

POTASSIUM CYANIDE

0671
May 2003

CAS No: 151-50-8
RTECS No: TS8750000
UN No: 1680
EC No: 006-007-00-5

Hydrocyanic acid, potassium salt
KCN
Molecular mass: 65.1

TYPES OF HAZARD/ EXPOSURE	ACUTE HAZARDS/SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	FIRST AID/FIRE FIGHTING
FIRE	Not combustible but forms flammable gas on contact with water or damp air. Gives off irritating or toxic fumes (or gases) in a fire.		NO hydrous agents. NO water. NO carbon dioxide. In case of fire in the surroundings: foam, powder.
EXPLOSION			In case of fire: cool drums, etc., by spraying with water but avoid contact of the substance with water.

EXPOSURE		PREVENT DISPERSION OF DUST! STRICT HYGIENE!	IN ALL CASES CONSULT A DOCTOR!
Inhalation	Sore throat. Headache. Confusion. Weakness. Shortness of breath. Convulsions. Unconsciousness.	Local exhaust or breathing protection.	Fresh air, rest. No mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration. Administer oxygen by trained personnel. Refer for medical attention.
Skin	MAY BE ABSORBED! Redness. Pain. (Further see Inhalation).	Protective gloves. Protective clothing.	Remove contaminated clothes. Rinse skin with plenty of water or shower. Refer for medical attention.
Eyes	Redness. Pain. (Further see Inhalation).	Safety goggles, face shield or eye protection in combination with breathing protection.	First rinse with plenty of water for several minutes (remove contact lenses if easily possible), then take to a doctor.
Ingestion	Burning sensation. Nausea. Vomiting. Diarrhoea. (See Inhalation).	Do not eat, drink, or smoke during work. Wash hands before eating.	Induce vomiting (ONLY IN CONSCIOUS PERSONS!). Wear protective gloves when inducing vomiting. No mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration. Administer oxygen by trained personnel. Refer for medical attention.

SPILLAGE DISPOSAL	PACKAGING & LABELLING	
Evacuate danger area! Consult an expert! Personal protection: complete protective clothing including self-contained breathing apparatus. Ventilation. Sweep spilled substance into dry sealable and labelled containers. Cautiously neutralize remainder with sodium hypochlorite solution. Then wash away with plenty of water. Do NOT let this chemical enter the environment.	T+ Symbol N Symbol R: 26/27/28-32-50/53 S: (1/2-)7-28-29-45-60-61 Note: A UN Hazard Class: 6.1 UN Pack Group: I	Airtight. Unbreakable packaging; put breakable packaging into closed unbreakable container. Do not transport with food and feedstuffs. Marine pollutant.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE	SAFE STORAGE
Transport Emergency Card: TEC (R)-61S1680 NFPA Code: H3; F0; R0	Separated from strong oxidants, acids, food and feedstuffs, carbon dioxide, water, or products containing water. Dry. Well closed. Keep in a well-ventilated room. Store in an area without drain or sewer access.

IMPORTANT DATA

Physical State; Appearance

HYGROSCOPIC CRYSTALS OR SOLID IN VARIOUS FORMS, WITH CHARACTERISTIC ODOUR. ODOURLESS WHEN DRY.

Chemical dangers

The substance decomposes rapidly on contact with acids, and slowly on contact with water, moisture or carbon dioxide producing hydrogen cyanide (see ICSC 0492). The solution in water is a medium strong base.

Occupational exposure limits

TLV: as CN 5 mg/m³; (Ceiling value); (skin); (ACGIH 2005).
MAK: (Inhalable fraction) 2 mg/m³; skin absorption (H); Peak limitation category: II(1); Pregnancy risk group: C; (DFG 2004).

Routes of exposure

The substance can be absorbed into the body by inhalation, through the skin and by ingestion.

Inhalation risk

A harmful concentration of airborne particles can be reached quickly when dispersed.

Effects of short-term exposure

The substance is severely irritating to the eyes, the skin and the respiratory tract. The substance may cause effects on the cellular respiration, resulting in convulsions and unconsciousness. Exposure may result in death. Medical observation is indicated. See Notes.

Effects of long-term or repeated exposure

The substance may have effects on the thyroid.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Boiling point: 1625/C
Melting point: 634/C

Density: 1.52 g/cm³
Solubility in water, g/100 ml: 71.6

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

The substance is very toxic to aquatic organisms.

NOTES

The occupational exposure limit value should not be exceeded during any part of the working exposure. Specific treatment is necessary in case of poisoning with this substance; the appropriate means with instructions must be available. Depending on the degree of exposure, periodic medical examination is suggested.
Do NOT take working clothes home.
Never work alone in an area if hydrogen cyanide exposure is possible.
The cards has been partly updated in April 2005. See sections Environmental Data, Occupational Exposure Limits.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

LEGAL NOTICE

Neither the EC nor the IPCS nor any person acting on behalf of the EC or the IPCS is responsible