

December 19, 1959

To: Members of Medical Advisory Committee

Re: First Draft on Proposed Safety Data Sheet - BUTYRALDEHYDE

I would appreciate your comments on this draft prepared by Dr. Charles E. Lewis at our Texas plant. I have made some changes to fit our current ideas on form.

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WLS:mb
Enclosure

cc/Mr. F. Stephenson

10.2.2 Personal Hygiene

Skin and eye contact with butyraldehydes are to be avoided. The use of proper protective equipment should prevent contact with the skin. Eye protection should be worn at all times. See Section 5.2 - Personal Protective Equipment.

10.2.3 Physical Examination

No special medical examinations are required.

11. FIRST AID

11.1 Contact with Skin and Mucous Membranes

First aid should be started immediately in case of skin or eye contact with butyraldehydes. Areas contaminated with butyraldehydes should be washed for prolonged periods (15 to 20 minutes) with large amounts of water. Clothing contaminated with butyraldehyde should be removed and washed before re-use.

11.2 Contact with the Eyes

If liquid butyraldehydes have entered the eyes, they should be washed promptly with copious quantities of water for at least 15 minutes. The eye lids should be held apart during the irrigation to insure contact of water with all the surfaces. Medical attention should be obtained.

11.3 Inhalation

Exposed persons should be removed at once to an uncontaminated area. If breathing has stopped, artificial respiration should be instituted immediately. If oxygen inhalation apparatus is available, oxygen should be administered but only by a person authorized for such a duty by a physician. Do not attempt to give anything by mouth to an unconscious patient. Call a physician.

Chemical Safety Data Sheet - BUTYRALDEHYDES

10. MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

10.1 Health Hazards

10.1.1 General

n-Butyraldehyde and isobutyraldehyde are not serious industrial hazards if workers are adequately instructed in proper handling methods.

10.1.2 Acute Toxicity

Information concerning the systemic effects of butyraldehydes in man is lacking. No systemic injuries in industry have been noted. Animal experiments have shown that large doses of both butyraldehydes produce depression of the central nervous system and anesthesia, so that symptoms of acute intoxication in man such as drowsiness, incoordination and headache might be anticipated. The experiments also suggest that these systemic symptoms may develop from exposure to concentrations below those causing uncomfortable irritation of the eyes, nose and throat but this has not been confirmed in man.

Brief contact of the liquids with the eye will produce injury to the conjunctiva and cornea. Butyraldehydes are capable of causing skin irritation.

10.1.3 Chronic Toxicity

Prolonged and repeated contact with the skin may result in irritation and inflammation.

10.2 Preventive Health Measures

10.2.1 Environmental Control

See Section 4. Local or general ventilation should be provided as needed to keep air concentrations below those which produce irritation or other symptoms.