

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET****SECTION ONE – COMPANY AND PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION**

COMPANY: General Carbide Corporation, 1151 Garden St., Greensburg, PA 15601

MATERIAL NAME: Cemented Carbide Products with Cobalt, Nickel, Nickel-Cobalt, Nickel-Cobalt Chromium Binder.

PRODUCT USE: Die and Wear Parts

PRODUCT IDENTIFIER: All General Carbide Corporation Grades containing Cobalt, Nickel, Nickel-Cobalt-Chromium

CHEMICAL FAMILY: Refractory Metal Carbide

**SECTION TWO- COMPOSITION****HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS**

HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS (CAS REGISTRY NO.)	APPROXIMATE CONCENTRATION BY WEIGHT	EXPOSURE LIMITS		
		ACGIH	U.S. OSHA PEL	U.S. OSHA STEL
Tungsten Carbide (limits for tungsten dust) (12070-12-1)	50-97% *	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	15 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Nickel *** (7440-02-0)	0-25% *	1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-----
Cobalt Metal Dust *** and fume (as Co.) (7440-48-4)	0-30% *	.02 mg/m <sup>3</sup> A3**	.1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-----
Tantalum Carbide (limits for tantalum dust) (12070-06-3)	0-22% *	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	15 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-----
Chromium Carbide *** (limits for Chromium (+3)dust) (7440-47-3)	0-5% *	.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-----
Molybdenum (7439-98-7)	0-5% *	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-----

\* Exact percentages depends on grade specifications

\*\* A3 - ACGIH - Animal carcinogen

\*\*\* EPCRA section 313 chemicals subject to reporting requirements of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (CFR 372)

**PEL Permissible Exposure Limit**, is the employee's Time Weighted Average (TWA) airborne exposure in any 8-hour work shift of a 40-hour week.**STEL** (Short Term Exposure Level) is an employee's 15-minute time weighted average dust exposure at any time during a work day.

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### **SECTION THREE- PHYSICAL DATA**

Appearance and Odor: Dark Gray; Solid Metal; No Odor; No Odor Threshold

<u>Boiling Point</u> :	Not Applicable	<u>Specific Gravity (H<sub>2</sub>O=1)</u> : 11.0 to 15.5
<u>Vapor Pressure (mm/hg)</u> :	Not Applicable	<u>Percent Volatile by Volume</u> : 0
<u>Vapor Density (Air=1)</u> :	Not Applicable	<u>Evaporation Rate</u> : Not Applicable
<u>Solubility in Water</u> :	Insoluble	<u>How Best Monitored</u> : Air Sample
<u>Freezing Point</u> :	Not Applicable	<u>Ph</u> : Not Applicable
<u>Coefficient of water/oil distribution</u> :	Not Applicable	

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### **SECTION FOUR - FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA**

Flash Point and Method of Determination: Not Applicable

Upper Flammable Limit: Not Applicable  
Auto Ignition Temperature: Not Applicable

Lower Flammable Limit: Not Applicable

Hazardous Combustion Products/Conditions of Flammability: Hard cemented carbide product is not a fire hazard. Dusts generated in grinding operations may ignite if allowed to accumulate and subjected to an ignition source.

Extinguishing Media: For powder fires, smoother with dry sand, dry dolomite, ABC fire extinguisher, or flood with water.

Special Fire Fighting Procedures: For a powder fire confined to a small area, use a respirator approved for toxic dusts and fumes. For a large fire, fire fighters should use a self-contained breathing apparatus.

Explosion Data - Sensitivity to Mechanical Impact: Not Applicable

Explosion Data - Sensitivity to Static Discharge: Not Applicable

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: Dusts may present a fire or explosion hazard under rare favoring conditions of particle size, dispersion and strong ignition source. However, this is not expected to be a problem under normal handling conditions.

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### **SECTION FIVE - REACTIVITY DATA**

Conditions Under Which Product Is Unstable: Not Applicable

Incompatibility/Conditions of Reactivity: Contact of dust with strong oxidizers may cause fire or explosions. Avoid contact with strong acids.

Hazardous Decomposition Products: None

Hazardous Polymerization: Will Not Occur

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## **SECTION SIX –TOXICOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

Routes of Entry: Inhalation acute; inhalation chronic; ingestion; skin contact; eye contact.

Effects of Acute or Chronic Exposure, Irritancy and Sensitization:

Inhalation: Dust from grinding can cause irritation of the nose and throat. In some cases, it also has the potential for causing or aggravating transient or permanent respiratory or pulmonary disease, including occupational asthma, pulmonary fibrosis, and interstitial pneumonitis. It is reported that cobalt indicated a lack of correlation between onset of symptoms, length of exposure and the development of interstitial fibrosis. Symptoms may include productive coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness, weight loss, a high incidence of minor or marked radiological abnormalities, and the development of hypersensitivity asthma in some people. Respiratory or pulmonary disease is progressive and can lead to permanent disability or death.

Ingestion: It has been suggested that ingestion of significant amounts of cobalt has the potential for causing blood, heart and other organ problems. Current scientific information indicates no adverse effects are likely from ingestion of small amounts of nickel dust generated from these products.

Skin Contact: May cause irritation or an allergic skin rash due to cobalt sensitization. It has been reported that an allergic dermatitis has been caused by contact with cobalt and its compounds. Certain skin conditions, such as dry skin, may be aggravated by exposure.

Eye Contact: Can cause Irritation.

Carcinogenicity: Nickel has been identified as a confirmed human carcinogen section A1 of Appendix A of Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices published by ACGIH. The ACGIH has identified cobalt metal as an animal carcinogen. Other sources indicated that cobalt metal is a suspected or confirmed carcinogen. The international agency for Research on Cancer IRAC lists cobalt and cobalt compounds as possibly carcinogens to humans, group 2B. The US Department of Health and Human Services has listed Cobalt-Tungsten Carbide in its Report on Carcinogens Twelfth Edition (2011) as "Reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen".

Reproduction Toxicity: Not Applicable

Mutagenicity: Not Applicable

Teratogenicity: Not Applicable

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## **SECTION SEVEN - PREVENTATIVE MEASURES**

Personal Protection Equipment and Specific Engineering Controls:

Respiratory Protection: Use an appropriate, NIOSH approved respirator if airborne dust concentrations exceed the applicable exposure limits. For proper selection of respirators, see also American National Standard Practices for Respiratory Protection Z88.2-1969. Harmful if inhaled. Dust or carbide powder can cause respiratory system damage if not protected with an approved respirator.

Ventilation: Use local ventilation which is adequate to limit personal exposure to airborne dust levels which do not exceed the applicable exposure limits. If such equipment is not available use respirators as specified above.

Gloves, Barrier Cream: Protective gloves or barrier creams are recommended when contact with dust or mist is likely. Prior to applying the barrier cream or use of protective gloves, wash thoroughly.

Eye Protection: Safety glasses with side shields or goggles are recommended.

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Periodic Medical Examinations: It has been noted by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration that literature suggest possible adverse effects of exposure to cobalt below the permitted exposure limits. Accordingly, periodic medical examinations are recommended for individuals regularly exposed.

Spill or Leak Procedures: Ventilate area or spill. Clean up using methods which avoid dust generation such as vacuum (with appropriate filter to prevent airborne dust levels which exceed exposure limits), wet mop or wet clean-up. If airborne dust is generated, use an appropriate approved respirator. Keep containers closed when not in use. Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing. Wash hands thoroughly after handling.

Waste Disposal Method: Dispose of in accordance with appropriate governmental regulations. May be sold as scrap or reclaim.

Other Precautions: Wash hands thoroughly after handling and before eating or smoking. Wash exposed skin at the end of work shift. Do not shake clothing, rags or other items to remove dust. Dust should be removed by washing or vacuuming (with appropriate filters) the clothing, rags, or other items. Do not shake clothing to remove dust.

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## **SECTION EIGHT - FIRST AID MEASURES**

Inhalation: If symptoms of pulmonary involvement develop (coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, etc.), remove from exposure and seek medical attention.

Ingestion: If substantial quantities are swallowed, dilute with a large amount of water, induce vomiting and seek medical attention.

Skin Contact: If irritation or rash occurs, thoroughly wash affected area with soap and water and isolate from exposure. If irritation or rash persists, seek medical attention.

Eye Contact: If irritation occurs, flush with copious amounts of water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

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## **SECTION NINE - PREPARATION INFORMATION**

In case of questions please call:

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