

# Silver nitrate

sc-203378



The Power is Question

## Material Safety Data Sheet

Hazard Alert Code  
Key:

EXTREME

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### PRODUCT NAME

Silver nitrate

### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

CONSIDERED A HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACCORDING TO OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200.

### NFPA



### SUPPLIER

Company: Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.

Address:

2145 Delaware Ave

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Telephone: 800.457.3801 or 831.457.3800

Emergency Tel: CHEMWATCH: From within the US and

Canada: 877-715-9305

Emergency Tel: From outside the US and Canada: +800 2436

2255 (1-800-CHEMCALL) or call +613 9573 3112

### PRODUCT USE

In photography; manufacture of mirrors; silver plating; sympathetic and indelible inks; dyeing hair; colouring porcelain. Extensively used in analytical chemistry. In medicine, sterile 0.2-0.6% solutions are used for eye drops.

### SYNONYMS

N-O3-Ag, N-O3-Ag, AgNO<sub>3</sub>, "silver (I) nitrate", "silver (I) nitrate", "lunar caustic", "nitric acid, silver (1+) salt", "Argenti Nitras", "Nitrato de Plata"

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



### EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

#### RISK

Toxic if swallowed.

Causes burns.

Risk of serious damage to eyes.

Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.

### POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

#### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

#### SWALLOWED

- Toxic effects may result from the accidental ingestion of the material; animal experiments indicate that ingestion of less than 40 gram may be fatal or may produce serious damage to the health of the individual.
  - The material can produce chemical burns within the oral cavity and gastrointestinal tract following ingestion.
  - The substance and/or its metabolites may bind to hemoglobin inhibiting normal uptake of oxygen. This condition, known as "methemoglobinemia", is a form of oxygen starvation (anoxia). Symptoms include cyanosis (a bluish discoloration skin and mucous membranes) and breathing difficulties. Symptoms may not be evident until several hours after exposure.
- At about 15% concentration of blood methemoglobin there is observable cyanosis of the lips, nose and earlobes. Symptoms may be absent although euphoria, flushed face and headache are commonly experienced. At 25-40%, cyanosis is marked but little disability occurs other than that produced on physical exertion. At 40-60%, symptoms include weakness, dizziness, lightheadedness, increasingly severe headache, ataxia, rapid shallow respiration, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, confusion, lethargy and stupor. Above 60% symptoms include dyspnea, respiratory depression, tachycardia or bradycardia, and convulsions. Levels exceeding 70% may be fatal.

#### EYE

- The material can produce chemical burns to the eye following direct contact. Vapors or mists may be extremely irritating.
- If applied to the eyes, this material causes severe eye damage.

#### SKIN

- The material can produce chemical burns following direct contact with the skin.
- Skin contact is not thought to produce harmful health effects (as classified using animal models). Systemic harm, however, has been identified following exposure of animals by at least one other route and the material may still produce health damage following entry through wounds, lesions or abrasions. Good hygiene practice requires that exposure be kept to a minimum and that suitable gloves be used in an occupational setting.
- 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.

#### INHALED

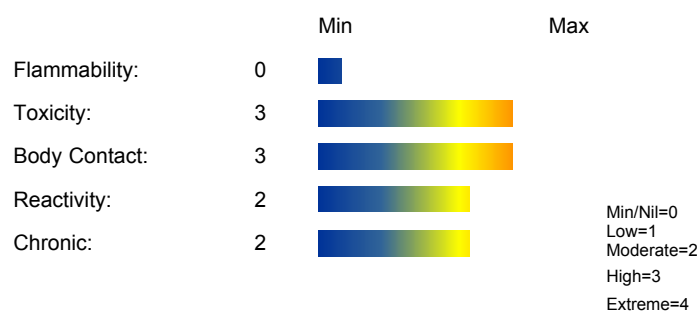
- If inhaled, this material can irritate the throat and lungs of some persons.
- The material is not thought to produce adverse health effects following inhalation (as classified using animal models). Nevertheless, adverse effects have been produced following exposure of animals by at least one other 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.
- Not normally a hazard due to non-volatile nature of product.

#### CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- Repeated or prolonged exposure to corrosives may result in the erosion of teeth, inflammatory and ulcerative changes in the mouth and necrosis (rarely) of the jaw. Bronchial irritation, with cough, and frequent attacks of bronchial pneumonia may ensue. Gastrointestinal disturbances may also occur. Chronic exposures may result in dermatitis and/or conjunctivitis. Limited evidence suggests that repeated or long-term occupational exposure may produce cumulative health effects involving organs or biochemical systems.
- 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 silver salts may cause a permanent ashen gray discoloration to the skin, conjunctiva and internal organs. A mild chronic bronchitis can occur.
- Chronic dust deposits in lungs may resemble a form of pneumoconiosis, although it carries no form of fibrosis.

### Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

#### HAZARD RATINGS



NAME	CAS RN	%
silver nitrate	7761-88-8	> 99

### Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

#### SWALLOWED

- For advice, contact a Poisons Information Center or a doctor at once.
- Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.
- 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.
- Transport to hospital or doctor without delay.

## 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 Center 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 or hair contact occurs:
  - Immediately flush body and clothes with large amounts of water, using safety shower if available.
  - Quickly remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear.
  - Wash skin and hair with running water. Continue flushing with water until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Center.
  - Transport to hospital, or doctor.

## 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.

## NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- The toxicity of nitrates and nitrites result from their vasodilating properties and their propensity to form methemoglobin.
  - Most produce a peak effect within 30 minutes.
  - Clinical signs of cyanosis appear before other symptoms because of the dark pigmentation of methemoglobin.
  - Initial attention should be directed towards improving oxygen delivery, with assisted ventilation, if necessary. Hyperbaric oxygen has not demonstrated conclusive benefits.
  - Institute cardiac monitoring, especially in patients with coronary artery or pulmonary disease.
  - Hypotension should respond to Trendelenburg's position and intravenous fluids; otherwise dopamine may be needed.
  - Naloxone, glucose and thiamine should be given if a multiple ingestion is suspected.
  - Decontaminate using Ipecac Syrup for alert patients or lavage for obtunded patients who present within 2-4 hours of ingestion.
  - Symptomatic patients with methemoglobin levels over 30% should receive methylene blue. (Cyanosis alone, is not an indication for treatment). The usual dose is 1-2 mg/kg of a 1% solution (10 mg/ml) IV over 5 minutes; repeat, using the same dose if symptoms of hypoxia fail to subside within 1 hour.

[Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology]BIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE INDEX - BEI

These represent the determinants observed in specimens collected from a healthy worker who has been exposed at the Exposure Standard (ES or TLV):

Determinant	Index	Sampling Time	Comments
1. Methemoglobin in blood	1.5% of hemoglobin	During or end of shift	B,NS,SQ

B: Background levels occur in specimens collected from subjects NOT exposed

NS: Non-specific determinant;also observed after exposure to other materials

SQ: Semi-quantitative determinant - Interpretation may be ambiguous; should be used as a screening test or confirmatory test.

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapour Pressure (mmHG):	Negligible.
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not Applicable
Specific Gravity (water=1):	4.35 @ 19 C.
Lower Explosive Limit (%):	Not Applicable

## EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- FOR SMALL FIRE:
  - USE FLOODING QUANTITIES OF WATER.
  - DO NOT use dry chemicals, CO2 or foam.

FOR LARGE FIRE:

- Flood fire area with water from a protected position.

## FIRE FIGHTING

- - Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
  - Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.
  - Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water course.
  - Fight fire from a safe distance, with adequate cover.
  - Extinguishers should be used only by trained personnel.
  - Use water delivered as a fine spray to control fire and cool adjacent area.
  - Avoid spraying water onto liquid pools.
  - 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. If fire gets out of control withdraw personnel and warn against entry.
  - Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after used.

- Use water delivered as a fine spray to control fire and cool adjacent 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.

#### **GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS**

- 
- Will not burn but increases intensity of fire.
- Heating may cause expansion or decomposition leading to violent rupture of containers.
- Heat affected containers remain hazardous.
- Contact with combustibles such as wood, paper, oil or finely divided metal may cause ignition, combustion or violent decomposition.
- May emit irritating, poisonous or corrosive fumes.

Decomposition may produce toxic fumes of: nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), metal oxides.

#### **FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY**

- Avoid storage with reducing agents.
- Avoid any contamination of this material as it is very reactive and any contamination is potentially hazardous

#### **PERSONAL PROTECTION**

Glasses:

Chemical goggles.

Full face- shield.

Gloves:

Respirator:

Particulate

## **Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

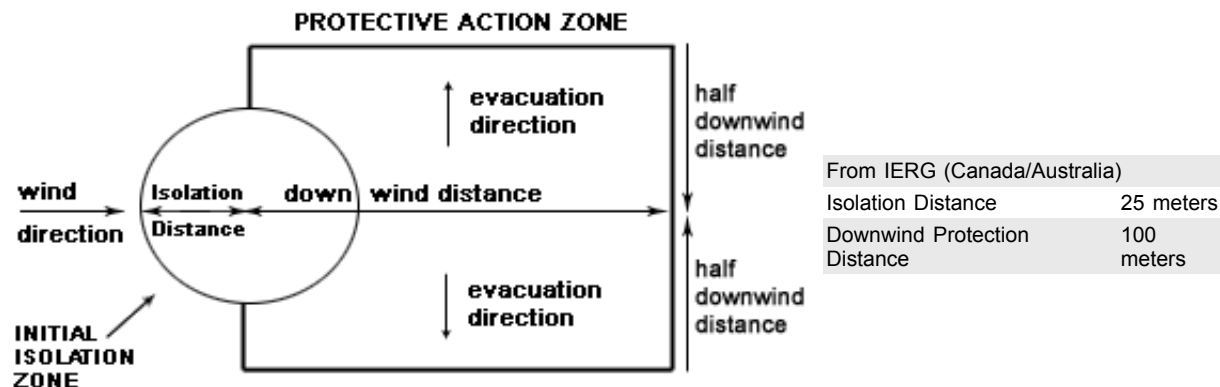
#### **MINOR SPILLS**

- 
- Clean up all spills immediately.
- No smoking, naked lights, ignition sources.
- Avoid all contact with any organic matter including fuel, solvents, sawdust, paper or cloth and other incompatible materials; as ignition may result.
- Avoid breathing dust or vapors and all contact with skin and eyes.
- Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
- Contain and absorb spill with dry sand, earth, inert material or vermiculite
- DO NOT use sawdust as fire may result.
- Scoop up solid residues and seal in labeled drums for disposal.
- Neutralize/decontaminate area.

#### **MAJOR SPILLS**

- 
- Clear area of personnel and move upwind.
- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- May be violently or explosively reactive.
- Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water course.
- Consider evacuation.
- No smoking, flames or ignition sources.
- Increase ventilation.
- Contain spill with sand, earth or other clean, inert materials.
- NEVER use organic absorbents such as sawdust, paper, cloth; as fire may result.
- Avoid any contamination by organic matter.
- Use spark-free and explosion-proof equipment.
- Collect any recoverable product into labeled containers for possible recycling.
- DO NOT mix fresh with recovered material.
- Collect residues and seal in labeled drums for disposal.
- Wash area and prevent runoff into drains.
- Decontaminate equipment and launder all protective clothing before storage and re-use.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs advise emergency services.

#### **PROTECTIVE ACTIONS FOR SPILL**



## 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 140 is taken from the US DOT emergency response guide book.

6 IERG information is derived from CANUTEC - Transport Canada.

## ACUTE EXPOSURE GUIDELINE LEVELS (AEGL) (in ppm)

AEGL 1: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic nonsensory effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessation of exposure.

AEGL 2: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects or an impaired ability to escape.

AEGL 3: The airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience life-threatening health effects or death.

## Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- 
- Avoid personal contact and inhalation of dust, mist or vapors.
- Provide adequate ventilation.
- Always wear protective equipment and wash off any spillage from clothing.
- Keep material away from light, heat, flammables or combustibles.
- Keep cool, dry and away from incompatible materials.
- Avoid physical damage to containers.
- DO NOT repack or return unused portions to original containers.
- Withdraw only sufficient amounts for immediate use.
- Contamination can lead to decomposition leading to possible intense heat and fire.
- When handling NEVER smoke, eat or drink.
- Always wash hands with soap and water after handling.
- Use only good occupational work practice.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling directions.

### RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

- 
- DO NOT repack. Use containers supplied by manufacturer only.

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:

- Removable head packaging and
- cans with friction closures 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 molded plastic box and the substances are not incompatible with the plastic.

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- In addition, Goods of Class 5.1, packing group II should be:
  - stored in piles so that



US - Washington Permissible Exposure Limits of air contaminants	dust and soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01	0.03	
Canada - Prince Edward Island Occupational Exposure Limits	silver nitrate (Silver - Soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01		TLV Basis: argyria
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	silver nitrate (Silver, metal and soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01		
Canada - Nova Scotia Occupational Exposure Limits	silver nitrate (Silver - Soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01		TLV Basis: argyria
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z1)	silver nitrate (Silver, metal and soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01		
Canada - Northwest Territories Occupational Exposure Limits (English)	silver nitrate (Silver, soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01	0.03	
Canada - Alberta Occupational Exposure Limits	silver nitrate (Silver - Soluble compounds, as Ag)	0.01		
Canada - Quebec Permissible Exposure Values for Airborne Contaminants (English)	silver nitrate (Silver: Soluble compounds (as Ag))	0.01		

#### EMERGENCY EXPOSURE LIMITS

Material	Revised IDLH Value (mg/m3)	Revised IDLH Value (ppm)
silver nitrate	10	

#### MATERIAL DATA

##### SILVER NITRATE:

■ The adopted TLV-TWA for silver dust and fumes is 0.1 mg/m3 and for the more toxic soluble silver compounds the adopted value is 0.01 mg/m3. Cases of argyria (a slate to blue-gray discoloration of epithelial tissues) have been recorded when workers were exposed to silver nitrate at concentrations of 0.1 mg/m3 (as silver). Exposure to very high concentrations of silver fume has caused diffuse pulmonary fibrosis. Percutaneous absorption of silver compounds is reported to have resulted in allergy. Based on a 25% retention upon inhalation and a 10 m3/day respiratory volume, exposure to 0.1 mg/m3 (TWA) would result in total deposition of no more than 1.5g in 25 years.

#### PERSONAL PROTECTION



Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

#### EYE

- Chemical goggles.
- Full face shield.
- Contact lenses pose a special hazard; soft lenses may absorb irritants and all lenses concentrate them.

#### HANDS/FEET

■ Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC.

Wear safety footwear or safety gumboots, eg. Rubber.

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.

- DO NOT wear cotton or cotton-backed gloves.
- DO NOT wear leather gloves.
- Promptly hose all spills off leather shoes or boots or ensure that such footwear is protected with PVC over-shoes.

#### OTHER

- Overalls.
- PVC Apron.
- PVC protective suit may be required if exposure severe.

- Eyewash unit.
- Ensure there is ready access to a safety shower.
- Some plastic personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g. gloves, aprons, overshoes) are not recommended as they may produce static electricity.
- For large scale or continuous use wear tight-weave non-static clothing (no metallic fasteners, cuffs or pockets), non sparking safety footwear.
- 
- 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 PEL	P1 Air-line*	- -	PAPR-P1 -
50 x PEL	Air-line**	P2	PAPR-P2
100 x PEL	-	P3 Air-line*	-
100+ x PEL	-	Air-line**	PAPR-P3

\* - Negative pressure demand \*\* - Continuous flow

Explanation of Respirator Codes:

Class 1 low to medium absorption capacity filters.

Class 2 medium absorption capacity filters.

Class 3 high absorption capacity filters.

PAPR Powered Air Purifying Respirator (positive pressure) cartridge.

Type A for use against certain organic gases and vapors.

Type AX for use against low boiling point organic compounds (less than 65°C).

Type B for use against certain inorganic gases and other acid gases and vapors.

Type E for use against sulfur dioxide and other acid gases and vapors.

Type K for use against ammonia and organic ammonia derivatives

Class P1 intended for use against mechanically generated particulates of sizes most commonly encountered in industry, e.g. asbestos, silica.

Class P2 intended for use against both mechanically and thermally generated particulates, e.g. metal fume.

Class P3 intended for use against all particulates containing highly toxic materials, e.g. beryllium.

The local concentration of material, quantity and conditions of use determine the type of personal protective equipment required.

Use appropriate NIOSH-certified respirator based on informed professional judgement. In conditions where no reasonable estimate of exposure can be made, assume the exposure is in a concentration IDLH and use NIOSH-certified full face pressure demand SCBA with a minimum service life of 30 minutes, or a combination full facepiece pressure demand SAR with auxiliary self-contained air supply. Respirators provided only for escape from IDLH atmospheres shall be NIOSH-certified for escape from the atmosphere in which they will be used.

## 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:

(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:	Air Speed:
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 favorable 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 4-10 m/s (800-2000 f/min) for extraction of crusher dusts generated 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

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	169.8
Melting Range (°F)	413.6	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	831.2 (decomposes)	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not Applicable	pH (1% solution)	6
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Applicable	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available.	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Negligible.
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not Applicable	Specific Gravity (water=1)	4.35 @ 19 C.
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not Applicable	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not applicable
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not applicable	Evaporation Rate	Non Volatile

### APPEARANCE

Colourless transparent crystals or a white powder; slight nitric acid odour; mixes with water and ammonia solution. Hygroscopic. Protect from light; turns grey / black on exposure to light. Traces of organic matter promote this photoreduction. Not photosensitive when pure. Available as photographic, technical and BP grades. When tested to UNDG 34.4.2 Test 0.2 Test for oxidising liquids, a (54% w/w) saturated aqueous solution is not a Class 5.1 oxidiser. UN Code 34.4.2.5

## Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

■

- Presence of incompatible materials.
- Product is considered stable under normal handling conditions.
- Prolonged exposure to heat.
- Hazardous polymerization will not occur.

### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

■

- Silver or silver salts readily form explosive silver fulminate in the presence of both nitric acid and ethanol. The resulting fulminate is much more sensitive and a more powerful detonator than mercuric fulminate.
- Silver and its compounds and salts may also form explosive compounds in the presence of acetylene and nitromethane.
- **WARNING:** Avoid or control reaction with peroxides. All transition metal peroxides should be considered as potentially explosive. For example transition metal complexes of alkyl hydroperoxides may decompose explosively.
- The pi-complexes formed between chromium(0), vanadium(0) and other transition metals (haloarene-metal complexes) and mono- or poly-fluorobenzene show extreme sensitivity to heat and are explosive.
- Avoid reaction with borohydrides or cyanoborohydrides
- Inorganic reducing agents react with oxidizing agents to generate heat and products that may be flammable, combustible, or otherwise reactive. Their reactions with oxidizing agents may be violent.
- Incidents involving interaction of active oxidants and reducing agents, either by design or accident, are usually very energetic and examples of so-called redox reactions.
- Avoid any contamination of this material as it is very reactive and any contamination is potentially hazardous
- Inorganic oxidising agents can react with reducing agents to generate heat and products that may be gaseous (causing pressurization of closed containers). The products may themselves be capable of further reactions (such as combustion in the air).
- Organic compounds in general have some reducing power and can in principle react with compounds in this class. Actual reactivity varies greatly with the identity of the organic compound.
- Inorganic oxidising agents can react violently with active metals, cyanides, esters, and thiocyanates.
- Protect from light.

Metals and their oxides or salts may react violently with chlorine trifluoride. Chlorine trifluoride is a hypergolic oxidizer. It ignites on contact (without external source of heat or ignition) with recognized 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.

Silver nitrate:

- is a powerful oxidiser
- forms friction and shock-sensitive compounds with many materials including acetylene, anhydrous ammonia (produces compounds that are explosive when dry), 1,3-butadiene, buten-3-yne, calcium carbide, dicopper acetylides
- in contact with hydrogen peroxide cause violent decomposition to oxygen gas
- reacts violently with chlorine trifluoride, metal powders, nitrous acid, phosphonium iodide, red or yellow phosphorus, sulfur
- is incompatible with acetylides, acrylonitrile, alcohols, alkalis, ammonium hydroxide, arsenic, arsenites, bromides, carbonates, carbon, charcoal, chlorides, chlorosulfonic acid, cocaine chloride, ethanol, hypophosphites, iodides, iodoform, magnesium, methyl acetylene, phosphates, phosphine, salts of antimony or iron, sodium salicylate, tannic acid, tartrates, thiocyanates
- attacks chemically active metals and some plastics, rubber and coatings

Avoid storage with reducing agents.

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

## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

silver nitrate

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Unreported (man) LDLo: 29 mg/kg	Eye (rabbit): 1 mg - SEVERE
Oral (rat) LD50: 50 mg/kg	Eye (rabbit): 10 mg - Moderate

■ The material may produce severe irritation to the eye causing pronounced inflammation. Repeated or prolonged exposure to irritants may produce conjunctivitis.

Asthma-like symptoms may continue for months or even years after exposure to the material ceases. This may be due to a non-allergic 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.

Reproductive effector in rats

Human lymphocyte mutagen

Equivocal tumorigen by RTECS criteria

### CARCINOGEN

Nitrate or nitrite (ingested) under conditions that result in endogenous nitrosation	International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Reviewed by the IARC Monographs	Group 2A
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## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

SILVER NITRATE:

■ Fish LC50 (96hr.) (mg/l):	0.51
■ Daphnia magna EC50 (48hr.) (mg/l):	0.043

■ 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.

■ The nitrates are of environmental concern because of their high water solubility and consequent leaching, diffusion, and environmental mobility in soil and water. Nitrate can contaminate groundwater to unacceptable levels. Nitrite is formed from nitrate or ammonium ion by micro-organisms in soil, water, sewage and the alimentary tract. The concern with nitrate in the environment is related to its conversion to nitrite.

Methemoglobinemia is caused following exposure to high levels of nitrite and produces difficulties in oxygen transport in the blood. Thousands of cases involving poisoning of infants, particularly in rural areas, have been reported as a result of drinking nitrate rich well-water.

Other concerns deriving from exposure to environmental nitrates relate to the production of nitrosamines following the reaction of food nitrites and secondary amines. Other nitroso-compounds may result following reaction with nitrites and amides, ureas, carbamates and other nitrogenous compounds. Nitrosamines produce liver damage, hemorrhagic lung lesions, convulsions and coma in rats, and teratogenic effects in experimental animals.

The N-nitroso class of compounds include potent carcinogens and mutagens: induction of tumors by single doses of N-nitroso compounds testify to this.

■ For silver and its compounds:

Environmental fate:

Silver is a rare but naturally occurring metal, often found deposited as a mineral ore in association with other elements. Emissions from smelting operations, manufacture and disposal of certain photographic and electrical supplies, coal combustion, and cloud seeding are some of the anthropogenic sources of silver in the biosphere. The global biogeochemical movements of silver are characterized by releases to the atmosphere, water, and land by natural and anthropogenic sources, long-range transport of fine particles in the atmosphere, wet and dry deposition, and sorption to soils and sediments.

In general, accumulation of silver by terrestrial plants from soils is low, even if the soil is amended with silver-containing sewage sludge or the plants are grown on tailings from silver mines, where silver accumulates mainly in the root systems

The ability to accumulate dissolved silver varies widely between species. Some reported bioconcentration factors for marine

organisms (calculated as milligrams of silver per kilogram fresh weight organism divided by milligrams of silver per litre of medium) are 210 in diatoms, 240 in brown algae, 330 in mussels, 2300 in scallops, and 18 700 in oysters, whereas bioconcentration factors for freshwater organisms have been reported to range from negligible in bluegills (*Lepomis macrochirus*) to 60 in daphnids; these values represent uptake of bioavailable silver in laboratory experiments. Laboratory studies with the less toxic silver compounds, such as silver sulfide and silver chloride, reveal that accumulation of silver does not necessarily lead to adverse effects. At concentrations normally encountered in the environment, food-chain biomagnification of silver in aquatic systems is unlikely. Elevated silver concentrations in biota occur in the vicinities of sewage outfalls, electroplating plants, mine waste sites, and silver iodide-seeded areas. Maximum concentrations recorded in field collections, in milligrams total silver per kilogram dry weight (tissue), were 1.5 in marine mammals (liver) (except Alaskan beluga whales *Delphinapterus leucas*, which had concentrations 2 orders of magnitude higher than those of other marine mammals), 6 in fish (bone), 14 in plants (whole), 30 in annelid worms (whole), 44 in birds (liver), 110 in mushrooms (whole), 185 in bivalve molluscs (soft parts), and 320 in gastropods (whole).

**Ecotoxicity:**

In general, silver ion was less toxic to freshwater aquatic organisms under conditions of low dissolved silver ion concentration and increasing water pH, hardness, sulfides, and dissolved and particulate organic loadings; under static test conditions, compared with flow-through regimens; and when animals were adequately nourished instead of being starved. Silver ions are very toxic to microorganisms. However, there is generally no strong inhibitory effect on microbial activity in sewage treatment plants because of reduced bioavailability due to rapid complexation and adsorption. Free silver ion was lethal to representative species of sensitive aquatic plants, invertebrates, and teleosts at nominal water concentrations of 1-5 ug/litre. Adverse effects occur on development of trout at concentrations as low as 0.17 ug/litre and on phytoplankton species composition and succession at 0.3-0.6 ug/litre.

A knowledge of the speciation of silver and its consequent bioavailability is crucial to understanding the potential risk of the metal. Measurement of free ionic silver is the only direct method that can be used to assess the likely effects of the metal on organisms. Speciation models can be used to assess the likely proportion of the total silver measured that is bioavailable to organisms. Unlike some other metals, background freshwater concentrations in pristine and most urban areas are well below concentrations causing toxic effects. Levels in most industrialized areas border on the effect concentration, assuming that conditions favour bioavailability. On the basis of available toxicity test results, it is unlikely that bioavailable free silver ions would ever be at sufficiently high concentrations to cause toxicity in marine environments.

No data were found on effects of silver on wild birds or mammals. Silver was harmful to poultry (tested as silver nitrate) at concentrations as low as 100 mg total silver/litre in drinking-water or 200 mg total silver/kg in diets. Sensitive laboratory mammals were adversely affected at total silver concentrations (added as silver nitrate) as low as 250 ug/litre in drinking-water (brain histopathology), 6 mg/kg in diet (high accumulations in kidneys and liver), or 13.9 mg/kg body weight (lethality).

Silver and Silver Compounds; Concise International Chemical Assessment Document (CICAD) 44 IPCS InChem (WHO)

The transport of silver through estuarine and coastal marine systems is dependent on biological uptake and incorporation. Uptake by phytoplankton is rapid, in proportion to silver concentration and inversely proportional to salinity. In contrast to studies performed with other toxic metals, silver availability appears to be controlled by both the free silver ion concentration and the concentration of other silver complexes. Silver incorporated by phytoplankton is not lost as salinity increase; as a result silver associated with cellular material is largely retained within the estuary. Phytoplankton exhibit a variable sensitivity to silver. Sensitive species exhibit a marked delay in the onset of growth in response to silver at low concentrations, even though maximum growth rates are similar to controls. A delay in the onset of growth reduces the ability of a population to respond to short-term favourable conditions and to succeed within the community.

James G. Saunders and George R Abbe: Aquatic Toxicology and Environmental Fate; ASTM STP 1007, 1989, pp 5-18.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

■ The material is classified as an ecotoxin\* because the Fish LC50 (96 hours) is less than or equal to 0.1 mg/l

\* Classification of Substances as Ecotoxic (Dangerous to the Environment)

Appendix 8, Table 1

Compiler's Guide for the Preparation of International Chemical Safety Cards: 1993 Commission of the European Communities.

Toxicity Fish: LC50(96)1.6-30mg/L

Toxicity invertebrate: LC50(3)1.5mg/L

**Ecotoxicity**

Ingredient silver nitrate	Persistence: Water/Soil LOW	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation LOW	Mobility HIGH
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**Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**US EPA Waste Number & Descriptions**

A. General Product Information

Ignitability characteristic: use EPA hazardous waste number D001 (waste code I)

Toxicity characteristic: use EPA hazardous waste number D011 (waste code E) if this substance, in a solid waste, produces an extract containing greater than 5 mg/L of silver.

**Disposal Instructions**

All waste must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.

! Puncture containers to prevent re-use and bury at an authorized landfill.

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 equipment to enter drains. Collect all wash water for treatment before disposal.

- Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.
- Consult Waste Management Authority for disposal.
- Bury residue in an authorized landfill.
- Recycle containers where possible, or dispose of in an authorized landfill.

Investigate possible silver reclamation - refer to Silver reprocessors.

## Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION



DOT:

Symbols:	None	Hazard class or Division:	5.1
Identification Numbers:	UN1493	PG:	II
Label Codes:	5.1	Special provisions:	IB8, IP2, IP4, T3, TP33
Packaging: Exceptions:	152	Packaging: Non-bulk:	212
Packaging: Exceptions:	152	Quantity limitations: Passenger aircraft/rail:	5 kg
Quantity Limitations: Cargo aircraft only:	25 kg	Vessel stowage: Location:	A
Vessel stowage: Other:	None		

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:

Silver nitrate

### Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class:	5.1	ICAO/IATA Subrisk:	None
UN/ID Number:	1493	Packing Group:	II
Special provisions:	None		

Shipping Name: SILVER NITRATE

### Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class:	5.1	IMDG Subrisk:	None
UN Number:	1493	Packing Group:	II
EMS Number:	F-A,S-Q	Special provisions:	None
Limited Quantities:	1 kg		

Shipping Name: SILVER NITRATE

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

### silver nitrate (CAS: 7761-88-8) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Canada - Saskatchewan Industrial Hazardous Substances","Canada Domestic Substances List (DSL)","Canada Ingredient Disclosure List (SOR/88-64)","Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (English)","Canada Toxicological Index Service - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System - WHMIS (French)","International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) - High Production Volume List","OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals","US - California Occupational Safety and Health Regulations (CAL/OSHA) - Hazardous Substances List","US - Massachusetts Oil & Hazardous Material List","US - New Jersey Right to Know Hazardous Substances","US - Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List","US - Rhode Island Hazardous Substance List","US CWA (Clean Water Act) - Reportable Quantities of Designated Hazardous Substances","US Department of Transportation (DOT) List of Hazardous Substances and Reportable Quantities - Hazardous Substances Other Than Radionuclides","US DOE Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEELs)","US Inventory of Effective Food Contact Substance Notifications","US List of Lists - Consolidated List of Chemicals Subject to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act","US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory"

## Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

### LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Contact with air may produce sufficient heat to ignite combustible materials.\*.
- Cumulative effects may result following exposure\*.

\* (limited evidence).

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- Classification of the mixture and its individual components has drawn on official and authoritative sources as well as independent review by the Chemwatch Classification committee using available literature references.

A list of reference resources used to assist the committee may be found at:  
[www.chemwatch.net/references](http://www.chemwatch.net/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.

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