FORMALDEHYDE ICSC: 0275

Methyl aldehyde Methylene oxide Methanal

June 2012

CAS #: 50-00-0 UN #: (see Notes) EC Number: 200-001-8

	ACUTE HAZARDS	PREVENTION	FIRE FIGHTING
FIRE & EXPLOSION	mixtures are explosive. Risk of explosion on contact with strong	NO open flames, NO sparks and NO smoking. Closed system, ventilation, explosion-proof electrical equipment and lighting. NO contact with incompatible materials: See Chemical Dangers	Shut off supply; if not possible and no risk to surroundings, let the fire burn itself out. In other cases extinguish with powder, carbon dioxide. In case of fire: keep drums, etc., cool by spraying with water.

AVOID ALL CONTACT!					
	SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	FIRST AID		
Inhalation	Cough. Sore throat. Burning sensation behind the breastbone. Headache. Shortness of breath.	Use ventilation, local exhaust or breathing protection.	Fresh air, rest. Half-upright position. Artificial respiration may be needed. Refer immediately for medical attention.		
Skin	Redness.	Protective gloves.	Remove contaminated clothes. Rinse skin with plenty of water or shower. Seek medical attention if you feel unwell.		
Eyes	Watering of the eyes. Redness. Pain. Blurred vision.	Wear safety goggles or eye protection in combination with breathing protection.	Rinse with plenty of water (remove contact lenses if easily possible). Refer immediately for medical attention.		
Ingestion					

SPILLAGE DISPOSAL	CLASSIFICATION & LABELLING	
Evacuate danger area! Consult an expert! Personal protection: gas-tight chemical protection suit including self-contained breathing apparatus. Remove all ignition sources. Turn off gas at source if possible. Remove gas with fine water spray.	According to UN GHS Criteria	
STORAGE	DANGER Extremely flammable gas	
Fireproof. Cool. Separated from incompatible materials. See Chemical Dangers.	Fatal if inhaled Causes serious eye irritation May cause cancer if inhaled May cause an allergic skin reaction	
PACKAGING	May cause respiratory irritation Transportation UN Classification	
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Prepared by an international group of experts on behalf of ILO and WHO, with the financial assistance of the European Commission. $\hfill \mathbb{C}$ ILO and WHO 2017



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PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL INFORMATION

Physical State; Appearance

COLOURLESS GAS WITH PUNGENT ODOUR.

Physical dangers

The gas mixes well with air, explosive mixtures are easily formed.

Chemical dangers

The substance polymerizes in contact with alkalies and if dissolved in water. Upon heating, toxic fumes are formed. Reacts violently with strong oxidants, strong acids and strong bases. This generates explosion hazard.

Formula: H₂CO Molecular mass: 30.0 Boiling point: -20°C Melting point: -92°C

Relative density (water = 1): 0.8 Solubility in water: very good Relative vapour density (air = 1): 1.08 Auto-ignition temperature: 430°C Explosive limits, vol% in air: 7-73

Octanol/water partition coefficient as log Pow: 0,35

EXPOSURE & HEALTH EFFECTS

Routes of exposure

The substance can be absorbed into the body by inhalation.

Effects of short-term exposure

The substance is severely irritating to the eyes and respiratory tract. Inhalation of high concentrations may cause lung oedema, but only after initial corrosive effects on the eyes and the upper respiratory tract have become manifest.

Inhalation risk

A harmful concentration of this gas in the air will be reached very quickly on loss of containment.

Effects of long-term or repeated exposure

Repeated or chronic inhalation of the vapour may cause chronic inflammation of the upper respiratory tract. Repeated or prolonged contact may cause skin sensitization. This substance is carcinogenic to humans.

OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE LIMITS

TLV: 0.1 ppm as TWA; 0.3 ppm as STEL; (SEN); A1 (confirmed human carcinogen).

MAK: 0.37 mg/m³, 0.3 ppm; peak limitation category: I(2); carcinogen category: 4; pregnancy risk group: C; germ cell mutagen group: 5; sensitization of skin (SH).

EU-OEL: 0,37 mg/m³, 0,3 ppm as TWA; 0,74 mg/m³, 0,6 ppm as STEL; (skin sensitizer); (see Notes)

ENVIRONMENT

NOTES

Immediate administration of an appropriate inhalation therapy by a doctor, or by an authorized person, should be considered. No UN number is presented because formaldehyde is not transported as a gas. It is usually transported as a solution. See ICSC 0695.

Limit value for EU-OEL of 0,62 mg/m3 or 0,5 ppm for the health care, funeral and embalming sectors until 11 July 2024.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EC Classification

Symbol: T; R: 23/24/25-34-40-43; S: (1/2)-26-36/37/39-45-51

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