

# Ethyl isocyanate

sc-257503



The Power to Question

## Material Safety Data Sheet

Hazard Alert Code Key: **EXTREME** **HIGH** **MODERATE** **LOW**

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### PRODUCT NAME

Ethyl isocyanate

### 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

Intermediate for pharmaceuticals and pesticides. Reagent

### SYNONYMS

C3-H5-N-O, "isocyanic acid, ethyl ester", "ethane, isocyanato-", isocyanatoethane

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max	
Flammability:	4		
Toxicity:	4		
Body Contact:	2		Min/Nil=0 Low=1 Moderate=2 High=3 Extreme=4
Reactivity:	2		
Chronic:	2		



### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



## EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

### RISK

Reacts violently with water.  
Toxic if swallowed.  
Contact with water liberates toxic gas.  
May cause SENSITIZATION by inhalation and skin contact.  
Possible risk of harm to the unborn child.  
Harmful by inhalation and in contact with skin.  
Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.  
Highly flammable.

## 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.

#### EYE

■ This material can cause eye irritation and damage in some persons.  
■ Irritation of the eyes may produce a heavy secretion of tears (lachrymation).

#### SKIN

■ Skin contact with the material may be harmful; systemic effects may result following absorption.  
■ This material can cause inflammation of the skin on contact in some persons.  
■ The material may accentuate any pre-existing dermatitis condition.  
■ 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

■ Inhalation of vapors or aerosols (mists, fumes), generated by the material during the course of normal handling, may be harmful.  
■ The material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.  
■ The vapor/mist may be highly irritating to the upper respiratory tract and lungs; the response may be severe enough to produce bronchitis and pulmonary edema. Possible neurological symptoms arising from isocyanate exposure include headache, insomnia, euphoria, ataxia, anxiety neurosis, depression and paranoia. Gastrointestinal disturbances are characterized by nausea and vomiting. Pulmonary sensitization may produce asthmatic reactions ranging from minor breathing difficulties to severe allergic attacks; this may occur following a single acute exposure or may develop without warning for several hours after exposure. Sensitized people can react to very low doses, and should not be allowed to work in situations allowing exposure to this material. Continued exposure of sensitized persons may lead to possible long term respiratory impairment. Inhalation hazard is increased at higher temperatures.  
■ High concentrations cause inflamed airways and watery swelling of the lungs with edema.

## CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

■ Long-term exposure to respiratory irritants may result in disease of the airways involving difficult breathing and related systemic problems.

Inhaling this product is more likely to cause a sensitization reaction in some persons compared to the general population.

Skin contact with the material is more likely to cause a sensitization reaction in some persons compared to the general population.

Results in experiments suggest that this material may cause disorders in the development of the embryo or fetus, even when no signs of poisoning show in the mother.

Limited evidence suggests that repeated or long-term occupational exposure may produce cumulative health effects involving organs or biochemical systems.

Persons with a history of asthma or other respiratory problems or are known to be sensitised, should not be engaged in any work involving the handling of isocyanates. [CCTRADE-Bayer, APMF].

Respiratory sensitization may result in allergic/asthma like responses; from coughing and minor breathing difficulties to bronchitis with wheezing, gasping.

Sensitization may give severe responses to very low levels of exposure, i.e. hypersensitivity. Sensitized persons should not be allowed to work in situations where exposure may occur.

## Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
ethyl isocyanate	109-90-0	>98

## Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

### SWALLOWED

- IF SWALLOWED, REFER FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION, WHERE POSSIBLE, WITHOUT DELAY.
- Where Medical attention is not immediately available or where the patient is more than 15 minutes from a hospital or unless instructed otherwise:
  - For advice, contact a Poisons Information Center or a doctor.
  - Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.
  - If conscious, give water to drink.
- 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.

- 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.

### 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 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

- For sub-chronic and chronic exposures to isocyanates:
  - This material may be a potent pulmonary sensitizer which causes bronchospasm even in patients without prior airway hyperreactivity.
  - Clinical symptoms of exposure involve mucosal irritation of respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts.
  - Conjunctival irritation, skin inflammation (erythema, pain vesiculation) and gastrointestinal disturbances occur soon after exposure.
  - Pulmonary symptoms include cough, burning, substernal pain and dyspnea.
  - Some cross-sensitivity occurs between different isocyanates.
  - Noncardiogenic pulmonary edema and bronchospasm are the most serious consequences of exposure. Markedly symptomatic patients should receive oxygen, ventilatory support and an intravenous line.
  - Treatment for asthma includes inhaled sympathomimetics (epinephrine [adrenalin], terbutaline) and steroids.
  - Activated charcoal (1 g/kg) and a cathartic (sorbitol, magnesium citrate) may be useful for ingestion.
  - Mydriatics, systemic analgesics and topical antibiotics (Sulamyd) may be used for corneal abrasions.
  - There is no effective therapy for sensitized workers. [Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology]

NOTE: Isocyanates cause airway restriction in naive individuals with the degree of response dependant on the concentration and duration of exposure. They induce smooth muscle contraction which lead to bronchoconstrictive episodes. Acute changes in lung function, such as decreased FEV1, may not represent sensitivity. [Karol Jin, Frontiers in Molecular Toxicology, pp 56-61, 1992].

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapor Pressure (mmHg):	224.268 @ 20 C
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not available
Specific Gravity (water=1):	0.898

Lower Explosive Limit (%):

Not available

## EXTINGUISHING MEDIA



- Small quantities of water in contact with hot liquid may react violently with generation of a large volume of rapidly expanding hot sticky semi-solid foam.
- Presents additional hazard when fire fighting in a confined space.
- Cooling with flooding quantities of water reduces this risk.
- Water spray or fog may cause frothing and should be used in large quantities.
- Foam.
- Dry chemical powder.
- BCF (where regulations permit).
- Carbon dioxide.
- Water spray or fog - Large fires only.

## FIRE FIGHTING



- 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 (or protect in place).
- Fight fire from a safe distance, with adequate cover.
- If safe, switch off electrical equipment until vapor fire hazard removed.
- 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.

## GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS



- Liquid and vapor are highly flammable.
- Severe fire hazard when exposed to heat, flame and/or oxidizers.
- Vapor forms an explosive mixture with air.
- Severe explosion hazard, in the form of vapor, when exposed to flame or spark.
- Vapor may travel a considerable distance to source of ignition.
- Heating may cause expansion / decomposition with violent rupture of containers.
- On combustion, may emit toxic fumes of carbon monoxide (CO)

Combustion products include: carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), isocyanates, and minor amounts of, hydrogen cyanide, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.

When heated at high temperatures many isocyanates decompose rapidly generating a vapour which pressurises containers, possibly to the point of rupture. Release of toxic and/or flammable isocyanate vapours may then occur.

- Burns with acrid black smoke.

## FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

■ Avoid contamination with oxidizing agents i.e. nitrates, oxidizing acids, chlorine bleaches, pool chlorine etc. as ignition may result.

## PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:

Chemical goggles.

Gloves:

Respirator:

Type A Filter of sufficient capacity

## Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### MINOR SPILLS



- Remove all ignition sources.
- Clean up all spills immediately.
- Avoid breathing vapors and contact with skin and eyes.
- Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
- Contain and absorb small quantities with vermiculite or other absorbent material.
- Wipe up.
- Collect residues in a flammable waste container.

### MAJOR SPILLS

■ Chemical Class: cyanates and isocyanates

For release onto land: recommended sorbents listed in order of priority.

SORBENT TYPE	RANK	APPLICATION	COLLECTION	LIMITATIONS
<b>LAND SPILL - SMALL</b>				
cross-linked polymer - particulate	1	shovel	shovel	R,W,SS
wood fiber - particulate	1	throw	pitchfork	R, P, DGC, RT
cross-linked polymer - pillow	1	throw	pitchfork	R, DGC, RT
sorbent clay - particulate	2	shovel	shovel	R, I, P
foamed glass - pillow	2	throw	pitchfork	R, P, DGC, RT
wood fiber - particulate	3	shovel	shovel	R, W, P, DGC
<b>LAND SPILL - MEDIUM</b>				
cross-linked polymer -particulate	1	blower	skidloader	R, W, SS
cross-linked polymer - pillow	1	throw	skidloader	R,DGC, RT
polypropylene - particulate	2	blower	skidloader	R, SS, DGC
expanded mineral - particulate	3	blower	skidloader	R, I, W, P, DGC
wood fiber - particulate	3	blower	skidloader	R, W, P, DGC
polypropylene - mat	3	throw	skidloader	DGC, RT

**Legend**

DGC: Not effective where ground cover is dense

R; Not reusable

I: Not incinerable

P: Effectiveness reduced when rainy

RT:Not effective where terrain is rugged

SS: Not for use within environmentally sensitive sites

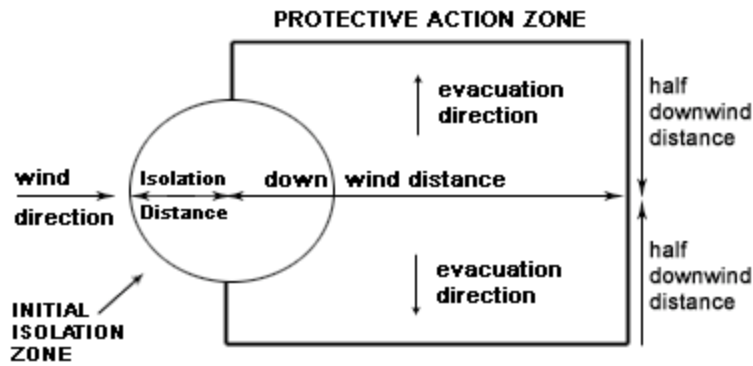
W: Effectiveness reduced when windy

Reference: Sorbents for Liquid Hazardous Substance Cleanup and Control;

R.W Melvold et al: Pollution Technology Review No. 150: Noyes Data Corporation 1988.

- Liquid Isocyanates and high isocyanate vapour concentrations will penetrate seals on self contained breathing apparatus - SCBA should be used inside encapsulating suit where this exposure may occur.
- Treat isocyanate spills with sufficient amounts of isocyanate decontaminant preparation.
- Typically, such a preparation may consist of: sawdust: 20 parts by weight Kieselguhr 40 parts by weight plus a mixture of {ammonia (s.g. 0.880) 8% v/v non-ionic surfactant 2% v/v water 90% v/v}.
- Let stand for 24 hours.
- Avoid contamination with water, alkalies and detergent solutions.
- Material reacts with water and generates gas, pressurises containers with even drum rupture resulting.
- DO NOT reseal container if contamination is suspected.
- Open all containers with care.
- DO NOT touch the spill material
- 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, naked lights or ignition sources.
- Increase ventilation.
- Stop leak if safe to do so.
- Water spray or fog may be used to disperse / absorb vapor.
- Contain spill with sand, earth or vermiculite.
- Use only spark-free shovels and explosion proof equipment.
- Collect recoverable product into labeled containers for recycling.
- Absorb remaining product with sand, earth or vermiculite.
- Collect solid residues and seal in labeled drums for disposal.
- Wash area and prevent runoff into drains.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.

**PROTECTIVE ACTIONS FOR SPILL**



From IERG (Canada/Australia)  
 Isolation Distance 25 meters  
 Downwind Protection Distance 250 meters

From US Emergency Response Guide 2000 Guide 155

SMALL SPILLS			
Name	Isolation Distance	Downwind Day	Protection Night
Ethyl isocyanate	700 ft (215 m)	1.2 mile (1.9 km)	2.7 mile (4.3 km)

LARGE SPILLS			
Name	Isolation Distance	Downwind Day	Protection Night
Ethyl isocyanate	3000 ft (915 m)	(7.0+ mile (11.0+ km)	(7.0+ mile (11.0+ km)

**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 155 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**

- Containers, even those that have been emptied, may contain explosive vapors.
- Do NOT cut, drill, grind, weld or perform similar operations on or near containers.
- DO NOT allow clothing wet with material to stay in contact with skin
- 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.
- Avoid smoking, naked lights, heat or ignition sources.
- When handling, DO NOT eat, drink or smoke.
- Vapor may ignite on pumping or pouring due to static electricity.
- DO NOT use plastic buckets.
- Earth and secure metal containers when dispensing or pouring product.
- Use spark-free tools when handling.
- Avoid contact with incompatible materials.
- Keep containers securely sealed.
- Avoid physical damage to containers.
- Always wash hands with soap and water after handling.
- Work clothes should be laundered separately.
- 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.

### RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

■ Packing as supplied by manufacturer. Plastic containers may only be used if approved for flammable liquid. Check that containers are clearly labeled and free from leaks.

- For low viscosity materials (i): Drums and jerricans must be of the non-removable head type. (ii): 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)
- For manufactured product having a viscosity of at least 250 cSt. (23 deg. C)
- Manufactured product that requires stirring before use and having a viscosity of at least 20 cSt (23 deg. C) - (i): Removable head packaging; (ii): Cans with friction closures and (iii): 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 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

■ for commercial quantities of isocyanates:

- Isocyanates should be stored in adequately banded areas. Nothing else should be kept within the same bunding. Pre-polymers need not be segregated. Drums of isocyanates should be stored under cover, out of direct sunlight, protected from rain, protected from physical damage and well away from moisture, acids and alkalis.
- Where isocyanates are stored at elevated temperatures to prevent solidifying, adequate controls should be installed to prevent the high temperatures and precautions against fire should be taken.
- Where stored in tanks, the more reactive isocyanates should be blanketed with a non-reactive gas such as nitrogen and equipped with absorptive type breather valve (to prevent vapour emissions)..
- Transfer systems for isocyanates in bulk storage should be fully enclosed and use pump or vacuum systems. Warning signs, in appropriate languages, should be posted where necessary.
- Areas in which polyurethane foam products are stored should be supplied with good general ventilation. Residual amounts of unreacted isocyanate may be present in the finished foam, resulting in hazardous atmospheric concentrations.
- Store in original containers in approved flame-proof area.
- No smoking, naked lights, heat or ignition sources.
- DO NOT store in pits, depressions, basements or areas where vapors may be trapped.
- Keep containers securely sealed.
- Store away from incompatible materials in a cool, dry well ventilated area.
- Protect containers against physical damage and check regularly for leaks.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.

### SAFE STORAGE WITH OTHER CLASSIFIED CHEMICALS



X

X

X

X

X

+

X: Must not be stored together

O: May be stored together with specific preventions

+: May be stored together

## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

### EXPOSURE CONTROLS

The following materials had no OELs on our records

- ethyl isocyanate: CAS:109-90-0

### MATERIAL DATA

ETHYL ISOCYANATE:

■ Sensory irritants are chemicals that produce temporary and undesirable side-effects on the eyes, nose or throat. Historically occupational exposure standards for these irritants have been based on observation of workers' responses to various airborne concentrations. Present day expectations require that nearly every individual should be protected against even minor sensory irritation and exposure standards are established using uncertainty factors or safety factors of 5 to 10 or more. On occasion animal no-observable-effect-levels (NOEL) are used to determine these limits where human results are unavailable. An additional approach, typically used by the TLV committee (USA) in determining respiratory standards for this group of chemicals, has been to assign ceiling values (TLV C) to rapidly acting irritants and to assign short-term exposure limits (TLV STELs) when the weight of evidence from irritation, bioaccumulation and other endpoints combine to warrant such a limit. In contrast the MAK Commission (Germany) uses a five-category system based on intensive odour, local irritation, and elimination half-life. However this system is being replaced to be consistent with the European Union (EU) Scientific Committee for Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL); this is more closely allied to that of the USA.

OSHA (USA) concluded that exposure to sensory irritants can:

- cause inflammation
- cause increased susceptibility to other irritants and infectious agents
- lead to permanent injury or dysfunction
- permit greater absorption of hazardous substances and
- acclimate the worker to the irritant warning properties of these substances thus increasing the risk of overexposure.

Some jurisdictions require that health surveillance be conducted on occupationally exposed workers.

- demography, occupational and medical history and health advice
- completion of a standardized respiratory questionnaire
- physical examination of the respiratory system and skin
- standardized respiratory function tests such as FEV1, FVC and FEV1/FVC

### PERSONAL PROTECTION



Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

#### EYE

- 
- Safety glasses with side shields.
- Chemical goggles.
- Contact lenses pose a special hazard; soft lenses may absorb irritants and all lenses concentrate them. DO NOT wear contact lenses.

#### HANDS/FEET

■ NOTE: The material may produce skin sensitization in predisposed individuals. Care must be taken, when removing gloves and other protective equipment, to avoid all possible skin contact.

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 natural rubber (latex gloves).
- Isocyanate resistant materials include Teflon, Viton, nitrile rubber and some PVA gloves.



- Protective gloves and overalls should be worn as specified in the appropriate national standard.
- Contaminated garments should be removed promptly and should not be re-used until they have been decontaminated.
- NOTE: Natural rubber, neoprene, PVC can be affected by isocyanates

DO NOT use skin cream unless necessary and then use only minimum amount. Isocyanate vapor may be absorbed into skin cream and this increases hazard.

### OTHER

■ All employees working with isocyanates must be informed of the hazards from exposure to the contaminant and the precautions necessary to prevent damage to their health. They should be made aware of the need to carry out their work so that as little contamination as possible is produced, and of the importance of the proper use of all safeguards against exposure to themselves and their fellow workers. Adequate training, both in the proper execution of the task and in the use of all associated engineering controls, as well as of any personal protective equipment, is essential.

Employees exposed to contamination hazards should be educated in the need for, and proper use of, facilities, clothing and equipment and thereby maintain a high standard of personal cleanliness. Special attention should be given to ensuring that all personnel understand instructions, especially newly recruited employees and those with local-language difficulties, where they are known.

- 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.

### RESPIRATOR

■ Selection of the Class and Type of respirator will depend upon the level of breathing zone contaminant and the chemical nature of the contaminant. Protection Factors (defined as the ratio of contaminant outside and inside the mask) may also be important.

Breathing Zone Level ppm (volume)	Maximum Protection Factor	Half-face Respirator	Full-Face Respirator
1000	10	A-1	-
1000	50	-	A-1
5000	50	Airline*	-
5000	100	-	A-2
10000	100	-	A-3
	100+		Airline* *

\* - Continuous Flow \*\* - Continuous-flow or positive pressure demand.

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

■ For flammable liquids and flammable gases, local exhaust ventilation or a process enclosure ventilation system may be required. Ventilation equipment should be explosion-resistant.

Spraying of material or material in admixture with other components must be carried out in conditions conforming to local state regulations. Local exhaust ventilation with full face air supplied breathing apparatus (hood or helmet type) is normally required. Unprotected personnel must vacate spraying area.

NOTE: Isocyanate vapors will not be adequately absorbed by organic vapor respirators. 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.)
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 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 solvents generated by spraying at a point 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.

- All processes in which isocyanates are used should be enclosed wherever possible.
- Total enclosure, accompanied by good general ventilation, should be used to keep atmospheric concentrations below the relevant exposure standards.
- If total enclosure of the process is not feasible, local exhaust ventilation may be necessary. Local exhaust ventilation is essential where lower molecular weight isocyanates (such as TDI or HDI) is used or where isocyanate or polyurethane is sprayed.
- Where other isocyanates or pre-polymers are used and aerosol formation cannot occur, local exhaust ventilation may not be necessary if the atmospheric concentration can be kept below the relevant exposure standards.
- Where local exhaust ventilation is installed, exhaust vapours should not be vented to the exterior in such a manner as to create a hazard.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Liquid.

Contact with water liberates toxic gas.

Reacts violently with water.

State	Liquid	Molecular Weight	71.09
Melting Range (°F)	Not available	Viscosity	Not Available
Boiling Range (°F)	140	Solubility in water (g/L)	Reacts violently
Flash Point (°F)	19.994	pH (1% solution)	Not applicable
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Available	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available	Vapor Pressure (mmHg)	224.268 @ 20 C
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not available	Specific Gravity (water=1)	0.898
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not available	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	>1
Volatile Component (%vol)	100	Evaporation Rate	Fast

### APPEARANCE

Colourless liquid with pungent odour; reacts violently with water evolving gases. Soluble in aromatic and chlorinated hydrocarbons.

## Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

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

### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- 
- Avoid reaction with water, alcohols and detergent solutions.
- Isocyanates and thioisocyanates are incompatible with many classes of compounds, reacting exothermically to release toxic gases. Reactions with amines, strong bases, aldehydes, alcohols, alkali metals, ketones, mercaptans, strong oxidisers, hydrides, phenols, and peroxides can cause vigorous releases of heat. Acids and bases initiate polymerisation reactions in these materials.
- Isocyanates easily form adducts with carbodiimides, isothiocyanates, ketenes, or with substrates containing activated CC or CN bonds.
- Some isocyanates react with water to form amines and liberate carbon dioxide. This reaction may also generate large volumes of foam and heat. Foaming in confined spaces may produce pressure in confined spaces or containers. Gas generation may pressurise drums to the point of rupture.
- Do NOT reseal container if contamination is expected
- Open all containers with care
- Base-catalysed reactions of isocyanates with alcohols should be carried out in inert solvents. Such reactions in the absence of solvents often occur with explosive violence,
- Isocyanates will attack and embrittle some plastics and rubbers.
- A range of exothermic decomposition energies for isocyanates is given as 20-30 kJ/mol.
- The relationship between energy of decomposition and processing hazards has been the subject of discussion; it is suggested that values of energy released per unit of mass, rather than on a molar basis (J/g) be used in the assessment.
- For example, in "open vessel processes" (with man-hole size openings, in an industrial setting), substances with exothermic decomposition energies below 500 J/g are unlikely to present a danger, whilst those in "closed vessel processes" (opening is a safety valve or bursting disk) present some danger where the decomposition energy exceeds 150 J/g.

## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ETHYL ISOCYANATE

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Intravenous (mouse) LD50: 56 mg/kg	Nil Reported
Oral (Rat) LD: 230 mg/kg	

■ Contact allergies quickly manifest themselves as contact eczema, more rarely as urticaria or Quincke's edema. 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 sensitization potential: the distribution of the substance and the opportunities for contact with it are equally important. A weakly sensitizing substance which is widely distributed can be a more important allergen than one with stronger sensitizing 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.

Allergic reactions involving the respiratory tract are usually due to interactions between IgE antibodies and allergens and occur rapidly. Allergic potential of the allergen and period of exposure often determine the severity of symptoms. Some people may be genetically more prone than others, and exposure to other irritants may aggravate symptoms. Allergy causing activity is due to interactions with proteins.

Attention should be paid to atopic diathesis, characterized by increased susceptibility to nasal inflammation, asthma and eczema.

Exogenous allergic alveolitis is induced essentially by allergen specific immune-complexes of the IgG type; cell-mediated reactions (T lymphocytes) may be involved. Such allergy is of the delayed type with onset up to four hours following exposure.

Isocyanate vapors are irritating to the airways and can cause their inflammation, with wheezing, gasping, severe distress, even loss of consciousness and fluid in the lungs. Nervous system symptoms that may occur include headache, sleep disturbance, euphoria, inco-ordination, anxiety, depression and paranoia. Digestive effects include nausea and vomiting. Breathing difficulties may occur unpredictably after a period of tolerance and after skin contact. Allergic inflammation of the skin can occur, with rash, itching, blistering, and swelling of the hands and feet. Sensitive people can react to very low levels and should not be exposed to this material.

Bacterial cell mutagen.

## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

ETHYL ISOCYANATE:

■ Hydrolysis would represent the primary fate mechanism for the majority of the commercial isocyanate monomers, but, is tempered somewhat by the lack of water solubility. In the absence of hydrolysis, sorption to solids (e.g., sludge and sediments) will be the primary mechanism of removal. Biodegradation is minimal for most compounds and volatilisation is negligible. Atmospheric degradation is not expected with removal from air occurring by washout or dry deposition. Volatilisation from surface waters (e.g., lakes and rivers) is expected to take years. In wastewater treatment this process is not expected to be significant.

Review of the estimated properties of the isocyanates suggest that sorption is the primary removal mechanism in the ambient environment and in wastewater treatment in the absence of significant hydrolysis. Sorption to solids in wastewater treatment is considered strong to very strong for most compounds. Sorption to sediments and soils in the ambient environment is very strong in most instances. Migration to groundwater and surface waters is not expected due to sorption or hydrolysis.

Hydrolysis of the N=C=O will occur in less than hours in most instances and within minutes for more than 90% of the commercial isocyanates. However, the low to very low solubility of these substances will generally lessen the effectiveness of hydrolysis as a fate pathway. But hydrolysis should be considered one of the two major fate processes for the isocyanates.

Aerobic and/or anaerobic biodegradation of the isocyanates is not expected to occur at significant levels. Most of the substances take several months to degrade.

Degradation of the hydrolysis products will occur at varying rates depending on the moiety formed.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

### Ecotoxicity

Ingredient

Persistence: Water/Soil

Persistence: Air

Bioaccumulation

Mobility

## Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### US EPA Waste Number & Descriptions

A. General Product Information

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

Reactivity characteristic: use EPA hazardous waste number D003 (waste code R).

### 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. If it has been contaminated, it may be possible to reclaim the product by filtration, distillation or some other means. 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.
- Consult manufacturer for recycling options or consult Waste Management Authority for disposal if no suitable treatment or disposal facility can be identified.
- Dispose of by: Burial in a licensed land-fill or Incineration in a licensed apparatus (after admixture with suitable combustible material)
- Decontaminate empty containers. Observe all label safeguards until containers are cleaned and destroyed.

## Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION



DOT:

Symbols:	+	Hazard class or Division:	3
Identification Numbers:	UN2481	PG:	I
Label Codes:	3, 6.1	Special provisions:	1, B9, B14, B30, T22, TP2, TP13, TP38, TP44
Packaging: Exceptions:	None	Packaging: Non-bulk:	226
Packaging: Exceptions:	None	Quantity limitations: Passenger aircraft/rail:	Forbidden
Quantity Limitations: Cargo aircraft only:	Forbidden	Vessel stowage: Location:	D
Vessel stowage: Other:	40, 52		

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:

Ethyl isocyanate

### Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class:	3	ICAO/IATA Subrisk:	6.1
UN/ID Number:	2481	Packing Group:	-
Special provisions:	None		
Cargo Only			
Packing Instructions:	Forbidden	Maximum Qty/Pack:	Forbidden
Passenger and Cargo		Passenger and Cargo	
Packing Instructions:	Forbidden	Maximum Qty/Pack:	Forbidden

Passenger and Cargo Limited Quantity		Passenger and Cargo Limited Quantity	
Packing Instructions:	-	Maximum Qty/Pack:	-
<p>■ Air transport may be forbidden if this material is flammable, corrosive or toxic gases may be released under normal conditions of transport.</p> <p>Shipping Name: ETHYL ISOCYANATE</p>			
<b>Maritime Transport IMDG:</b>			
IMDG Class:	3	IMDG Subrisk:	6.1
UN Number:	2481	Packing Group:	I
EMS Number:	F-E , S-D	Special provisions:	None
Limited Quantities:	0		
Shipping Name: ETHYL ISOCYANATE			

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION



### REGULATIONS

**ethyl isocyanate (CAS: 109-90-0) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Canada Ingredient Disclosure List (SOR/88-64)", "US - New Jersey Right to Know Hazardous Substances", "US EPA Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGLs) - Interim", "US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory", "US TSCA Section 8 (a) - Preliminary Assessment Information Rules (PAIR) - Reporting List", "US TSCA Section 8 (d) - Health and Safety Data Reporting"

## Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

### LIMITED EVIDENCE

■ 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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