Methotrexate

sc-3507

Material Safety Data Sheet

Hazard Alert Code Key:	EXTREME	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW

Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME
Methotrexate

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
Antineoplastic agent which acts as an antimetabolite of folic acid. Possesses immunosuppressant properties. Methotrexate competitively inhibits the enzyme dihydrofolate reductase which is necessary for purine and pyrimidine synthesis and consequently prevents the formation of DNA and RNA. Used in the management of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and in the prophylaxis and treatment of meningeal leukaemia. Effective in the treatment of choriocarcinoma and other trophoblastic tumours. Used in association with other antineoplastic agents in the treatment of lymphosarcoma, Burkitt's lymphoma, osteogenic sarcoma and tumours of the brain, breast, cervix, neck and head, lung, ovary and testes. Has also been employed in the treatment of severe psoriasis. Given by mouth or, as the sodium salt, by injection. Methotrexate interferes with th synthesis of DNA thereby causing death in rapidly multiplying cancerous cells.

SYNONYMS
C20-H22-N8-O5, "4-amino-10-methylfolic acid", "4-amino-10-methylfolic acid", "4-amino-10-methylpteroyl-L-glutamic acid", "4-amino-10-methylpteroyl-L-glutamic acid", "4-amino-4-deoxy-10-methylpteroyl-L-glutamic acid", "4-amino-4-deoxy-10-methylpteroyl-L-glutamic acid", alpha-Methopterin, methylaminopterin, methylaminopterinium, "N-[4-((2, 4-diaminopteridin-6-yl)methylamino)benzoyl]-L-(+)-glutamic", acid, "N-[4-((2, 4-diaminopteridin-6-yl)methylamino)benzoyl]-L-(+)-glutamic", acid, Amethopterin, Amethopterine, Antifolan, CL-14377, "EMT 25299", Emtexate, HDMTX, Ledertrexate, Metatrexan, Methopterin, Methotrexatum, MTX, NCIC04671, NSC-740, R9985, WR-19039, "amethopterin 51865793", "antineoplastic/ cytotoxic/ immunosuppressi"

Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

RISK
May impair fertility.
May cause harm to the unborn child.
Toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed.
Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

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.
■ Early side-effects of methotrexate therapy include blood changes (leucopenia, thrombocytopenia), ulceration of the mouth, gastrointestinal effects (diarrhoea). Haemorrhagic enteritis and perforation of the intestine may occur. Bone marrow depression may occur abruptly. Headaches, drowsiness, blurred vision and convulsions are signs of methotrexate toxicity. Liver toxicity may result from acute liver atrophy or cirrhosis. Fatalities have occurred following use.
In rodents signs of acute toxicity included decreased activity, rapid and laboured breathing, bloody nasal discharge, exophthalmus (abnormal protrusion of the eyeball), diarrhoea, rough fur, piloerection, urinary staining and ataxia. In dogs, acute toxicity was characterised by decreased body weight, stomatitis, emesis, diarrhoea, anorexia, depression, leucopenia and thrombocytopenia.
■ The killing action of antineoplastic drugs used for cancer chemotherapy is not selective for cancerous cells alone but affect all dividing cells. Acute side effects include loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, allergic reaction (skin rash, itch, redness, low blood pressure, unwellness and anaphylactic shock) and local irritation. Gout and renal failure can occur.
■ At sufficiently high doses the material may be nephrotoxic(i.e. poisonous to the kidney).
■ At sufficiently high doses the material may be hepatotoxic(i.e. poisonous to the liver).

EYE
■ Evidence exists, or practical experience predicts, that the material may cause eye irritation in a substantial number of individuals. Prolonged eye contact may cause inflammation characterized by a temporary redness of the conjunctiva (similar to windburn).

SKIN
■ Skin contact with the material may produce toxic effects; systemic effectsmay result following absorption.
■ This material can cause inflammation of the skin oncontact 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 dusts, generated by the material, during the course of normal handling, may produce toxic effects.
■ The material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.
■ Inhalation of methotrexate may cause gastrointestinal disturbances (nausea and vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhoea), congestion of the lungs, and cough. Bone marrow suppression (decrease in the ability of the bone marrow to form mature blood cells) and liver damage may be seen.
■ 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.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS
■ Long-term exposure to respiratory irritants may result in disease of the airways involving difficult breathing and related systemic problems.
Based on experiments and other information, there is ample evidence to presume that exposure to this material can cause genetic defects that can be inherited.
Ample evidence exists from experimentation that reduced human fertility is directly caused by exposure to the material.
Ample evidence exists, from results in experimentation, that developmental disorders are directly caused by human exposure to the material.
There has been some concern that this material can cause cancer or mutations but there is not enough data to make an assessment.
Anti-cancer drugs used for chemotherapy can depress the bone marrow with reduction in the number of white blood cells and platelets and bleeding. Susceptibility to infections and bleeding is increased, which can be life- threatening. Digestive system effects may include inflammation of the mouth cavity, mouth ulcers, esophagus inflammation, abdominal pain and bleeds, diarrhea, bowel ulcers and perforation. Reversible hair loss can result and wound healing may be delayed. Long-term effects on the gonads may cause periods to stop and inhibit sperm production. Most anti-cancer drugs can potentially cause mutations and birth defects, and coupled with the effects of the suppression of the immune system, may also cause cancer.
Exposure to small quantities may induce hypersensitivity reactions characterized by acute bronchospasm, hives (urticaria), deep dermal wheals (angioneurotic edema), running nose (rhinitis) and blurred vision . Anaphylactic shock and skin rash (non-thrombocytopenic purpura) may occur. An individual may be predisposed to such anti-body mediated reaction if other chemical agents have caused prior sensitization (cross-sensitivity).
• CAUTION: May produce immunosuppression in individuals occupationally exposed to the material.
Exposure to immunosuppressives may aggravate infectious diseases.
Chronic exposure to therapeutic doses of compounds which produce immunosuppression has been associated with development of lymphomas (occasionally malignant) and mammary tumours. These may be secondary effects induced by activation of endogenous retroviruses.
Patients on immunosuppressive medications have a 10- to 100-fold increased risk of cancer compared to the general population. Furthermore, people who currently have or have already been treated for cancer have a higher rate of tumor progression and recurrence than patients with an intact immune system.
Patients receiving immunosuppressive regimens involving combinations of drugs, as part of an immunosuppressive regimen are at increased risk of developing lymphomas and other malignancies, particularly of the skin. The risk appears to be related to the intensity and duration of immunosuppression rather than to the use of any specific agent
Increased incidences of neoplasms, in mice and humans, have been reported after long-term immunosuppression by azathioprine and cyclosporin. Cyclosporin has been classified as a human carcinogen, by IARC, based on development of lymphomas after repeated and prolonged exposures to therapeutic doses.

Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

HAZARD RATINGS

		Min	Max
Flammability:	1		
Toxicity:	3		
Body Contact:	3		
Reactivity:	1		
Chronic:	3		

Min/Nil=0
Low=1
Moderate=2
High=3
Extreme=4

NAME	CAS RN	%
methotrexate	59-05-2	>98

Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED

■

- Give a slurry of activated charcoal in water to drink. NEVER GIVE AN UNCONSCIOUS PATIENT WATER TO DRINK.
- At least 3 tablespoons in a glass of water should be given.
- Although induction of vomiting may be recommended (IN CONSCIOUS PERSONS ONLY), such a first aid measure is dissuaded because to the risk of aspiration of stomach contents. (i) It is better to take the patient to a doctor who can decide on the necessity and method of emptying the stomach. (ii) Special circumstances may however exist; these include non- availability of charcoal and the ready availability of the doctor.

NOTE: If vomiting is induced, lean patient forward or place on left side (head-down position, if possible) to maintain open airway and prevent aspiration. NOTE: Wear protective gloves when inducing vomiting.

- REFER FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION WITHOUT DELAY.
- 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.

(ICSC20305/20307).

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:

- Quickly but gently, wipe material off skin with a dry, clean cloth.
- Immediately 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, without delay.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

■ Treat symptomatically.

For employees potentially exposed to antineoplastic and/ or cytotoxic agents on a regular basis, a preplacement physical examination and history (noting risk factors) is recommended. Periodic follow-up examinations should also be undertaken and should be overseen by a physician familiar with the toxic effects of the substance and full details of the nature of work undertaken by the employee.Following administration of antineoplastics, control of nausea and vomiting may be attempted by giving phenothiazines such as perphenazine, prochlorperazine, promethazine or thiethylperazine before antineoplastic agents are administered. In bone-marrow depression, transfusion of blood or platelets reduces the risk of life-threatening hemorrhage. Granulocyte transfusions and injection of antibiotics may be necessary to combat infection in the neutropenic patient. Hyperuricemia is avoided by the addition of allopurinol to treatment schedules and measures such as alkalization of the urine and hydration may be adopted. MARTINDALE: The Extra Pharmacopoeia, 28th Edition.

Folinic acid neutralise the immediate toxic effects of methotrexate on bone marrow. Methotrexate is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and is distributed in the extracellular spaces and penetrates cell membranes. Small amounts diffuse in the cerebrospinal fluid. About 50% is bound to plasma protein and biphasic and triphasic blood clearance has been reported. The majority of the dose appears in the urine, unchanged within 24 hours. Bound methotrexate may be retained in the body for months.

Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Vapour Pressure (mmHG):	Negligible
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not available.
Specific Gravity (water=1):	Not available
Lower Explosive Limit (%):	Not available

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

■

- 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.
- Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water course.
- Use fire fighting procedures suitable for surrounding area.
- DO NOT approach containers suspected to be hot.
- Cool fire exposed containers with water spray from a protected location.
- If safe to do so, remove containers from path of fire.
- Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.

GENERAL FIRE HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS COMBUSTIBLE PRODUCTS

■

- Combustible solid which burns but propagates flame with difficulty.
- Avoid generating dust, particularly clouds of dust in a confined or unventilated space as dusts may form an explosive mixture with air, and any source of ignition, i.e. flame or spark, will cause fire or explosion. Dust clouds generated by the fine grinding of the solid are a particular hazard; accumulations of fine dust may burn rapidly and fiercely if ignited.
- Dry dust can be charged electrostatically by turbulence, pneumatic transport, pouring, in exhaust ducts and during transport.
- Build-up of electrostatic charge may be prevented by bonding and grounding.
- Powder handling equipment such as dust collectors, dryers and mills may require additional protection measures such as explosion venting.

Combustion products include: carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO_2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.
May emit poisonous fumes.

FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

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

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Glasses:
Safety Glasses.
Gloves:
1.NEOPRENE
Respirator:
Particulate

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

MINOR SPILLS
■ It is recommended that areas handling final finished product have cytotoxic spill kits available.
Spill kits should include:

- impermeable body covering,
- shoe covers,
- latex and utility latex gloves,
- goggles,
- approved HEPA respirator,
- disposable dust pan and scoop,
- absorbent towels,
- spill control pillows,
- disposable sponges,
- sharps container,
- disposable garbage bag and
- hazardous waste label

To avoid accidental exposure due to waste handling of cytotoxics:

- Place waste residue in a segregated sealed plastic container.
- Used syringes, needles and sharps should not be crushed, clipped, recapped, but placed directly into an approved sharps container.
- Dispose of any cleanup materials and waste residue according to all applicable laws and regulations e.g, secure chemical landfill disposal.
- Clean up waste regularly and abnormal spills immediately.
- Avoid breathing dust and contact with skin and eyes.
- Wear protective clothing, gloves, safety glasses and dust respirator.
- Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.

- Vacuum up or sweep up. NOTE: Vacuum cleaner must be fitted with an exhaust micro filter (HEPA type) (consider explosion-proof machines designed to be grounded during storage and use).
- Dampen with water to prevent dusting before sweeping.
- Place in suitable containers for disposal.

All personnel likely to involved in a antineoplastic (cytotoxic) spill must receive practical training in:

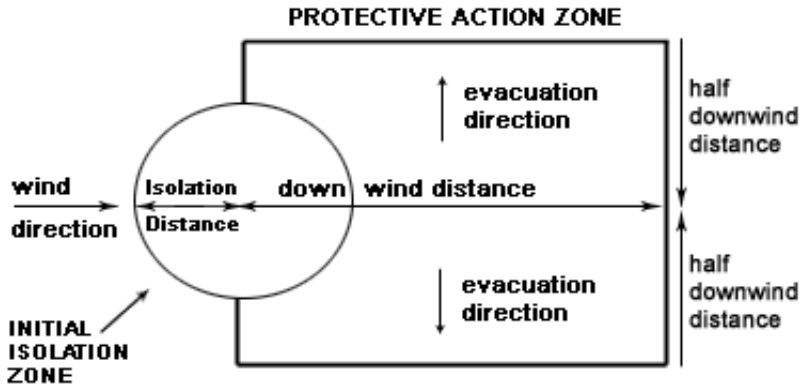
- the correct procedures for handling cytotoxic drugs or waste in order to prevent and minimize the risk of spills
- the location of the skill kit in the area
- the arrangements for medical treatment of any affected personnel
- the procedure for containment of the spill, and decontamination of personnel and the environment, including the different procedures for major and minor spills
- the procedure for waste disposal according to the nature and extent of the spill

MAJOR SPILLS

■

- Clear area of personnel and move upwind.
- 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.
- Stop leak if safe to do so.
- Contain spill with sand, earth or vermiculite.
- Collect recoverable product into labeled containers for recycling.
- Neutralize/decontaminate residue.
- Collect solid residues and seal in labeled drums for disposal.
- Wash area and prevent runoff into drains.
- After clean up operations, decontaminate and launder all protective clothing and equipment before storing and re-using.
- If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.

PROTECTIVE ACTIONS FOR SPILL



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

FOOTNOTES

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

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

■ The National Institute of Health (USA) recommends that the preparation of injectable antineoplastic drugs should be performed in a Class II laminar flow biological safety cabinet and that personnel preparing drugs of this class should wear appropriate personal protective gear. Emphasise controls on containment.

- Avoid all personal contact, including inhalation.

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

Empty containers may contain residual dust which has the potential to accumulate following settling. Such dusts may explode in the presence of an appropriate ignition source.

- Do NOT cut, drill, grind or weld such containers
- In addition ensure such activity is not performed near full, partially empty or empty containers without appropriate workplace safety authorisation or permit.

RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

■ Glass container.

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

For low viscosity materials

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

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

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

- Where combination packages are used, and the inner packages are of glass, there must be sufficient inert cushioning material in contact with inner and outer packages * . - In addition, where inner packagings are glass and contain liquids of packing group I and II there must be sufficient inert absorbent to absorb any spillage *. - * unless the outer packaging is a close fitting molded plastic box and the substances are not incompatible with the plastic.

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

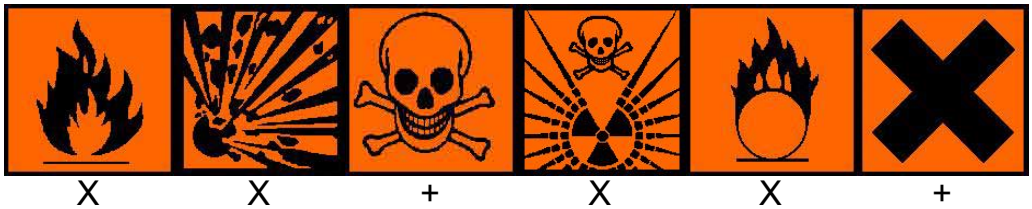
■ Antineoplastics (cytotoxics):

- should be clearly identifiable to all personnel involved in their handling
- should be stored in impervious break-resistant containers
- should be stored in separate, clearly marked storage areas to minimize the risk of breakage, and to limit contamination in the event of leakage.

Spill kits should be available in storage areas.

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

SAFE STORAGE WITH OTHER CLASSIFIED CHEMICALS



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

• methotrexate: CAS:59-05-2 CAS:60388-53-6 CAS:133073-73-1

MATERIAL DATA

METHOTREXATE:

■ It is the goal of the ACGIH (and other Agencies) to recommend TLVs (or their equivalent) for all substances for which there is evidence of health effects at airborne concentrations encountered in the workplace.

At this time no TLV has been established, even though this material may produce adverse health effects (as evidenced in animal experiments or clinical experience). Airborne concentrations must be maintained as low as is practically possible and occupational exposure must be kept to a minimum.
NOTE: The ACGIH occupational exposure standard for Particles Not Otherwise Specified (P.N.O.S) does NOT apply.
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.

CEL TWA: 0.001 mg/m3.

PERSONAL PROTECTION




Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

EYE

■

- Chemical protective goggles with full seal
- Shielded mask (gas-type)
- Contact lenses may pose a special hazard; soft contact lenses may absorb and concentrate irritants. A written policy document, describing the wearing of lens or restrictions on use, should be created for each workplace or task. This should include a review of lens absorption and adsorption for the class of chemicals in use and an account of injury experience. Medical and first-aid personnel should be trained in their removal and suitable equipment should be readily available. In the event of chemical exposure, begin eye irrigation immediately and remove contact lens as soon as practicable. Lens should be removed at the first signs of eye redness or irritation - lens should be removed in a clean environment only after workers have washed hands thoroughly. [CDC NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin 59]

HANDS/FEET

■ Suitability and durability of glove type is dependent on usage. Important factors in the selection of gloves include: such as:

- frequency and duration of contact,
- chemical resistance of glove material,
- glove thickness and
- dexterity

Select gloves tested to a relevant standard (e.g. Europe EN 374, US F739).

- 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.

- Rubber gloves (nitrile or low-protein, powder-free latex). Employees allergic to latex gloves should use nitrile gloves in preference.
- Double gloving should be considered.
- PVC gloves.
- Protective shoe covers.
- Head covering.

OTHER

■

- When handling antineoplastic materials, it is recommended that a disposal work-uniform (such as Tyvek or closed front surgical-type gown with knit cuffs) is worn.
- For quantities up to 500 grams a laboratory coat may be suitable.
- For quantities up to 1 kilogram a disposable laboratory coat or coverall of low permeability is recommended. Coveralls should be buttoned at collar and cuffs.
- For quantities over 1 kilogram and manufacturing operations, wear disposable coverall of low permeability and disposable shoe covers.
- For manufacturing operations, air-supplied full body suits may be required for the provision of advanced respiratory protection.
- Eye wash unit.
- Ensure there is ready access to an emergency shower.
- For Emergencies: Vinyl suit

■

- 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.

GLOVE SELECTION INDEX

■ Glove selection is based on a modified presentation of the:

"Forsberg Clothing Performance Index".

The effect(s) of the following substance(s) are taken into account in the computer-generated selection: methotrexate

■ Protective Material CPI *.

NEOPRENE	A

■ * CPI - Chemwatch Performance Index

A: Best Selection

B: Satisfactory; may degrade after 4 hours continuous immersion

C: Poor to Dangerous Choice for other than short term immersion

NOTE: As a series of factors will influence the actual performance of the glove, a final selection must be based on detailed observation. -

* Where the glove is to be used on a short term, casual or infrequent basis, factors such as "feel" or convenience (e.g. disposability), may dictate a choice of gloves which might otherwise be unsuitable following long-term or frequent use. A qualified practitioner should be consulted.

RESPIRATOR

■

Protection Factor	Half-Face Respirator	Full-Face Respirator	Powered Air Respirator
10 x PEL	P1	-	PAPR-P1
	Air-line*	-	-
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 65ºC).
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

■ Unless written procedures, specific to the workplace are available, the following is intended as a guide:

- For Laboratory-scale handling of Substances assessed to be toxic by inhalation. Quantities of up to 25 grams may be handled in Class II biological safety cabinets *; Quantities of 25 grams to 1 kilogram may be handled in Class II biological safety cabinets* or equivalent containment systems Quantities exceeding 1 kg may be handled either using specific containment, a hood or Class II biological safety cabinet*,
- HEPA terminated local exhaust ventilation should be considered at point of generation of dust, fumes or vapors.
- The need for respiratory protection should also be assessed where incidental or accidental exposure is anticipated. Dependent on levels of contamination, PAPR, full face air purifying devices with P2 or P3 filters or air supplied respirators should be evaluated. When handling: Quantities of up to 25 grams, an approved respirator with HEPA filters or cartridges should be considered Quantities of 25 grams to 1 kilogram, a half-face negative pressure, full negative pressure, or powered helmet-type air purifying respirator should be considered. Quantities in excess of 1 kilogram, a full face negative pressure, helmet-type air purifying, or supplied air respirator should be considered.

Written procedures, specific to a particular work-place, may replace these recommendations
* For Class II Biological Safety Cabinets, Types B2 or B3 should be considered. Where only Class I, open fronted Cabinets are available, glove panels may be added, Laminar flow cabinets do not provide sufficient protection when handling these materials unless especially designed to do so.
For potent pharmacological agents:
Powders

To prevent contamination and overexposure, no open handling of powder should be allowed.

- Powder handling operations are to be done in a powders weighing hood, a glove box, or other equivalent ventilated containment system.
- In situations where these ventilated containment hoods have not been installed, a non-ventilated enclosed containment hood should be used.
- Pending changes resulting from additional air monitoring data, up to 300 mg can be handled outside of an enclosure provided that no grinding, crushing or other dust-generating process occurs.
- An air-purifying respirator should be worn by all personnel in the immediate area in cases where non-ventilated containment is used, where significant amounts of material (e.g., more than 2 grams) are used, or where the material may become airborne (as through grinding, etc.).
- Powder should be put into solution or a closed or covered container after handling.
- If using a ventilated enclosure that has not been validated, wear a half-mask respirator equipped with HEPA cartridges until the enclosure is validated for use.

Solutions Handling:

- Solutions can be handled outside a containment system or without local exhaust ventilation during procedures with no potential for aerosolisation. If the procedures have a potential for aerosolisation, an air-purifying respirator is to be worn by all personnel in the immediate area.
- Solutions used for procedures where aerosolisation may occur (e.g., vortexing, pumping) are to be handled within a containment system or with local exhaust ventilation.
- In situations where this is not feasible (may include animal dosing), an air-purifying respirator is to be worn by all personnel in the immediate area. If using a ventilated enclosure that has not been validated, wear a half-mask respirator equipped with HEPA cartridges until the enclosure is validated for use.
- Ensure gloves are protective against solvents in use.

Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.
Does not mix with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	454.4
Melting Range (°F)	383 (decomp)	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	Not available	Solubility in water (g/L)	Partly miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not available	pH (1% solution)	Not available
Decomposition Temp (°F)	383	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Negligible
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not available.	Specific Gravity (water=1)	Not available
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not available	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	>1
Volatile Component (%vol)	Negligible	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

APPEARANCE

Yellow to orange-brown crystalline powder; does not mix well with water. Dissolves in solutions of mineral acids and dilute solutions of alkali hydroxides. The USP permits a mixture of 4-amino-10-methylfolic acid and related substances and specifies not less than 94% $C_{20}H_{22}N_8O_5$ calculated on an anhydrous basis.

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 oxidizing agents.

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

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

methotrexate

TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Intravenous (Human) TDLo: 100 mg/kg	
Intraperitoneal (Rat) LD50: 6 mg/kg	
Subcutaneous (Rat) LD50: 58 mg/kg	
Intravenous (Rat) LD50: 14 mg/kg	
Intravenous (Rat) TDLo: 30 mg/kg	
Oral (Human) TDLo: 43 mg/kg	

Oral (Human) TDLo: 2 mg/kg

Intravenous (Human) TDLo: 740 mg/kg

Oral (Rat) LD50: 135 mg/kg

Oral (Mouse) LD50: 146 mg/kg

Intraperitoneal (Mouse) LD50: 50 mg/kg

Subcutaneous (Mouse) LD50: 250 mg/kg

Intravenous (Mouse) LD50: 65 mg/kg

■ 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.
Long-term treatment may produce liver damage often in the absence of other signs of methotrexate toxicity. Kidney damage, osteoporosis, and pulmonary and neurotoxic reactions have been reported. Teratogenic effects have also been cited.
Anaphylactic and allergic effects have also been reported with methotrexate use. Skin rashes (erythematous) pruritis, urticaria, photosensitivity, depigmentation, ecchymosis, telangiectasia, acne and furuncolosis may occur.
Subchronic toxicity of methotrexate has been assessed in mice, rats, dogs and monkeys. Mice given intravenous (IV) dose of approximately 5 mg/kg/day for 5 days or 5 daily intraperitoneal doses at 1 mg/kg/day showed bone marrow suppression, gastrointestinal haemorrhage and degenerative changes of the liver and kidney. No moralities were reported.
Methotrexate administered to rats in their drinking water at 100 to 30 mg/kg/day for up to 42 days caused toxicity at all levels; the liver was identified as the primary target organ of toxicity in this study.
Dogs tolerated IV doses of 0.04 mg/kg/day for 15 days, subcutaneous doses of 0.046 mg/kg/day for 15 days and 0.08 mg/kg/day orally for 15 days without mortality. Dogs were exposed via tracheal stoma to nominal doses of methotrexate at 20, 100 or 500 mg/kg/daily for two weeks. At the highest dose, gastrointestinal haemorrhage, weakness, emaciation and death occurred with 8 days. At the mid-dose, animals survived and showed signs of toxicity; no significant toxicity was observed at the lowest doses
Monkeys given 7.5 mg/kg/day IV for 5 days exhibited signs of toxicity consisting of emesis, diarrhoea and loss of weight and appetite. The chronic toxicity of methotrexate was assessed in rats fed methotrexate in the diet for 23 months. Signs of toxicity at the mid- and high- dose were related to bone marrow suppression and liver damage.
Chronic dosing with methotrexate impaired spermatogenesis and caused seminiferous tubule atrophy in the testes of male rats. Although fewer litters were produced and survival rate was poor in mice receiving 0.1 mg/kg/day, there were no abnormalities seen i the surviving mice throughout a 3-generation study.
Methotrexate has been found to cause birth defects and foetal death in rats, mice and rabbits at low doses; studies i monkey showed embryolethality (death) and resorptions of developing foetuses) but no birth defects.
Methotrexate may interfere with normal foetal development, producing abortions or malformations. In an unsuccessful attempt to self-induce abortion, a woman who took 2.5 mg/kg/day for 5 days at about the 9th week gave birth to an infant with multiple congenital abnormalities. It has been estimated that the incidence of congenital malformations in humans with first trimester clinical exposure to methotrexate is 3.4% The same report notes that many other studies have failed to demonstrate an increased rate of foetal malformation when mothers were treated with methotrexate more than a year before pregnancy.
Methotrexate does not appear to be a mutagen. There are however reports of effects on germinal cells (sperm, ova) and it remains controversial as to whether it has a clastogenic (DNA breaking potential). Lifetime exposure of rats to toxic doses of methotrexate did not produce clastogenic effects in vivo.
The material may be irritating to the eye, with prolonged contact causing inflammation. Repeated or prolonged exposure to irritants may produce conjunctivitis.

CARCINOGEN

Methotrexate	International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Reviewed by the IARC Monographs	Group 3

Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:
METHOTREXATE:
■ For antineoplastics:
Ecotoxicity:
Because antineoplastics are genotoxic, mutagenic and carcinogenic concerns are warranted for their potential effect in the environment. There are a number of known mammalian toxic and nausea effects associated with antineoplastic treatment, which could indicate that similar effects, might be expected in non-target mammals, and possibly also in non-target species other than mammals. Total dosage over a whole therapy protocol is approximately 150 mg /kg body weight. Approximately 14-53% of the administered pharmaceutical is excreted unmetabolised into urine.
Antineoplastics as a class of drugs are of potential concern for environmental impacts, not just for their acute toxicity but perhaps more for their ability to effect subtle genetic changes, the cumulative impact of which over time can lead to more profound ecologic change. Hospitals are the major source of genotoxic drugs. publicly-owned waste-water treatment works (POTWs) that service hospitals, especially multiple hospitals, are likely candidates for releasing these chemicals into surface waters.
Antineoplastics are highly [geno]toxic compounds, primarily from hospitals, with poor removal from sewage treatment plants (STWs). Antineoplastic agents, antitumour agents primarily used only within hospitals for chemotherapy, are found sporadically and in a range of concentrations, probably because only small amounts are introduced to STWs via domestic sewage because of their long-lived physiologic retention.
These compounds act as nonspecific alkylating agents (i.e., specific receptors are not involved) and therefore have the potential to act as either acute or long-felt stressors (mutagens carcinogens/ teratogens/ embryotoxins) in any organism.
Using well-established QSAR modelling techniques almost 1/5 of the commonly used antineoplastics were predicted to be very toxic to algae, and close to 1/3 were predicted to be non-toxic to plants. A third of the compounds were predicted to be very toxic to daphnids, and almost half were predicted to be non-toxic to daphnids. Slightly more than 1/5 were predicted to be very toxic to fish, and 47% were predicted to be non-toxic to fish.

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
methotrexate	HIGH		LOW	MED

Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Disposal Instructions

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

- Antineoplastic (cytotoxic) wastes must be packed directly, ready for incineration, into color-coded, secure, labelled, leak-proof containers sufficiently robust to withstand handling without breaking, bursting or leaking.
- Containers of special design are available for particular needs (such as disposal of sharps) and should be used.
- Once filled and closed, such containers must never be re-opened.
- Immediate containers must bear a nationally accepted symbol or device depicting cytotoxic substances and be labelled with the words: CYTOTOXIC WASTE - INCINERATE in a style of lettering approved by the national/ state authority.
- Where policies and procedures permit the merging of cytotoxic wastes with medical waste in an outer container used for medical waste, cytotoxic waste must first be placed in identifiable color-coded/ labelled cytotoxic containers prior to merging.
- Management procedures must ensure that merged medical and cytotoxic waste is subjected to the incineration requirements appropriate for the total destruction of the cytotoxic waste.

WASTE STORAGE OF CYTOTOXIC WASTES For the storage of cytotoxic waste, segregated or merged with medical waste, provide:

- special storage areas with adequate lighting.
- waste security and restriction of access to authorized persons.
- storage areas designed to facilitate easy routine cleaning and maintenance to hygienic standards, or post-spill decontamination.
- storage of cytotoxic waste in standard, identifying bins or other appropriate containers.

COLLECTION OF CYTOTOXIC WASTES

- Procedures for the collection of cytotoxic wastes, which are compatible with existing operational needs, and which protect workers, other people and the environment, must be developed.
- Waste must be removed from the site by contractors whose workers have been instructed in the protective methods to be used against the hazards involved, and who comply with the safe work practices established by internal and/or national/ state policies. Contractors must instruct, train and direct their personnel in the safe and legal handling of cytotoxic wastes. Contractor's personnel should observe the operating procedures of the waste-generator.
- Transport of cytotoxic wastes, through the community, must comply with the appropriate national/ state codes.

DESTRUCTION OF CYTOTOXIC WASTES

- Destruction of cytotoxic wastes should be carried out in multi-chambered incinerators, licenced for this purpose, operating at 1100 deg. C. or more, with a residence time of at least 1 second.
- Operators must be trained in handling procedures and hazards involved with handling the waste.
- Waste which arrives at the incinerator inappropriately packaged should NOT be returned to the waste generator. An authorized representative of the waste generator must attend the incinerator site to rectify the situation.

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

DOT:

Symbols:	None	Hazard class or Division:	6.1
Identification Numbers:	UN3249	PG:	III
Label Codes:	6.1	Special provisions:	T1, TP33
Packaging: Exceptions:	153	Packaging: Non-bulk:	213
Packaging: Exceptions:	153	Quantity limitations: Passenger aircraft/rail:	5 kg
Quantity Limitations: Cargo aircraft only:	5 kg	Vessel stowage: Location:	C
Vessel stowage: Other:	40		

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:
Medicine, solid, toxic, n.o.s.

Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class:	6.1	ICAO/IATA Subrisk:	None
UN/ID Number:	3249	Packing Group:	III
Special provisions:	A3		

Shipping Name: MEDICINE, SOLID, TOXIC, N.O.S.(CONTAINS METHOTREXATE)

Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class:	6.1	IMDG Subrisk:	None
UN Number:	3249	Packing Group:	III
EMS Number:	F-A,S-A	Special provisions:	221 223 944
Limited Quantities:	5 kg		

Shipping Name: MEDICINE, SOLID, TOXIC, N.O.S.(contains methotrexate)

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

methotrexate (CAS: 59-05-2,60388-53-6,133073-73-1) is found on the following regulatory lists;

"Canada Non-Domestic Substances List (NDSL)","International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Reviewed by the IARC Monographs","US - California Air Toxics ""Hot Spots"" List (Assembly Bill 2588) Substances for which production, use or other presence must be reported","US - California Proposition 65 - Priority List for the Development of MADLs for Chemicals Causing Reproductive Toxicity","US - Connecticut Hazardous Air Pollutants","US - Maine Chemicals of High Concern List","US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory"

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

LIMITED EVIDENCE

■ Cumulative effects may result following exposure*.
■ Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect*.
* (limited evidence).

Germany Hazard classification and labelling of medicines with antineoplastic effects (ATC Code L01 and L02)

INN	CAS	Danger	CMR effects	CMR effects	Other
			Cat 1&2	Cat 3	
Methotrexat	59- 05- 2	T	R 46 R 60 R 61		R 23/24/25 R 36/37/38

Ingredients with multiple CAS Nos

Ingredient Name	CAS
methotrexate	59-05-2, 60388-53-6, 133073-73-1

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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.

■ 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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