

BORON TRIOXIDE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

Version No:6

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Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME

BORON TRIOXIDE

OTHER NAMES

B₂O₃, "boric anhydride", "boron sesquioxide", "boron trioxide", "diboron trioxide", "anhydrous boric acid", "fused boric acid"

PRODUCT USE

In metallurgy; in analysis of silicon dioxide in silicates; in blow-pipe analysis; production of boron; heat-resistant glassware; fire-resistant additive for paints; encapsulation techniques; electronics; and herbicide.

SUPPLIER

Company: S D FINE - CHEM LIMITED

Address:

315- 317, T.V.IND.ESTATE,
248 WORLI ROAD,
MUMBAI- 400 030, INDIA

Telephone: 91- 22 24959898

Telephone: 91- 22 24959899

Fax: 91- 22 24937232

Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

HAZARD RATINGS



GHS Classification

Acute Toxicity (Oral) Category 5

Reproductive Toxicity Category 1B



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Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

HAZARD

DANGER

Determined by using GHS criteria:

H303

May be harmful if swallowed

H360

May damage fertility

H360

May damage the unborn child

PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Prevention

P201

Obtain special instructions before use.

P202

Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.

P281

Use personal protective equipment as required.

Response

P308+P313

IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/ attention.

P312

Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician if you feel unwell.

Storage

P405

Store locked up.

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
boron trioxide	1303-86-2	> 98
reacts exothermically with water to form boric acid	10043-35-3	
metaboric acid	13460-50-9	

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.
- Give water to rinse out mouth, then provide liquid slowly and as much as casualty can comfortably drink.
- Seek medical advice.

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 or hair contact occurs:
- Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).
- Seek medical attention in event of irritation.

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Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

INHALED

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

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- For acute or repeated short term exposures to boron and its compounds:
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and epigastric pain, haematemesis and blue-green discolouration of both faeces and vomitus characterise adult boron intoxication.
- Access and correct any abnormalities found in airway and circulation.
- A tidal volume of 10-15 mg/kg should be maintained.
- Emesis should be induced unless the patient is in coma, is experiencing seizures or has lost the gag reflex. If any of these are present, gastric lavage should be performed with a large-bore tube after endotracheal intubation or in the presence of continuous respiratory action.
- Activated charcoal is probably not of value though its use might be indicated following gastric evacuation. Catharsis might be useful to eliminate any borates remaining in the gastro-intestinal tract (magnesium sulfate: adults, 30 gms: children 250 mg/kg).
- Peritoneal dialysis and haemodialysis remove some borates. [Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology].

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- There is no restriction on the type of extinguisher which may be used.
- Use extinguishing media suitable for surrounding area.

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.
- 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.
- Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.

FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARD

- Non combustible.
 - Not considered a significant fire risk, however containers may burn.
- Decomposition may produce toxic fumes of: metal oxides.
May emit poisonous fumes.

FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- None known.

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:
Chemical goggles.

Respirator:
Particulate

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

MINOR SPILLS

- Remove all ignition sources.
- Clean up all spills immediately.
- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
- Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.

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Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

- Place in a suitable, labelled container for waste disposal.

MAJOR SPILLS

- Moderate hazard.
- CAUTION: Advise personnel in area.
- Alert Emergency Services and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Control personal contact by wearing protective clothing.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.
- Recover product wherever possible.
- IF DRY: Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust. Collect residues and place in sealed plastic bags or other containers for disposal. IF WET: Vacuum/shovel up and place in labelled containers for disposal.
- ALWAYS: Wash area down with large amounts of water and prevent runoff into drains.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise Emergency Services.

Personal Protective Equipment advice is contained in Section 8 of the MSDS.

Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- Avoid all personal contact, including inhalation.
- Wear protective clothing when risk of exposure occurs.
- Use in a well-ventilated area.
- Prevent concentration in hollows and sumps.
- DO NOT enter confined spaces until atmosphere has been checked.
- DO NOT allow material to contact humans, exposed food or food utensils.
- Avoid contact with incompatible materials.
- When handling, DO NOT eat, drink or smoke.
- Keep containers securely sealed when not in use.
- Avoid physical damage to containers.
- Always wash hands with soap and water after handling.
- Work clothes should be laundered separately. Launder contaminated clothing before re-use.
- Use good occupational work practice.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.
- Atmosphere should be regularly checked against established exposure standards to ensure safe working conditions are maintained.

SUITABLE CONTAINER

- Polyethylene or polypropylene container.
- Check all containers are clearly labelled and free from leaks.

STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Boron trioxide:
 - reacts slowly with water producing boric acid
 - reacts exothermically with strong bases, amines, amides, and inorganic hydroxides
 - may react with strong reducing agents, including metal hydrides, nitrides, sulfides, and alkali metals, and metal alkyls, releasing flammable or explosive gases
 - may ignite following contact with bromine pentafluoride, calcium oxide (quicklime) or calcium chloride (incandesces with calcium oxide in fused calcium chloride)
 - is corrosive to metals in presence of moisture.
 - Metals and their oxides or salts may react violently with chlorine trifluoride and bromine trifluoride.
 - These trifluorides are hypergolic oxidisers. They ignites on contact (without external source of heat or ignition) with recognised 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.

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Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Store in an upright position.
- Store in original containers.
- Keep containers securely sealed.
- Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area.
- Store away from incompatible materials and foodstuff containers.
- Protect containers against physical damage and check regularly for leaks.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.

SAFE STORAGE WITH OTHER CLASSIFIED CHEMICALS



+: May be stored together

O: May be stored together with specific preventions

X: Must not be stored together

Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

EXPOSURE CONTROLS

The following materials had no OELs on our records

- boron trioxide: CAS:1303- 86- 2
- boric acid: CAS:10043- 35- 3 CAS:11113- 50- 1 CAS:41685- 84- 1
- metaboric acid: CAS:13460- 50- 9

EMERGENCY EXPOSURE LIMITS

boron trioxide|15297 2, 000

MATERIAL DATA

BORIC ACID:

BORON TRIOXIDE:

METABORIC ACID:

- For inorganic borates and tetraborates:

No data are currently available to establish a causal link between inhalation exposures to sodium tetraborates and chronic respiratory and/or systemic effects.

An occupationally important toxic effect of the sodium tetraborates is their acute irritant effect when in contact with skin and the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and other sites of the respiratory tract. The irritant properties increase with decreasing water of hydration due to the exothermic effect of hydration. The TLV-TWA of 1 mg/m³ for the anhydrous and pentahydrate forms and 5 mg/m³ for the decahydrate is thought to be protective against the acute irritant effects.

BORIC ACID:

BORON TRIOXIDE:

METABORIC ACID:

- 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

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Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

apply.

BORON TRIOXIDE:

■ Exposure to boron trioxide, at or below the TLV-TWA, is thought to protect workers against the significant risk of upper respiratory tract and eye irritation.

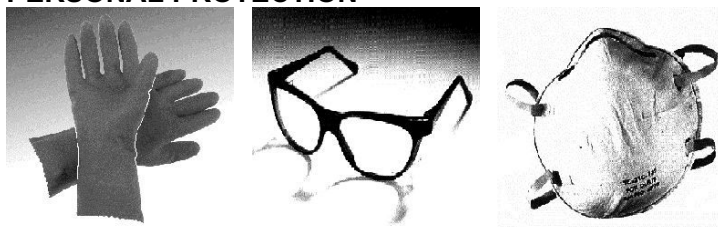
METABORIC ACID:

■ 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



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].

HANDS/FEET

■ 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).

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Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

- 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.
- Experience indicates that the following polymers are suitable as glove materials for protection against undissolved, dry solids, where abrasive particles are not present.

- polychloroprene
- nitrile rubber
- butyl rubber
- fluorocautchouc
- polyvinyl chloride

Gloves should be examined for wear and/ or degradation constantly.

OTHER

- Overalls.
- P.V.C. apron.
- Barrier cream.
- Skin cleansing cream.
- Eye wash unit.

RESPIRATOR

- 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 ES	P1 Air- line*	- -	PAPR- P1 -
50 x ES	Air- line**	P2	PAPR- P2
100 x ES	-	P3	-
		Air- line*	-
100+ x ES	-	Air- line**	PAPR- P3

* - Negative pressure demand

** - Continuous flow.

The local concentration of material, quantity and conditions of use determine the type of personal protective equipment required. For further information consult your Occupational Health and Safety Advisor.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- Local exhaust ventilation is required where solids are handled as powders or crystals; even when particulates are relatively large, a certain proportion will be powdered by mutual friction.
 - If in spite of local exhaust an adverse concentration of the substance in air could occur, respiratory protection should be considered.
- Such protection might consist of:

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Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

- (a): particle dust respirators, if necessary, combined with an absorption cartridge;
- (b): filter respirators with absorption cartridge or canister of the right type;
- (c): fresh-air hoods or masks.

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:

direct spray, spray painting in shallow booths, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)
grinding, abrasive blasting, tumbling, high speed wheel generated dusts (released at high initial velocity into zone of very high rapid air motion).

Air Speed:

1- 2.5 m/s (200- 500 f/min.)

2.5- 10 m/s (500- 2000 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range

- 1: Room air currents minimal or favourable to capture
- 2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only.
- 3: Intermittent, low production.
- 4: Large hood or large air mass in motion

Upper end of the range

- 1: Disturbing room air currents
- 2: Contaminants of high toxicity
- 3: High production, heavy use
- 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 4-10 m/s (800-2000 f/min) for extraction of crusher dusts generated 2 metres 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

APPEARANCE

White rhombic crystals or colourless, semi-transparent vitreous granules or flakes, or hygroscopic lumps or powder. Crystals are slightly soluble in cold water and soluble in hot water. Finely ground boron trioxide reacts vigorously with water to form metaboric and boric acids. Amorphous forms have water solubility of 0.11 g/l at 0 C., 0.277 g/l at 20 C. and 1.57 g/l at 100 C. Soluble in alcohol, glycerol and acids.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Does not mix with water.

Sinks in water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	69.92
Melting Range (°C)	450 (cryst.)	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°C)	approx. 1860	Solubility in water (g/L)	Partly miscible
Flash Point (°C)	Not applicable	pH (1% solution)	5.0 @ 25C

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Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Decomposition Temp (°C)	Not available	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°C)	Not available	Vapour Pressure (kPa)	Not applicable
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Specific Gravity (water=1)	1.84- 2.46(cryst)
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Relative Vapour Density (air=1)	Not applicable.
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not applicable	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY AND REACTIVITY INFORMATION

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

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

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

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

SWALLOWED

- Accidental ingestion of the material may be damaging to the health of the individual.
- Ingestion or percutaneous absorption of boric acid causes nausea, abdominal pain, diarrhoea and profuse vomiting which may be blood stained, also, headache, weakness, erythematous (abnormally red) lesions on the skin. In severe cases, it may cause shock.
- Borate poisoning causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and pain in the upper abdomen. Often persistent vomiting occurs, and there may be blood in the faeces. There may also be weakness, lethargy, headache, restlessness, tremors and convulsions. All borates cause similar effects; the lethal dose is over 30 grams. Poisoning initially stimulates the central nervous system before causing depression, as well as disturbing the digestive system, causing skin eruptions, and damage to the liver and kidneys. Borate is mostly eliminated from the body via the kidneys.

EYE

- Although the material is not thought to be an irritant (as classified by EC Directives), direct contact with the eye may cause transient discomfort characterised by tearing or conjunctival redness (as with windburn). Slight abrasive damage may also result. The material may produce foreign body irritation in certain individuals.
- Ocular instillation of boron trioxide produced immediate conjunctivitis.

SKIN

- The material is not thought to produce adverse health effects or skin irritation following contact (as classified by EC Directives using animal models). Nevertheless, good hygiene practice requires that exposure be kept to a minimum and that suitable gloves be used in an occupational setting.
 - Topical application of boron trioxide to the clipped backs of rabbits produced erythema which persisted for several days.
- Boron trioxide is drying to the skin causing erythema and contact with water on the skin can cause burns. Boron compounds can be absorbed through damaged skin or body cavity tissues.
- Boric acid is not absorbed via intact skin but is readily absorbed via unintact or infected skin.
 - Open cuts, abraded or irritated skin should not be exposed to this material.
 - Solution of material in moisture on the skin, or perspiration, may markedly increase skin corrosion and accelerate tissue destruction.
 - 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.

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Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

INHALED

■ The material is not thought to produce either adverse health effects or irritation of the respiratory tract following inhalation (as classified by EC Directives using animal models). Nevertheless, adverse systemic effects have been produced following exposure of animals by at least one other route and good hygiene practice requires that exposure be kept to a minimum and that suitable control measures be used in an occupational setting.

■ 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.

If prior damage to the circulatory or nervous systems has occurred or if kidney damage has been sustained, proper screenings should be conducted on individuals who may be exposed to further risk if handling and use of the material result in excessive exposures.

■ Borates, as represented by borax, may act as simple respiratory irritants. In a study of the respiratory effects of borax dust on active borax workers, the incidence of respiratory symptoms, pulmonary function and abnormalities of chest radiographs were related to estimated exposures. Dryness of the mouth, nose or throat, dry cough, nose bleeds, sore throat, productive cough, shortness of breath and chest tightness were related to exposures of 4 mg/m³ or more.

■ Reports of eye irritation, dryness of the mouth, or throat and sore throat and productive cough were common in workers exposed at average concentrations of 4.1 mg/m³ (range 1.2-8,5 mg/m³) boron trioxide or boric acid. These reports however did not identify whether symptoms occurred for just those days of exposure.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

■ Ample evidence exists from experimentation that reduced human fertility is directly caused by exposure to the material.

Ample evidence exists, from results in experimentation, that developmental disorders are directly caused by human exposure to the material.

Substance accumulation, in the human body, may occur and may cause some concern following repeated or long-term occupational exposure.

Prolonged absorption of boron trioxide leads to loss of weight, decrease in blood proteins, carbohydrate metabolism disorders, moderate changes of the liver and kidneys and vascular disorders.

Chronic boric acid poisoning is characterized by mild gastrointestinal irritation, loss of appetite, disturbed digestion, nausea, possibly vomiting and a hard blotchy rash. Dryness of skin, reddening of tongue, loss of hair, conjunctivitis, and kidney injury have also been reported.

[Occupational Diseases].

Borate can accumulate in the testes and deplete germ cells and cause withering of the testicles, according to animal testing. Hair loss, skin inflammation, stomach ulcer and anaemia can all occur. Repeated swallowing or inhalation irritates the stomach, causes a loss of appetite, disturbed digestion, nausea and vomiting, red rash, dry skin and mucous membranes, reddening of the tongue, cracking of the lips, inflamed conjunctiva, swelling of the eyelids and kidney injury. Animal testing revealed prolonged ingestion causes effects to the reproductive system in both males and females.

TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

METABORIC ACID:

BORON TRIOXIDE:

■ No significant acute toxicological data identified in literature search.

BORIC ACID:

BORON TRIOXIDE:

■ The material may cause skin irritation after prolonged or repeated exposure and may produce on contact skin redness, swelling, the production of vesicles, scaling and thickening of the skin.

BORON TRIOXIDE:

TOXICITY

Oral (Rat) LD50: 3150 mg/kg

IRRITATION

Skin (rabbit): 1000 mg: Mild

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Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Oral (Mouse) LD50: 3163 mg/kg erythema
Intraperitoneal (Mouse) LD50: 1868 mg/kg
Inhalation (Rat) LC: 150 mg/m³/2h conjunctivitis

Eye (rabbit): 50 mg:

[Genium]

Eye : Mild

BORIC ACID: TOXICITY

Oral (woman) LDLo: 200 mg/kg
Oral (rat) LD50: 2660 mg/kg
Inhalation (rat) LCLo: 28 mg/m³/4h
Dermal (man) LDLo: 2430 mg/kg

IRRITATION

Skin (human): 15 mg/3d - I- Mild

METABORIC ACID:

■ 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. Key criteria for the diagnosis of RADS include the absence of preceding respiratory disease, in a non-atopic individual, with abrupt onset of persistent asthma-like symptoms within minutes to hours of a documented exposure to the irritant. A reversible airflow pattern, on spirometry, with the presence of moderate to severe bronchial hyperreactivity on methacholine challenge testing and the lack of minimal lymphocytic inflammation, without eosinophilia, have also been included in the criteria for diagnosis of RADS. RADS (or asthma) following an irritating inhalation is an infrequent disorder with rates related to the concentration of and duration of exposure to the irritating substance. Industrial bronchitis, on the other hand, is a disorder that occurs as result of exposure due to high concentrations of irritating substance (often particulate in nature) and is completely reversible after exposure ceases. The disorder is characterised by dyspnea, cough and mucus production.

Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

METABORIC ACID: BORON TRIOXIDE:

■ 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.

BORIC ACID:

METABORIC ACID:

BORON TRIOXIDE:

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

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Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

■ For boron and borates:

Environmental fate:

Boron is generally found in nature bound to oxygen and is never found as the free element. Atmospheric boron may be in the form of particulate matter or aerosols as borides, boron trioxides, borates, boranes, organoboron compounds, trihalide boron compounds, or borazines. Borates are relatively soluble in water, and will probably be removed from the atmosphere by precipitation and dry deposition. The half-life of airborne particles is usually on the order of days, depending on the size of the particle and atmospheric conditions. Boron readily hydrolyses in water to form the electrically neutral, weak monobasic acid boric acid (H_3BO_3) and the monovalent ion, $\text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-$. In concentrated solutions, boron may polymerise, leading to the formation of complex and diverse molecular arrangements. Because most environmentally relevant boron minerals are highly soluble in water, it is unlikely that mineral equilibria will control the fate of boron in water. Boron was found to not be significantly removed during the conventional treatment of waste water. Boron may, however, be co-precipitated with aluminum, silicon, or iron to form hydroxyborate compounds on the surfaces of minerals.

Waterborne boron may be adsorbed by soils and sediments. Adsorption-desorption reactions are expected to be the only significant mechanism that will influence the fate of boron in water. The extent of boron adsorption depends on the pH of the water and the chemical composition of the soil. The greatest adsorption is generally observed at pH 7.5-9.0. The single most important property of soil that will influence the mobility of boron is the abundance of amorphous aluminum oxide. The extent of boron adsorption has also been attributed to the levels of iron oxide, and to a lesser extent, the organic matter present in the soil, although other studies found that the amount of organic matter present was not important. The adsorption of boron may not be reversible in some soils. The lack of reversibility may be the result of solid-phase formation on mineral surfaces and/or the slow release of boron by diffusion from the interior of clay minerals.

It is unlikely that boron is bioconcentrated significantly by organisms from water. A bioconcentration factor (BCF) relates the concentration of a chemical in the tissues of aquatic and terrestrial animals or plants to the concentration of the chemical in water or soil. The BCFs of boron in marine and freshwater plants, fish, and invertebrates were estimated to be <100 . Experimentally measured BCFs for fish have ranged from 52 to 198. These BCFs suggest that boron is not significantly bioconcentrated.

As an element, boron itself cannot be degraded in the environment; however, it may undergo various reactions that change the form of boron (e.g., precipitation, polymerization, and acid-base reactions) depending on conditions such as its concentration in water and pH. In nature, boron is generally found in its oxygenated form. In aqueous solution, boron is normally present as boric acid and borate ions, with the dominant form of inorganic boron in natural aqueous systems as undissociated boric acid. Boric acid acts as an electron acceptor in aqueous solution, accepting a hydroxide ion from water to form $\text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-$ ion. In dilute solution, the favored form of boron is $\text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-$. In more concentrated solutions (>0.1 M boric acid) and at neutral to alkaline pH (6–11), polymeric species are formed (e.g., $\text{B}_3\text{O}_3(\text{OH})_4^-$, $\text{B}_5\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_4^-$, $\text{B}_3\text{O}_3(\text{OH})_5^{2-}$, and $\text{B}_4\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4^{2-}$). Most boron compounds are transformed to borates in soil due to the presence of moisture. Borates themselves are not further degraded in soil. However, borates can exist in a variety of forms in soil. Borates are removed from soils by water leaching and by assimilation by plants.

The most appreciable boron exposure to the general population is likely to be ingestion of food and to a lesser extent in water. As boron is a natural component of the environment, individuals will have some exposure from foods and drinking water.

Boron-containing salts (borates) are ubiquitous in the environment. Surface soil, unpolluted waterways and seawater all typically contain significant amounts of boron as borate. Boron is an essential micronutrient for healthy growth of plants, however, it can be harmful to boron sensitive plants in higher quantities. In some areas such as the American Southwest, boron occurs naturally in surface waters in concentrations that have been shown to be toxic to commercially important plants.

Based on the collected information regarding aquatic toxicity, boron is not regarded as dangerous to aquatic organisms. The concentration in treated municipal waste water is a factor 100 lower than the NOEC-value for *Daphnia magna*.

No quality criteria exist for the concentration of boron in soil and compost. Boron is added to farmland when sewage sludge is applied as a soil improving agent, but there is not sufficient data to evaluate its effect on soil organisms. Being an essential micro-nutrient, no adverse effects of boron are expected at low concentrations.

Ecotoxicity:

In aquatic environments low concentrations of borates generally promote the growth of algae, whereas higher concentrations inhibited algal growth. In a growth inhibition test with *Scenedesmus subspicatus*, an EC_{50} value of 34 mg B/l was determined. Boric acid toxicity in *Daphnia* 48 h- LC_{50} (static test) was found to be 95 mg B/l. In a separate study it was concluded that chronic effects of boron to *Daphnia* may occur at a

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Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

concentration of > 10 mg/l.

The toxicity of boron in fish is often higher in soft water than in hard water. The acute toxicity of boron towards *Danio rerio* (96 h-LC50) has been determined to 14.2 mg B/l. In a fish early life stage test with rainbow trout NOEC levels of boron have been determined in the range between 0.009 and 0.103 mg B/l, whereas the EC50 ranged from 27 to 100 mg B/l dependent on the water hardness.

BORON TROXIDE:

BORIC ACID:

METABORIC ACID:

Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
boric acid	LOW		LOW	HIGH
metaboric acid	LOW		LOW	HIGH

Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Containers may still present a chemical hazard/ danger when empty.

- Return to supplier for reuse/ recycling if possible.

Otherwise:

- If container can not be cleaned sufficiently well to ensure that residuals do not remain or if the container cannot be used to store the same product, then puncture containers, to prevent re-use, and bury at an authorised landfill.

- Where possible retain label warnings and MSDS and observe all notices pertaining to the product.

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 or process equipment to enter drains.

- It may be necessary to collect all wash water for treatment before disposal.

- In all cases disposal to sewer may be subject to local laws and regulations and these should be considered first.

- Where in doubt contact the responsible authority.

- Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.

- Consult State Land Waste Management Authority for disposal.

- Bury residue in an authorised landfill.

- Recycle containers if possible, or dispose of in an authorised landfill.

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

HAZCHEM:

None

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

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Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

REGULATIONS

boron trioxide (CAS: 1303-86-2) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals"

Regulations for ingredients

boric acid (CAS: 10043-35-3,11113-50-1,41685-84-1) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"GESAMP/EHS Composite List - GESAMP Hazard Profiles", "OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals"

No data for metaboric acid (CAS: , 13460-50-9)

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

INGREDIENTS WITH MULTIPLE CAS NUMBERS

Ingredient Name	CAS
boric acid	10043- 35- 3, 11113- 50- 1, 41685- 84- 1

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH GUIDELINES

Ingredient	ORG	UF	Endpoint	CR	Adeq TLV
boric acid	1.5 mg/m3	100	R	NA	-

■ These exposure guidelines have been derived from a screening level of risk assessment and should not be construed as unequivocally safe limits. ORGS represent an 8-hour time-weighted average unless specified otherwise.

CR = Cancer Risk/10000; UF = Uncertainty factor:

TLV believed to be adequate to protect reproductive health:

LOD: Limit of detection

Toxic endpoints have also been identified as:

D = Developmental; R = Reproductive; TC = Transplacental carcinogen

Jankovic J., Drake F.: A Screening Method for Occupational Reproductive

American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal 57: 641-649 (1996).

MSDS SECTION CHANGES

The following table displays the version number of and date on which each section was last changed.

Section Name	Version	Date	Section Name	Version	Date	Section Name	Version	Date
Ingredients	4	25- Dec- 2007	Handling Procedure	4	25- Dec- 2007	Acute Health (eye)	6	16- Mar- 2010
First Aid (eye)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Storage (storage incompatibility)	6	16- Mar- 2010	Acute Health (inhaled)	6	16- Mar- 2010
First Aid (inhaled)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Storage (storage requirement)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Acute Health (skin)	6	16- Mar- 2010
First Aid (skin)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Storage (suitable container)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Acute Health (swallowed)	5	27- Aug- 2009
First Aid (swallowed)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Engineering Control	4	25- Dec- 2007	Chronic Health	6	16- Mar- 2010
Fire Fighter (extinguishing media)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Exposure Standard	6	16- Mar- 2010	Toxicity and Irritation (Irritation)	4	25- Dec- 2007
Fire Fighter (fire fighting)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Personal Protection (eye)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Toxicity and Irritation (Other)	6	16- Mar- 2010
Fire Fighter (fire incompatibility)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Personal Protection (hands/feet)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Toxicity and Irritation (Toxicity Figure)	4	25- Dec- 2007
Fire Fighter (fire/explosion hazard)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Personal Protection (other)	6	16- Mar- 2010	Environmental	5	27- Aug- 2009
Spills (major)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Physical Properties	4	25- Dec- 2007	Disposal	4	25- Dec- 2007

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Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

Spills (minor)	4	25- Dec- 2007	Instability Condition	4	25- Dec- 2007
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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 using available literature 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.

The above information is believed to be accurate and represent the best information currently available to us, but does not represent any warranty expressed or implied of the properties of the product. User should make their own investigation to determine the suitability of the information for their particular purpose.

Issue Date :- 12 Dec 2017