

# Tributyltin cyanide

sc-229555

Material Safety Data Sheet



The Power is Question

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

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### PRODUCT NAME

Tributyltin cyanide

### 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

■ Dangerous POISON. Available ONLY for industrial and manufacturing purposes. To be used by or in accordance with directions of accredited pest control officers. Operators to be trained in procedures for safe use of material. Intermediate. Reagent for the facile cyanation of acyl chlorides.

### SYNONYMS

C13-H27-N-Sn, ((CH3(CH2)3)3SnCN, "stannanecarbonitrile, tributyl-", "tin, tributylcyano-", tributylcyanotin, tributylstannanecarbonitrile, "tri-n-butyltin cyanide"

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS

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



### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



## EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

### RISK

Contact with acids liberates very toxic gas.

Toxic: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation and if swallowed.

Very toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed.

Irritating to eyes and skin.

May cause long-term adverse effects in the environment.

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

## POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

#### SWALLOWED

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

■ Cyanide poisoning can cause increased saliva output, nausea without vomiting, anxiety, confusion, vertigo, dizziness, stiffness of the lower jaw, convulsions, spasm, paralysis, coma and irregular heartbeat, and stimulation of breathing followed by failure. Often the skin becomes cyanosed (blue-gray), and this is often delayed. Doses which are not lethal are eventually excreted in the urine.

■ Subchronic exposures to mono-, di- and tri- and tetra-substituted organotin compounds may elicit toxic response in the central nervous, immune and renal systems, the liver and bile duct and the skin.

■ Some trialkyl organotin compounds cause damage to the central nervous system, consisting of swelling through the white matter. Lighter functional groups cause a more potent response. There may be severe headache, vomiting, fear of the light, psychotic disturbances and convulsions. Trialkyl organotin compounds can also impair the function of the thymus and thus incapacitate the immune system.

#### EYE

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

#### SKIN

■ Skin contact with the material may produce severely toxic effects; systemic effects may result following absorption and these may be fatal.

■ 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.

■ Trialkyl organotin compounds are well absorbed through the skin; healing is slow and skin burns result. The lower abdomen, thighs and groin are most often affected due to absorption by clothing.

#### INHALED

■ Inhalation of dusts, generated by the material, during the course of normal handling, may produce severely toxic effects; these may be fatal.

■ The material is not thought to produce respiratory irritation (as classified using animal models). Nevertheless inhalation of dusts, or fume, especially for prolonged periods, may produce respiratory discomfort and occasionally, distress.

■ 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.

■ The acute toxicity of inhaled organotin compounds resembles that found by other means of exposure.

■ Inhalation of vapors or aerosols (mists, fumes), generated by the material during the course of normal handling, may produce serious damage to the health of the individual.

## CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

■ Toxic: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation and if swallowed.

This material can cause serious damage if one is exposed to it for long periods. It can be assumed that it contains a substance which can produce severe defects. This has been demonstrated via both short- and long-term experimentation.

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

Chronic exposure to cyanides and certain nitriles may result in interference to iodine uptake by thyroid gland and its consequent enlargement. This occurs following metabolic conversion of the cyanide moiety to thiocyanate. Thyroid insufficiency may also occur as a result of metabolic conversion of cyanides to the corresponding thiocyanate. Exposure to small amounts of cyanide compounds over long periods are reported to cause loss of appetite, headache, weakness, nausea, dizziness, abdominal pain, changes in taste and smell, muscle cramps, weight loss, flushing of the face, persistent runny nose and irritation of the upper respiratory tract and eyes. These symptoms are not specific to cyanide exposure and therefore the existence of a chronic cyanide toxicity remains speculative. Repeated minor contact with cyanides produce a characteristic rash with itching, papules (small, superficial raised spots on the skin) and possible sensitization. Concerns have been expressed that low-level, long term exposures may result in damage to the nerves of the eye.

Both tributyltins (TBT) and dibutyltins (DBT) have negative effects on the reproductive system in mammals. In line with these facts, TBT and TPT were given the highest category in a European review of endocrine disrupting chemicals (BKH, 2000): "Evidence for endocrine disruption in living organisms". TBT was also classified as "Evidence of potential to cause endocrine disruption in humans".

Organotins are also toxic by other mechanisms. For instance, several organotins are strongly immunosuppressive, display developmental and reproductive effects and are neurotoxic

TPT is classified as category 3 carcinogenic in the EU, but as category 2 (probable human carcinogenic) by the USEPA (EFSA, 2004). DBT may actually be more toxic than TBT to certain enzyme systems. Immunotoxic and developmental effects in mammals may also be more

sensitive to DBT than to TB. Both TBT and TPT may be classified as Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic (PBT) and very Persistent, very Bioaccumulative (vPvB) substances according to certain, whereas DBT and dioctyl tin (DO)T may be classified as PBT. For human health, there are no epidemiological studies on chronic low level exposure available. It has been suggested that toxicity was equal for DBT, TBT, DOT and TPT for humans, and proposed a group TDI of 0.1 µg Sn (kg Bw and d)-1.

### Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
tributyltin cyanide	2179-92-2	>98

### Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

#### SWALLOWED

■ **IMPORTANT: ESTABLISH A FIRST AID PLAN BEFORE WORKING WITH CYANIDES. ANTIDOTES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON SITE.**

- Prompt response in an emergency is vital.
- All workers are to be trained and refresher trained in procedures.
- Rescuers might need the protection of breathing apparatus where there is the potential of exposure to airborne cyanide.
- Use the buddy system and avoid becoming a casualty.

In all cases of cyanide exposure get medical help urgently after administering first aid. For cyanide poisonings by any route:

- Contact Poisons Advisory Center or a doctor.
- Seek immediate medical attention.
- Place casualty in coma position.
- Give oxygen when available.
- Consider external cardiac compression, mechanical resuscitation and use of antidote kit.

If breathing stops mouth-to-mouth resuscitation (also called expired air resuscitation - EAR) may be given only as a last resort. Should such resort prove necessary, first wash the casualty's mouth and lips. A first aid attendant giving EAR must not inhale the expired air of the casualty. US Practice as employed by DuPont:- FIRST AID Swallowed/ Inhaled /Skin Contact

- If no symptoms, no treatment is necessary; decontaminate patient.
- If conscious but with symptoms present (nausea, shortness of breath, dizziness) give oxygen.
- If consciousness is impaired (slurred speech, drowsiness) give oxygen and amyl nitrite.
- If unconscious but breathing, give oxygen and amyl nitrite by means of a respirator. To give amyl nitrite, break an ampoule in a cloth and insert into lip of mask for 15 seconds, then take away for 15 seconds. Repeat 5-6 times.

First Aid Supplies for cyanide poisoning should be conveniently placed throughout cyanide areas and should be IMMEDIATELY accessible at all times. They should be routinely inspected (typically daily) by people who would use them in an emergency. The total numbers of any item listed below should be adequate to handle the largest number of exposure cases that can reasonably be anticipated, taking into account that some supplies may be wasted, destroyed or inaccessible during an emergency. Oxygen Resuscitators - The Flynn Series III Model from O-Two Systems has been found satisfactory, being lightweight, rugged and easy to use. Amyl Nitrite Ampoules - One box of one dozen ampoules per station is usually satisfactory. Stations should be located throughout the cyanide area. CAUTION: Amyl nitrite is not stable and must be replaced every 1 to 2 years. Store in the original dated box away from heat. (can be stored with the resuscitator). Avoid storage on vehicles where cabin temperatures can reach 60 deg. C. Storage in high temperature climates may require replacement before the expiry date on the box. Also avoid excessive cold storage which may limit the vapor pressure and reduce its evaporating property. Kits and amyl nitrite should be accessible, but secured against tampering or theft (an increase in the use of nitrite "poppers", as aphrodisiacs, introduces substance abuse concerns). A set of cyanide first aid instructions should be located at each amyl nitrite storage location. Workers should be fully trained since in real emergency situations there will be insufficient time to "read the book". Notes on the use of amyl nitrite:-

- AN is highly volatile and flammable - do not smoke or use around a source of ignition.
- If treating patient in a windy or draughty area provide some shelter or protection (shirt, wall, drum, cupped hand etc.) to prevent amyl nitrite vapor from being blown away. Keep ampoule upwind from the nose, the objective is to get amyl nitrite into the patient's lungs.
- Rescuers should avoid AN inhalation to avoid becoming dizzy and losing competence.
- Lay the patient down. Since AN dilates blood vessels and lowers blood pressure, lying down will help keep the patient conscious.
- DO NOT overuse - excessive use might put the patient into shock.
- Vasodilatory effects of amyl nitrate may promote fatal cardiac arrhythmias (particularly if the patient is not really poisoned by cyanide).
- the role of amyl nitrate as a competitive inducer of methemoglobin in the blood stream is highly variable and, alone, may produce levels of methemoglobin as low as 5% only.

Experience at DuPont plants has not shown any serious after-effects from treatment with amyl nitrite.

#### EYE

■ If this product comes in contact with the eyes:

- Immediately hold eyelids apart and flush the eye continuously with running water.
- Ensure complete irrigation of the eye by keeping eyelids apart and away from eye and moving the eyelids by occasionally lifting the upper and lower lids.
- Continue flushing until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Center or a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes.
- Transport to hospital or doctor without delay.
- Removal of contact lenses after an eye injury should only be undertaken by skilled personnel.

#### SKIN

■ If skin or hair contact occurs:

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

- Transport to hospital, or doctor.

## INHALED

- 
- If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested.
- Prostheses such as false teeth, which may block airway, should be removed, where possible, prior to initiating first aid procedures.
- Apply artificial respiration if not breathing, preferably with a demand valve resuscitator, bag-valve mask device, or pocket mask as trained. Perform CPR if necessary.
- Transport to hospital, or doctor, without delay.

## NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- 
- Signs symptoms of acute cyanide poisoning reflect cellular hypoxia and are often non-specific.
- Cyanosis may be a late finding.
- A bradycardia, hypertensive and tachypneic patient suggests poisoning especially if CNS and cardiovascular depression subsequently occurs.
- Immediate attention should be directed towards assisted ventilation, administration of 100% oxygen, insertion of intravenous lines and institution of cardiac monitoring.
- Obtain an arterial blood gas immediately and correct any severe metabolic acidosis (pH below 7.15).
- Mildly symptomatic patients generally require supportive care alone. Nitrites should not be given indiscriminately - in all cases of moderate to severe poisoning, they should be given in conjunction with thiosulfate. As a temporizing measure supply amyl nitrite perles (0.2ml inhaled 30 seconds every minute) until intravenous lines for sodium nitrite are established. 10 ml of a 3% solution is administered over 4 minutes to produce 20% methemoglobin in adults. Follow directly with 50 ml of 25% sodium thiosulfate, at the same rate, IV. If symptoms reappear or persist within 1/2-1 hour, repeat nitrite and thiosulfate at 50% of initial dose. As the mode of action involves the metabolic conversion of the thiosulfate to thiocyanate, renal failure may enhance thiocyanate toxicity.

- Methylene blue is not an antidote. [Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology]

If amyl nitrite intervention is employed then Medical Treatment Kits should contain the following:

- One box containing one dozen amyl nitrite ampoules
- Two sterile ampoules of sodium nitrite solution (10 mL of a 3% solution in each)
- Two sterile ampoules of sodium thiosulfate solution (50 mL of a 25% solution in each)
- One 10 mL sterile syringe. One 50 mL sterile syringe. Two sterile intravenous needles. One tourniquet.
- One dozen gauze pads.
- Latex gloves
- A "Biohazard" bag for disposal of bloody/contaminated equipment.
- A set of cyanide instructions on first aid and medical treatment.

- Notes on the use of amyl nitrite:-

- AN is highly volatile and flammable - do not smoke or use around a source of ignition.
- If treating patient in a windy or draughty area provide some shelter or protection (shirt, wall, drum, cupped hand etc.) to prevent amyl nitrite vapor from being blown away. Keep ampoule upwind from the nose, the objective is to get amyl nitrite into the patient's lungs.
- Rescuers should avoid AN inhalation to avoid becoming dizzy and losing competence.
- Lay the patient down. Since AN dilates blood vessels and lowers blood pressure, lying down will help keep patient conscious.
- DO NOT overuse - excessive use might put the patient into shock. Experience at DuPont plants has not shown any serious after-effects from treatment with amyl nitrite.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- Major medical treatment procedures may vary e.g. US (FDA method as recommended by DuPont) uses amyl nitrite as a methemoglobin generator, followed by treatment with sodium nitrite and then sodium thiosulfate.

MODES OF ACTION: Amyl nitrite (AN) reacts with hemoglobin (HB) to form about 5% methemoglobin (MHB). Sodium nitrite (NaNO<sub>2</sub>) reacts with hemoglobin to form approximately 20-30% methemoglobin. Methemoglobin attracts cyanide ions (CN) from tissue and binds with them to become cyanmethemoglobin (CNMHB). Sodium thiosulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) converts cyanmethemoglobin to thiocyanate (HSCN) which is excreted by the kidneys. i.e. AN + HB = MHB NaNO<sub>2</sub> + HB = MHB CN + MHB = CNMHB Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> + CNMHB + O<sub>2</sub> = HSCN

- The administration of the antidote salts is intravenous in normal saline, Ringers lactate or other available IV fluid.

Scanty animal data indicate that BAL may be useful against dialkyl but not trialkyl organotin compounds. D-penicillamine is thought to be inactive. GOSSELIN, SMITH HODGE: Clinical Toxicology of Commercial Products, 5th Ed Dimercaprol is suggested to be an effective antidote for dialkyltin poisoning and has been reported to prevent the accumulation of alpha-keto acids produced by dialkyltin compounds. It does not however appear to protect rats from the general toxic effects of triethyltin compounds. This may be due to the fact that dialkyltin compounds, at least up to dihexyl derivatives, react readily with sulfhydryl groups and trialkyltin compounds do not. Surgical decompression was considered to be the only treatment that offered any benefit in human cases of cerebral edema caused by trialkyl compounds. Tin and Organotin Compounds: A Preliminary Review. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CRITERIA: World Health Organization Geneva 1980.

## 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

- for inorganic cyanides

- DO NOT USE CARBON DIOXIDE as reaction may produce hydrogen cyanide
- Extinguish fires with water spray or fog; reaction may produce hydrogen cyanide - exhibit extreme caution
- Do NOT use straight stream of water
- Most foams will react with inorganic cyanides and release toxic and corrosive fumes.
- For small fires use dry (non-acidic) chemical extinguishers or dry sand

#### **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<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), metal oxides, 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:

Full face- shield.

Gloves:

Respirator:

Type A Filter of sufficient capacity

## Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

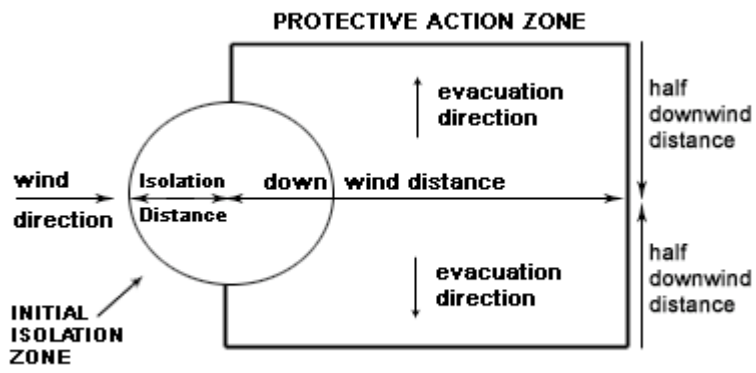
#### **MINOR SPILLS**

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

#### **MAJOR SPILLS**

- Environmental hazard - contain spillage.
- 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

From US Emergency Response Guide 2000 Guide 153

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

6 IERG information is derived from CANUTEC - Transport Canada.

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

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

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

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

## Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

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

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- 
- 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: 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

Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m <sup>3</sup>	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Peak ppm	Peak mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Notes
US - Alaska Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin oxide (as Sn))		2					
Canada - Northwest Territories Occupational Exposure Limits (English)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, inorganic compounds, except SnH and SnO (as Sn))		2		4			
Canada - Yukon Permissible Concentrations for Airborne Contaminant Substances	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, inorganic compounds, (as Sn) (except SnH <sub>4</sub> and SnO <sub>2</sub> ))	-	2	-	4			
US - Minnesota Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))		0.1					
US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds, as Sn)		0.1		0.2			
US NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin (organic compounds, as Sn))		0.1					[*Note: The REL applies to all organic tin compounds except Cyhexatin.]; [skin]
Canada - Ontario Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds of (as tin))		0.1					Skin



US - Vermont Permissible Exposure Limits Table Z-1-A Transitional Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1		
US - Vermont Permissible Exposure Limits Table Z-1-A Final Rule Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1		
US - Idaho - Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin (organic compounds) as (Sn))	0.1		
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1		
Canada - Saskatchewan Occupational Health and Safety Regulations - Contamination Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, (as Sn): organic compounds)	0.1	0.2	Skin
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1	0.2	
Canada - Yukon Permissible Concentrations for Airborne Contaminant Substances	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn) - Skin)	0.1	0.2	
US - Washington Permissible exposure limits of air contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin (as Sn) - Organic compounds)	0.1	0.3	
Canada - Nova Scotia Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin - Organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1	0.2	
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z1	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1		
US - Alaska Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1		
Canada - Northwest Territories Occupational Exposure Limits (English)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic <sup>4</sup> compounds <sup>2</sup> (as Sn) - Skin)	0.1	0.2	
US ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLV)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin - Organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1	0.2	
Canada - Alberta Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, as Sn: Organic compounds)	0.1	0.2	

Canada - British Columbia Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin - Organic compounds, as Sn)	0.1	0.2	Skin
Canada - Quebec Permissible Exposure Values for Airborne Contaminants (English)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin: Organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1	0.2	
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z-1)	tributyltin cyanide (Tin (organic compounds))	0.1		
Canada - Prince Edward Island Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Tin - Organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1	0.2	
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Tin, organic compounds (as Sn))	0.1		
US - Idaho - Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		
US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanide, as CN)	5		
US - Minnesota Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs)	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))		5	
US - Vermont Permissible Exposure Limits Table Z-1-A Final Rule Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		
US - Vermont Permissible Exposure Limits Table Z-1-A Transitional Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z1	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		
US - Alaska Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5		(CAS (Varies with compound))
US - Washington Permissible exposure limits of air contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanide (as CN))	5	10	

Canada - Quebec Permissible Exposure Values for Airborne Contaminants (English)	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))		10	11	
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5			
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z-1)	tributyltin cyanide (Cyanides (as CN))	5			
Canada - Nova Scotia Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) [NOS] Respirable particles)	3			See Appendix B current TLV/BEI Book
Canada - Quebec Permissible Exposure Values for Airborne Contaminants (English)	tributyltin cyanide (Particulates Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC))	10			
Canada - British Columbia Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC))	10 (N)			
US - Washington Permissible exposure limits of air contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Particulates not otherwise regulated - Total particulate)	10	20		
US - Washington Permissible exposure limits of air contaminants	tributyltin cyanide (Particulates not otherwise regulated - Respirable fraction)	5	10		
Canada - Nova Scotia Occupational Exposure Limits	tributyltin cyanide (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) [NOS] Inhalable particles)	10			See Appendix B current TLV/BEI Book

#### ENDOELTABLE

#### EMERGENCY EXPOSURE LIMITS

Material	tributyltin cyanide
Original IDLH Value (ppm)	

#### MATERIAL DATA

##### TRIBUTYLTIN CYANIDE:

■ Exposure limits with "skin" notation indicate that vapor and liquid may be absorbed through intact skin. Absorption by skin may readily exceed vapor inhalation exposure. Symptoms for skin absorption are the same as for inhalation. Contact with eyes and mucous membranes may also contribute to overall exposure and may also invalidate the exposure standard. The no/lowest-observed-adverse-effect levels (NOAELs or LOAELs) in inhalation studies involving tri-n-butyltin chloride and bromide are 0.3-0.4 ppm (2-4 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) based on changes in the lungs, heart, liver, kidneys, nervous system and reproductive system in rodents. Oral administration of organotin compounds has induced toxicity in a number of differing organ systems, organs and lungs. The LOAEL for triethyltin bromide was 0.4 mg triethyltin/kg/day as 5 ppm in drinking water. The LOAELs for the most critical organ sites in rats (i.e. the cellular immune response and CNS effects) are 0.15 and 0.23 mg/tin/kg body weight/day. Experience with ingested tri- and diethyltins in the treatment of staphylococcal infections, osteomyelitis, anthrax and acne suggests that humans react in a manner similar to rodents, but that the human is more sensitive to absorbed organic tin. The recommended TLV-TWA is thought to minimize the potential for adverse effects on immune function and the central nervous system. A STEL is also recommended to minimize acute symptoms such as eye and respiratory tract irritation, headaches and/or nausea. Based on an

exposure to 0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, a 70-kg worker breathing 10 m<sup>3</sup> of air/8hr workday and assuming complete retention of the inhaled dose, would receive a daily exposure of 14.3 ug tin/kg body weight of an organotin compound. A skin notation was recommended based on animal data and the potential danger of enhanced absorption due to damaged skin present in many exposed workers.

NOTE: Detector tubes for cyanides, measuring CN in excess of 2mg are commercially available.

Exposure limits with "skin" notation indicate that vapor and liquid may be absorbed through intact skin. Absorption by skin may readily exceed vapor inhalation exposure. Symptoms for skin absorption are the same as for inhalation. Contact with eyes and mucous membranes may also contribute to overall exposure and may also invalidate the exposure standard.

## PERSONAL PROTECTION



Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

### EYE

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

### HANDS/FEET

- Elbow length PVC gloves.

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

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

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

- When prolonged or frequently repeated contact may occur, a glove with a protection class of 5 or higher (breakthrough time greater than 240 minutes according to EN 374) is recommended.
- When only brief contact is expected, a glove with a protection class of 3 or higher (breakthrough time greater than 60 minutes according to EN 374) is recommended.
- Contaminated gloves should be replaced.

Gloves must only be worn on clean hands. After using gloves, hands should be washed and dried thoroughly. Application of a non-perfumed moisturiser is recommended.

### OTHER

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

### RESPIRATOR

- 
- Respirators may be necessary when engineering and administrative controls do not adequately prevent exposures.
- The decision to use respiratory protection should be based on professional judgment that takes into account toxicity information, exposure measurement data, and frequency and likelihood of the worker's exposure - ensure users are not subject to high thermal loads which may result in heat stress or distress due to personal protective equipment (powered, positive flow, full face apparatus may be an option).
- Published occupational exposure limits, where they exist, will assist in determining the adequacy of the selected respiratory . These may be government mandated or vendor recommended.
- Certified respirators will be useful for protecting workers from inhalation of particulates when properly selected and fit tested as part of a complete respiratory protection program.
- Use approved positive flow mask if significant quantities of dust becomes airborne.
- Try to avoid creating dust conditions.

### RESPIRATOR

■ 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

- 
- Local exhaust ventilation is required where solids are handled as powders or crystals; even when particulates are relatively large, a certain proportion will be powdered by mutual friction.
- Exhaust ventilation should be designed to prevent accumulation and recirculation of particulates in the workplace.
- If in spite of local exhaust an adverse concentration of the substance in air could occur, respiratory protection should be considered. Such protection might consist of:
  - (a): particle dust respirators, if necessary, combined with an absorption cartridge;
  - (b): filter respirators with absorption cartridge or canister of the right type;
  - (c): fresh-air hoods or masks
- Build-up of electrostatic charge on the dust particle, 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.

Air contaminants generated in the workplace possess varying "escape" velocities which, in turn, determine the "capture velocities" of fresh circulating air required to efficiently remove the contaminant.

Type of Contaminant:	Air Speed:
direct spray, spray painting in shallow booths, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)	1-2.5 m/s (200-500 f/min.)
grinding, abrasive blasting, tumbling, high speed wheel generated dusts (released at high initial velocity into zone of very high rapid air motion).	2.5-10 m/s (500-2000 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range	Upper end of the range
1: Room air currents minimal or favorable to capture	1: Disturbing room air currents
2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only	2: Contaminants of high toxicity
3: Intermittent, low production.	3: High production, heavy use
4: Large hood or large air mass in motion	4: Small hood-local control only

Simple theory shows that air velocity falls rapidly with distance away from the opening of a simple extraction pipe. Velocity generally decreases with the square of distance from the extraction point (in simple cases). Therefore the air speed at the extraction point should be adjusted, accordingly, after reference to distance from the contaminating source. The air velocity at the extraction fan, for example, should be a minimum of 4-10 m/s (800-2000 f/min) for extraction of crusher dusts generated 2 meters distant from the extraction point. Other mechanical considerations, producing performance deficits within the extraction apparatus, make it essential that theoretical air velocities are multiplied by factors of 10 or more when extraction systems are installed or used.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Does not mix with water.

Toxic or noxious vapors/ gas.

Contact with acids liberates very toxic gas.

State	DIVIDED SOLID	Molecular Weight	316.06
Melting Range (°F)	221- 224.6	Viscosity	Not Available
Boiling Range (°F)	Not available	Solubility in water (g/L)	Immiscible
Flash Point (°F)	>230	pH (1% solution)	Not applicable.
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Available	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

White crystalline powder; does not mix with water.

## Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

## CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

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

## STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- 
- Contact with acids produces toxic fumes
- Metal cyanides are readily oxidised and those of some heavy metals show thermal instability.
- Metal cyanide and cyanates are often endothermic, Several members of this family of compounds, containing heavy metals tend to explosive instability, and most are capable of violent oxidation under certain circumstances.
- Fusion of mixtures of metal cyanides with metal chlorates, perchlorates, nitrates or nitrites cause violent explosion.
- Magnesium reacts with incandescence on heating with several metal cyanides; release of cyanogen by thermal decomposition may cause vigorous reaction with magnesium.
- Addition of one solid component (even in residual amounts) to another molten component is extremely dangerous.

BREThERICK L.: Handbook of Reactive Chemical Hazards.

- Avoid strong acids, bases.

Avoid reaction with oxidizing agents.

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

## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

TRIBUTYLTIN CYANIDE

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Intravenous (mouse) LD50: 18 mg/kg	Nil Reported

### CARCINOGEN

Tin - Organic compounds (as Sn)	ND	Carcinogen Category	A4
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### SKIN

tributyltin cyanide	ND	Notes	Skin
tributyltin cyanide	ND	Skin	Yes
tributyltin cyanide	US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants - Skin	Skin Designation	X
tributyltin cyanide	US - Vermont Permissible Exposure Limits Table Z-1-A Final Rule Limits for Air Contaminants - Skin	Skin Designation	X
tributyltin cyanide	US - Washington Permissible exposure limits of air contaminants - Skin	Skin	X
tributyltin cyanide	ND	Skin Designation	Yes
tributyltin cyanide	ND	Notation	Skin
tributyltin cyanide	US - Minnesota Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) - Skin	Skin Designation	X
tributyltin cyanide	US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits - Skin Designation	Skin Designation	X
tributyltin cyanide	ND	Skin Designation	X
tributyltin cyanide	US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Skin	Skin Designation	X
tributyltin cyanide	ND	Skin	X
tributyltin cyanide	US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants - Skin	Skin	X
tributyltin cyanide	US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants - Skin	Skin	S
tributyltin cyanide	Canada - Alberta Occupational Exposure Limits - Skin	Substance Interaction	1

## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

TRIBUTYL TIN CYANIDE:

Marine Pollutant:	Yes
<p>■ On the basis of available evidence concerning either toxicity, persistence, potential to accumulate and or observed environmental fate and behaviour, the material may present a danger, immediate or long-term and /or delayed, to the structure and/ or functioning of natural ecosystems.</p> <p>■ Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.</p> <p>■ Do NOT allow product to come in contact with surface waters or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when cleaning equipment or disposing of equipment wash-waters.</p> <p>Wastes resulting from use of the product must be disposed of on site or at approved waste sites.</p> <p>■ The alkali metal cyanides (and other metal cyanides) are very soluble in water. As a result, they readily dissociate into their respective anions and cations when released into water. Depending on the pH of the water, the resulting cyanide ion may then form hydrogen cyanide or react with various metals in natural water. The proportion of hydrogen cyanide formed from soluble cyanides increases as the water pH decreases. At pH &lt;7, &gt;99% of the cyanide ions in water are converted to hydrogen cyanide. As the pH increases, cyanide ions in the water may form complex metalocyanides in the presence of excess cyanides; however, if metals are polyvalent, simple metal cyanides are formed. Volatilization is the dominant mechanism for the removal of free cyanide. At pH &gt;9.2, most of the free cyanide should exist as HCN, a volatile form of cyanide. Wide variations in the rate of volatilization are expected since this process is affected by a number of parameters such as temperature, pH, wind speed, and cyanide concentration. Volatilization of free cyanide from concentrated solutions is most effective under conditions of high temperatures, high dissolved oxygen levels, and at increased concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide</p> <p>Unlike water-soluble alkali metal cyanides, insoluble metal cyanides are not expected to degrade to hydrogen cyanide. Cyanide occurs most commonly as hydrogen cyanide in water, although it can also occur as the cyanide ion, alkali and alkaline earth metal cyanides (potassium cyanide, sodium cyanide, calcium cyanide), relatively stable metalocyanide complexes (ferricyanide complex [Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>3-</sup>), moderately stable metalocyanide complexes (complex nickel and copper cyanide), or easily decomposable metalocyanide complexes (zinc cyanide [Zn(CN)<sub>2</sub>], cadmium cyanide [Cd(CN)<sub>2</sub>]). Oxidation, hydrolysis, and photolysis (photodegradation) are the three predominant chemical processes that may cause loss of simple cyanides in aquatic media.</p> <p>Certain cyanides are oxidised to isocyanates by strong oxidising agents; the isocyanates may be further hydrolysed to ammonia and carbon dioxide. However, it has not yet been determined whether such oxidation and subsequent hydrolysis of isocyanate is a significant fate process in natural waters known to contain peroxy radicals. In water, hydrogen cyanide and cyanide ion exist in equilibrium with their relative concentrations primarily dependent on pH and temperature. At pH &lt;8, &gt;93% of the free cyanide in water will exist as undissociated hydrogen cyanide. Hydrogen cyanide can be hydrolysed to formamide, which is subsequently hydrolysed to ammonium and formate ions. However, the relatively slow rates of hydrolysis reported for hydrogen cyanide in acidic solution and of cyanides under alkaline conditions indicate that hydrolysis is not competitive with volatilisation and biodegradation for removal of free cyanide from ambient waters. At pH &lt;9.2, most of the free cyanide in solution should exist as hydrogen cyanide, a volatile cyanide form. On the basis of Henry's law constant and the volatility characteristics associated with various ranges of Henry's law constant, volatilization is a significant and probably dominant fate process for hydrogen cyanide in surface water. The most common alkali metal cyanides (e.g., sodium and potassium cyanide) may also be lost from surface water primarily through volatilization; whereas, the sparingly soluble metal cyanides such as copper (I) cyanide are removed from water predominantly by sedimentation and biodegradation. Because volatilisation is not an important fate process for cyanide in groundwater, cyanide would be expected to persist for considerably longer periods of time in underground aquifers than in surface water.</p> <p>The significance of photolysis in the fate of cyanides in water has not been fully investigated. Hydrogen cyanide and cyanide ions in aqueous solution have been found to be very resistant to photolysis by natural sunlight, except under heterogeneous photocatalytic conditions. Photocatalytic oxidation may not be significant in natural waters, however, because of significant light reduction at increasingly greater depths. In clear water or at water surfaces, some metalocyanides, such as ferrocyanides and ferricyanides, may decompose to the cyanide ion by photodissociation and subsequently form hydrogen cyanide.</p> <p>Biodegradation is an important transformation process for cyanide in natural surface waters, and is dependent on such factors as cyanide concentrations, pH, temperature, availability of nutrients, and acclimation of microbes. Although the cyanide ion is toxic to microorganisms at concentrations as low as 5-10 mg/L, acclimation increases tolerance to this compound. Mixed microorganisms in sewage sludge or activated sludge acclimated to cyanide also significantly biodegrade concentrations ≤100 mg/L of most simple and complex cyanides. It is known that there is a natural attenuation of the cyanide ion and thiocyanide concentrations in waste waters, for example those obtained from gold mill tails, that is due to the acclimation of indigenous microflora in the tailings. A number of microorganisms have been identified that are capable of uptake, conversion, sorption, and/or precipitation of the cyanide ion, cyanate, and thiocyanate, including species of the genera, Actinomyces, Alcaligenes, Arthrobacter, Bacillus, Micrococcus, Neisseria, Paracoccus, Pseudomonas, and Thiobacillus. Some of these species, for example Pseudomonas, are capable of using the cyanide ion and thiocyanate as the sole source of carbon and nitrogen and therefore, are particularly effective at cyanide degradation. In fact, Pseudomonas is the basis of commercial applications for degrading the cyanide ion to ammonia and carbonate in waste waters generated in mining operations that use the cyanide ion to leach gold and other precious metals from low-grade ores. Sulfur transferases such as rhodanese are involved in substitution reactions that result in the conversion of the cyanide ion to the less toxic thiocyanate, whereas pyridoxal phosphate enzymes are involved in substitution/addition reactions that result in production of nitrile derivatives of α-amino acids. These organic nitriles may then be ultimately degraded via enzyme catalysed hydrolysis to either the corresponding amino acid and ammonia or the carboxylic acid and ammonia. The cyanide hydratase and cyanidase enzymes catalyse the hydrolysis of the cyanide ion to formamide or formic acid and ammonia, respectively. In soil, cyanide present at low concentrations would biodegrade under aerobic conditions with the initial formation of ammonia, which would be converted to nitrite and nitrate in the presence of nitrifying bacteria. Under anaerobic conditions, the cyanide ion will denitrify to gaseous nitrogen. Upper limits of 200 and 2 ppm (mg/kg CN<sup>-</sup>), respectively, have been reported for uninhibited aerobic and anaerobic biodegradation of cyanide in soil; however, these limits have not been confirmed in other studies. Cyanide ions in soil are not involved in oxidation-reduction reactions but may undergo complexation reactions with metal ions in soil.</p> <p>Cyanides are sorbed by various natural media, including clays, biological solids and sediments. Hydrogen cyanide and the alkali metal cyanides are not likely to be strongly sorbed onto sediments and suspended solids because of their high water solubilities. Soluble metal cyanides may show somewhat stronger sorption than hydrogen cyanide, with the extent of sorption increasing with decreasing pH and increasing iron oxide, clay, and organic material contents of sediment and suspended solids. However, sorption is probably insignificant even for metal cyanides when compared to volatilisation and biodegradation. Cyanides are fairly mobile in soil. Mobility is lowest in soils with low pH and high concentrations of free iron oxides, positively charged particles, and clays (e.g., chlorite, kaolin, gibbsite), and highest in soils with</p>	

high pH, high concentrations of free  $\text{CaCO}_3$  and negatively charged particles, and low clay content. Although cyanide has a low soil sorption capability, it is usually not detected in groundwater, probably because of fixation by trace metals through complexation or transformation by soil microorganisms. In soils where cyanide levels are high enough to be toxic to microorganisms (i.e., landfills, spills), this compound may leach into groundwater. Leaching of cyanide into a shallow aquifer has been demonstrated. Volatilisation of hydrogen cyanide would be a significant loss mechanism for cyanides from soil surfaces at a pH < 9.2.

Most cyanide in the atmosphere exists almost entirely as hydrogen cyanide gas, although small amounts of metal cyanides may be present as particulate matter in the air. Hydrogen cyanide is very resistant to photolysis at wavelengths of normal sunlight. The most important reaction of hydrogen cyanide in air is the reaction with photochemically-generated hydroxyl radicals and subsequent rapid oxidation to carbon monoxide (CO) and nitric oxide (NO); photolysis and reaction with ozone are not important transformation processes, and reaction with singlet oxygen is not a significant transformation process except at stratospheric altitudes where singlet oxygen is present in significant concentrations. The rate of hydroxyl radical reaction with hydrogen cyanide in the atmosphere depends on the altitude, and the rate of the reaction is at least an order of magnitude faster at lower tropospheric altitudes (0–8 km) than at upper tropospheric altitudes (10–12 km). Based on a reaction rate constant of  $3 \times 10^{-14}$  cm<sup>3</sup>/(molecule-sec) at 25 °C and assuming an average hydroxyl radical concentration of  $5 \times 10^5$  molecules/cm<sup>3</sup>, the residence time for the reaction of hydrogen cyanide vapor with hydroxyl radicals in the atmosphere is approximately 2 years.

There is some evidence that certain metal cyanide complexes bioaccumulate in aquatic organisms. Fish from water with soluble silver and copper cyanide complexes were found to have metal cyanides in their tissues at concentrations ranging up to 168 and 304 µg/g, respectively (wet or dry weight not specified). It is difficult to evaluate the toxicologic significance of bioaccumulation of metal cyanide complexes because these compounds are much less toxic than soluble hydrogen cyanide, sodium cyanide, or potassium cyanide. There is no evidence of biomagnification of cyanides in the food chain. Accumulation of cyanide in food webs is not expected, considering the rapid detoxification of cyanide by most species and the lethal effects of large doses of cyanide.

■ Soil Guidelines: Dutch Criteria:

free cyanide: 1 mg/kg (target)

20 mg/kg (intervention)

complex cyanide (pH 5): 5 mg/kg (target)

50 mg/kg (intervention)

Air Quality Standards: no safe guidelines recommended due to carcinogenic properties.

■ Organotin compounds are characterized by a  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$  ion to which one to four organic ligands are attached. They are classified according to the type of organic ligand and the most common are butyltins, octyltins and phenyltins.

A large number of organotin substances are used in the society, and some of these are well-known environmental pollutants. The butyltins comprise on such group. Eco toxicity increases dramatically in the order methylbutyltin (MBT,  $\text{R}_3\text{Sn}$ ) < dibutyltin (DBT,  $\text{R}_2\text{Sn}$ ) < tributyltin (TBT,  $\text{R}_3\text{Sn}$ ) for certain endpoints.

Degradation of organotin compounds involves the breaking of the tin-carbon bond, which may occur by UV irradiation, or by biological or chemical cleavage. In water, for example, tributyltin can be degraded by photochemical and biological processes relatively rapidly; however, adsorption onto suspended particulate material in water followed by sedimentation is a key removal process. The adsorption behavior of  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$  ion and eight organotin species (tri-, di-, and monobutyltin; tri-, di-, and monomethyltin; and tri- and diphenyltin) were studied in a water-sediment system using artificial seawater and estuarine sediment.

Adsorption coefficients varied from 100.5 to 104.5 and showed the trend of  $\text{Sn}^{4+} > \text{mono} > \text{di} > \text{tri}$  in the same substituent series. Larger absorption coefficients were found for aromatic compounds than for aliphatic compounds. Releases of organotin compounds to air from various surfaces are, in general, not significant due to their low vapor pressures and rapid photodegradation at surfaces.

The speciation of organotin compounds is pH-dependent. At lower pHs, the cationic form will be the primary form, and as the pH is increased, the neutral hydroxide compounds will be the predominant species. In the environmentally relevant pH range (pH 5–9), the predominant organotin species will be the neutral hydroxide compounds (i.e.,  $\text{R}_3\text{SnOH}$ ,  $\text{R}_2\text{Sn}(\text{OH})_2$ , and  $\text{RSn}(\text{OH})_3$ ). High concentrations of chloride favor the formation of chloro species. The pKa values for trimethyltin, triethyltin, tributyltin, and triphenyltin cations are approximately 6.60, 6.81, 6.25, and 5.2, respectively. Degradation of organotin compounds in sediments is much slower than in water, and half-lives have been estimated to be several years. In addition to dealkylation of organotin compounds, methylation of tin and organotin compounds by chemical and/or biological means may occur. The contribution of methylation by biotic and abiotic mechanisms is not clear. This pathway may result in fully substituted and volatile tin compounds.

At ambient temperatures, the solubilities of organotin compounds range from 0.0001 to about 50 mg/L. Organotin compounds may partition from water to aquatic organisms. The bioavailability of organotin compounds via the food chain appears to be of minor importance for tributyltin and triphenyltin when compared to uptake via the water phase. Seven-day BCF values were derived for dibutyltin dichloride, dibutyltin dilaurate, tributyltin chloride, bis(tributyltin) oxide, and triphenyltin chloride for muscle, liver, kidney, and vertebra tissue of round crucian carp. The BCF values ranged from 12 in muscle to 5,012 in liver. For all organotin compounds, liver had the highest BCF values. The highest BCFs were found for the tributyltin compounds.

The use of tributyltin (TBT) in antifouling paints on ships has caused significant harm to the marine environment worldwide. Female molluscs are masculinized by TBT at levels as low as ca 1 ng/l, and this effect has severe consequences for their ability to reproduce.

Most investigations on the environmental occurrence of organotin substances have focused on TBT. However, other substances such as dibutyltin (DBT), dioctyltin and monobutyltin (MBT) are used in the society for other reasons and are found in other applications.

Most industrial organotin chemicals (OTCs) are composed of an organotin cation and one or several ligands, and most of these chemicals are reconverted to the organotin cation compounds in natural waters. The cation may form dissolved complexes with e.g. chloride in seawater.

Therefore, their environmental partitioning properties such as  $K_d$  and  $K_h$  depend in part on the balancing anion in the environment. Hydrophobicity increases with increasing number of alkyl groups, and with increasing length of the alkyl chain. Organotins are moderately hydrophobic and associate strongly to particles in natural waters. In harbour sediments, log  $K_d$  in the range 3–4.3 have been measured for various OTCs, and the particle affinity increased in the order  $\text{MBT} < \text{DBT} < \text{TBT}$ . In various soils, however, the reverse pattern of  $K_d$  was observed. In organic soils, log  $K_d$  exceeded 4.0, whereas adsorption was less strong in mineral soils. In contrast to hydrophobic pollutants such as PCBs or PAHs (that partition to lipids in organic matter), OTCs are adsorbed to the functional groups of organic matter, e.g. phenolic and carboxylic groups.

Because organotins are generally cations, long-range atmospheric transport has generally not been considered as important. It has though been demonstrated that TBT forms highly volatile chloride species in seawater. One study has actually demonstrated the presence of organotins in air from rural sites, showing that long-range atmospheric transport of butyltins and octyltins do occur. MBT was the major species in precipitation and deposition. TBT mainly occurred in the gas phase and it is speculated that the source of butyltins may have been volatile TBT species. Subsequent dealkylation in the atmosphere may convert TBT to DBT and MBT.

Organotins are progressively dealkylated in nature, for instance:



TBT-> DBT -> MBT->. Sn4+

Dealkylation proceeds both by photolysis and through enzymatical reactions. This is important to consider when monitoring data are evaluated, since the occurrence of, e.g., DBT may be due to direct release of DBT or to release of TBT that is subsequently dealkylated. Half-lives in soils and sediments are commonly one or a few years, but may be longer under reducing conditions, whereas half-lives in natural waters may range from a few days to several weeks.

Organotin compounds have been detected in various marine organisms, from evertebrates to mammals. In fish and marine mammals, TBT and TPT bioaccumulate more strongly in liver than in muscle. Bioaccumulation is often stronger in bivalves than in fish, a consequence of lower metabolic capacity in bivalves Trisubstituted OTCs are more strongly bioaccumulated than the less lipophilic disubstituted OTCs. Because TBT is dealkylated in many organisms, DBT may be a major species in biota but not necessarily the organotin species that was assimilated. Most studies do not suggest that TBT is biomagnified in aquatic food-chain. However, TPT appears to be biomagnified fairly strongly in the aquatic food chain The trisubstituted substances, TPT and in particular TBT, are widely held as the most toxic organotin substances. Numerous field studies have demonstrated a direct link between TBT and imposex in certain marine organisms, mainly molluscs. Imposex means that females are masculinized and this effect is severe because it directly influences the ability for organisms to reproduce. Imposex has been demonstrated in many coastal areas. These effects occur at very low levels (ca 1 ng/l) for certain organisms. It has been shown in laboratory that TBT causes masculinization also in fish. DBT and MBT does not cause imposex, but both TBT and DBT have negative effects on the reproductive system in mammals. In line with these facts, TBT and TPT were given the highest category in a European review of endocrine disrupting chemicals: "Evidence for endocrine disruption in living organisms". TBT was also classified as "Evidence of potential to cause endocrine disruption in humans".

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

## Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### US EPA Waste Number & Descriptions

A. General Product Information

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. 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.

- Care must be taken when using hypochlorite solution to destroy cyanidewastes by oxidation to cyanates.
- The reaction proceeds readily, even at high pH, but the secondaryoxidation of cyanate to nitrogen and carbon dioxide is very pH dependent.
- At pH 11 it is slow but runs-away at pH 10-10.3. This procedure shouldavoid high pHs, excess of hypochlorite, and moderate or highconcentrations of the hypochlorite.
- Addition of 0.5 ml of cyanide solution to 5 ml of stirred hypochloritedestroyed a gas meter with the violent evolution of gas.

BREThERICK L.: Handbook of Reactive Chemical Hazards.

- 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:	None	Hazard class or Division:	6.1
Identification Numbers:	UN3146	PG:	II
Label Codes:	6.1	Special provisions:	IB8, IP2, IP4, T3, TP33
Packaging: Exceptions:	153	Packaging: Non-bulk:	212

Packaging: Exceptions:	153	Quantity limitations: Passenger aircraft/rail:	25 kg
Quantity Limitations: Cargo aircraft only:	100 kg	Vessel stowage: Location:	A
Vessel stowage: Other:	40	S.M.P.:	Severe

Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names:  
Organotin compounds, solid, n.o.s.

#### Air Transport IATA:

ICAO/IATA Class:	6.1	ICAO/IATA Subrisk:	None
UN/ID Number:	3146	Packing Group:	II
Special provisions:	A3		

Shipping Name: ORGANOTIN COMPOUND, SOLID, N.O.S. \*(CONTAINS TRIBUTYLTIN CYANIDE)

#### Maritime Transport IMDG:

IMDG Class:	6.1	IMDG Subrisk:	P
UN Number:	3146	Packing Group:	II
EMS Number:	F-A, S-A	Special provisions:	43 274
Limited Quantities:	500 g	Marine Pollutant:	Yes

Shipping Name: ORGANOTIN COMPOUND, SOLID, N.O.S.(contains tributyltin cyanide)

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION



### REGULATIONS

**tributyltin cyanide (CAS: 2179-92-2) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"US - Alaska Limits for Air Contaminants", "US - California Occupational Safety and Health Regulations (CAL/OSHA) - Hazardous Substances List", "US - Minnesota Hazardous Substance List", "US RCRA (Resource Conservation & Recovery Act) - Appendix IX to Part 264 Ground-Water Monitoring List 1", "US RCRA (Resource Conservation & Recovery Act) - List of Hazardous Inorganic and Organic Constituents 1"

## 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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