

Material Safety Data Sheet

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No. 312
TRICHLOROETHYLENE
(Revision E)

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SECTION 1. MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION

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MATERIAL NAME: TRICHLOROETHYLENE

DESCRIPTION (Origin/Uses): Prepared from sym-tetrachloroethane by way of eliminating HCl by boiling with lime. Used to manufacture organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals; in degreasing and dry cleaning; and as a solvent for fats, waxes, rubbers, oils, paints, varnishes, ethers, and cellulose esters.

OTHER DESIGNATIONS: Ethylene Trichloride; TCE; Trichloroethene; 1,1,2-Trichloroethylene; C_2HCl_3 ; NIOSH RTECS #KX4550000; CAS #0079-01-6

MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER: Available from several suppliers, including:
Dow Chemical USA, 2020 Dow Center, Midland, MI 48640;
Telephone: (517) 636-1000; (800) 258-CHEM

COMMENTS: Trichloroethylene is a toxic solvent and a suspected occupational carcinogen.

HMIS

H 2

F 1

R 1

PPE*

R 1

I 3

S 1

K 0

* See sect. 8



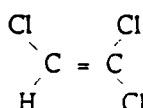
SECTION 2. INGREDIENTS AND HAZARDS

%

HAZARD DATA

Trichloroethylene, CAS #0079-01-6; NIOSH RTECS #KX4550000

100



- * The TLV-TWA is set to control subjective complaints such as headache, fatigue, and irritability.
- ** The TLV-STEL is set to prevent incoordination and other beginning anesthetic effects from TCE. These levels should provide a wide margin of safety in preventing liver injury.
- *** The OSHA PEL is 300 ppm for 5 minutes in any 2 hours.

* ACGIH Values 1987-88

TLV-TWA*: 50 ppm, 270 mg/m³

TLV-STEL*: 200 ppm, 1080 mg/m³

OSHA PEL 1986***

8-Hr TWA: 100 ppm

Ceiling: 200 ppm

NIOSH REL 1986

10-Hr TWA: 25 ppm

TOXICITY DATA

Human, Oral, LD₅₀: 7 g/kg

Human, Inhalation, TC_{Lo}: 6900 mg/m³

(10 Min)

Human, Inhalation, TC_{Lo}: 160 ppm/

83 Min

Human, Inhalation, TD_{Lo}: 812 mg/kg

SECTION 3. PHYSICAL DATA

Boiling Point ... 188.6°F (87°C)

Vapor Pressure ... 58 Torr at 68°F (20°C)

Water Solubility ... Insoluble

Vapor Density (Air = 1) ... 4.53

Evaporation Rate ... Not Listed

Specific Gravity ... 1.4649 at 68°F (20°C)

Melting Point ... -120.64°F (-84.8°C)

Molecular Weight ... 131.40 Grams/Mole

Appearance and odor: Colorless, nonflammable mobile liquid; sweetish odor like chloroform.

COMMENTS: TCE is highly soluble in lipids. A high vapor pressure at room temperature provides the potential for TCE vapors to contaminate use areas.

SECTION 4. FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

LOWER

UPPER

Flash Point and Method

Autoignition Temperature

Flammability Limits in Air

Not Listed

770°F (410°C)

% by Volume

8%

10.5%

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA: TCE has no flash point in a conventional closed tester at room temperature, but it is moderately flammable at higher temperatures. Use dry chemical, carbon dioxide, alcohol foam, or other extinguishing agents suitable for the surrounding fire.

OSHA Flammability Class (29 CFR 1910.106): Not Regulated

UNUSUAL FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARDS: During fire conditions TCE emits highly toxic and irritating fumes, including hydrochloric acid and phosgene. **SPECIAL FIRE-FIGHTING PROCEDURES:** Wear a self-contained breathing apparatus with a full facepiece operated in a pressure-demand or another positive-pressure mode. At TCE vapor levels of 300-1000 ppm, fire fighters who lack the proper respiratory equipment may experience incoordination and impaired judgment.

DOT Flammability Class (49 CFR 173.115): Not Regulated

SECTION 5. REACTIVITY DATA

Trichloroethylene is stable. Hazardous polymerization can occur under certain circumstances (see Conditions to Avoid and Comments, below).

CHEMICAL INCOMPATIBILITIES include magnesium or aluminum powder, NaOH, KOH, or other strong alkaline materials. Reactions with alkaline materials may lead to the formation of dangerous explosive mixtures of chloroacetylenes.

CONDITIONS TO AVOID: When TCE is heated (as in the case with vapor degreasers) or exposed to sunlight, it requires extra stabilization against oxidation, degradation, and polymerization. It is slowly decomposed by light when moist.

PRODUCTS OF HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION include hydrochloric acid and phosgene under certain conditions at elevated temperatures.

COMMENTS: TCE is stable under normal handling and storage conditions, and hazardous polymerization is not expected to occur. However, failure of the stabilizer at elevated temperatures or other extreme conditions may allow polymerization to take place.

SECTION 6. HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

Trichloroethylene is listed as a carcinogen by the NTP, IARC, and OSHA. NIOSH recommends that trichloroethylene be treated as an occupational carcinogen. IARC carcinogenic results are animal suspect, animal positive, and human indefinite. **SUMMARY OF RISKS:** Moderate exposures to TCE cause symptoms similar to those of alcohol inebriation. Higher concentrations cause narcotic effects. Ventricular fibrillation has been cited as the cause of death following heavy exposures. TCE-induced hepato cellular carcinomas have been detected in mice during tests conducted by the National Cancer Institute (*Chem & Eng News* 54 [April 5, 1976]:4). Organ systems affected by overexposure to TCE are the central nervous system (euphoria, analgesia, anesthesia), degeneration of the liver and kidneys, the lungs (tachypnea), heart (arrhythmia) and skin (irritation, vesication, and paralysis of fingers when immersed in liquid TCE). Contact with the liquid defats the skin, causing topical dermatitis. Certain people appear to experience synergistic effects from TCE exposure concomitant with exposure to caffeine, alcohol, and other drugs. When combined with alcohol intake, toxic effects are increased and may cause a red, blotchy facial and upper body rash commonly called "degreasers' flush." Other reported symptoms of TCE exposure include abnormal fatigue, headache, irritability, gastric disturbances, and intolerance to alcohol. Toxic effects from testing of TCE on humans include hallucination, distorted perception, somnolence (general depressed activity), and jaundice. **TARGET ORGANS:** Respiratory system, central nervous system, heart, liver, kidneys, and skin. **PRIMARY ENTRY:** Ingestion, inhalation, skin contact. **ACUTE EFFECTS:** Headache, vertigo, visual disturbance, tremors, nausea, vomiting, dermatitis, dizziness, drowsiness, and irritation to the eyes, nose, and throat. **CHRONIC EFFECTS:** None Reported. **MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY LONG-TERM EXPOSURE:** Diseases of the liver, kidneys, lungs, and central nervous system. **FIRST AID: EYE CONTACT:** Immediately flush eyes, including under the eyelids, gently but thoroughly with plenty of running water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical help.* **SKIN CONTACT:** Wash thoroughly with soap and water. Remove and launder contaminated clothing before wearing it again; clean material from shoes and equipment. Get medical help.* **INHALATION:** Remove victim to fresh air; restore and/or support his breathing as needed. Do not give adrenalin to the victim. Get medical help.* **INGESTION:** Call a poison control center. Never give anything by mouth to someone who is unconscious or convulsing. A professional decision regarding whether or not to induce vomiting is required. Do not give adrenalin to the victim. Get medical help.* ***GET MEDICAL ASSISTANCE = IN PLANT, PARAMEDIC, COMMUNITY.** Get prompt medical assistance for further treatment, observation, and support after first aid.

COMMENTS: Workers' responses to TCE vary significantly because of many factors, including age, health status, nutrition, and intake of alcohol, caffeine, and medicines. Do not use these substances before, during, or after exposure to TCE. If a worker displays any of the symptoms of exposure to TCE, thoroughly investigate all the possible contributing factors to determine, if possible, how much the work environment levels of TCE are responsible.

SECTION 7. SPILL, LEAK, AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

SPILL/LEAK: Inform safety personnel of any trichloroethylene spill or leak and evacuate the area for large spills. Cleanup personnel must use respiratory and liquid contact protection. Adequate ventilation must be provided. Confine the spilled TCE to as small an area as possible. Do not allow it to run off to sewers or open waterways. Pick up spilled TCE with a vacuum cleaner or an absorbent such as vermiculite.

DISPOSAL: Consider reclamation, recycling, or destruction rather than disposal in a landfill.

Trichloroethylene is designated as a hazardous substance by the EPA (40 CFR 116.4).

Trichloroethylene is reported in the 1983 EPA TSCA Inventory.

EPA Hazardous Waste Number (40 CFR 261.33): U228

EPA Reportable Quantity (40 CFR 117.3): 1000 lbs (454 kgs)

Aquatic Toxicity Rating, TLM 96: Not Listed

SECTION 8. SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION

GOGGLES: Always wear protective eyeglasses or chemical safety goggles. Follow the eye and face protection guidelines of 29 CFR 1910.133. **GLOVES:** Wear impervious gloves. **RESPIRATOR:** Use a NIOSH-approved respirator per the *NIOSH Guide to Chemical Hazards* (Genium ref. 88) for the maximum-use concentrations and/or the exposure limits cited in section 2. Follow the respirator guidelines in 29 CFR 1910.134. Any detectable concentration of TCE requires an SCBA, full facepiece, and pressure-demand/positive-pressure modes. **WARNING:** Air-purifying respirators will not protect workers from oxygen-deficient atmospheres. **OTHER EQUIPMENT:** Wear rubber boots, aprons, and other suitable body protection appropriate to the existing work environment. **VENTILATION:** Install and operate general and local exhaust ventilation systems of sufficient power to maintain airborne concentrations of TCE below the OSHA PEL standards cited in section 2. **SAFETY STATIONS:** Make eyewash stations, washing facilities, and safety showers available in areas of use and handling. Contact lenses pose a special hazard; soft lenses may absorb irritants, and all lenses concentrate them. **OTHER SPECIAL MODIFICATIONS IN THE WORKPLACE:** Because of the unresolved controversy about the carcinogenic status of TCE, all existing personal protective equipment and engineering technology should be used to prevent any possibility of worker contact with this material.

COMMENTS: Practice good personal hygiene. Keep material off of your clothes and equipment. Avoid transfer of material from hands to mouth while eating, drinking, or smoking. Adhere to the sanitation requirements of 29 CFR 1910.141 and 29 CFR 1910.142.

SECTION 9. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS AND COMMENTS

STORAGE SEGREGATION: Prevent TCE from coming into contact with strong caustics such as NaOH; KOH; chemically active metal like Ba, Li, Na, Mg, Ti; and powdered aluminum or magnesium in acidic solutions. **SPECIAL HANDLING/STORAGE:** Store this material in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area. Avoid elevated temperatures because products of toxic and corrosive decomposition from TCE may form. Monitor the level of any stabilizer component that may be added to the TCE. (Consult the technical data from the supplier to determine the specifics of any added stabilizer.) If applicable, follow the supplier's recommendation concerning proper rotation of stock, shelf-life requirements, and levels of stabilizers.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS IN THE WORKPLACE: Avoid collecting aluminum fines (very small particles) or chips in a TCE vapor degreaser. Monitor TCE stabilizer levels regularly. Only trained personnel should operate vapor degreasers.

TRANSPORTATION DATA (per 49 CFR 172.101-2):

DOT Hazard Class: ORM-A

DOT ID No. UN1710

IMO Class: 6.1

IMO Label: St. Andrew's Cross (X)*

DOT Shipping Name: Trichloroethylene

DOT Label: None

* Harmful - Stay away from foodstuffs (IMO Label, Materials of Class 6.1 Packaging Group III).

References: 1-9, 12, 14, 21, 73, 87-94. PI

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Approvals *JO PELLERCO*

Indust. Hygiene/Safety *DP 11-18-87*

Medical Review *M. L. HARRIS*