



Version No:4
Page 1 of 15

Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 2 of 15

Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Skin Sensitizer Category 1



EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

HAZARD

DANGER

Determined by using GHS criteria:

H335 H300 H300 H331 H315 H319 H317 H373 H400 H410

May cause respiratory irritation

Fatal if swallowed

Fatal if swallowed

Toxic if inhaled

Causes skin irritation

Causes serious eye irritation

May cause allergic skin reaction

May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.

Very toxic to aquatic life

Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects

PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Prevention

Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.

Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.

Wash thoroughly after handling.

Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.

Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.

Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.

Avoid release to the environment.

Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.

Response

IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.

IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.

IF INHALED: Remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.

IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.

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

Get medical advice/attention if you feel unwell.

Rinse mouth.

If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention.

If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.

Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

Collect spillage.

Storage

Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.

Store locked up.

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4
Page 3 of 15

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
sodium selenite	10102-18-8	>99

Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED

- IF SWALLOWED, REFER FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION, WHERE POSSIBLE, WITHOUT DELAY.
 - For advice, contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.
 - Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.
 - In the mean time, qualified first-aid personnel should treat the patient following observation and employing supportive measures as indicated by the patient's condition.
 - If the services of a medical officer or medical doctor are readily available, the patient should be placed in his/her care and a copy of the MSDS should be provided. Further action will be the responsibility of the medical specialist.
 - If medical attention is not available on the worksite or surroundings send the patient to a hospital together with a copy of the MSDS.
 - Where medical attention is not immediately available or where the patient is more than 15 minutes from a hospital or unless instructed otherwise:
 - INDUCE vomiting with fingers down the back of the throat, ONLY IF CONSCIOUS. Lean patient forward or place on left side (head-down position, if possible) to maintain open airway and prevent aspiration.
- NOTE: Wear a protective glove when inducing vomiting by mechanical means.

EYE

- If this product comes in contact with the eyes:
- Immediately hold eyelids apart and flush the eye continuously with 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.
- Continue flushing until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Centre or a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes.
- Transport to hospital or doctor without delay.
- 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 or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested.
- Prostheses such as false teeth, which may block airway, should be removed, where possible, prior to initiating first aid procedures.
- Apply artificial respiration if not breathing, preferably with a demand valve resuscitator, bag-valve mask device, or pocket mask as trained. Perform CPR if necessary.
- Transport to hospital, or doctor, without delay.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- Selenium dusts produce respiratory tract irritation, manifested by nasal discharge, loss of smell, epistaxis, and cough. Consumption of selenites and to a lesser degree, selenates causes nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and tremor which resolves in 24 hrs. Muscle tenderness, tremor, light-headedness and facial flushing are observed in selenite poisoning.
- Both the acid and elemental form are well absorbed through the lungs and gastro-intestinal tract. Elimination (mostly in the urine) results in a biological half-life of around 1.2 days.
- Chronic selenium poisoning resembles arsenic poisoning. Management of chronic intoxication is supportive

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 4 of 15

Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

with elimination of the selenium source. BAL and CaNa₂EDTA may enhance toxicity.

- High dose vitamin C (several grams daily) has produced equivocal results. This is probably reasonable as in-vitro results indicate selenium salts are then reduced to poorly absorbed elemental selenium.

Management of chronic selenium intoxication is supportive with elimination of the selenium source. BAL (dimercaprol, 2,3-dimercaptopropanol) and CaNa₂EDTA may enhance toxicity.

There are no antidotes to selenious acid toxicity; treatment is expectant (cardiopulmonary monitoring in an intensive care setting) and supportive (intravenous infusion, supplemental oxygen and ventilation as needed).

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- Jets of water.
- Water spray or fog.
- Foam.
- Dry chemical powder.
- BCF (where regulations permit).
- Carbon dioxide.

FIRE FIGHTING

- Alert Fire Brigade and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves.
- 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 Protective Equipment

Gas tight chemical resistant suit.

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

MINOR SPILLS

- Clean up waste regularly and abnormal spills immediately.
- Avoid breathing dust and contact with skin and eyes.
- Wear protective clothing, gloves, safety glasses and dust respirator.
- Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.
- Vacuum up or sweep up. NOTE: Vacuum cleaner must be fitted with an exhaust micro filter (HEPA type) (consider explosion-proof machines designed to be grounded during storage and use).
- Dampen with water to prevent dusting before sweeping.
- Place in suitable containers for disposal.

MAJOR SPILLS

- Clear area of personnel and move upwind.
- Alert Fire Brigade and tell them location and nature of hazard.

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SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

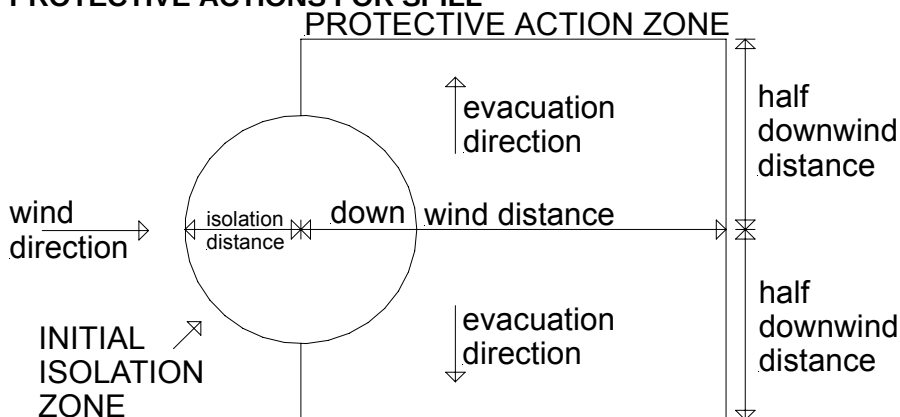
Version No:4

Page 5 of 15

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.
- No smoking, naked lights or ignition sources.
- Increase ventilation.
- Stop leak if safe to do so.
- Water spray or fog may be used to disperse / absorb vapour.
- Contain or absorb spill with sand, earth or vermiculite.
- Collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling.
- Collect solid residues and seal in labelled drums for disposal.
- Wash area and prevent runoff into drains.
- After clean up operations, decontaminate and launder all protective clothing and equipment before storing and re-using.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.

PROTECTIVE ACTIONS FOR SPILL



From IERG (Canada/Australia)

Isolation Distance	25 metres
Downwind Protection Distance	250 metres
IERG Number	34

FOOTNOTES

- 1 PROTECTIVE ACTION ZONE is defined as the area in which people are at risk of harmful exposure. This zone assumes that random changes in wind direction confines the vapour plume to an area within 30 degrees on either side of the predominant wind direction, resulting in a crosswind protective action distance equal to the downwind protective action distance.
- 2 PROTECTIVE ACTIONS should be initiated to the extent possible, beginning with those closest to the spill and working away from the site in the downwind direction. Within the protective action zone a level of vapour concentration may exist resulting in nearly all unprotected persons becoming incapacitated and unable to take protective action and/or incurring serious or irreversible health effects.
- 3 INITIAL ISOLATION ZONE is determined as an area, including upwind of the incident, within which a high probability of localised wind reversal may expose nearly all persons without appropriate protection to life-threatening concentrations of the material.
- 4 SMALL SPILLS involve a leaking package of 200 litres (55 US gallons) or less, such as a drum (jerrican or box with inner containers). Larger packages leaking less than 200 litres and compressed gas leaking from a small cylinder are also considered "small spills".
LARGE SPILLS involve many small leaking packages or a leaking package of greater than 200 litres, such as a cargo tank, portable tank or a "one-tonne" compressed gas cylinder.
- 5 Guide 151 is taken from the US DOT emergency response guide book.
- 6 IERG information is derived from CANUTEC - Transport Canada.

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

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4
Page 6 of 15

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

- Lined metal can, lined metal pail/ can.
- Plastic pail.
- Polyliner drum.
- Packing as recommended by manufacturer.
- Check all containers are clearly labelled and free from leaks.

For low viscosity materials

- Drums and jerricans must be of the non-removable head type.
- Where a can is to be used as an inner package, the can must have a screwed enclosure.

For materials with a viscosity of at least 2680 cSt. (23 deg. C) and solids (between 15 C deg. and 40 deg C.):

- Removable head packaging;
 - Cans with friction closures and
 - low pressure tubes and cartridges
- may be used.

-

Where combination packages are used, and the inner packages are of glass, there must be sufficient inert cushioning material in contact with inner and outer packages *.

-

In addition, where inner packagings are glass and contain liquids of packing group I and II there must be sufficient inert absorbent to absorb any spillage *.

-

* unless the outer packaging is a close fitting moulded plastic box and the substances are not incompatible with the plastic.

All inner and sole packagings for substances that have been assigned to Packaging Groups I or II on the basis of inhalation toxicity criteria, must be hermetically sealed.

STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- Contact with acids produces toxic fumes.
- 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.

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Store in original containers.
- Keep containers securely sealed.

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 7 of 15

Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

- 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

Source	Material	TWA mg/m ³
Australia Exposure Standards	sodium selenite (Selenium compounds (as Se) excluding hydrogen selenide)	0.1

EMERGENCY EXPOSURE LIMITS

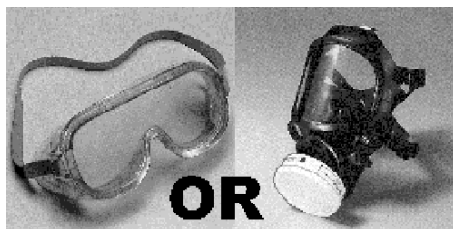
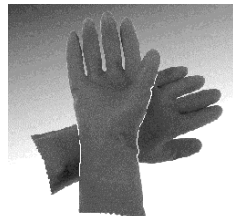
Material	Revised IDLH Value (mg/m ³)	Revised IDLH Value (ppm)
sodium selenite	1	

MATERIAL DATA

SODIUM SELENITE:

■ There is extensive evidence of selenium poisoning as a result of ingestion of seleniferous grains and other foodstuffs. There have however been no reports of disabling disease or death from industrial exposures. The recommended TLV-TWA is thought to provide protection against systemic toxicity and minimise the potential for ocular and upper respiratory tract irritation.

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

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 8 of 15

Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

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

- Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC.
- Wear safety footwear or safety gumboots, eg. Rubber.

NOTE:

- The material may produce skin sensitisation in predisposed individuals. Care must be taken, when removing gloves and other protective equipment, to avoid all possible skin contact.
- Contaminated leather items, such as shoes, belts and watch-bands should be removed and destroyed. 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).

- 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.

OTHER

- Overalls.
- Eyewash unit.
- Barrier cream.
- Skin cleansing cream.
- 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

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 9 of 15

Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Occupational Health and Safety Advisor.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS

■ Local exhaust ventilation usually required. If risk of overexposure exists, wear approved respirator. Correct fit is essential to obtain adequate protection. Supplied-air type respirator may be required in special circumstances. Correct fit is essential to ensure adequate protection. An approved self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) may be required in some situations. Provide adequate ventilation in warehouse or closed storage area. 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:	Air Speed:
solvent, vapours, degreasing etc., evaporating from tank (in still air).	0.25- 0.5 m/s (50- 100 f/min.)
aerosols, fumes from pouring operations, intermittent container filling, low speed conveyer transfers, welding, spray drift, plating acid fumes, pickling (released at low velocity into zone of active generation)	0.5- 1 m/s (100- 200 f/min.)
direct spray, spray painting in shallow booths, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)	1- 2.5 m/s (200- 500 f/min.)
grinding, abrasive blasting, tumbling, high speed wheel generated dusts (released at high initial velocity into zone of very high rapid air motion).	2.5- 10 m/s (500- 2000 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range	Upper end of the range
1: Room air currents minimal or favourable to capture	1: Disturbing room air currents
2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only.	2: Contaminants of high toxicity
3: Intermittent, low production.	3: High production, heavy use
4: Large hood or large air mass in motion	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 1-2 m/s (200-400 f/min) for extraction of solvents generated in a tank 2 meters 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, crystalline powder, soluble in water. Characteristic odour. Insoluble in alcohol.

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 10 of 15

Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

Contact with acids liberates toxic gas.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	172.94
Melting Range (°C)	Not available	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°C)	Not available	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°C)	Not applicable	pH (1% solution)	9- 11 (2%)
Decomposition Temp (°C)	Not Available	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°C)	Not applicable	Vapour Pressure (kPa)	Negligible
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Specific Gravity (water=1)	Not available
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not applicable	Relative Vapour Density (air=1)	Not applicable
Volatile Component (%vol)	Negligible	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

■ Severely toxic effects may result from the accidental ingestion of the material; animal experiments indicate that ingestion of less than 5 gram may be fatal or may produce serious damage to the health of the individual.

■ Acute effects of selenium poisoning include nervousness, convulsions, drowsiness, frontal headaches, and in extreme cases, death from respiratory depression. There may also be skin eruptions, tiredness, stomach upset, discolouration of teeth, an odorous garlic breath and loss of hair and nails. Selenium is rapidly absorbed in the gut and accumulates in the liver and kidneys. Selenates and selenites cause damage to the kidney, heart, spleen, stomach and bowel. Selenites might increase the rate of miscarriage.

EYE

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

SKIN

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

■ The material may accentuate any pre-existing dermatitis condition.

■ Skin contact with the material may damage the health of the individual; systemic effects may result following absorption.

■ Open cuts, abraded or irritated skin should not be exposed to this material.

■ 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.

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 11 of 15

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

INHALED

- Inhalation of dusts, generated by the material, during the course of normal handling, may produce toxic effects.
 - The material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.
 - 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.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- Substance accumulation, in the human body, is likely and may cause some concern following repeated or long-term occupational exposure.
- Long-term exposure to respiratory irritants may result in disease of the airways involving difficult breathing and related systemic problems.
- Skin contact with the material is more likely to cause a sensitisation reaction in some persons compared to the general population.
- Long term exposure to high dust concentrations may cause changes in lung function i.e. pneumoconiosis; caused by particles less than 0.5 micron penetrating and remaining in the lung. Prime symptom is breathlessness; lung shadows show on X-ray.
- Chronic exposure to selenium and its compounds irritate the bronchi, cause gastrointestinal problems, irritation of the nasopharynx and a persistent foul garlic breath. There is often a metallic taste, pallor, irritability, extreme tiredness after years of exposure. Occasionally kidney and liver damage can occur. Selenium can cause tooth decay.

TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY

Oral (rat) LD50: 7 mg/kg

- Contact allergies quickly manifest themselves as contact eczema, more rarely as urticaria or Quincke's oedema. The pathogenesis of contact eczema involves a cell-mediated (T lymphocytes) immune reaction of the delayed type. Other allergic skin reactions, e.g. contact urticaria, involve antibody-mediated immune reactions. The significance of the contact allergen is not simply determined by its sensitisation potential: the distribution of the substance and the opportunities for contact with it are equally important. A weakly sensitising substance which is widely distributed can be a more important allergen than one with stronger sensitising potential with which few individuals come into contact. From a clinical point of view, substances are noteworthy if they produce an allergic test reaction in more than 1% of the persons tested.
- 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.

IRRITATION

Nil Reported

CARCINOGEN

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 12 of 15

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Selenium and selenium compounds	International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Reviewed by the IARC Monographs	Group	3
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Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

SODIUM SELENITE:

- Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.
- Do NOT allow product to come in contact with surface waters or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when cleaning equipment or disposing of equipment wash-waters. Wastes resulting from use of the product must be disposed of on site or at approved waste sites.
- 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.

- Feeding of plants from seleniferous rocks has been the cause of toxic effects in livestock. Environmental redistribution of selenium due to man's activity is due to copper smelting; lead, zinc, phosphate, and uranium mining; manufacture of glass ceramics and pigments; and burning of fuels.

Early concerns about selenium toxicity have given way to recognition of certain beneficial properties.

Selenium is thought to possess some anti-carcinogenic activity and to protect against the toxicity of heavy metals such as cadmium, mercury and silver.

Sediment micro-organisms produce dimethyl selenide and dimethyl diselenide from both inorganic and organic sources and contribute to its biogeochemical cycling. Bacteria and cyanobacteria have two possible mechanisms for the uptake and transformation of selenate. The uptake mechanism involves the reduction of selenate to elemental selenium that will be physically held within the biological mat. The microorganisms are also found to cause the transformation of soluble selenium into volatile alkyl selenium compounds. Aquatic organisms can convert selenium to both inert and soluble forms. Duckweed, phytoplankton, bacteria, and fungi have been demonstrated to synthesise selenoamino acids from absorbed inorganic selenium compounds. These selenoamino acids are not likely to be found at significant dissolved concentrations in water, however, because amino acids are rapidly catabolised by bacteria. Benthic bacteria and fungi are capable of methylating elemental and inorganic selenium salts

Hydrogen selenide can be formed in a reducing environment. Both hydrogen selenide and the methylated forms of selenium are unstable in water and would be expected to rapidly volatilise to the atmosphere

The behavior of selenium in the environment is influenced to a large degree by its oxidation state and the consequent differences in the behavior of its different chemical compounds. The oxidation state of selenium in the environment is dependent on ambient conditions, particularly on pH, pE, and biological activity. The volatile selenium compounds that partition into the atmosphere include the inorganic compounds, selenium

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 13 of 15

Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

dioxide and hydrogen selenide, and the organic compounds, dimethyl selenide and dimethyl diselenide. Hydrogen selenide is highly reactive in air and is rapidly oxidised to elemental selenium and water, but the other compounds can persist in air. Selenium compounds released to the atmosphere can be removed by dry or wet deposition to soils or to surface water. The forms of selenium expected to be found in surface water and the water contained in soils are the salts of selenic and selenious acids. Selenic acid (H_2SeO_4) is a strong acid. The soluble selenate salts of this acid are expected to occur in alkaline waters. Sodium selenate is one of the most mobile selenium compounds in the environment because of its high solubility and inability to adsorb onto soil particles. Selenious acid (H_2SeO_3) is a weak acid, and the diselenite ion predominates in waters between pH 3.5 and 9. Most selenites are less soluble in water than the corresponding selenates.

Selenium in an aquatic environment is bioaccumulated by aquatic organisms; bioconcentration factors of 150-1,850 and bioaccumulation factors (BAFs) of 1,746-1,975 have been reported for selenium in freshwater. The degree of bioaccumulation of selenium exhibited a stable pattern over several years, with selenium concentrations (wet weight) as follows: fish (6-35 mg/kg) > benthic insects (12-15 mg/kg) > annelids (10-12 mg/kg) > molluscs and crustaceans (5-9 mg/kg) > periphyton (4-6 mg/kg). In fish, selenium was concentrated in visceral tissue (25-35 mg/kg wet weight) more than in skeletal muscle (6-11 mg/kg wet weight). The BCFs and BAFs for selenium in visceral tissue (i.e., heart, hepatopancreas, spleen, and gonads) of fish have been estimated to range from 35 to 1,850 and from 1,058 to 3,980, respectively. Selenite was more concentrated than selenate for algae and daphnids, whereas bluegills concentrated both inorganic species about equally. Selenium accumulation from selenomethionine occurred more readily than from selenite or selenate. Some evidence indicates that selenium might biomagnify in aquatic organisms under natural conditions.

Biomagnification is evidenced by progressively higher concentrations of an element or substance in organisms at successively higher trophic levels. More than 50% of the selenium contained in sediments in ponds and reservoirs appears to occur in organic forms, resulting from the synthesis and bioaccumulation of organic selenium before the plants die and decay on the bottom.

In soils, pH and Eh are determining factors in the transport and partitioning of selenium. Elemental selenium is essentially insoluble and may represent a major inert "sink" for selenium introduced into the environment under anaerobic conditions. Heavy metal selenides and selenium sulfides, which are also insoluble, predominate in acidic (low pH) soils and in soils with high amounts of organic matter. Selenium in this form is immobile and will remain in the soil. The selenides of other metals such as copper and cadmium are of low solubility. Sodium and potassium selenites dominate in neutral, well-drained mineral soils, where some soluble metal selenites may be found as well. In alkaline (pH > 7.5), well-oxidized soil environments, selenates are the major selenium species. Because of their high solubility and low tendency to adsorb onto soil particles, the selenates are very mobile and are readily taken up by biological systems or leached through the soil. The reported K_d values (distribution coefficient = [concentration of selenium sorbed on soil or rock]/[concentration of selenium in solution]) are 14.9 mL/g for sandy loam and 5.91 mL/g for sludge treated sandy soils. Selenite forms stable ferric oxide-selenite adsorption complexes in acid or neutral soils.

When environments favor the soluble forms of selenium (alkaline and oxidizing conditions), these forms can be accumulated by plants. In addition, although both selenite (Se^{4+}) and selenate (Se^{6+}) are soluble forms of selenium, selenate was found to be the preferred form of selenium taken up by plants. Preferential uptake of selenate may be caused by its tendency to be less strongly adsorbed to soil particles and organic matter than selenite. Selenium uptake by plants is influenced by many factors including soil type, pH, colloidal content, concentration of organic material, oxidation-reduction potentials in the root-soil environment, and total level of selenium in the soil. In acidic soils (pH 4.5-6.5) and under high moisture conditions, selenium is in the form of selenite and is bound to colloids as iron hydroxide selenium complexes. These complexes are insoluble and generally not bioavailable to plants. In basic soils (pH 7.5-8.5), selenium is present as soluble selenate. The use of lime and plant ash as fertilizers, which would raise the pH of the soil and favor the formation of selenate, has been implicated as a contributing factor in the accumulation of selenium in crops grown in high selenium soil found in certain regions of China.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

Fish LC50 (96 h): 13-200 mg/L

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4
Page 14 of 15

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



Labels Required: TOXIC

HAZCHEM:

☐ 2X

Land Transport UNDG:

Class or division: 6.1
UN No.: 2630
Shipping Name: SELENATES or SELENITES

Subsidiary risk: None
UN packing group: I

Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class: 6.1
UN/ID Number: 2630
Special provisions: None
Shipping Name: SELENATES

ICAO/IATA Subrisk: None
Packing Group: I

Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class: 6.1

IMDG Subrisk: None

continued...

SODIUM SELENITE

GHS Safety Data Sheet

NC636TCP

Version No:4

Page 15 of 15

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

UN Number:	2630	Packing Group:	I
EMS Number:	F- A, S- A	Special provisions:	None
Limited Quantities:	None		
Shipping Name: SELENATES or SELENITES			

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

REGULATIONS

sodium selenite (CAS: 10102-18-8) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Australia Hazardous Substances","Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)","Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Substances that may be used as active ingredients in Listed medicines"

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

■ Classification of the preparation and its individual components has drawn on official and authoritative sources as well as independent review by the 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.

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