

# SAFETY DATA SHEET

According to OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200

## Ethylene oxide

|         |                |              |                                |
|---------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Version | Revision Date: | SDS Number:  | Print Date: 09/03/2022         |
| 34.2    | 03/04/2021     | 800001000479 | Date of last issue: 02/16/2021 |

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### SECTION 1. IDENTIFICATION

Product name : Ethylene oxide

Product code : U1111, U1115, U1114, U1116

#### Manufacturer or supplier's details

Company : **Shell Chemical LP**  
PO Box 576  
HOUSTON TX 77001  
USA

SDS Request : 1-800-240-6737  
Customer Service : 1-855-697-4355

#### Emergency telephone number

Chemtrec Domestic (24 hr) : 1-800-424-9300  
Chemtrec International (24 hr) : 1-703-527-3887

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

Recommended use : Chemical intermediate.

Restrictions on use : This product must not be used in applications other than the above without first seeking the advice of the supplier.

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### SECTION 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

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

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Flammable gases                                  | : Category 1                          |
| Gases under pressure                             | : Liquefied gas                       |
| Acute toxicity (Oral)                            | : Category 3                          |
| Skin corrosion                                   | : Category 1                          |
| Serious eye damage                               | : Category 1                          |
| Acute toxicity (Inhalation)                      | : Category 3                          |
| Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure | : Category 3 (Respiratory system)     |
| Germ cell mutagenicity                           | : Category 1B                         |
| Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure | : Category 3 (Central nervous system) |

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Carcinogenicity : Category 1B  
Reproductive toxicity : Category 1B  
Specific target organ toxicity : Category 1 (Central nervous system)  
- repeated exposure

### GHS label elements

Hazard pictograms



Signal word : Danger

Hazard statements : PHYSICAL HAZARDS:  
H220 Extremely flammable gas.  
H280 Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.  
HEALTH HAZARDS:  
H302 Harmful if swallowed.  
H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.  
H318 Causes serious eye damage.  
H331 Toxic if inhaled.  
H335 May cause respiratory irritation.  
H340 May cause genetic defects.  
H350 May cause cancer.  
H372 Causes damage to organs (Central nervous system) through prolonged or repeated exposure.  
ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS:  
Not classified as an environmental hazard under GHS criteria.

Precautionary statements : **Prevention:**  
P201 Obtain special instructions before use.  
P202 Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.  
P210 Keep away from heat/ sparks/ open flames/ hot surfaces. No smoking.  
P260 Do not breathe dust/ fume/ gas/ mist/ vapours/ spray.  
P264 Wash skin thoroughly after handling.  
P270 Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.  
P271 Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.  
P280 Wear protective gloves/ protective clothing/ eye protection/ face protection.  
**Response:**  
P377 Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish, unless leak can be stopped safely.  
P381 Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so.  
P330 Rinse mouth.  
P305 + P351 + P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

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P301 + P310 IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/ physician.

P304 + P340 IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.

P308 + P313 IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/ attention.

P363 Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

P303 + P361 + P353 + P310 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water or shower. Immediately call a POISON CENTER/ doctor.

### Storage:

P410 Protect from sunlight.

P403 + P233 Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.

P405 Store locked up.

### Disposal:

P501 Dispose of contents and container to appropriate waste site or reclaimer in accordance with local and national regulations.

### Other hazards which do not result in classification

Even with proper grounding and bonding, this material can still accumulate an electrostatic charge.

If sufficient charge is allowed to accumulate, electrostatic discharge and ignition of flammable air-vapour mixtures can occur.

Dangerous polymerisation can occur on contact with highly catalytic surfaces.

Highly reactive.

This material is shipped under pressure.

Exposure to rapidly expanding gases may cause frost burns to eyes and/or skin.

Liquid solutions of ethylene oxide cause serious chemical burns of the skin and eye lesions. The severity of injury will vary depending on the concentration and duration of skin contact. Concentrations of around 50% are the most dangerous, however a 1% solution of EO in water and gaseous EO dissolved in sweat can also cause damage to the skin. The onset of effects may be delayed for several hours.

Causes burns.

The classification of this material is based on OSHA HCS 2012 criteria.

## SECTION 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

### Hazardous components

| Chemical name  | Synonyms                        | CAS-No. | Concentration (% w/w) |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Ethylene Oxide | ethylene oxide (Vapour and gas) | 75-21-8 | >= 90 - <= 100        |

## SECTION 4. FIRST-AID MEASURES

General advice : DO NOT DELAY.  
Keep victim calm. Obtain medical treatment immediately.  
DO NOT attempt to rescue the victim unless proper respiratory protection is worn.

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- Take appropriate steps to avoid fire, explosion and inhalation hazards.  
Contaminated leather articles including shoes cannot be decontaminated and should be destroyed to prevent reuse.
- If inhaled : Call emergency number for your location / facility.  
Remove to fresh air. Do not attempt to rescue the victim unless proper respiratory protection is worn. If the victim has difficulty breathing or tightness of the chest, is dizzy, vomiting, or unresponsive, give 100% oxygen with rescue breathing or Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation as required and transport to the nearest medical facility.
- In case of skin contact : DO NOT DELAY.  
Call emergency number for your location / facility.  
Remove contaminated clothing. Immediately flush skin with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes, and follow by washing with soap and water if available. If redness, swelling, pain and/or blisters occur, transport to the nearest medical facility for additional treatment.  
All burns should receive medical attention.
- In case of eye contact : Immediately flush eye(s) with plenty of water.  
Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.  
Transport to the nearest medical facility for additional treatment.
- If swallowed : Do not induce vomiting. If victim is alert, rinse mouth and drink 1/2 to 1 glass of water to help dilute the material. Do not give liquids to a drowsy, convulsing, or unconscious person.  
Transport to nearest medical facility for additional treatment.  
Rinse mouth.
- Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed : Respiratory irritation signs and symptoms may include a temporary burning sensation of the nose and throat, coughing, and/or difficulty breathing.  
Breathing of high vapour concentrations may cause central nervous system (CNS) depression resulting in dizziness, light-headedness, headache, nausea and loss of coordination.  
Continued inhalation may result in unconsciousness and death.  
Corrosive to skin.  
Contact with the skin can cause chemical burns, redness, swelling, and tissue damage.  
Corrosive to eyes.  
Contact can cause severe eye damage including chemical burns, pain, clouding of the eye surface, inflammation of the eye, and may result in permanent loss of vision.
- Rapid release of gases which are liquids under pressure may cause frost burns of exposed tissues (skin, eye) due to evaporative cooling.  
Peripheral nerve damage may be evidenced by impairment of motor function (incoordination, unsteady walk, or muscle

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weakness in the extremities, and/or loss of sensation in the arms and legs).

Other signs and symptoms of central nervous system (CNS) depression may include headache, nausea, and lack of coordination.

Symptoms may vary by the agent. Symptoms may extend to being locally corrosive to involving generalized systems including respiratory system, circulatory system, central nervous system (CNS), and may lead to death.

Burns and tearing of the esophagus and stomach are possible.

Protection of first-aiders : When administering first aid, ensure that you are wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment according to the incident, injury and surroundings.

Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed : IMMEDIATE TREATMENT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!  
Treat symptomatically.  
Artificial respiration and/or oxygen may be necessary.  
Call a doctor or poison control center for guidance.

### SECTION 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

Suitable extinguishing media : Shut off supply. If not possible and no risk to surroundings, let the fire burn itself out.

Unsuitable extinguishing media : Do not use water in a jet.

Specific hazards during fire-fighting : The vapour is heavier than air, spreads along the ground and distant ignition is possible.  
Sustained fire attack on vessels may result in a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion (BLEVE).  
Containers exposed to intense heat from fires should be cooled with large quantities of water.  
Contents are under pressure and can explode when exposed to heat or flames.  
As the vapours become lighter than air, the vapours may reach ignition sources at ground or elevated locations.

Specific extinguishing methods : Standard procedure for chemical fires.

Further information : Clear fire area of all non-emergency personnel.  
If the fire cannot be extinguished the only course of action is to evacuate immediately.  
Large fires should only be fought by properly trained fire fighters.  
Evacuate the area of all non-essential personnel.

Special protective equipment for firefighters : Wear full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus.

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Proper protective equipment including chemical resistant gloves are to be worn; chemical resistant suit is indicated if large contact with spilled product is expected. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus must be worn when approaching a fire in a confined space. Select fire fighter's clothing approved to relevant Standards (e.g. Europe: EN469).

### SECTION 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

- Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures : Avoid contact with spilled or released material. For guidance on selection of personal protective equipment see Section 8 of this Safety Data Sheet.  
Isolate hazard area and deny entry to unnecessary or unprotected personnel.  
Stay upwind and keep out of low areas.  
Extinguish any naked flames. Do not smoke. Remove ignition sources. Avoid sparks.  
Note - Since the danger of fire is so great, bunker gear worn over protective clothing is highly recommended.
- Environmental precautions : Shut off leaks, if possible without personal risks. Remove all possible sources of ignition in the surrounding area and evacuate all personnel. Attempt to disperse the gas or to direct its flow to a safe location for example by using fog sprays. Take precautionary measures against static discharge. Ensure electrical continuity by bonding and grounding (earthing) all equipment. Monitor area with combustible gas meter.  
Prevent from spreading or entering into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.  
Use water spray barriers (curtains) to contain the toxic clouds.
- Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up : Use water spray (fog) to reduce vapours or divert vapour cloud drift.  
Do not use water in a jet.  
Alcohol foam applied to surface of liquid pools may slow release of EO vapours into the atmosphere.
- Additional advice : For personal protection see section 8.  
See Chapter 13 for information on disposal.  
Observe all relevant local regulations.  
Notify authorities if any exposure to the general public or the environment occurs or is likely to occur.  
Dike and contain spill water.  
Water dilution of at least 22:1 for open spaces or 100:1 for confined spaces is necessary to eliminate the fire hazard.  
Due to its high volatility, spilled liquid EO should either be allowed to evaporate or diluted with water as noted above.  
The vapour is heavier than air, spreads along the ground and distant ignition is possible.  
Monitor area with combustible gas indicator.  
Run-off may cause a fire or explosion hazard.  
DOT recommends evacuating in all directions. For small spills

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the distance to evacuate is at least 200 feet; protect persons downwind to at least 0.1 miles during the day and 0.2 miles at night. For large spills the distance to evacuate is at least 400 feet; protect persons downwind to at least 0.2 miles during the day and 0.6 miles at night.

U.S. regulations may require reporting releases of this material to the environment which exceed the reportable quantity (refer to Section 15) to the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.

### SECTION 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Technical measures                       | : Avoid breathing of or direct contact with material. Only use in well ventilated areas. Wash thoroughly after handling. For guidance on selection of personal protective equipment see Section 8 of this Safety Data Sheet.<br>Use the information in this data sheet as input to a risk assessment of local circumstances to help determine appropriate controls for safe handling, storage and disposal of this material.<br>Ensure that all local regulations regarding handling and storage facilities are followed.   |
| Advice on safe handling                  | : Avoid exposure. Obtain special instructions before use.<br>This product is intended for use in closed systems only.<br>Ventilate workplace in such a way that the Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL) is not exceeded.<br>The vapour is heavier than air, spreads along the ground and distant ignition is possible.<br>Electrostatic discharge may cause fire. Ensure electrical continuity by bonding and grounding (earthing) all equipment to reduce the risk.<br>The vapours in the head space of the storage vessel may lie in the flammable/explosive range and hence may be flammable.<br>Do NOT use compressed air for filling, discharging, or handling operations. |
| Avoidance of contact                     | : Avoid contamination with organic bases, strong acids, ammonia, copper, silver, magnesium and their salts, anhydrous chlorides of iron, tin and aluminium, and alkali metal hydroxides.  |
| Product Transfer                         | : Refer to guidance under Handling section. Lines should be purged with nitrogen before and after product transfer. Refer to supplier for further product transfer instructions if required.  |
| Conditions for safe storage              | : Refer to section 15 for any additional specific legislation covering the packaging and storage of this product.   |
| Further information on storage stability | : Ethylene oxide (EO), an extremely flammable and toxic gas, and other hazardous vapours may evolve and collect in the headspace of storage tanks, transport vessels and other en-  |

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closed containers.

Tanks must be specifically designed for use with this product.

Tanks must be clean, dry and rust-free.

Keep container tightly closed.

Vapours from tanks should not be released to atmosphere.

Breathing losses during storage should be controlled by a suitable vapour treatment system.

Nitrogen blanket recommended.

Cleaning, inspection and maintenance of storage tanks is a specialist operation, which requires the implementation of strict procedures and precautions.

Keep away from flammables, oxidizing agents, and corrosives.

Storage Temperature:

30 °C / 86 °F maximum.

Potential exists for runaway reaction at elevated temperatures in the presence of strong bases and salts of strong bases.

Must be stored in a diked (bunded) well-ventilated area, away from sunlight, ignition sources and other sources of heat.

A reliable fixed sprinkler/deluge system should be installed.

- Packaging material : Suitable material: Stainless steel., Mild steel., Carbon steel  
Unsuitable material: Compatibility should be checked with the manufacturer.
- Container Advice : Containers, even those that have been emptied, can contain explosive vapours. Do not cut, drill, grind, weld or perform similar operations on or near containers.
- Specific use(s) : Not applicable

Ensure that all local regulations regarding handling and storage facilities are followed.

See additional references that provide safe handling practices: American Petroleum Institute 2003 (Protection Against Ignitions Arising out of Static, Lightning and Stray Currents) or National Fire Protection Agency 77 (Recommended Practices on Static Electricity).

IEC/TS 60079-32-1: Electrostatic hazards, guidance

## SECTION 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

### Components with workplace control parameters

| Components     | CAS-No. | Value type<br>(Form of exposure) | Control parameters / Permissible concentration | Basis   |
|----------------|---------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Ethylene Oxide | 75-21-8 | TWA                              | 1 ppm<br>1.8 mg/m <sup>3</sup>                 | Shell OEL = Shell Occupational Exposure Limit |
| Ethylene Oxide |         | TWA                              | 1 ppm  | ACGIH   |



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|                |  |      |       |           |
|----------------|--|------|-------|-----------|
| Ethylene Oxide |  | PEL  | 1 ppm | OSHA CARC |
| Ethylene Oxide |  | STEL | 5 ppm | OSHA CARC |

### Biological occupational exposure limits

| Components     | CAS-No. | Control parameters                                | Biological specimen | Sampling time | Permissible concentration | Basis     |
|----------------|---------|---|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Ethylene Oxide | 75-21-8 | N-(2-hydroxyethyl)valine (HEV) hemoglobin adducts |                     | Not critical  | 5000 pmol HEV/g globin    | ACGIH BEI |
|                |         | S-(2-hydroxyethyl)mercapturic acid (HEMA)         | Urine               | End of shift  | 5 µg HEMA/g creatinine    | ACGIH BEI |

### Monitoring Methods

Monitoring of the concentration of substances in the breathing zone of workers or in the general workplace may be required to confirm compliance with an OEL and adequacy of exposure controls. For some substances biological monitoring may also be appropriate.

Validated exposure measurement methods should be applied by a competent person and samples analysed by an accredited laboratory.

Examples of sources of recommended exposure measurement methods are given below or contact the supplier. Further national methods may be available.

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), USA: Manual of Analytical Methods <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), USA: Sampling and Analytical Methods <http://www.osha.gov/>

Health and Safety Executive (HSE), UK: Methods for the Determination of Hazardous Substances <http://www.hse.gov.uk/>

Institut für Arbeitsschutz Deutschen Gesetzlichen Unfallversicherung (IFA), Germany <http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/index.jsp>

L'Institut National de Recherche et de Sécurité, (INRS), France <http://www.inrs.fr/accueil>

### Engineering measures

- The level of protection and types of controls necessary will vary depending upon potential exposure conditions. Select controls based on a risk assessment of local circumstances. Appropriate measures include:
  - Use sealed systems as far as possible.
  - Adequate explosion-proof ventilation to control airborne concentrations below the exposure guidelines/limits.
  - Local exhaust ventilation is recommended.
- The American Industrial Hygiene Association has established emergency response planning guidelines (ERPG) for ethylene oxide. These guidelines are estimates of concentration ranges which alone could reasonably anticipate observing adverse effects.
- Ethylene Oxide ERPG-2, 50 ppm, is a maximum airborne concentration below which individuals could be exposed for up to 1 hour without experiencing mild transient health effects.

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fects.

Ethylene Oxide ERPG-3, 500 ppm, is a maximum airborne concentration below which it is believed that individuals could be exposed for up to 1 hour without experiencing or developing life threatening health effects.

Firewater monitors and deluge systems are recommended. Eye washes and showers for emergency use.

### General Information:

Consider technical advances and process upgrades (including automation) for the elimination of releases. Minimise exposure using measures such as closed systems, dedicated facilities and suitable general/local exhaust ventilation. Drain down systems and clear transfer lines prior to breaking containment. Clean/flush equipment, where possible, prior to maintenance. Where there is potential for exposure: restrict access to authorised persons; provide specific activity training to operators to minimise exposures; wear suitable gloves and coveralls to prevent skin contamination; wear respiratory protection when there is potential for inhalation; clear up spills immediately and dispose of wastes safely. Ensure safe systems of work or equivalent arrangements are in place to manage risks. Regularly inspect, test and maintain all control measures. Consider the need for risk based health surveillance.

Do not ingest. If swallowed, then seek immediate medical assistance

Items that cannot be decontaminated should be destroyed (see Chapter 13).

### Personal protective equipment

Respiratory protection

: If engineering controls do not maintain airborne concentrations to a level which is adequate to protect worker health, select respiratory protection equipment suitable for the specific conditions of use and meeting relevant legislation. Check with respiratory protective equipment suppliers. Where air-filtering respirators are unsuitable (e.g. airborne concentrations are high, risk of oxygen deficiency, confined space) use appropriate positive pressure breathing apparatus. Where air-filtering respirators are suitable, select an appropriate combination of mask and filter. If air-filtering respirators are suitable for conditions of use:

Select a filter suitable for organic gases and vapours [Type AX boiling point  $\leq 65^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $149^{\circ}\text{F}$ )].

An approved respirator should be used when making or breaking connections to an ethylene oxide rail car or when sampling this material.

The odour threshold for ethylene oxide is above 250 ppm. This is much greater than the OSHA exposure limits. Therefore, do not depend on sense of smell for warning. If you

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smell ethylene oxide, you are in danger. Absence of odour, though, does not assure low enough exposure levels; its vapour may deaden the sense of smell.

Respirator selection, use and maintenance should be in accordance with the requirements of the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1910.134.

Hand protection  
Remarks

: 4Htm (PE/EVAL) or butyl rubber gloves, First Responder chemical suit. Neoprene, Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) or Vitontm are not recommended.  
Where hand contact with the product may occur the use of gloves approved to relevant standards (e.g. Europe: EN374, US: F739) made from the following materials may provide suitable chemical protection. Longer term protection: Butyl rubber. Incidental contact/Splash protection: Nitrile rubber gloves. For continuous contact we recommend gloves with breakthrough time of more than 240 minutes with preference for > 480 minutes where suitable gloves can be identified. For short-term/splash protection we recommend the same but recognize that suitable gloves offering this level of protection may not be available and in this case a lower breakthrough time maybe acceptable so long as appropriate maintenance and replacement regimes are followed. Glove thickness is not a good predictor of glove resistance to a chemical as it is dependent on the exact composition of the glove material. Glove thickness should be typically greater than 0.35 mm depending on the glove make and model. Suitability and durability of a glove is dependent on usage, e.g. frequency and duration of contact, chemical resistance of glove material, dexterity. Always seek advice from glove suppliers. Contaminated gloves should be replaced. Personal hygiene is a key element of effective hand care. Gloves must only be worn on clean hands. After using gloves, hands should be washed and dried thoroughly. Application of a non-perfumed moisturizer is recommended.

Eye protection

: Wear goggles for use against liquids and gas, combined with face shield with chin guard.

Skin and body protection

: Where risk of splashing or in spillage clean up, use chemical resistant one-piece overall with integral hood, chemical resistant knee length boots and chemical resistant gloves. Otherwise use chemical resistant apron and gauntlets.

Protective measures

: Personal protective equipment (PPE) should meet recommended national standards. Check with PPE suppliers.

Hygiene measures

: Wash hands before eating, drinking, smoking and using the toilet.  
Launder contaminated clothing before re-use.

**Environmental exposure controls**

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| General advice | : Local guidelines on emission limits for volatile substances must be observed for the discharge of exhaust air containing vapour.<br>Minimise release to the environment. An environmental assessment must be made to ensure compliance with local environmental legislation.<br>Information on accidental release measures are to be found in section 6. |
|----------------|--|

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### SECTION 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Appearance                                       | : Liquid under pressure.               |
| Colour   | : clear                                |
| Odour  | : Ethereal, sweet                      |
| Odour Threshold                                  | : Data not available                   |
| pH   | : Not applicable                       |
| Melting point/freezing point                     | : -112 °C / -170 °F                    |
| Boiling point/boiling range                      | : 10.6 °C / 51.1 °F                    |
| Flash point                                      | : -57 °C / -71 °F                      |
| Evaporation rate                                 | : Data not available                   |
| Flammability (solid, gas)                        | : Extremely flammable.                 |
| Upper explosion limit / upper flammability limit | : 99.99 %(V)                           |
| Lower explosion limit / Lower flammability limit | : 2.6 %(V)                             |
| Vapour pressure                                  | : 144.6 kPa (20 °C / 68 °F)            |
| Relative vapour density                          | : ca. 1.5                              |
| Relative density                                 | : Data not available                   |
| Density  | : 898 kg/m <sup>3</sup> (0 °C / 32 °F) |
| Solubility(ies)                                  |  |
| Water solubility                                 | : completely miscible                  |
| Solubility in other solvents                     | : Data not available                   |
| Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water           | : log Pow: -0.3                        |

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Auto-ignition temperature : 428 °C / 802 °F

Decomposition temperature : Data not available

Viscosity  
Viscosity, dynamic : 0.41 mPa.s (0 °C / 32 °F)

Viscosity, kinematic : Data not available

Explosive properties : Not applicable

Oxidizing properties : Not applicable

Surface tension : Data not available

Conductivity : Electrical conductivity: > 10,000 pS/m

A number of factors, for example liquid temperature, presence of contaminants, and anti-static additives can greatly influence the conductivity of a liquid, This material is not expected to be a static accumulator.

Molecular weight : 44 g/mol

Particle size : Data not available

### SECTION 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Reactivity : The product does not pose any further reactivity hazards in addition to those listed in the following sub-paragraph.

Chemical stability : Stable under normal conditions of use.  
Pure EO or EO vapour mixed with air or inert gases can decompose explosively. The violence of the explosion depends on pressure, temperature and concentration; the form and energy of the ignition source, and the type of container.  
Reacts exothermically with bases (eg caustic soda), ammonia, primary and secondary amines, alcohols, water and acids.

Possibility of hazardous reactions : Data not available

Conditions to avoid : Heat, flames, and sparks.  
Temperatures above 30 °C / 86 °F.  
Prevent vapour accumulation.

In certain circumstances product can ignite due to static electricity.

Incompatible materials : Avoid contamination with organic bases, strong acids, ammonia, copper, silver, magnesium and their salts, anhydrous chlorides of iron, tin and aluminium, and alkali metal hydroxides.

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Hazardous decomposition products : Thermal decomposition is highly dependent on conditions. A complex mixture of airborne solids, liquids and gases including carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, sulphur oxides and unidentified organic compounds will be evolved when this material undergoes combustion or thermal or oxidative degradation.

### SECTION 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Basis for assessment : Information given is based on product testing.

#### Information on likely routes of exposure

Exposure may occur via inhalation, ingestion, skin absorption, skin or eye contact, and accidental ingestion.

This material penetrates the intact skin and eye rapidly as a liquid or mist, producing severe burns.

#### Acute toxicity

##### Components:

##### **Ethylene Oxide:**

Acute oral toxicity : LD 50 (Rat, male): > 300 - <= 2000 mg/kg  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: Harmful if swallowed.

Acute inhalation toxicity : LC 50 (Rat, male): > 500 - <= 2500 ppm  
Exposure time: 4 h  
Test atmosphere: gas  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: Toxic if inhaled  
High concentrations may cause central nervous system depression resulting in headaches, dizziness and nausea; continued inhalation may result in unconsciousness and/or death.

Acute dermal toxicity : Remarks: Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.

#### Skin corrosion/irritation

##### Components:

##### **Ethylene Oxide:**

Species: Rabbit

Method: Acceptable non-standard method.

Remarks: Causes skin irritation., Liquid solutions of ethylene oxide cause serious chemical burns of the skin and eye lesions. The severity of injury will vary depending on the concentration and duration of skin contact., Rapid release of gases which are liquids under pressure may cause frost burns of exposed tissues (skin, eye) due to evaporative cooling.

#### Serious eye damage/eye irritation

##### Components:

##### **Ethylene Oxide:**

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Species: Rabbit  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: Causes serious eye irritation.

### Respiratory or skin sensitisation

#### Components:

##### **Ethylene Oxide:**

Species: Guinea pig  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.

### Germ cell mutagenicity

#### Components:

##### **Ethylene Oxide:**

: Method: OECD Test Guideline 471  
Remarks: May cause genetic defects.

: Method: Literature data  
Remarks: May cause genetic defects.

: Test species: Mouse  
Application Route: Inhalation  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: May cause genetic defects.

Germ cell mutagenicity- Assessment : May cause genetic defects.

### Carcinogenicity

#### Components:

##### **Ethylene Oxide:**

Species: Rat, (male and female)  
Application Route: Inhalation  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: May cause cancer.

Carcinogenicity - Assessment : May cause cancer.

#### **IARC**

Group 1: Carcinogenic to humans

Ethylene Oxide 75-21-8

#### **OSHA**

OSHA specifically regulated carcinogen

Ethylene Oxide 75-21-8

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### NTP

Known to be human carcinogen

Ethylene Oxide

75-21-8

### Reproductive toxicity

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

:  
Species: Rat  
Sex: male and female  
Application Route: Inhalation

Method: Literature data  
Remarks: Based on available data, the classification criteria  
are not met., May impair fertility based on animal studies.

Effects on foetal develop-  
ment

: Species: Rat, male and female  
Application Route: Inhalation  
Method: Test(s) equivalent or similar to OECD Test Guideline  
414  
Remarks: Based on available data, the classification criteria  
are not met., Causes slight fetotoxicity.  
Species: Rabbit, female  
Application Route: Inhalation  
Method: Literature data  
Remarks: Based on available data, the classification criteria  
are not met., Causes slight fetotoxicity.

Reproductive toxicity - As-  
sessment

: This product does not meet the criteria for classification in  
categories 1A/1B.

### STOT - single exposure

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Exposure routes: Inhalation  
Target Organs: Respiratory system  
Remarks: May cause respiratory irritation.

### STOT - repeated exposure

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Exposure routes: Inhalation  
Target Organs: Nervous system  
Remarks: Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.

### Repeated dose toxicity

#### Components:



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### Ethylene Oxide:

Species: Rat, male and female

Application Route: Inhalation

Test atmosphere: vapour

Method: Test(s) equivalent or similar to OECD Test Guideline 453

Target Organs: Nervous system

### Aspiration toxicity

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.

### Further information

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Remarks: Classifications by other authorities under varying regulatory frameworks may exist.

## SECTION 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Basis for assessment : Information given is based on product testing.

### Ecotoxicity

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Toxicity to fish (Acute toxicity) : LC50 (Pimephales promelas (fathead minnow)): 84 mg/l  
Exposure time: 96 h  
Method: Test(s) equivalent or similar to OECD Guideline 203  
Remarks: Harmful  
LL/EL/IL50 >10 <= 100 mg/l

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates (Acute toxicity) : LC50 (Daphnia magna (Water flea)): 137 - 300 mg/l  
Exposure time: 48 h  
Method: Test(s) equivalent or similar to OECD Guideline 202  
Remarks: Practically non toxic:  
LC/EC/IC50 > 100 mg/l

Toxicity to algae (Acute toxicity) : EC50 (Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata (algae)): 240 mg/l  
Exposure time: 96 h  
Method: Information given is based on data obtained from similar substances.  
Remarks: Practically non toxic:  
LC/EC/IC50 > 100 mg/l

Toxicity to fish (Chronic toxicity) : Remarks: Data not available

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates (Chronic toxicity) : Remarks: Data not available

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ic toxicity)

Toxicity to microorganisms  
(Acute toxicity) : EC50 (Activated sludge, domestic waste): > 713 mg/l  
Exposure time: 3 h  
Method: OECD Test Guideline 209  
Remarks: Practically non toxic:  
LC/EC/IC50 > 100 mg/l

### Persistence and degradability

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Biodegradability : Biodegradation: 93 - 98 %  
Exposure time: 28 d  
Method: Information given is based on data obtained from  
similar substances.  
Remarks: Readily biodegradable.  
Rapidly hydrolyses in water and soil.

### Bioaccumulative potential

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Bioaccumulation : Remarks: Does not have the potential to bioaccumulate signif-  
icantly.

### Mobility in soil

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Mobility : Remarks: When released to air, transfers to soil or water by  
wet and dry deposition.

### Other adverse effects

#### Components:

##### Ethylene Oxide:

Results of PBT and vPvB  
assessment : The substance does not fulfill all screening criteria for persis-  
tence, bioaccumulation and toxicity and hence is not consid-  
ered to be PBT or vPvB.

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## SECTION 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Disposal methods

Waste from residues : Do not dispose into the environment, in drains or in water  
courses  
Waste product should not be allowed to contaminate soil or  
water.

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Waste arising from a spillage or tank cleaning should be disposed of in accordance with prevailing regulations, preferably to a recognised collector or contractor. The competence of the collector or contractor should be established beforehand.

Disposal should be in accordance with applicable regional, national, and local laws and regulations. Local regulations may be more stringent than regional or national requirements and must be complied with.

Contaminated packaging : Dispose in accordance with prevailing regulations, preferably to a recognized collector or contractor. The competence of the collector or contractor should be established beforehand.

### SECTION 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

#### National Regulations

##### US Department of Transportation Classification (49 CFR Parts 171-180)

UN/ID/NA number : UN 1040  
Proper shipping name : ETHYLENE OXIDE  
Class : 2.3  
Subsidiary risk : 2.1  
Packing group : Not Assigned  
Labels : 2.3 (2.1)  
Reportable quantity : Ethylene oxide (10 lb)  
ERG Code : 119P  
Marine pollutant : no  
Poisonous by inhalation. : Hazard Zone D

#### International Regulations

##### IATA-DGR

UN/ID No. : UN 1040 (Not permitted for transport)  
Proper shipping name : ETHYLENE OXIDE WITH NITROGEN  
Class : 2.3  
Packing group : Not Assigned

##### IMDG-Code

UN number : UN 1040  
Proper shipping name : ETHYLENE OXIDE WITH NITROGEN  
Class : 2.3  
Subsidiary risk : 2.1  
Packing group : Not Assigned  
Labels : 2.3 (2.1)  
Marine pollutant : no

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

Pollution category : Not applicable  
Ship type : Not applicable  
Product name : Not applicable

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### Special precautions for user

- Remarks : Special Precautions: Refer to Section 7, Handling & Storage, for special precautions which a user needs to be aware of or needs to comply with in connection with transport.
- Additional Information** : SHUNT WITH CARE (Label nr. 13 - for RID only) This product may be transported under nitrogen blanketing. Nitrogen is an odourless and invisible gas. Exposure to nitrogen may cause asphyxiation or death. Personnel must observe strict safety precautions when involved with a confined space entry.

### SECTION 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

#### EPCRA - Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

##### CERCLA Reportable Quantity

| Components     | CAS-No. | Component RQ (lbs) | Calculated product RQ (lbs) |
|----------------|---------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ethylene Oxide | 75-21-8 | 10                 | 10                          |

\*: The components with RQs are given for information.

##### 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

| Components     | CAS-No. | Component TPQ (lbs) |
|----------------|---------|---------------------|
| Ethylene Oxide | 75-21-8 | 1000                |

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

Ethylene Oxide      75-21-8      >= 90 - <= 100 %

##### SARA 311/312 Hazards

- : Flammable (gases, aerosols, liquids, or solids)  
Gases under pressure  
Acute toxicity (any route of exposure)  
Skin corrosion or irritation  
Serious eye damage or eye irritation  
Germ cell mutagenicity  
Carcinogenicity  
Specific target organ toxicity (single or repeated exposure)

##### SARA 313

- : The following components are subject to reporting levels established by SARA Title III, Section 313:
- Ethylene Oxide      75-21-8      >= 90 - <= 100 %

##### Clean Water Act

This product does not contain any Hazardous Chemicals listed under the U.S. CleanWater Act, Section 311, Table 117.3.

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### US State Regulations

#### Pennsylvania Right To Know

Ethylene Oxide

75-21-8

#### California Prop. 65

WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Ethylene Oxide, which is/are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).

#### California List of Hazardous Substances

Ethylene Oxide

75-21-8

#### California List of Acutely Hazardous Chemicals, Toxics and Reactives

Ethylene Oxide

75-21-8

#### California Regulated Carcinogens

Ethylene Oxide

75-21-8

#### Other regulations:

The regulatory information is not intended to be comprehensive. Other regulations may apply to this material.

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

|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| AICS  | : Listed |
| DSL   | : Listed |
| IECSC | : Listed |
| ENCS  | : Listed |
| KECI  | : Listed |
| NZIoC | : Listed |
| PICCS | : Listed |
| TSCA  | : Listed |
| TCSI  | : Listed |

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## SECTION 16. OTHER INFORMATION

### Further information

NFPA Rating (Health, Fire, Reactivity) 3, 4, 3

### Full text of other abbreviations

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| ACGIH     | : USA. ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLV)   |
| ACGIH BEI | : ACGIH - Biological Exposure Indices (BEI) |

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OSHA CARC : OSHA Specifically Regulated Chemicals/Carcinogens  
ACGIH / TWA : 8-hour, time-weighted average  
OSHA CARC / PEL : Permissible exposure limit (PEL)  
OSHA CARC / STEL : Excursion limit  
Abbreviations and Acronyms : The standard abbreviations and acronyms used in this document can be looked up in reference literature (e.g. scientific dictionaries) and/or websites.

ACGIH = American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists  
ADR = European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road  
AICS = Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances  
ASTM = American Society for Testing and Materials  
BEL = Biological exposure limits  
BTEX = Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylenes  
CAS = Chemical Abstracts Service  
CEFIC = European Chemical Industry Council  
CLP = Classification Packaging and Labelling  
COC = Cleveland Open-Cup  
DIN = Deutsches Institut für Normung  
DMEL = Derived Minimal Effect Level  
DNEL = Derived No Effect Level  
DSL = Canada Domestic Substance List  
EC = European Commission  
EC50 = Effective Concentration fifty  
ECETOC = European Center on Ecotoxicology and Toxicology Of Chemicals  
ECHA = European Chemicals Agency  
EINECS = The European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances  
EL50 = Effective Loading fifty  
ENCS = Japanese Existing and New Chemical Substances Inventory  
EWC = European Waste Code  
GHS = Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals  
IARC = International Agency for Research on Cancer  
IATA = International Air Transport Association  
IC50 = Inhibitory Concentration fifty  
IL50 = Inhibitory Level fifty  
IMDG = International Maritime Dangerous Goods  
INV = Chinese Chemicals Inventory  
IP346 = Institute of Petroleum test method N° 346 for the determination of polycyclic aromatics DMSO-extractables  
KECI = Korea Existing Chemicals Inventory  
LC50 = Lethal Concentration fifty  
LD50 = Lethal Dose fifty per cent.  
LL/EL/IL = Lethal Loading/Effective Loading/Inhibitory loading  
LL50 = Lethal Loading fifty  
MARPOL = International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships  
NOEC/NOEL = No Observed Effect Concentration / No Observed Effect Level  
OE\_HPVS = Occupational Exposure - High Production Volume

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PBT = Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic  
PICCS = Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical  
Substances  
PNEC = Predicted No Effect Concentration  
REACH = Registration Evaluation And Authorisation Of  
Chemicals  
RID = Regulations Relating to International Carriage of Dan-  
gerous Goods by Rail  
SKIN\_DES = Skin Designation  
STEL = Short term exposure limit  
TRA = Targeted Risk Assessment  
TSCA = US Toxic Substances Control Act  
TWA = Time-Weighted Average  
vPvB = very Persistent and very Bioaccumulative

A vertical bar (|) in the left margin indicates an amendment from the previous version.

Sources of key data used to : The quoted data are from, but not limited to, one or more  
compile the Safety Data sources of information (e.g. toxicological data from Shell  
Sheet Health Services, material suppliers' data, CONCAWE, EU  
IUCLID data base, EC 1272 regulation, etc).

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The information provided in this Safety Data Sheet is correct to the best of our knowledge, infor-  
mation and belief at the date of its publication. The information given is designed only as a guid-  
ance for safe handling, use, processing, storage, transportation, disposal and release and is not  
to be considered a warranty or quality specification. The information relates only to the specific  
material designated and may not be valid for such material used in combination with any other  
materials or in any process, unless specified in the text.

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