# Ammonium formate solution



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#### SYNONYMS

CH5NO2 "formic acid ammonium salt solution"

#### Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

#### **CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS**





#### EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

#### POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

#### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

#### SWALLOWED

Accidental ingestion of the material may be damaging to the health of the individual.

■ Large doses of ammonia or injected ammonium salts may produce diarrhoea and may be sufficiently absorbed to produce increased production of urine and systemic poisoning.

Symptoms include weakening of facial muscle, tremor, anxiety, reduced muscle and limb control.

■ Formate ion may directly act on the brain to produce convulsions.

Large quantities administered to animals produced retinal lesions.

EYE

RISK

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

SKIN

This material can cause inflammation of the skin oncontact in some persons.

Skin contact is not thought to have harmful health effects (as classified under EC Directives); the material may still produce health damage following entry through wounds, lesions or abrasions.

### INHALED

■ If inhaled, this material can irritate the throat andlungs of some persons.

■ Although inhalation is not thought to produce harmful effects (as classified under EC Directives), the material may still produce health damage, especially where pre-existing organ (e.g. liver, kidney) damage is evident. Present definitions of harmful or toxic substances are generally confined to doses producing mortality rather than those producing morbidity (disease, ill-health).

#### **CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS**

■ Principal routes of exposure are usually by skin contact/eye contact.

No human exposure data available. For this reason health effects described are based on experience with chemically related materials.

As with any chemical product, contact with unprotected bare skin; inhalation of vapour, mist or dust in work place atmosphere; or ingestion in any form, should be avoided by observing good occupational work practice.

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS					
NAME		CAS RN	%		
ammonium formate		540-69-2	~60		
water		7732-18-5	~40		

#### Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

#### SWALLOWED

- 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.

EYE

If this product comes in contact with the eyes

- Wash out immediately with fresh 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.
- Seek medical attention without delay; if pain persists or recurs seek medical attention.
- 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, aerosols or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Other measures are usually unnecessary.

# NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

■ Treat symptomatically.

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES				
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable			
Specific Gravity (water=1)	1.11-1.12			
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable			
Relative Vapour Density (air=1)	Not available			

#### **EXTINGUISHING MEDIA**

• There is no restriction on the type of extinguisher which may be used.

#### FIRE FIGHTING

- Alert Fire Brigade 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 courses.
- Use fire fighting procedures suitable for surrounding area.

# GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

- Non combustible.
- Not considered to be a significant fire risk, however containers may burn.
- In a fire may decompose on heating and produce toxic / corrosive fumes.

Decomposition may produce toxic fumes of ammonia and carbon monoxide (CO). **FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY** 

Avoid reaction with oxidising agents

Carbon monoxide is evolved from acid decomposition of formates.

# Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

#### MINOR SPILLS

- Clean up all spills immediately.
- Avoid breathing vapours and contact with skin and eyes.
- Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
- Contain and absorb spill with sand, earth, inert material or vermiculite.

#### **MAJOR SPILLS**

Minor hazard.

- Clear area of personnel.
- Alert Fire Brigade and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Control personal contact by using protective equipment as required.
- Prevent spillage from entering drains or water ways.

# Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

#### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- Limit all unnecessary personal contact.
- Wear protective clothing when risk of exposure occurs.
- Use in a well-ventilated area.
- When handling DO NOT eat, drink or smoke.

#### **RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS**

- Polyethylene or polypropylene container.
- Packing as recommended by manufacturer.
- Check all containers are clearly labelled and free from leaks.

#### 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.

# Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### EXPOSURE CONTROLS

Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m³	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m³	Peak ppm	Peak mg/m³	TWA F/CC	Notes
Canada - Ontario Occupational Exposure Limits	ammonium formate (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) Not Otherwise)		10 (I)						
Canada - British Columbia Occupational Exposure Limits	ammonium formate (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC))		10 (N)						
Canada - Ontario Occupational Exposure Limits	ammonium formate (Specified (PNOS) / Particules (insolubles ou peu solubles) non précisées par ailleurs)		3 (R)						
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	ammonium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)		5						
US - California Permissible Exposure Limits	ammonium formate (Particulates not		5						(n)

for Chemical Contaminants	otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)		
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z-1)	ammonium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR) (f) Total Dust)	10	Bold print identifies substances for which the Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) are different than the federal Limits. PNOR means "particles not otherwise regulated."
US - Michigan Exposure Limits for Air Contaminants	ammonium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated, Respirable dust)	5	
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z-1)	ammonium formate (Particulates not otherwise - regulated (PNOR) (f) Respirable Fraction)	5	Bold print identifies substances for which the Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) are different than the federal Limits. PNOR means "particles not otherwise regulated."
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	ammonium formate (Particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR)(f)- Respirable	5	

The following materials had no OELs on our records • water CAS7732-18-5

fraction)

# PERSONAL PROTECTION



# RESPIRATOR

• Particulate. (AS/NZS 1716 & 1715, EN 1432000 & 1492001, ANSI Z88 or national equivalent) EYE

- Safety glasses with side shields
- Chemical goggles.
- Contact lenses may pose a special hazard; soft contact lenses may absorb and concentrate irritants. A written policy document, describing the wearing of lens or restrictions on use, should be created for each workplace or task. This should include a review of lens absorption and adsorption for the class of chemicals in use and an

account of injury experience. Medical and first-aid personnel should be trained in their removal and suitable equipment should be readily available. In the event of chemical exposure, begin eye irrigation immediately and remove contact lens as soon as practicable. Lens should be removed at the first signs of eye redness or irritation - lens should be removed in a clean environment only after workers have washed hands thoroughly. [CDC NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin 59], [AS/NZS 1336 or national equivalent]

#### HANDS/FEET

None required when handling small quantities. Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC. Wear safety footwear.

# OTHER

None required when handling small quantities. OTHERWISE.

- Overalls.
- Evewash unit.

#### **ENGINEERING CONTROLS**

Engineering controls are used to remove a hazard or place a barrier between the worker and the hazard. Well-designed engineering controls can be highly effective in protecting workers and will typically be independent of worker interactions to provide this high level of protection.

The basic types of engineering controls are

Process controls which involve changing the way a job activity or process is done to reduce the risk.

Enclosure and/or isolation of emission source which keeps a selected hazard "physically" away from the worker and ventilation that strategically "adds" and "removes" air in the work environment.

Section	9 - PHYSICAL	AND CHEMICAL	PROPERTIES	

#### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Liquid. Mixes with water			
State	Liquid	Molecular Weight	63.06
Melting Range (°F)	Not available	Boiling Range (°F)	>212
Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible	Flash Point (°F)	Not applicable
pH (1% solution)	Not available	Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not available.
pH (as supplied)	~6.0 - 8.0	Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available.
Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	as water	Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable
Specific Gravity (water=1)	1.11-1.12	Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable
Relative Vapour Density (air=1)	Not available	Volatile Component (%vol)	Not available
Evaporation Rate	Not available		

#### APPEARANCE

Solution. Faint ammonia odor. Soluble in water.

Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

#### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

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

#### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

Avoid storage with oxidisers.

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

### Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### Alpha Ammonium Formate Solution

#### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

■ Not available. Refer to individual constituents.

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

■ 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.

■ No significant acute toxicological data identified in literature search.

#### Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No data

#### Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### **Disposal Instructions**

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

- Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.
- Consult State Land Waste Management Authority for disposal.
- Treat and neutralise at an effluent treatment plant.
- Recycle containers if possible, or dispose of in an authorised landfill.

# Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS: DOT, IATA, IMDG

#### Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

#### **Regulations for ingredients**

#### ammonium formate (CAS: 540-69-2) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) - High Production Volume List", "US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)", "US EPA High Production Volume Chemicals Additional List", "US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Chemical Substance Inventory"

#### water (CAS: 7732-18-5) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (English)","IMO IBC Code Chapter 18: List of products to which the Code does not apply","International Fragrance Association (IFRA) Survey: Transparency List","OSPAR National List of Candidates for Substitution – Norway","US - Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List","US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)","US FMA Air Freshener Fragrance Ingredient Survey Results","US NFPA 30B Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products - Chemical Heat of Combustion","US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Chemical Substance Inventory","US TSCA Section 8 (a) Inventory Update Rule (IUR) - Partial Exemptions"

#### No data for Alpha Ammonium Formate Solution (CW: 6000-21)

#### **Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION**

#### LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Ingestion may produce health damage\*.
- Cumulative effects may result following exposure\*.
- \* (limited evidence).

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■ Classification of the preparation 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.

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