



# SZABO SCANDIC

Part of Europa Biosite

## Produktinformation



Forschungsprodukte & Biochemikalien



Zellkultur & Verbrauchsmaterial



Diagnostik & molekulare Diagnostik



Laborgeräte & Service

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See the following pages for more information!



### Lieferung & Zahlungsart

siehe unsere [Liefer- und Versandbedingungen](#)

### Zuschläge

- Mindermengenzuschlag
- Trockeneiszuschlag
- Gefahrgutzuschlag
- Expressversand

### SZABO-SCANDIC HandelsgmbH

Quellenstraße 110, A-1100 Wien

T. +43(0)1 489 3961-0

F. +43(0)1 489 3961-7

[mail@szabo-scandic.com](mailto:mail@szabo-scandic.com)

[www.szabo-scandic.com](http://www.szabo-scandic.com)

[linkedin.com/company/szaboscandic](https://www.linkedin.com/company/szaboscandic) 

# Potassium dichromate

sc-203353

Material Safety Data Sheet



The Power is Question

Hazard Alert Code Key: **EXTREME** **HIGH** **MODERATE** **LOW**

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### PRODUCT NAME

Potassium dichromate

### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

CONSIDERED A HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACCORDING TO OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200.

### NFPA



### SUPPLIER

Company: Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.

Address:

2145 Delaware Ave

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Telephone: 800.457.3801 or 831.457.3800

Emergency Tel: CHEMWATCH: From within the US and Canada:  
877-715-9305

Emergency Tel: From outside the US and Canada: +800 2436 2255  
(1-800-CHEMCALL) or call +613 9573 3112

### PRODUCT USE

In tanning leather, dyeing, decorating porcelain, printing. Photolithography, pigment-prints, staining wood, pyrotechnics, safety matches; for bleaching palm oil, wax. Water proofing fabrics. As oxidisers in the manufacture of organic chemicals. In electrical batteries; as depolarisers for dry cells. As corrosion inhibitor in cooling systems where lower solubility is advantageous in preference to sodium dichromate.

### SYNONYMS

K<sub>2</sub>-Cr<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub>, "dichromic acid, potassium salt", "bichromate of potash", "chromic acid, dipotassium salt", "chromium potassium oxide", "dipotassium dichromate", "potassium bichromate", "potassium dichromate (VI)", "potassium bichromate (VI)", APS, AR00000388, UL00000389, TECH00000390, "Merck 10202", 26160, 29605, 29506, 79840, 79841

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



### EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

#### RISK

Contact with combustible material may cause fire.  
Harmful in contact with skin.

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Toxic if swallowed.  
Very toxic by inhalation.  
Causes burns.  
Risk of serious damage to eyes.  
May cause CANCER.  
May cause SENSITIZATION by inhalation and skin contact.  
May impair fertility.  
May cause harm to the unborn child.  
Toxic: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation.  
Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.

## POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

#### SWALLOWED

- Toxic effects may result from the accidental ingestion of the material; animal experiments indicate that ingestion of less than 40 gram may be fatal or may produce serious damage to the health of the individual.
- The material can produce chemical burns within the oral cavity and gastrointestinal tract following ingestion.
- Acute potassium poisoning after swallowing is rare, because vomiting usually occurs and renal excretion is fast. Potassium causes a slow, weak pulse, irregularities in heart rhythm, heart block and an eventual fall in blood pressure. Breathing initially becomes faster but the muscles of breathing eventually become paralyzed. There can be loss of appetite, extreme thirst, increased volumes of urine, fever, convulsions and gastric disturbances; death may then occur due to failure of breathing and inflammation of the stomach and bowel.
- Chromate salts are corrosive and produce cellular damage to tissue. Ingestion may produce inflammation of the digestive tract, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Chromates cause kidney damage and blood cell damage.

#### EYE

- The material can produce chemical burns to the eye following direct contact. Vapors or mists may be extremely irritating.
- If applied to the eyes, this material causes severe eye damage.

#### SKIN

- Skin contact with the material may be harmful; systemic effects may result following absorption.
- The material can produce chemical burns following direct contact with the skin.
- Chrome fume, as the chrome VI oxide, is corrosive to the skin and may aggravate pre-existing skin conditions such as dermatitis and eczema. As a potential skin sensitizer, the fume may cause dermatoses to appear suddenly and without warning. Absorption of chrome VI compounds through the skin can cause systemic poisoning affecting the kidneys and liver.
- Open cuts, abraded or irritated skin should not be exposed to this material.
- Entry into the blood-stream, through, for example, cuts, abrasions or lesions, may produce systemic injury with harmful effects. Examine the skin prior to the use of the material and ensure that any external damage is suitably protected.

#### INHALED

- If inhaled, this material can irritate the throat and lungs of some persons.
- Inhalation of dusts, generated by the material, during the course of normal handling, may produce severely toxic effects; these may be fatal.
- Persons with impaired respiratory function, airway diseases and conditions such as emphysema or chronic bronchitis, may incur further disability if excessive concentrations of particulate are inhaled.
- Inhalation of dusts, generated by the material, during the course of normal handling, may produce toxic effects.
- Chrome fume is irritating to the respiratory tract and lungs. Toxic effects result from over-exposure. Asthmatic conditions may result as a consequence of the sensitising action of chrome VI compounds.

### CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- There is ample evidence that this material can be regarded as being able to cause cancer in humans based on experiments and other information.
  - Repeated or prolonged exposure to corrosives may result in the erosion of teeth, inflammatory and ulcerative changes in the mouth and necrosis (rarely) of the jaw. Bronchial irritation, with cough, and frequent attacks of bronchial pneumonia may ensue. Gastrointestinal disturbances may also occur. Chronic exposures may result in dermatitis and/or conjunctivitis.
- Inhaling this product is more likely to cause a sensitization reaction in some persons compared to the general population.  
Skin contact with the material is more likely to cause a sensitization reaction in some persons compared to the general population.  
There is sufficient evidence to suggest that this material directly causes cancer in humans.  
Based on experiments and other information, there is ample evidence to presume that exposure to this material can cause genetic defects that can be inherited.  
Ample evidence exists from experimentation that reduced human fertility is directly caused by exposure to the material.  
Ample evidence exists, from results in experimentation, that developmental disorders are directly caused by human exposure to the material.  
Limited evidence suggests that repeated or long-term occupational exposure may produce cumulative health effects involving organs or biochemical systems.

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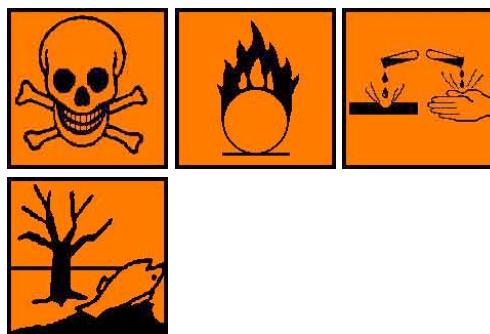
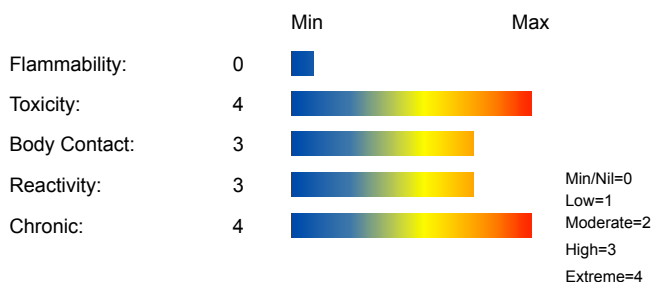
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Long term exposure to high dust concentrations may cause changes in lung function i.e. pneumoconiosis; caused by particles less than 0.5 micron penetrating and remaining in the lung. Prime symptom is breathlessness; lung shadows show on X-ray. Chromium(III) is an essential trace mineral. Chronic exposure to chromium(III) irritates the airways, malnourishes the liver and kidneys, causes fluid in the lungs, and adverse effects on white blood cells, and also increases the risk of developing lung cancer. Chromium (VI) can irritate the skin, eyes and airways. Allergic reactions can involve both the skin and airways, and the compounds can diminish taste and smell, discolor the skin and eyes, cause blood disorders and damage the liver, kidneys, digestive tract and lungs. It predisposes humans to cancers of the respiratory tract and digestive system. Ulceration to the skin can occur, and, chromium(VI) is one of the most allergenic substances known.

## Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

### HAZARD RATINGS



NAME	CAS RN	%
potassium dichromate	7778-50-9	>99

## Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

### SWALLOWED

- For advice, contact a Poisons Information Center or a doctor at once.
- Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.
- If swallowed do NOT induce vomiting.
- If vomiting occurs, lean patient forward or place on left side (head-down position, if possible) to maintain open airway and prevent aspiration.
- Observe the patient carefully.
- Never give liquid to a person showing signs of being sleepy or with reduced awareness; i.e. becoming unconscious.
- Give water to rinse out mouth, then provide liquid slowly and as much as casualty can comfortably drink.
- Transport to hospital or doctor without delay.

### EYE

- If this product comes in contact with the eyes:
  - Immediately hold eyelids apart and flush the eye continuously with running water.
  - Ensure complete irrigation of the eye by keeping eyelids apart and away from eye and moving the eyelids by occasionally lifting the upper and lower lids.
  - Continue flushing until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Center or a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes.
  - Transport to hospital or doctor without delay.
  - Removal of contact lenses after an eye injury should only be undertaken by skilled personnel.

### SKIN

- If skin or hair contact occurs:
  - Immediately flush body and clothes with large amounts of water, using safety shower if available.
  - Quickly remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear.
  - Wash skin and hair with running water. Continue flushing with water until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Center.
  - Transport to hospital, or doctor.

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## INHALED

- 
- If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested.
- Prostheses such as false teeth, which may block airway, should be removed, where possible, prior to initiating first aid procedures.
- Apply artificial respiration if not breathing, preferably with a demand valve resuscitator, bag-valve mask device, or pocket mask as trained. Perform CPR if necessary.
- Transport to hospital, or doctor, without delay.

## NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- For acute or short term repeated exposures to dichromates and chromates:
  - Absorption occurs from the alimentary tract and lungs.
  - The kidney excretes about 60% of absorbed chromate within 8 hours of ingestion. Urinary excretion may take up to 14 days.
  - Establish airway, breathing and circulation. Assist ventilation.
  - Induce emesis with Ipecac Syrup if patient is not convulsing, in coma or obtunded and if the gag reflex is present.
  - Otherwise use gastric lavage with endotracheal intubation.
  - Fluid balance is critical. Peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis or exchange transfusion may be effective although available data is limited.
  - British Anti-Lewisite, ascorbic acid, folic acid and EDTA are probably not effective.
  - There are no antidotes.
  - Primary irritation, including chrome ulceration, may be treated with ointments comprising calcium-sodium-EDTA. This, together with the use of frequently renewed dressings, will ensure rapid healing of any ulcer which may develop.

The mechanism of action involves the reduction of Cr (VI) to Cr(III) and subsequent chelation; the irritant effect of Cr(III)/ protein complexes is thus avoided. [ILO Encyclopedia]

[Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology].

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapour Pressure (mmHG):	Negligible
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not applicable
Specific Gravity (water=1):	2.68 @ 25 C
Lower Explosive Limit (%):	Not applicable

## EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

### ■ FOR SMALL FIRE:

- USE FLOODING QUANTITIES OF WATER.
- DO NOT use dry chemicals, CO<sub>2</sub> or foam.

### FOR LARGE FIRE:

- Flood fire area with water from a protected position.

## FIRE FIGHTING

- 
- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves for fire only.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water course.
- Use fire fighting procedures suitable for surrounding area.
- Do not approach containers suspected to be hot.
- Cool fire exposed containers with water spray from a protected location.
- If safe to do so, remove containers from path of fire.
- Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.

## GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

- 
- Will not burn but increases intensity of fire.
- Heating may cause expansion or decomposition leading to violent rupture of containers.
- Heat affected containers remain hazardous.
- Contact with combustibles such as wood, paper, oil or finely divided metal may cause ignition, combustion or violent decomposition.
- May emit irritating, poisonous or corrosive fumes.

Decomposition may produce toxic fumes of: metal oxides.

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May emit poisonous fumes.

Material contains oxidizing agent/organic peroxide. Oxygen provided makes fire fierce and self sustaining. Smothering action may not be effective for established fire. Intense heat may cause spontaneous decomposition (detonation). Due to possibility of reignition, extinguished residues must be thoroughly cooled before approaching.

## FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Avoid storage with reducing agents.

## PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:

Full face- shield.

Gloves:

Respirator:

## Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### MINOR SPILLS

- - Clean up all spills immediately.
  - No smoking, naked lights, ignition sources.
  - Avoid all contact with any organic matter including fuel, solvents, sawdust, paper or cloth and other incompatible materials; as ignition may result.
  - Avoid breathing dust or vapors and all contact with skin and eyes.
  - Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
  - Contain and absorb spill with dry sand, earth, inert material or vermiculite
  - DO NOT use sawdust as fire may result.
  - Scoop up solid residues and seal in labeled drums for disposal.
  - Neutralize/decontaminate area.

### MAJOR SPILLS

- - Clear area of personnel and move upwind.
  - Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
  - Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.
  - Prevent, by all means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.
  - Consider evacuation (or protect in place).
  - No smoking, naked lights or ignition sources.
  - Increase ventilation.
  - Stop leak if safe to do so.
  - Water spray or fog may be used to disperse / absorb vapour.
  - Contain or absorb spill with sand, earth or vermiculite.
  - Collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling.
  - Collect solid residues and seal in labelled drums for disposal.
  - Wash area and prevent runoff into drains.
  - After clean up operations, decontaminate and launder all protective clothing and equipment before storing and re-using.
  - If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.

## PROTECTIVE ACTIONS FOR SPILL

# Potassium dichromate

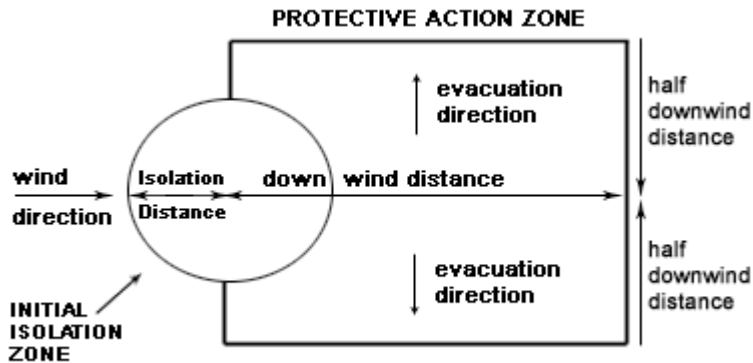
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From IERG (Canada/Australia)

Isolation Distance 10 meters

Downwind Protection Distance 25 meters

## FOOTNOTES

1 PROTECTIVE ACTION ZONE is defined as the area in which people are at risk of harmful exposure. This zone assumes that random changes in wind direction confines the vapour plume to an area within 30 degrees on either side of the predominant wind direction, resulting in a crosswind protective action distance equal to the downwind protective action distance.

2 PROTECTIVE ACTIONS should be initiated to the extent possible, beginning with those closest to the spill and working away from the site in the downwind direction. Within the protective action zone a level of vapour concentration may exist resulting in nearly all unprotected persons becoming incapacitated and unable to take protective action and/or incurring serious or irreversible health effects.

3 INITIAL ISOLATION ZONE is determined as an area, including upwind of the incident, within which a high probability of localised wind reversal may expose nearly all persons without appropriate protection to life-threatening concentrations of the material.

4 SMALL SPILLS involve a leaking package of 200 litres (55 US gallons) or less, such as a drum (jerrican or box with inner containers). Larger packages leaking less than 200 litres and compressed gas leaking from a small cylinder are also considered "small spills". LARGE SPILLS involve many small leaking packages or a leaking package of greater than 200 litres, such as a cargo tank, portable tank or a "one-tonne" compressed gas cylinder.

5 Guide 141 is taken from the US DOT emergency response guide book.

6 IERG information is derived from CANUTEC - Transport Canada.

## ACUTE EXPOSURE GUIDELINE LEVELS (AEGL) (in ppm)

AEGL 1: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic nonsensory effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessation of exposure.

AEGL 2: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects or an impaired ability to escape.

AEGL 3: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience life-threatening health effects or death.

## Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- Avoid personal contact and inhalation of dust, mist or vapors.
- Provide adequate ventilation.
- Always wear protective equipment and wash off any spillage from clothing.
- Keep material away from light, heat, flammables or combustibles.
- Keep cool, dry and away from incompatible materials.
- Avoid physical damage to containers.
- DO NOT repack or return unused portions to original containers.
- Withdraw only sufficient amounts for immediate use.
- Contamination can lead to decomposition leading to possible intense heat and fire.
- When handling NEVER smoke, eat or drink.

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### Hazard Alert Code Key:

EXTREME

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

- Always wash hands with soap and water after handling.
- Use only good occupational work practice.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling directions.

### RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

- Glass container.
- Lined metal can, Lined metal pail/drum
- Plastic pail
- Polyliner drum
- Packing as recommended by manufacturer.
- Check all containers are clearly labeled and free from leaks.

For low viscosity materials

- Drums and jerricans must be of the non-removable head type.
- Where a can is to be used as an inner package, the can must have a screwed enclosure.

For materials with a viscosity of at least 2680 cSt. (23 deg. C) and solids (between 15 C deg. and 40 deg C.):

- Removable head packaging;
- Cans with friction closures and
- low pressure tubes and cartridges may be used.

- Where combination packages are used, and the inner packages are of glass, there must be sufficient inert cushioning material in contact with inner and outer packages \* . - In addition, where inner packagings are glass and contain liquids of packing group I and II there must be sufficient inert absorbent to absorb any spillage \* . - \* unless the outer packaging is a close fitting molded plastic box and the substances are not incompatible with the plastic. All inner and sole packagings for substances that have been assigned to Packaging Groups I or II on the basis of inhalation toxicity criteria, must be hermetically sealed.

For low viscosity materials

- Drums and jerricans must be of the non-removable head type.
- Where a can is to be used as an inner package, the can must have a screwed enclosure.

For materials with a viscosity of at least 2680 cSt. (23 deg. C) and solids:

- Removable head packaging and
- cans with friction closures may be used.

- Where combination packages are used, and the inner packages are of glass, there must be sufficient inert cushioning material in contact with inner and outer packages \* . - In addition, where inner packagings are glass and contain liquids of packing group I and II there must be sufficient inert absorbent to absorb any spillage \* . - \* unless the outer packaging is a close fitting molded plastic box and the substances are not incompatible with the plastic.

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- 
- Store in original containers.
- Keep containers securely sealed.
- Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area.
- Store away from incompatible materials and foodstuff containers.
- Protect containers against physical damage and check regularly for leaks.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.

### SAFE STORAGE WITH OTHER CLASSIFIED CHEMICALS



X

X

X

X

X

0

X: Must not be stored together

O: May be stored together with specific preventions

+: May be stored together

## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

### EXPOSURE CONTROLS



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Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m <sup>3</sup>	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Peak ppm	Peak mg/m <sup>3</sup>	TWA F/CC	Notes
Canada - Northwest Territories Occupational Exposure Limits (English)	potassium dichromate (Chromium, Sol. chromic, chromous salts (as Cr))		0.5		0.15				
Canada - Northwest Territories Occupational Exposure Limits (English)	potassium dichromate (Chromite ore processing (chromate (as Cr)))		0.05		0.15				
US ATSDR Minimal Risk Levels for Hazardous Substances (MRLs)	potassium dichromate (CHROMIUM(VI), AEROSOL MISTS)		0.000005						
Canada - Ontario Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromates, dichromates and other hexavalent chromium compounds (as chromium))		0.05						
US ATSDR Minimal Risk Levels for Hazardous Substances (MRLs)	potassium dichromate (CHROMIUM(VI), AEROSOL MISTS)		0.000005						
US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) compounds, as Cr (see also Sections 1532.2, 5206 & 8359))		0.005				0.1		
US ATSDR Minimal Risk Levels for Hazardous Substances (MRLs)	potassium dichromate (CHROMIUM(VI), PARTICULATES)		0.0003						
US - Washington Permissible exposure limits of air contaminants	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) compounds (as Cr) (when the compound is covered by WAC 296-62-08003))		0.005						
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z1)	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) compounds)		0.005						(TWA (See 1910.1026))
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z1	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) compounds; See 1910.1026(5))		0.005						
US - Minnesota Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs)	potassium dichromate (Chromium, sol. chromic, chromous salts (as Cr))		0.5						
Canada - Northwest Territories Occupational Exposure Limits (English)	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) compounds (as Cr) water soluble)		0.05		0.15				
Canada - Quebec Permissible Exposure Values for Airborne Contaminants (English)	potassium dichromate (Chromium VI, water soluble inorganic compounds (as Cr))		0.05						
US ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLV)	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) inorganic compounds - Water soluble (as Cr))		0.05						TLV Basis: upper respiratory tract irritation; cancer. BEI
Canada - British Columbia Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) inorganic compounds - Water soluble, as Cr)		0.025				0.1		A1, 1

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Canada - Saskatchewan Occupational Health and Safety Regulations - Contamination Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromium metal and inorganic compounds, (as Cr): Water soluble Cr (VI) compounds)	0.05	0.15	T20
Canada - Nova Scotia Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) inorganic compounds - Water soluble (as Cr))	0.05		TLV Basis: upper respiratory tract irritation; cancer. BEI
Canada - Prince Edward Island Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromium (VI) inorganic compounds - Water soluble (as Cr))	0.05		TLV Basis: upper respiratory tract irritation; cancer. BEI
US ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLV)	potassium dichromate (Chromite ore processing [Chromate] (as Cr))	0.05		TLV Basis: lung cancer
Canada - Prince Edward Island Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromite ore processing [Chromate] (as Cr))	0.05		TLV Basis: lung cancer
Canada - Nova Scotia Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromite ore processing [Chromate] (as Cr))	0.05		TLV Basis: lung cancer
Canada - Alberta Occupational Exposure Limits	potassium dichromate (Chromium, metal and inorganic compounds, as Cr: Water-soluble Cr VI compounds)	0.05		

## MATERIAL DATA

### POTASSIUM DICHROMATE:

■ It is the goal of the ACGIH (and other Agencies) to recommend TLVs (or their equivalent) for all substances for which there is evidence of health effects at airborne concentrations encountered in the workplace.

At this time no TLV has been established, even though this material may produce adverse health effects (as evidenced in animal experiments or clinical experience). Airborne concentrations must be maintained as low as is practically possible and occupational exposure must be kept to a minimum.

NOTE: The ACGIH occupational exposure standard for Particles Not Otherwise Specified (P.N.O.S) does NOT apply.

Sensory irritants are chemicals that produce temporary and undesirable side-effects on the eyes, nose or throat. Historically occupational exposure standards for these irritants have been based on observation of workers' responses to various airborne concentrations. Present day expectations require that nearly every individual should be protected against even minor sensory irritation and exposure standards are established using uncertainty factors or safety factors of 5 to 10 or more. On occasion animal no-observable-effect-levels (NOEL) are used to determine these limits where human results are unavailable. An additional approach, typically used by the TLV committee (USA) in determining respiratory standards for this group of chemicals, has been to assign ceiling values (TLV C) to rapidly acting irritants and to assign short-term exposure limits (TLV STELs) when the weight of evidence from irritation, bioaccumulation and other endpoints combine to warrant such a limit. In contrast the MAK Commission (Germany) uses a five-category system based on intensive odour, local irritation, and elimination half-life. However this system is being replaced to be consistent with the European Union (EU) Scientific Committee for Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL); this is more closely allied to that of the USA.

OSHA (USA) concluded that exposure to sensory irritants can:

- cause inflammation
- cause increased susceptibility to other irritants and infectious agents
- lead to permanent injury or dysfunction
- permit greater absorption of hazardous substances and
- acclimate the worker to the irritant warning properties of these substances thus increasing the risk of overexposure.

Some jurisdictions require that health surveillance be carried on workers occupationally exposed to inorganic chromium.

Such surveillance should emphasize

- demography, occupational and medical history and health advice
- physical examination with emphasis on the respiratory system and skin
- weekly skin inspection of hands and forearms by a "responsible person"

TRK: 0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup> including lead chromate (as dusts/ aerosols) with the exception of compounds practically insoluble in water such as barium chromate- for manual arc welding with coated electrodes- production of soluble chromium(VI) compounds TRK: 0.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> - others measured as inhalable fraction of the aerosol The technical exposure limit, TRK (Technische Richtkonzentrationen), defines the airborne concentration

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of named carcinogenic materials which is the minimum possible given the state of current technologies. TRK values are assigned only for materials for which there is no current MAK (German exposure standard). Observance of the TRK value is intended to reduce the risk of adverse effects on health but does NOT completely eliminate it. Since no threshold doses can be determined for carcinogens, health considerations require that the exposure limits be kept as far as possible below the TRK and that the TRK value be gradually reduced. The limitation of exposure peaks is regulated as follows; Short-term exposure limit: 5 x TRK Short-term exposure duration: 15 min/average Frequency per work shift: 5 times Interval: 1 hour. Report No. 35 1999, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. WARNING: This substance is classified by the NOHSC as Category 2 Probable Human Carcinogen.

## PERSONAL PROTECTION



Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

### EYE

- Chemical goggles.
- Full face shield.
- Contact lenses pose a special hazard; soft lenses may absorb irritants and all lenses concentrate them.

### HANDS/FEET

Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC.

Wear safety footwear or safety gumboots, eg. Rubber.

NOTE: The material may produce skin sensitization in predisposed individuals. Care must be taken, when removing gloves and other protective equipment, to avoid all possible skin contact.

Suitability and durability of glove type is dependent on usage. Important factors in the selection of gloves include: such as:

- frequency and duration of contact,
- chemical resistance of glove material,
- glove thickness and
- dexterity

Select gloves tested to a relevant standard (e.g. Europe EN 374, US F739).

- When prolonged or frequently repeated contact may occur, a glove with a protection class of 5 or higher (breakthrough time greater than 240 minutes according to EN 374) is recommended.
- When only brief contact is expected, a glove with a protection class of 3 or higher (breakthrough time greater than 60 minutes according to EN 374) is recommended.
- Contaminated gloves should be replaced.

Gloves must only be worn on clean hands. After using gloves, hands should be washed and dried thoroughly. Application of a non-perfumed moisturiser is recommended.

### OTHER

- Employees working with confirmed human carcinogens should be provided with, and be required to wear, clean, full body protective clothing (smocks, coveralls, or long-sleeved shirt and pants), shoe covers and gloves prior to entering the regulated area.
- Employees engaged in handling operations involving carcinogens should be provided with, and required to wear and use half-face filter-type respirators with filters for dusts, mists and fumes, or air purifying canisters or cartridges. A respirator affording higher levels of protection may be substituted.
- Emergency deluge showers and eyewash fountains, supplied with potable water, should be located near, within sight of, and on the same level with locations where direct exposure is likely.
- Prior to each exit from an area containing confirmed human carcinogens, employees should be required to remove and leave protective clothing and equipment at the point of exit and at the last exit of the day, to place used clothing and equipment in impervious containers at the point of exit for purposes of decontamination or disposal. The contents of such impervious containers must be identified with suitable labels. For maintenance and decontamination activities, authorized employees entering the area should be provided with and required to wear clean, impervious garments, including gloves, boots and continuous-air supplied hood.
- Prior to removing protective garments the employee should undergo decontamination and be required to shower upon removal of the garments and hood.
- Overalls.
- PVC Apron.

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- PVC protective suit may be required if exposure severe.
- Eyewash unit.
- Ensure there is ready access to a safety shower.
- Some plastic personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g. gloves, aprons, overshoes) are not recommended as they may produce static electricity.
- For large scale or continuous use wear tight-weave non-static clothing (no metallic fasteners, cuffs or pockets), non sparking safety footwear.
- 
- Respirators may be necessary when engineering and administrative controls do not adequately prevent exposures.
- The decision to use respiratory protection should be based on professional judgment that takes into account toxicity information, exposure measurement data, and frequency and likelihood of the worker's exposure - ensure users are not subject to high thermal loads which may result in heat stress or distress due to personal protective equipment (powered, positive flow, full face apparatus may be an option).
- Published occupational exposure limits, where they exist, will assist in determining the adequacy of the selected respiratory . These may be government mandated or vendor recommended.
- Certified respirators will be useful for protecting workers from inhalation of particulates when properly selected and fit tested as part of a complete respiratory protection program.
- Use approved positive flow mask if significant quantities of dust becomes airborne.
- Try to avoid creating dust conditions.

The local concentration of material, quantity and conditions of use determine the type of personal protective equipment required. Use appropriate NIOSH-certified respirator based on informed professional judgement. In conditions where no reasonable estimate of exposure can be made, assume the exposure is in a concentration IDLH and use NIOSH-certified full face pressure demand SCBA with a minimum service life of 30 minutes, or a combination full facepiece pressure demand SAR with auxiliary self-contained air supply. Respirators provided only for escape from IDLH atmospheres shall be NIOSH-certified for escape from the atmosphere in which they will be used.

## ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- 
- Employees exposed to confirmed human carcinogens should be authorized to do so by the employer, and work in a regulated area.
- Work should be undertaken in an isolated system such as a "glove-box" . Employees should wash their hands and arms upon completion of the assigned task and before engaging in other activities not associated with the isolated system.
- Within regulated areas, the carcinogen should be stored in sealed containers, or enclosed in a closed system, including piping systems, with any sample ports or openings closed while the carcinogens are contained within.
- Open-vessel systems are prohibited.
- Each operation should be provided with continuous local exhaust ventilation so that air movement is always from ordinary work areas to the operation.
- Exhaust air should not be discharged to regulated areas, non-regulated areas or the external environment unless decontaminated. Clean make-up air should be introduced in sufficient volume to maintain correct operation of the local exhaust system.
- For maintenance and decontamination activities, authorized employees entering the area should be provided with and required to wear clean, impervious garments, including gloves, boots and continuous-air supplied hood. Prior to removing protective garments the employee should undergo decontamination and be required to shower upon removal of the garments and hood.
- Except for outdoor systems, regulated areas should be maintained under negative pressure (with respect to non-regulated areas).
- Local exhaust ventilation requires make-up air be supplied in equal volumes to replaced air.
- Laboratory hoods must be designed and maintained so as to draw air inward at an average linear face velocity of 150 feet/ min. with a minimum of 125 feet/ min. Design and construction of the fume hood requires that insertion of any portion of the employees body, other than hands and arms, be disallowed.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Mixes with water.  
Toxic or noxious vapors/ gas.

State	DIVIDED SOLID	Molecular Weight	294.2
Melting Range (°F)	748.4	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	932 (decomposes)	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not Applicable	pH (1% solution)	4.0 (5% soln)
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Available	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable

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Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not applicable		Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Negligible
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable		Specific Gravity (water=1)	2.68 @ 25 C
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable		Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not applicable.
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not applicable.		Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

## APPEARANCE

Bright orange/red odourless crystals; soluble in water. Oxidising agent and corrosive; causes burns. Contact with many organic materials may cause a fire.

## Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

- 
- Presence of incompatible materials.
- Product is considered stable.
- Hazardous polymerization will not occur.

### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- 
- Inorganic oxidising agents can react with reducing agents to generate heat and products that may be gaseous (causing pressurization of closed containers). The products may themselves be capable of further reactions (such as combustion in the air).
- Organic compounds in general have some reducing power and can in principle react with compounds in this class. Actual reactivity varies greatly with the identity of the organic compound.
- Inorganic oxidising agents can react violently with active metals, cyanides, esters, and thiocyanates.
- Inorganic reducing agents react with oxidizing agents to generate heat and products that may be flammable, combustible, or otherwise reactive. Their reactions with oxidizing agents may be violent.
- Incidents involving interaction of active oxidants and reducing agents, either by design or accident, are usually very energetic and examples of so-called redox reactions.
- WARNING: Avoid or control reaction with peroxides. All transition metal peroxides should be considered as potentially explosive. For example transition metal complexes of alkyl hydroperoxides may decompose explosively.
- The pi-complexes formed between chromium(0), vanadium(0) and other transition metals (haloarene-metal complexes) and mono- or poly-fluorobenzene show extreme sensitivity to heat and are explosive.
- Avoid reaction with borohydrides or cyanoborohydrides

Metals and their oxides or salts may react violently with chlorine trifluoride. Chlorine trifluoride is a hypergolic oxidizer. It ignites on contact (without external source of heat or ignition) with recognized fuels - contact with these materials, following an ambient or slightly elevated temperature, is often violent and may produce ignition. The state of subdivision may affect the results. Avoid storage with reducing agents.

For incompatible materials - refer to Section 7 - Handling and Storage.

## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

potassium dichromate

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

■ unless otherwise specified data extracted from RTECS - Register of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
----------	------------

Oral (human) LDLo: 26 mg/kg Highly irritating & corrosive

■ Contact allergies quickly manifest themselves as contact eczema, more rarely as urticaria or Quincke's edema. The pathogenesis of contact eczema involves a cell-mediated (T lymphocytes) immune reaction of the delayed type. Other allergic skin reactions, e.g. contact urticaria, involve antibody-mediated immune reactions. The significance of the contact allergen is not simply determined by its sensitization potential: the distribution of the substance and the opportunities for contact with it are equally important. A weakly sensitizing substance which is widely distributed can be a more important allergen than one with stronger sensitizing potential with which few individuals come into contact. From a clinical point of view, substances are noteworthy if they produce an allergic test reaction in more than 1% of the persons tested.

Allergic reactions involving the respiratory tract are usually due to interactions between IgE antibodies and allergens and occur rapidly.

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Allergic potential of the allergen and period of exposure often determine the severity of symptoms. Some people may be genetically more prone than others, and exposure to other irritants may aggravate symptoms. Allergy causing activity is due to interactions with proteins. Attention should be paid to atopic diathesis, characterized by increased susceptibility to nasal inflammation, asthma and eczema. Exogenous allergic alveolitis is induced essentially by allergen specific immune-complexes of the IgG type; cell-mediated reactions (T lymphocytes) may be involved. Such allergy is of the delayed type with onset up to four hours following exposure. Asthma-like symptoms may continue for months or even years after exposure to the material ceases. This may be due to a non-allergenic condition known as reactive airways dysfunction syndrome (RADS) which can occur following exposure to high levels of highly irritating compound. Key criteria for the diagnosis of RADS include the absence of preceding respiratory disease, in a non-atopic individual, with abrupt onset of persistent asthma-like symptoms within minutes to hours of a documented exposure to the irritant. A reversible airflow pattern, on spirometry, with the presence of moderate to severe bronchial hyperreactivity on methacholine challenge testing and the lack of minimal lymphocytic inflammation, without eosinophilia, have also been included in the criteria for diagnosis of RADS. RADS (or asthma) following an irritating inhalation is an infrequent disorder with rates related to the concentration of and duration of exposure to the irritating substance. Industrial bronchitis, on the other hand, is a disorder that occurs as result of exposure due to high concentrations of irritating substance (often particulate in nature) and is completely reversible after exposure ceases. The disorder is characterised by dyspnea, cough and mucus production.

WARNING: This substance has been classified by the IARC as Group 1: CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS.

### CARCINOGEN

Chromium (VI) inorganic compounds - Water soluble (as Cr)	US ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLV) - Carcinogens	Carcinogen Category	A1
POTASSIUM DICHROMATE	US Environmental Defense Scorecard Recognized Carcinogens	Reference(s)	P65-MC
POTASSIUM DICHROMATE	US Environmental Defense Scorecard Suspected Carcinogens	Reference(s)	P65-MC
CHROMIUM COMPOUNDS	US Environmental Defense Scorecard Suspected Carcinogens	Reference(s)	HAZMAP, P65-MC
Chromium (hexavalent) (Oral)	US Air Toxics Hot Spots TSD for Describing Available Cancer Potency Factors	IARC Class	
Chromium(VI) and its compounds - Water soluble (as Cr)	US NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs) - Carcinogens	Carcinogen	Ca

## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

POTASSIUM DICHROMATE:

- Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.
- Do NOT allow product to come in contact with surface waters or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when cleaning equipment or disposing of equipment wash-waters.

Wastes resulting from use of the product must be disposed of on site or at approved waste sites.

- Metal-containing inorganic substances generally have negligible vapour pressure and are not expected to partition to air. Once released to surface waters and moist soils their fate depends on solubility and dissociation in water. Environmental processes (such as oxidation and the presence of acids or bases) may transform insoluble metals to more soluble ionic forms. Microbiological processes may also transform insoluble metals to more soluble forms. Such ionic species may bind to dissolved ligands or sorb to solid particles in aquatic or aqueous media. A significant proportion of dissolved/ sorbed metals will end up in sediments through the settling of suspended particles. The remaining metal ions can then be taken up by aquatic organisms.

When released to dry soil most metals will exhibit limited mobility and remain in the upper layer; some will leach locally into ground water and/ or surface water ecosystems when soaked by rain or melt ice. Environmental processes may also be important in changing solubilities.

Even though many metals show few toxic effects at physiological pHs, transformation may introduce new or magnified effects.

A metal ion is considered infinitely persistent because it cannot degrade further.

The current state of science does not allow for an unambiguous interpretation of various measures of bioaccumulation.

The counter-ion may also create health and environmental concerns once isolated from the metal. Under normal physiological conditions the counter-ion may be essentially insoluble and may not be bioavailable.

Environmental processes may enhance bioavailability.

- Chromium in the oxidation state +3 (the trivalent form) is poorly absorbed by cells found in microorganisms, plants and animals. Chromate anions (CrO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, oxidation state +6, the hexavalent form) are readily transported into cells and toxicity is closely linked to the higher oxidation state.

Chromium Ecotoxicology:

Toxicity in Aquatic Organisms:

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Chromium is harmful to aquatic organisms in very low concentrations. Fish food organisms are very sensitive to low levels of chromium. Chromium is toxic to fish although less so in warm water. Marked decreases in toxicity are found with increasing pH or water hardness; changes in salinity have little if any effect. Chromium appears to make fish more susceptible to infection. High concentrations can damage and/or accumulate in various fish tissues and in invertebrates such as snails and worms.

Reproduction of Daphnia is affected by exposure to 0.01 mg/kg hexavalent chromium/litre

Toxicity of chromium in fresh-water organisms (50% mortality)\*

Compound	Category	Exposure	Toxicity Range (mg/litre)	Most sensitive species
hexavalent chrome	invertebrate	acute	0.067-59.9	scud
		long-term	-	-
	vertebrate	acute	17.6-249	fathead minnow
trivalent chrome	invertebrate	long-term	0.265-2.0	rainbow trout
		acute	2.0-64.0	cladoceran
	vertebrate	long-term	0.066	cladoceran
		acute	33.0-71.9	guppy
invertebrate	long-term	1.0	fathead minnow	

\* from Environmental Health Criteria 61: WHO Publication.

Toxicity in Microorganisms:

In general, toxicity for most microorganisms occurs in the range of 0.05-5 mg chromium/kg of medium. Trivalent chromium is less toxic than the hexavalent form. The main signs of toxicity are inhibition of growth and the inhibition of various metabolic processes such as photosynthesis or protein synthesis. Gram-negative soil bacteria are generally more sensitive to hexavalent chromium (1-12 mg/kg) than the gram-positive types. Toxicity to trivalent chromium is not observed at similar levels. The toxicity of low levels of hexavalent chromium (1 mg/kg) indicates that soil microbial transformation, such as nitrification, may be affected. Chromium should not be introduced to municipal sewage treatment facilities.

Toxicity in Plants: Chromium in high concentrations can be toxic for plants. The main feature of chromium intoxication is chlorosis, which is similar to iron deficiency. Chromium affects carbohydrate metabolism and leaf chlorophyll concentration decreases with hexavalent chromium concentration (0.01-1 mg/l). The hexavalent form appears to be more toxic than the trivalent species.

Biological half-life: The elimination curve for chromium, as measured by whole-body counting, has an exponential form. In rats, three different components of the curve have been identified, with half-lives of 0.5, 5.9 and 83.4 days, respectively.

Water Standards: Chromium is identified as a hazardous substance in the Federal (U.S.) Water Pollution Control Act and further regulated by Clean Air Water Act Amendments (US). These regulations apply to discharge. The US Primary drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), for chromium, is 0.05 mg/l (total chromium).

■ Since chromium compounds cannot volatilize from water, transport of chromium from water to the atmosphere is not likely, except by transport in windblown sea sprays. Most of the chromium released into water will ultimately be deposited in the sediment. A very small percentage of chromium can be present in water in both soluble and insoluble forms. Soluble chromium generally accounts for a very small percentage of the total chromium. Most of the soluble chromium is present as chromium(VI) and soluble chromium(III) complexes. In the aquatic phase, chromium(III) occurs mostly as suspended solids adsorbed onto clayish materials, organics, or iron oxide (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) present in water. Soluble forms and suspended chromium can undergo intramedia transport. Chromium(VI) in water will eventually be reduced to chromium(III) by organic matter in the water.

The reduction of chromium(VI) and the oxidation of chromium(III) in water has been investigated. The reduction of chromium(VI) by S-2 or Fe+2 ions under anaerobic conditions was fast, and the reduction half-life ranged from instantaneous to a few days. However, the reduction of chromium(VI) by organic sediments and soils was much slower and depended on the type and amount of organic material and on the redox condition of the water. The reaction was generally faster under anaerobic than aerobic conditions. The reduction half-life of chromium(VI) in water with soil and sediment ranged from 4 to 140 day. Dissolved oxygen by itself in natural waters did not cause any measurable oxidation of chromium(III) to chromium(VI) in 128 days. When chromium(III) was added to lake water, a slow oxidation of chromium(III) to chromium(VI) occurred, corresponding to an oxidation half-life of nine years. The oxidation of chromium(III) to chromium(VI) during chlorination of water was highest in the pH range of 5.5-6.0. However, the process would rarely occur during chlorination of drinking water because of the low concentrations of chromium(III) in these waters, and the presence of naturally occurring organics that may protect chromium(III) from oxidation, either by forming strong complexes with chromium(III) or by acting as a reducing agent to free available chlorine.

The bioconcentration factor (BCF) for chromium(VI) in rainbow trout (*Salmo gairdneri*) is 1. In bottom feeder bivalves, such as the oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*), blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), and soft shell clam (*Mya arenaria*), the BCF values for chromium(III) and chromium(VI) may range from 86 to 192.

The bioavailability of chromium(III) to freshwater invertebrates (*Daphnia pulex*) decreased with the addition of humic acid. This decrease in bioavailability was attributed to lower availability of the free form of the metal due to its complexation with humic acid. Based on this information, chromium is not expected to biomagnify in the aquatic food chain. Although higher concentrations of chromium have been reported in plants growing in high chromium-containing soils (e.g., soil near ore deposits or chromium-emitting industries and soil fertilized by sewage sludge) compared with plants growing in normal soils, most of the increased uptake in plants is retained in roots, and only a small fraction is translocated in the aboveground part of edible plants. Therefore, bioaccumulation of chromium from soil to above-ground parts of plants is unlikely. There is no indication of biomagnification of chromium along the terrestrial food chain (soil-plant-animal).

The fate of chromium in soil is greatly dependent upon the speciation of chromium, which is a function of redox potential and the pH of the

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soil. In most soils, chromium will be present predominantly in the chromium(III) state. This form has very low solubility and low reactivity resulting in low mobility in the environment and low toxicity in living organisms. Under oxidizing conditions chromium(VI) may be present in soil as  $\text{CrO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{HCrO}_4^-$ . In this form, chromium is relatively soluble, mobile, and toxic to living organisms. In deeper soil where anaerobic conditions exist, chromium(VI) will be reduced to chromium(III) by  $\text{S}^{2-}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  present in soil. The reduction of chromium(VI) to chromium(III) is possible in aerobic soils that contain appropriate organic energy sources to carry out the redox reaction. The reduction of chromium(VI) to chromium(III) is facilitated by low pH. From thermodynamic considerations, chromium(VI) may exist in the aerobic zone of some natural soil. The oxidation of chromium(III) to chromium(VI) in soil is facilitated by the presence of low oxidisable organic substances, oxygen, manganese dioxide, and moisture. Organic forms of chromium(III) (e.g., humic acid complexes) are more easily oxidised than insoluble oxides. Because most chromium(III) in soil is immobilized due to adsorption and complexation with soil materials, the barrier to this oxidation process is the lack of availability of mobile chromium(III) to immobile manganese dioxide in soil surfaces. Due to this lack of availability of mobile chromium(III) to manganese dioxide surfaces, a large portion of chromium in soil will not be oxidized to chromium(VI), even in the presence of manganese dioxide and favorable pH conditions.

The microbial reduction of chromium(VI) to chromium(III) has been discussed as a possible remediation technique in heavily contaminated environmental media or wastes. Factors affecting the microbial reduction of chromium(VI) to chromium(III) include biomass concentration, initial chromium(VI) concentration, temperature, pH, carbon source, oxidation-reduction potential and the presence of both oxyanions and metal cations. Although high levels of chromium(VI) are toxic to most microbes, several resistant bacterial species have been identified which could ultimately be employed in remediation strategies

Chromium in soil is present mainly as insoluble oxide  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and is not very mobile in soil. A leachability study was conducted to study the mobility of chromium in soil. Due to different pH values, a complicated adsorption process was observed and chromium moved only slightly in soil.

Chromium was not found in the leachate from soil, possibly because it formed complexes with organic matter. These results support previous data finding that chromium is not very mobile in soil. These results are supported by leachability investigation in which chromium mobility was studied for a period of 4 years in a sandy loam. The vertical migration pattern of chromium in this soil indicated that after an initial period of mobility, chromium forms insoluble complexes and little leaching is observed. Flooding of soils and the subsequent anaerobic decomposition of plant detritus matters may increase the mobilization of chromium(III) in soils due to formation of soluble complexes. This complexation may be facilitated by a lower soil pH. A smaller percentage of total chromium in soil exists as soluble chromium(VI) and chromium(III), which are more mobile in soil. The mobility of soluble chromium in soil will depend on the sorption characteristics of the soil. The relative retention of metals by soil is in the order of lead > antimony > copper > chromium > zinc > nickel > cobalt > cadmium. The sorption of chromium to soil depends primarily on the clay content of the soil and, to a lesser extent, on  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  and the organic content of soil. Chromium that is irreversibly sorbed onto soil, for example, in the interstitial lattice of goethite,  $\text{FeOOH}$ , will not be bioavailable to plants and animals under any condition. Organic matter in soil is expected to convert soluble chromate, chromium(VI), to insoluble chromium(III) oxide,  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ . Chromium in soil may be transported to the atmosphere as an aerosol. Surface runoff from soil can transport both soluble and bulk precipitate of chromium to surface water. Soluble and unadsorbed chromium(VI) and chromium(III) complexes in soil may leach into groundwater. The leachability of chromium(VI) in the soil increases as the pH of the soil increases. On the other hand, lower pH present in acid rain may facilitate leaching of acid-soluble chromium(III) and chromium(VI) compounds in soil.

Chromium has a low mobility for translocation from roots to aboveground parts of plants. However, depending on the geographical areas where the plants are grown, the concentration of chromium in aerial parts of certain plants may differ by a factor of 2/3.

In the atmosphere, chromium(VI) may be reduced to chromium(III) at a significant rate by vanadium ( $\text{V}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{V}^{3+}$ , and  $\text{VO}_2^+$ ),  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{HSO}_3^-$ , and  $\text{As}_3^+$ . Conversely, chromium(III), if present as a salt other than  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ , may be oxidized to chromium(VI) in the atmosphere in the presence of at least 1% manganese oxide. However, this reaction is unlikely under most environmental conditions. The estimated atmospheric half-life for chromium(VI) reduction to chromium(III) was reported in the range of 16 hours to about 5 days.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

■ The material is classified as an ecotoxin\* because the Daphnia EC50 (48 hours) is less than or equal to 0.1 mg/l

\* Classification of Substances as Ecotoxic (Dangerous to the Environment)

Appendix 8, Table 1

Compiler's Guide for the Preparation of International Chemical Safety Cards: 1993 Commission of the European Communities.

### Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
potassium dichromate	HIGH		LOW	MED

## Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### US EPA Waste Number & Descriptions

A. General Product Information

Ignitability characteristic: use EPA hazardous waste number D001 (waste code I)

Toxicity characteristic: use EPA hazardous waste number D007 (waste code E) if this substance, in a solid waste, produces an extract containing greater than 5 mg/L of chromium.

### Disposal Instructions

All waste must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.

! Puncture containers to prevent re-use and bury at an authorized landfill.



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Legislation addressing waste disposal requirements may differ by country, state and/ or territory. Each user must refer to laws operating in their area. In some areas, certain wastes must be tracked.

A Hierarchy of Controls seems to be common - the user should investigate:

- Reduction
- Reuse
- Recycling
- Disposal (if all else fails)

This material may be recycled if unused, or if it has not been contaminated so as to make it unsuitable for its intended use. Shelf life considerations should also be applied in making decisions of this type. Note that properties of a material may change in use, and recycling or reuse may not always be appropriate.

DO NOT allow wash water from cleaning equipment to enter drains. Collect all wash water for treatment before disposal.

- Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.
- Consult Waste Management Authority for disposal.
- Bury residue in an authorized landfill.
- Recycle containers where possible, or dispose of in an authorized landfill.

For small quantities of oxidizing agent:

- Cautiously acidify a 3% solution to pH 2 with sulfuric acid.
- Gradually add a 50% excess of sodium bisulfite solution with stirring.
- Add a further 10% sodium bisulfite.
- If no further reaction occurs (as indicated by a rise in temperature) cautiously add more acid.

## Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION



DOT:

Symbols:	G	Hazard class or Division:	6.1
Identification Numbers:	UN3086	PG:	I
Label Codes:	6.1, 5.1	Special provisions:	T6, TP33
Packaging: Exceptions:	None	Packaging: Non-bulk:	211
Packaging: Exceptions:	None	Quantity limitations: Passenger aircraft/rail:	1 kg
Quantity Limitations: Cargo aircraft only:	15 kg	Vessel stowage: Location:	C
Vessel stowage: Other:	None		

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:

Toxic solids, oxidizing, n.o.s.

### Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class:	6.1 (5.1)	ICAO/IATA Subrisk:	None
UN/ID Number:	3086	Packing Group:	I
Special provisions:	A5		

Shipping Name: TOXIC SOLID, OXIDIZING, N.O.S. \*(CONTAINS POTASSIUM DICHROMATE)

### Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class:	6.1	IMDG Subrisk:	5.1
UN Number:	3086	Packing Group:	I
EMS Number:	F-A,S-Q	Special provisions:	274
Limited Quantities:	None		

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Shipping Name: TOXIC SOLID, OXIDIZING, N.O.S.(contains potassium dichromate)

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

**potassium dichromate (CAS: 7778-50-9) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Canada - Saskatchewan Industrial Hazardous Substances", "Canada Domestic Substances List (DSL)", "Canada Ingredient Disclosure List (SOR/88-64)", "Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (English)", "Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (French)", "International Chemical Secretariat (ChemSec) REACH SIN\* List (\*Substitute It Now!) 1.0", "OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals", "US - California Occupational Safety and Health Regulations (CAL/OSHA) - Hazardous Substances List", "US - Massachusetts Oil & Hazardous Material List", "US - New Jersey Right to Know Hazardous Substances", "US - Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List", "US - Rhode Island Hazardous Substance List", "US CWA (Clean Water Act) - List of Hazardous Substances", "US CWA (Clean Water Act) - Reportable Quantities of Designated Hazardous Substances", "US Department of Transportation (DOT) List of Hazardous Substances and Reportable Quantities - Hazardous Substances Other Than Radionuclides", "US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)", "US List of Lists - Consolidated List of Chemicals Subject to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act", "US NFPA 1 Annex B Typical Oxidizers", "US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory", "US TSCA Section 12(b) - List of Chemical Substances Subject to Export Notification Requirements"

## Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

### LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Contact with air may produce sufficient heat to ignite combustible materials.\*.
- Cumulative effects may result following exposure\*.

\* (limited evidence).

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- Classification of the mixture and its individual components has drawn on official and authoritative sources as well as independent review by the Chemwatch Classification committee using available literature references.

A list of reference resources used to assist the committee may be found at:  
[www.chemwatch.net/references](http://www.chemwatch.net/references).

- The (M)SDS is a Hazard Communication tool and should be used to assist in the Risk Assessment. Many factors determine whether the reported Hazards are Risks in the workplace or other settings. Risks may be determined by reference to Exposures Scenarios. Scale of use, frequency of use and current or available engineering controls must be considered.

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