4(5)-Methylimidazole







EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

RISK

Causes burns. Risk of serious damage to eyes. Harmful in contact with skin and if swallowed.

POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

SWALLOWED

Accidental ingestion of the material may be harmful; animal experiments indicate that ingestion of less than 150 gram may be fatal or may produce serious damage to the health of the individual.

• The material can produce chemical burns within the oral cavity and gastrointestinal tract following ingestion.

EYE

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

SKIN

- Skin contact with the material may be harmful; systemic effects may resultfollowing absorption.
- The material can produce chemical burns following direct contactwith the skin.
- 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

■ 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 material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

Repeated or prolonged exposure to corrosives may result in the erosion of teeth, inflammatory and ulcerative changes in the mouth and necrosis (rarely) of the jaw. Bronchial irritation, with cough, and frequent attacks of bronchial pneumonia may ensue.

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

There is limited evidence that, skin contact with this product is more likely to cause a sensitization reaction in some persons compared to the general population.

Exposure to the material may cause concerns for human fertility, on the basis that similar materials provide some evidence of impaired fertility in the absence of toxic effects, or evidence of impaired fertility occurring at around the same dose levels as other toxic effects, but which are not a secondary non-specific consequence of other toxic effects.

Imidazole is structurally related to histamine and has been used as an antagonist to counteract the effects of excess histamine found in certain induced physiological conditions (it therefore acts as an antihistamine).

Imidazoles have been reported to disrupt male fertility through disruption of testicular function.

2-Methylimidazole decreased luteinising hormone secretion and tissue interstitial fluid testosterone concentration two hours after injection into Sprague Dawley rats.

Imidazoles bind to cytochrome P450 haeme, resulting in inhibition of catalysis. However, 2-substituted imidazoles are considered to be poor inhibitors. Imidazole is probably an inducer of cytochrome P4502E1. In general, inducers of this isozyme stabilise the enzyme by preventing phosporylation of a serine which leads to haeme loss.

Several drugs containing an imidazole moiety were retained and bound in connective tissue when administered to laboratory animals. The bound material was primarily recovered from elastin (70%) and the collagen. It is postulated that reaction with aldehydes gives an aldol condensation product.

Long term exposure to high dust concentrations may cause changes in lung function i.e. pneumoconiosis; caused by particles less than 0.5 micron penetrating and remaining in the lung.

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Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
4-methylimidazole	822-36-6	>98

Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED

· For advice, contact a Poisons Information Center or a doctor at once. · Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.

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.

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.

INHALED

· If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area. · Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested. Inhalation of vapors or aerosols (mists, fumes) may cause lung edema. Corrosive substances may cause lung damage (e.g. <\p>.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

Treat symptomatically.

- For acute or short-term repeated exposures to highly alkaline materials:
- · Respiratory stress is uncommon but present occasionally because of soft tissue edema.
- · Unless endotracheal intubation can be accomplished under direct vision, cricothyroidotomy or tracheotomy may be necessary.

Section	5 - FIRE	FIGHTING	MEASURES
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Vapour Pressure (mmHG):	Not available
Upper Explosive Limit (%):	Not available
Specific Gravity (water=1):	Not available
Lower Explosive Limit (%):	Not available

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

· Foam.

· Dry chemical powder.

FIRE FIGHTING

· Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.

· Wear full body protective clothing with breathing apparatus.

When any large container (including road and rail tankers) is involved in a fire,

consider evacuation by 800 metres in all directions.

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.

Combustion products include: carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.

May emit corrosive 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. Full face- shield. Gloves: Respirator: Particulate dust filter.

Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

MINOR SPILLS

- · Remove all ignition sources.
- · Clean up all spills immediately.
- · Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- · Control personal contact by using protective equipment.
- · Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.
- · Place in a suitable, labelled container for waste disposal.

· Drains for storage or use areas should have retention basins for pH adjustments and dilution of spills before discharge or disposal of material.

· Check regularly for spills and leaks.

MAJOR SPILLS

- · Clear area of personnel and move upwind.
- · Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.

Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

 \cdot Avoid all personal contact, including inhalation.

 \cdot Wear protective clothing when risk of exposure occurs.

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

· Lined metal can, Lined metal pail/drum

· Plastic pail.

For low viscosity materials

· Drums and jerricans must be of the non-removable head type.

 \cdot Where a can is to be used as an inner package, the can must have a screwed enclosure.

STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

Store in original containers.

· Keep containers securely sealed.

DO NOT store near acids, or oxidizing agents.

No smoking, naked lights, heat or ignition sources.

Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

EXPOSURE CONTROLS

Source	Material	TWA mg/m ³	Notes
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z-3)	4-methylimidazole (Inert or Nuisance Dust: Total dust)	10	(d)
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z3	4-methylimidazole (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Respirable fraction)	5	
US OSHA Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) - Table Z3	4-methylimidazole (Inert or Nuisance Dust: (d) Total dust)	15	
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	4-methylimidazole (Particulates not other wise regulated - Total dust)	10	
US - Hawaii Air Contaminant Limits	4-methylimidazole (Particulates not other wise regulated - Respirable fraction)	5	
US - Oregon Permissible Exposure Limits (Z-3)	4-methylimidazole (Inert or Nuisance Dust: Respirable fraction)	5	(d)
US ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLV)	4-methylimidazole (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) [NOS] Inhalable particles)	10	See Appendix B current TLV/BEI Book
US - California Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants	4-methylimidazole (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)	5	(n)
US - Tennessee Occupational Exposure Limits - Limits For Air Contaminants	4-methylimidazole (Particulates not otherwise regulated Respirable fraction)	5	
US - Michigan Exposure Limits for Air Contaminants	4-methylimidazole (Particulates not otherwise regulated, Respirable dust)	5	
Canada - Prince Edward Island Occupational Exposure Limits	4-methylimidazole (Particles (Insoluble or Poorly Soluble) [NOS] Inhalable particles)	10	See Appendix B current TLV/BEI Book
US - Wyoming Toxic and Hazardous Substances Table Z1 Limits for Air Contaminants	4-methylimidazole (Particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR)(f)- Respirable fraction)	5	

ENDOELTABLE

PERSONAL PROTECTION

RESPIRATOR

BR2

Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

EYE

 \cdot Chemical goggles.

· Full face shield.

HANDS/FEET

■ Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC.

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

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

- · frequency and duration of contact,
- \cdot 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.
- · PVC Apron.

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.

Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Does not mix with water. Corrosive. Alkaline.			
State	DIVIDED SOLID	Molecular Weight	82.11
Melting Range (°F)	127.4- 132.8	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	505.4	Solubility in water (g/L)	Partly miscible
Flash Point (°F)	>230	pH (1% solution)	Not available
Decomposition Temp (°F)	Not Available	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Not available
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)	Not available.	Evaporation Rate	Not available

APPEARANCE

Light-yellow solid; does mix well with water.

Section 10 - CHEMICAL STABILITY

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

 \cdot Presence of incompatible materials.

· Product is considered stable.

STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

· Avoid oxidizing agents, acids, acid chlorides, acid anhydrides.

· Avoid contact with copper, aluminium and their alloys.

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

Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

4-METHYLIMIDAZOLE

TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Oral (mouse) LD50: 370 mg/kg	Nil Reported
0.1/1:1.)1050.500 #	

Oral (chicken) LD50: 590 mg/kg

Intraperitoneal (chicken) LD50: 210 mg/kg

• The material may be irritating to the eye, with prolonged contact causing inflammation. Repeated or prolonged exposure to irritants may produce conjunctivitis.

The material may cause skin irritation after prolonged or repeated exposure and may produce on contact skin redness, swelling, the production of vesicles, scaling and thickening of the skin.

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.

Intraperitoneal (mouse): 165 mg/kg Convulsions recorded.

Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

This material and its container must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

Ecotoxicity

Ingredient 4-methylimidazole Persistence: Water/Soil Persistence: Air

Bioaccumulation LOW

Mobility HIGH

Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

US EPA Waste Number & Descriptions

A. General Product Information

Corrosivity characteristic: use EPA hazardous waste number D002 (waste code C)

Disposal Instructions

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

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

Legislation addressing waste disposal requirements may differ by country, state and/ or territory. Each user must refer to laws operating in their area. In some areas, certain wastes must be tracked.

A Hierarchy of Controls seems to be common - the user should investigate:

- · Reduction
- · Reuse
- · Recycling
- · Disposal (if all else fails)

This material may be recycled if unused, or if it has not been contaminated so as to make it unsuitable for its intended use. Shelf life considerations should also be applied in making decisions of this type. Note that properties of a material may change in use, and recycling or reuse may not always be appropriate.

DO NOT allow wash water from cleaning equipment to enter drains. Collect all wash water for treatment before disposal.

· Recycle wherever possible.

· Consult manufacturer for recycling options or consult Waste Management Authority for disposal if no suitable treatment or disposal facility can be identified.

Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Symbols: None Hazard class or Division: 8 Identification Numbers: UN3263 PG: III Label Codes: 8 Special provisions: IB8, IP3, T1. TP33 Packaging: Exceptions: 154 Packaging: Non- bulk: 213 Packaging: Exceptions: 154 Quantity limitations: 25 kg Passenger aircraft/rail: Quantity Limitations: Cargo 100 kg Vessel stowage: Location: A aircraft only: Vessel stowage: Other: 52 Hazardous materials descriptions and proper shipping names: Corrosive solid, basic, organic, n.o.s. Air Transport IATA: ICAO/IATA Class: 8 ICAO/IATA Subrisk: None UN/ID Number: 3263 Packing Group: III Special provisions: A3 Cargo Only Packing Instructions: 823 Maximum Qty/Pack: 100 kg Passenger and Cargo Passenger and Cargo Packing Instructions: 822 Maximum Qty/Pack: 25 kg Passenger and Cargo Limited Quantity Passenger and Cargo Limited Quantity Packing Instructions: Y822 Maximum Qtv/Pack: 5 kg Shipping Name: CORROSIVE SOLID, BASIC, ORGANIC, N.O.S. *(CONTAINS 4-METHYLIMIDAZOLE) Maritime Transport IMDG: IMDG Class: 8 IMDG Subrisk: None UN Number: 3263 Packing Group: III EMS Number: F-A, S-B Special provisions: 223 274

Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION



Limited Quantities: 5 kg

REGULATIONS

4-methylimidazole (CAS: 822-36-6) is found on the following regulatory lists;

Shipping Name: CORROSIVE SOLID, BASIC, ORGANIC, N.O.S. (contains 4-methylimidazole)

"Canada Non-Domestic Substances List (NDSL)","OECD Representative List of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals","US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - Inventory"

Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Cumulative effects may result following exposure*.
- Possible skin sensitiser*.
- May possibly affect fertility*.
- * (limited evidence).

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Classification of the preparation 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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