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Safety Data Sheet

Silica gel

Section 1: Chemical Product and Company Identification

Product Name: Silica gel

Catalog Codes: 438

CAS#: 7631-86-9

RTECS: VV7340000 or VV7315000 or VV8853000

TSCA: TSCA 8(b) inventory: Silica gel, grade 41, 3-9 mesh

CI#: Not available.

Synonym: Silica - Amorphous, Gel; Amorphous Silicon Dioxide; Silica Gel; Precipitated Silica; Silica Gel, grade 41, 3-8 mesh. Synthetic amorphous silica, not to be confused with crystalline silica such as quartz, cristobalite, or tridymite or with diatomaceous earth or other naturally occurring forms of amorphous silica that frequently contain crystalline forms.

Chemical Name: Synthetic Amorphous Silica

Chemical Formula: SiO₂

Contact Information:

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Section 2: Composition and Information on Ingredients

Composition:

Name	CAS #	% by Weight
Silica gel	7631-86-9	100

Toxicological Data on Ingredients: Not applicable.

Section 3: Hazards Identification

Potential Acute Health Effects: Slightly hazardous in case of skin contact (irritant), of eye contact (irritant), of ingestion, of inhalation.

Potential Chronic Health Effects:

CARCINOGENIC EFFECTS: 3 (Not classifiable for human.) by IARC. MUTAGENIC EFFECTS: Not available. TERATOGENIC EFFECTS: Not available. DEVELOPMENTAL TOXICITY: Not available. Repeated or prolonged exposure is not known to aggravate medical condition.

Section 4: First Aid Measures

Eye Contact:

Check for and remove any contact lenses. In case of contact, immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation occurs.

Skin Contact: Wash with soap and water. Cover the irritated skin with an emollient. Get medical attention if irritation develops.

Serious Skin Contact: Not available.

Inhalation:

If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention.

Serious Inhalation: Not available.

Ingestion:

Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed to do so by medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Loosen tight clothing such as a collar, tie, belt or waistband. Get medical attention if symptoms appear.

Serious Ingestion: Not available.

Section 5: Fire and Explosion Data

Flammability of the Product: Non-flammable.

Auto-Ignition Temperature: Not applicable.

Flash Points: Not applicable.

Flammable Limits: Not applicable.

Products of Combustion: Not available.

Fire Hazards in Presence of Various Substances: Not applicable.

Explosion Hazards in Presence of Various Substances:

Risks of explosion of the product in presence of mechanical impact: Not available. Risks of explosion of the product in presence of static discharge: Not available.

Fire Fighting Media and Instructions: Not applicable.

Special Remarks on Fire Hazards: Not available.

Special Remarks on Explosion Hazards: Substance can explode when wet and heated with magnesium.

Section 6: Accidental Release Measures

Small Spill:

Use appropriate tools to put the spilled solid in a convenient waste disposal container. Finish cleaning by spreading water on the contaminated surface and dispose of according to local and regional authority requirements.

Large Spill:

Use a shovel to put the material into a convenient waste disposal container. Finish cleaning by spreading water on the contaminated surface and allow to evacuate through the sanitary system. Be careful that the product is not present at a concentration level above TLV. Check TLV on the MSDS and with local authorities.

Section 7: Handling and Storage

Precautions:

Do not ingest. Do not breathe dust. If ingested, seek medical advice immediately and show the container or the label.

Storage:

Hygroscopic. Keep container tightly closed. Keep container in a cool, well-ventilated area. Do not store above 23°C (73.4°F).

Section 8: Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

Engineering Controls:

Use process enclosures, local exhaust ventilation, or other engineering controls to keep airborne levels below recommended exposure limits. If user operations generate dust, fume or mist, use ventilation to keep exposure to airborne contaminants below the exposure limit.

Personal Protection: Safety glasses. Lab coat. Dust respirator. Be sure to use an approved/certified respirator or equivalent. Gloves.

Personal Protection in Case of a Large Spill:

Splash goggles. Full suit. Dust respirator. Boots. Gloves. A self contained breathing apparatus should be used to avoid inhalation of the product. Suggested protective clothing might not be sufficient; consult a specialist BEFORE handling this product.

Exposure Limits:

TWA: 6 (mg/m³) [Canada] TWA: 10 (mg/m³) from ACGIH (TLV) [United States] Consult local authorities for acceptable exposure limits.

Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

Physical state and appearance:

Solid. (Transparent or blue beads)

Odor: Odorless.

Taste: Tasteless.

Molecular Weight: 60.09 + xH₂O g/mole

Color: White.

pH (1% soln/water): Not applicable.

Boiling Point: Not available.

Melting Point: Not available.

Critical Temperature: Not available.

Specific Gravity: 2.1 (Water = 1)

Vapor Pressure: Not applicable.

Vapor Density: Not available.

Volatility: Not available.

Odor Threshold: Not available.

Water/Oil Dist. Coeff.: Not available.

Ionicity (in Water): Not available.

Dispersion Properties: Not available.

Solubility:

Insoluble in cold water. Soluble in hot KOH and NaOH solutions. Insoluble in ethanol. Insoluble in acids except hydrofluoric acid

Section 10: Stability and Reactivity Data

Stability: The product is stable.

Instability Temperature: Not available.

Conditions of Instability: Incompatible materials, moisture, excess dust generation

Incompatibility with various substances: Not available.

Corrosivity: Non-corrosive in presence of glass.

Special Remarks on Reactivity:

Hygroscopic. Incompatible with hydrogen fluoride, xenon hexafluoride, oxygen difluoride, and chlorine trifluoride.

Special Remarks on Corrosivity: Not available.

Polymerization: Will not occur.

Section 11: Toxicological Information

Routes of Entry: Inhalation. Ingestion.

Toxicity to Animals:

Acute oral toxicity (LD50): >31600 mg/kg [Rat. This is data from a 48 hr. oral test for DOT hazard classification conducted with finely-ground silica gel.]. Acute dermal toxicity (LD50): >2000 mg/kg [Rabbit. This is data from a 48 hr. dermal test for DOT hazard classification conducted with finely-ground silica gel.].

Chronic Effects on Humans: CARCINOGENIC EFFECTS: 3 (Not classifiable for human.) by IARC.

Other Toxic Effects on Humans: Slightly hazardous in case of skin contact (irritant), of ingestion, of inhalation.

Special Remarks on Toxicity to Animals: Not available.

Special Remarks on Chronic Effects on Humans: Not available.

Special Remarks on other Toxic Effects on Humans:

Acute Potential Health Effects: Skin: May cause irritation with dryness of the skin in cases of severe exposure Eyes: No adverse effects expected, but dust may cause mechanical irritation. Inhalation: May cause dryness and irritation to mucous membranes and respiratory tract in case of severe exposure. Ingestion: May be harmful if swallowed in large amounts. However, no adverse effects are expected for normal industrial handling. Silica gel is a synthetic amorphous silica, not to be confused with crystalline silica such as quartz, cristobalite, or tridymite or with diatomaceous earth or other naturally occurring forms of amorphous silica that frequently contain crystalline forms. Epidemiological studies indicate a low potential for health effects.

Section 12: Ecological Information

Ecotoxicity: Not available.

BOD5 and COD: Not available.

Products of Biodegradation:

Possibly hazardous short term degradation products are not likely. However, long term degradation products may arise.

Toxicity of the Products of Biodegradation: The product itself and its products of degradation are not toxic.

Special Remarks on the Products of Biodegradation: Not available.

Section 13: Disposal Considerations

Waste Disposal:

Waste must be disposed of in accordance with federal, state and local environmental control regulations.

Section 14: Transport Information

DOT Classification: Not a DOT controlled material (United States).

Identification: Not applicable.

Special Provisions for Transport: Not applicable.

Section 15: Other Regulatory Information

Federal and State Regulations: TSCA 8(b) inventory: Silica gel, grade 41, 3-9 mesh

Other Regulations: Not available.

Other Classifications:

WHMIS (Canada): Not controlled under WHMIS (Canada).

DSCL (EEC):

This product is not classified according to the EU regulations. Not applicable.

HMIS (U.S.A.):

Health Hazard: 1

Fire Hazard: 0

Reactivity: 0

Personal Protection: E

National Fire Protection Association (U.S.A.):

Health: 1

Flammability: 0

Reactivity: 0

Specific hazard:

Protective Equipment:

Gloves. Lab coat. Dust respirator. Be sure to use an approved/certified respirator or equivalent. Safety glasses.

Section 16: Other Information

References: Not available.

Other Special Considerations: Not available

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