

Potassium nitrite

sc-203357



The Power is Question

Material Safety Data Sheet

Hazard Alert Code
Key:

EXTREME

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME

Potassium nitrite

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

Used in analysis (testing for amino acids, cobalt, iodine, urea), food additive (curing agent), vasodilator, antidote (cyanide poisoning).

SYNONYMS

KNO₂, "nitrous acid, potassium salt", "potassium nitrite 1:1"

Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

RISK

Heating may cause an explosion.

Toxic if swallowed.

Irritating to eyes.

Very toxic to aquatic organisms.

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 substance and/or its metabolites may bind to hemoglobin inhibiting normal uptake of oxygen. This condition, known as "methemoglobinemia", is a form of oxygen starvation (anoxia).

Symptoms include cyanosis (a bluish discoloration skin and mucous membranes) and breathing difficulties. Symptoms may not be evident until several hours after exposure.

At about 15% concentration of blood methemoglobin there is observable cyanosis of the lips, nose and earlobes. Symptoms may be absent although euphoria, flushed face and headache are commonly experienced. At 25-40%, cyanosis is marked but little disability occurs other than that produced on physical exertion. At 40-60%, symptoms include weakness, dizziness, lightheadedness, increasingly severe headache, ataxia, rapid shallow respiration, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, confusion, lethargy and stupor. Above 60% symptoms include dyspnea, respiratory depression, tachycardia or bradycardia, and convulsions. Levels exceeding 70% may be fatal.

■ In humans, inorganic nitrites produce smooth muscle relaxation, methaemoglobinaemia (MHG) and cyanosis. Fatal poisonings in infants, resulting from ingestion of nitrates in water or spinach, have been reported. The primary effect of nitrite intoxication in animals is MHG whilst secondary effects include vasodilation, relaxation of smooth muscle and lowering of blood pressure. Other nitrite-induced toxic effects include abdominal pain, diarrhoea, atrophied intestinal villi and apoptotic cell death in the intestinal crypts. When sodium nitrite was administered in drinking water for 6 weeks (0.06-1%), mice showed a slight degeneration and spotty necrosis of hepatocytes and haemosiderin deposition in the liver, spleen and lymph nodes, indicating haemolysis. At 2%, mice died within 3 weeks. In rats, subject to the same treatment regime, abnormal blood and spleen colours, due to MHG, were seen in 0.5% and 1.0% treatment groups. Hepatic microsomal lipoperoxidation (as measured by malondialdehyde formation) was increased in male rats given 0.2% sodium nitrite in drinking water. Liver lysosomal enzymes (acid phosphatase and cathepsin) and superoxide dismutase activities were also increased. This data suggests that the nitrite stimulates generation of superoxide radicals in the liver causing damage to cellular and subcellular membranes. Decreased plasma vitamin E and greater reduced glutathione-per erythrocyte were also reported in male rats receiving sodium nitrite in drinking water.

EYE

■ This material can cause eye irritation and damage in some persons.

SKIN

■ There is some evidence to suggest that this material can cause inflammation of the skin on contact in some persons.

■ 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

■ There is some evidence to suggest that the material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.

■ 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.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

■ There has been some concern that this material can cause cancer or mutations but there is not enough data to make an assessment.

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.

Exposure to sodium nitrite in drinking water resulted in an increased incidence of epithelial hyperplasia in the forestomach of male and female rats and in the glandular stomach of male mice.

There was equivocal evidence of carcinogenic activity of sodium nitrite in female B6C3F1 mice based on the positive trend in the incidences of squamous cell papillomas or carcinomas (combined) of the forestomach. There was no evidence of carcinogenic activity in male and female F344/N rats or B6C3F1 male mice exposed to 750, 1500 or 3000 ppm.

NTP Technical Report Series No. 495, May 2001

Under certain conditions, nitrites can react with secondary amines, either alone or in biological systems, to form carcinogenic nitrosamines.

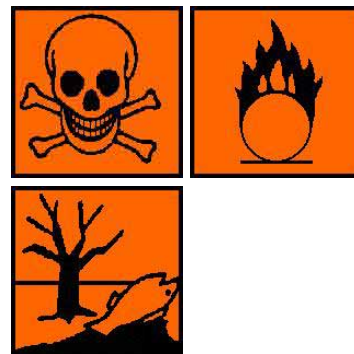
Sodium nitrite (60 mg/kg) administered in drinking water to pregnant guinea pigs produced maternal anaemia and increased the incidences of abortion and foetal mortality. Administration of 2000-3000 mg/l sodium nitrite in drinking water, to pregnant rats, produced 30-53% foetal mortality. In rat dams given 0.025-0.5% in feed, sodium nitrite caused an increase in foetal and pup mortality and decreases in pre-weanling body weights.

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max
Flammability:	0	■
Toxicity:	3	■
Body Contact:	2	■
Reactivity:	2	■
Chronic:	2	■

Min/Nil=0
Low=1
Moderate=2
High=3
Extreme=4



NAME	CAS RN	%
potassium nitrite	7758-09-0	>98

Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED

-
- IF SWALLOWED, REFER FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION, WHERE POSSIBLE, WITHOUT DELAY.
- Where Medical attention is not immediately available or where the patient is more than 15 minutes from a hospital or unless instructed otherwise:
- For advice, contact a Poisons Information Center or a doctor.
- Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.
- If conscious, give water to drink.
- INDUCE vomiting with fingers down the back of the throat, ONLY IF CONSCIOUS. Lean patient forward or place on left side (head-down position, if possible) to maintain open airway and prevent aspiration.

NOTE: Wear a protective glove when inducing vomiting by mechanical means.

- In the mean time, qualified first-aid personnel should treat the patient following observation and employing supportive measures as indicated by the patient's condition.
- If the services of a medical officer or medical doctor are readily available, the patient should be placed in his/her care and a copy of the MSDS should be provided. Further action will be the responsibility of the medical specialist.
- If medical attention is not available on the worksite or surroundings send the patient to a hospital together with a copy of the MSDS.

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 contact occurs:

- Immediately remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear
- Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).
- Seek medical attention in event of irritation.

INHALED

-
- If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Other measures are usually unnecessary.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- The toxicity of nitrates and nitrites result from their vasodilating properties and their propensity to form methemoglobin.
- Most produce a peak effect within 30 minutes.
- Clinical signs of cyanosis appear before other symptoms because of the dark pigmentation of methemoglobin.
- Initial attention should be directed towards improving oxygen delivery, with assisted ventilation, if necessary. Hyperbaric oxygen has not demonstrated conclusive benefits.
- Institute cardiac monitoring, especially in patients with coronary artery or pulmonary disease.
- Hypotension should respond to Trendelenburg's position and intravenous fluids; otherwise dopamine may be needed.
- Naloxone, glucose and thiamine should be given if a multiple ingestion is suspected.
- Decontaminate using Ipecac Syrup for alert patients or lavage for obtunded patients who present within 2-4 hours of ingestion.
- Symptomatic patients with methemoglobin levels over 30% should receive methylene blue. (Cyanosis alone, is not an indication for treatment). The usual dose is 1-2 mg/kg of a 1% solution (10 mg/ml) IV over 5 minutes; repeat, using the same dose if symptoms of hypoxia fail to subside within 1 hour.

[Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology] BIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE INDEX - BEI

These represent the determinants observed in specimens collected from a healthy worker who has been exposed at the Exposure Standard (ES or TLV):

Determinant	Index	Sampling Time	Comments
1. Methemoglobin in blood	1.5% of hemoglobin	During or end of shift	B,NS,SQ

B: Background levels occur in specimens collected from subjects NOT exposed

NS: Non-specific determinant; also observed after exposure to other materials

SQ: Semi-quantitative determinant - Interpretation may be ambiguous; should be used as a screening test or confirmatory test.

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapour Pressure (mmHG):	Negligible.
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not applicable
Specific Gravity (water=1):	1.915
Lower Explosive Limit (%):	Not applicable

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

■ FOR SMALL FIRE:

- USE FLOODING QUANTITIES OF WATER.
- DO NOT use dry chemicals, CO2 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.
- Fight fire from a safe distance, with adequate cover.

- Extinguishers should be used only by trained personnel.
- Use water delivered as a fine spray to control fire and cool adjacent area.
- Avoid spraying water onto liquid pools.
- 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.
- If fire gets out of control withdraw personnel and warn against entry.
- 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.

WARNING: May EXPLODE on heating!!!

Decomposition may produce toxic fumes of: nitrogen oxides (NO_x), metal oxides.

FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Avoid storage with reducing agents.
- Avoid any contamination of this material as it is very reactive and any contamination is potentially hazardous

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:

Full face- shield.

Gloves:

Respirator:

Particulate

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

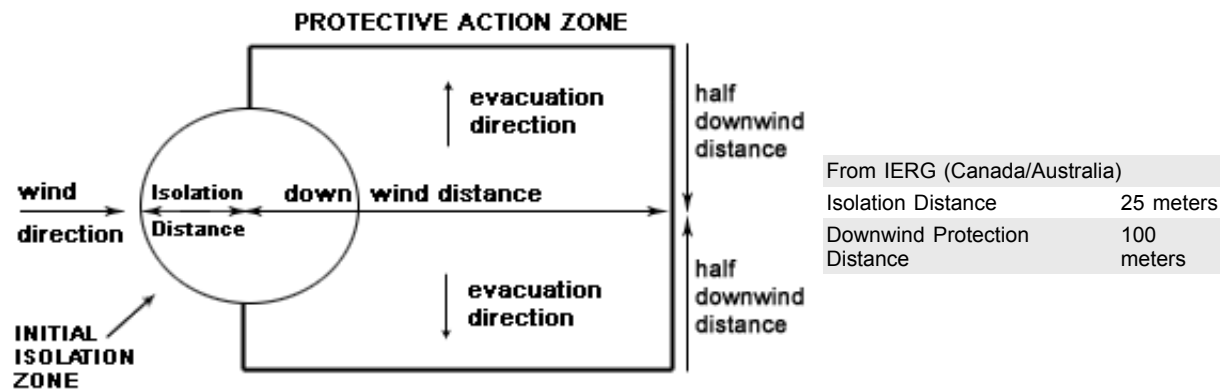
MINOR SPILLS

-
- 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.
- May be violently or explosively reactive.
- Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.
- Prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses.
- Consider evacuation.
- DO NOT use water on spill.
- No smoking, flames or ignition sources.
- Increase ventilation.
- Contain with DRY sand, earth or other clean, dry inert material.
- NEVER use organic absorbents such as sawdust, paper, cloth or wet materials.
- Use spark-free and explosion-proof equipment.
- Collect recoverable product in labeled containers for possible recycling.
- To avoid risk of contamination, DO NOT mix recovered with fresh material.
- Absorb remaining product with dry sand, earth or vermiculite.
- Collect residues and seal in labeled drums for disposal.
- Use flooding quantities of water to wash area.
- Prevent runoff into drains.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs advise emergency services.

PROTECTIVE ACTIONS FOR SPILL



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 140 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.
- 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

-
- DO NOT repack. Use containers supplied by manufacturer only.

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

- In addition, Goods of Class 5.1, packing group II should be:
 - stored in piles so that

- the height of the pile does not exceed 1 metre
- the maximum quantity in a pile or building does not exceed 1000 tonnes unless the area is provided with automatic fire extinguishers
- the maximum height of a pile does not exceed 3 metres where the room is provided with automatic fire extinguishers or 2 meters if not.
- the minimum distance between piles is not less than 2 metres where the room is provided with automatic fire extinguishers or 3 meters if not.
- the minimum distance to walls is not less than 1 metre.

SAFE STORAGE WITH OTHER CLASSIFIED CHEMICALS



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

Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m ³	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m ³	Peak ppm	Peak mg/m ³	TWA F/CC	Notes
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z3)	potassium nitrite (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Total dust)		10						*
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z3	potassium nitrite (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Respirable fraction)		5						
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z3	potassium nitrite (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Total dust)		15						
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	potassium nitrite (Particulates not otherwise regulated - Total dust)		10						
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	potassium nitrite (Particulates not otherwise regulated - Respirable fraction)		5						
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z3)	potassium nitrite (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Respirable fraction)		5						*
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	potassium nitrite (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)		5						
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	potassium nitrite (Particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR)(f)-Respirable fraction)		5						
US - Michigan Exposure Limits for Air Contaminants	potassium nitrite (Particulates not otherwise regulated, Respirable dust)		5						

MATERIAL DATA

POTASSIUM NITRITE:

■ 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.

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.

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.

- DO NOT wear cotton or cotton-backed gloves.
- DO NOT wear leather gloves.
- Promptly hose all spills off leather shoes or boots or ensure that such footwear is protected with PVC over-shoes.

OTHER

- Overalls.
- PVC Apron.
- 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.

RESPIRATOR

Protection Factor	Half-Face Respirator	Full-Face Respirator	Powered Air Respirator
10 x PEL	P1	-	PAPR-P1
	Air-line*	-	-
50 x PEL	Air-line**	P2	PAPR-P2
100 x PEL	-	P3	-
		Air-line*	-
100+ x PEL	-	Air-line**	PAPR-P3

* - Negative pressure demand ** - Continuous flow

Explanation of Respirator Codes:

Class 1 low to medium absorption capacity filters.

Class 2 medium absorption capacity filters.

Class 3 high absorption capacity filters.

PAPR Powered Air Purifying Respirator (positive pressure) cartridge.

Type A for use against certain organic gases and vapors.

Type AX for use against low boiling point organic compounds (less than 65°C).

Type B for use against certain inorganic gases and other acid gases and vapors.

Type E for use against sulfur dioxide and other acid gases and vapors.

Type K for use against ammonia and organic ammonia derivatives

Class P1 intended for use against mechanically generated particulates of sizes most commonly encountered in industry, e.g. asbestos, silica.

Class P2 intended for use against both mechanically and thermally generated particulates, e.g. metal fume.

Class P3 intended for use against all particulates containing highly toxic materials, e.g. beryllium.

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

Local exhaust ventilation usually required. If risk of overexposure exists, wear an approved respirator. Correct fit is essential to obtain adequate protection an approved self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) may be required in some situations. Provide adequate ventilation in warehouse or closed storage area.

Air contaminants generated in the workplace possess varying "escape" velocities which, in turn, determine the "capture velocities" of fresh circulating air required to effectively remove the contaminant.

Type of Contaminant:	Air Speed:
solvent, vapors, degreasing etc., evaporating from tank (in still air).	0.25-0.5 m/s (50-100 f/min.)
aerosols, fumes from pouring operations, intermittent container filling, low speed conveyer transfers, welding, spray drift, plating acid fumes, pickling (released at low velocity into zone of active generation)	0.5-1 m/s (100-200 f/min.)
direct spray, spray painting in shallow booths, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)	1-2.5 m/s (200-500 f/min.)
grinding, abrasive blasting, tumbling, high speed wheel generated dusts (released at high initial velocity into zone of very high rapid air motion).	2.5-10 m/s (500-2000 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range	Upper end of the range
1: Room air currents minimal or favorable to capture	1: Disturbing room air currents
2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only.	2: Contaminants of high toxicity
3: Intermittent, low production.	3: High production, heavy use
4: Large hood or large air mass in motion	4: Small hood-local control only

Simple theory shows that air velocity falls rapidly with distance away from the opening of a simple extraction pipe. Velocity generally decreases with the square of distance from the extraction point (in simple cases). Therefore the air speed at the extraction point should be adjusted, accordingly, after reference to distance from the contaminating source. The air velocity at the extraction fan, for example, should be a minimum of 1-2 m/s (200-400 f/min) for extraction of solvents generated in a tank 2 meters distant from the extraction point. Other mechanical considerations, producing performance deficits within the extraction apparatus, make it essential that theoretical air velocities are multiplied by factors of 10 or more when extraction systems are installed or used.

Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	85.10
Melting Range (°F)	825.8	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	Not applicable	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not Applicable	pH (1% solution)	Not available
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Applicable	pH (as supplied)	Not available
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available.	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Negligible.
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Specific Gravity (water=1)	1.915
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not applicable.
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not applicable	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

APPEARANCE

White or slightly yellow, hygroscopic crystalline powder; soluble in water.

Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

-
- Presence of incompatible materials.
- Product is considered stable under normal handling conditions.

- Prolonged exposure to heat.
- Hazardous polymerization will not occur.
- Presence of elevated temperatures.
- Presence of incompatible materials

STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Avoid any contamination of this material as it is very reactive and any contamination is potentially hazardous

Metal nitrites:

- are incompatible with chlorates, hypophosphites, iodides, mercury salts, permanganates, sulfites, primary amines and amides, secondary amines and amides, ammonium salts, activated carbon, cyanogen compounds, thiocyanates, thiosulfates, cyanides, sodium amide, boron, acetanilide, antipyrine, tannic acid and cellulose
- react explosively with hydrazine and liquid ammonia .
- react explosively following fusion with metal cyanides
- react (often) with salts of nitrogenous bases to produce an unstable corresponding nitrite salt.
- 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.

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 nitrite

TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Oral (human) TDLo: 1.428 mg/kg	Nil Reported
Oral (rabbit) LD50: 200 mg/kg	
Inhalation (mouse) LC50: 85000 mg/m ³ /2h	
Reproductive effector in rat and guinea pig.	
Mutagenic towards bacteria.	

CARCINOGEN

Nitrate or nitrite (ingested) under conditions that result in endogenous nitrosation	International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Reviewed by the IARC Monographs	Group 2A
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Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

POTASSIUM NITRITE:

- Very toxic to aquatic organisms.
 - 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.
- The nitrates are of environmental concern because of their high water solubility and consequent leaching, diffusion, and environmental mobility in soil and water. Nitrate can contaminate groundwater to unacceptable levels. Nitrite is formed from nitrate or ammonium ion by micro-organisms in soil, water, sewage and the alimentary tract. The concern with nitrate in the environment is related to its conversion to nitrite.
- Methemoglobinemia is caused following exposure to high levels of nitrite and produces difficulties in oxygen transport in the blood. Thousands of cases involving poisoning of infants, particularly in rural areas, have been reported as a result of drinking nitrate rich well-water.
- Other concerns deriving from exposure to environmental nitrates relate to the production of nitrosamines following the reaction of food nitrites and secondary amines. Other nitroso-compounds may result following reaction with nitrites and amides, ureas, carbamates and other nitrogenous compounds. Nitrosamines produce liver damage, hemorrhagic lung lesions, convulsions and coma in rats, and teratogenic effects in experimental animals.
- The N-nitroso class of compounds include potent carcinogens and mutagens: induction of tumors by single doses of N-nitroso compounds testify to this.
- 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.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

Ecotoxicity

Ingredient
potassium nitrite

Persistence: Water/Soil

Persistence: Air

Bioaccumulation
LOW

Mobility

Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

US EPA Waste Number & Descriptions

A. General Product Information

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

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.

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.

Small quantities can be carefully oxidised to nitrate with hypochlorite under supervised conditions.

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION



DOT:

Symbols:	None	Hazard class or Division:	5.1
Identification Numbers:	UN1488	PG:	II
Label Codes:	5.1	Special provisions:	IB8, IP2, IP4, T3, TP33
Packaging: Exceptions:	152	Packaging: Non-bulk:	212
Packaging: Exceptions:	152	Quantity limitations: Passenger aircraft/rail:	5 kg
Quantity Limitations: Cargo aircraft only:	25 kg	Vessel stowage: Location:	A
Vessel stowage: Other:	56, 58		

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:

Potassium nitrite

Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class:	5.1	ICAO/IATA Subrisk:	None
UN/ID Number:	1488	Packing Group:	II
Special provisions:	None		

Shipping Name: POTASSIUM NITRITE

Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class:	5.1	IMDG Subrisk:	None
UN Number:	1488	Packing Group:	II
EMS Number:	F-A,S-Q	Special provisions:	None

Limited Quantities: 1 kg

Shipping Name: POTASSIUM NITRITE

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

potassium nitrite (CAS: 7758-09-0) 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)","US - New Jersey Right to Know Hazardous Substances","US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)","US Food Additive Database","US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory"

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Contact with air may produce sufficient heat to ignite combustible materials.*.
- May produce discomfort of the respiratory system and skin*.
- Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect*.

* (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.

- 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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