; OPPTS - Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention; PBT - Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic substance; PICCS - Philippines Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances; (Q)SAR - (Quantitative) Structure Activity Relationship; RCRA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; REACH - Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals; RQ - Reportable Quantity; SADT - Self-Accelerating Decomposition Temperature; SARA - Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act; SDS - Safety Data Sheet; TCSI - Taiwan Chemical Substance Inventory; TECI - Thailand Existing Chemicals Inventory; TSCA - Toxic Substances Control Act (United States); UN - United Nations; UNRTDG - United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods; vPvB - Very Persistent and Very Bioaccumulative

Sources of key data used to compile the Material Safety Data Sheet : Internal technical data, data from raw material SDSs, OECD eChem Portal search results and European Chemicals Agency, <http://echa.europa.eu/>

Revision Date : 12/12/2023

The information provided in this Safety Data Sheet is correct to the best of our knowledge, information and belief at the date of its publication. The information is designed only as a guidance for safe handling, use, processing, storage, transportation, disposal and release and shall not be considered a warranty or quality specification of any type. The information provided relates only to the specific material identified at the top of this SDS and may not be valid when the SDS material is used in combination with any other materials or in any process, unless specified in the text. Material users should review the information and recommendations in the specific context of their intended manner of handling, use, processing and storage, including an assessment of the appropriateness of the SDS material in the user's end product, if applicable.

US / Z8