

# Propidium Iodide

sc-3541

## Material Safety Data Sheet



The Power to Question

Hazard Alert Code  
Key:

EXTREME

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

## Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

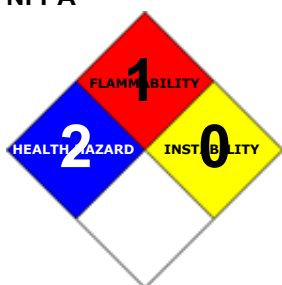
### PRODUCT NAME

Propidium Iodide

### 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

■ Operators should be trained in procedures for safe use of this material. Laboratory reagent for the fluorescent staining of nucleic acids. Material should only be handled by qualified, experienced professionals. [Calbiochem]

### SYNONYMS

C27-H34-I2-N4, "phenanthridinium, 3, 8-diamino-5-[3-(diethylmethylammonio)propyl]-6-", "phenyl-, ", "phenanthridinium, 3, 8-diamino-5-[3-(diethylmethylammonio)propyl]-6-", "phenyl-, ", diiodide, "3, 8-diamino-5-[3-(diethylmethylammonio)propyl]-6-phenylphenanthridinium, ", "3, 8-diamino-5-[3-(diethylmethylammonio)propyl]-6-phenylphenanthridinium, ", "3, 8-diamino-6-phenyl-(5-3-dimethylaminopropyl)phenanthridinium iodide", "3, 8-diamino-6-phenyl-(5-3-dimethylaminopropyl)phenanthridinium iodide", methiodide, "propidium diiodide", "fluorescent DNA (nucleic acid) stain", "Merck 43900"

## Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS



### EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

#### RISK

Harmful if swallowed.

Possible risk of irreversible effects.

Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

Toxic to aquatic organisms.

### 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.
- Concentrated solutions of many cationics may cause corrosive damage to mucous membranes and the esophagus. Nausea and vomiting (sometimes bloody) may follow ingestion. Serious exposures may produce an immediate burning sensation of the mouth, throat and abdomen with profuse salivation, ulceration of mucous membranes, signs of circulatory shock (hypotension, labored breathing, and cyanosis) and a feeling of apprehension, restlessness, confusion and weakness. Weak convulsive movements may precede central nervous system depression. Erosion, ulceration, and petechial hemorrhage may occur through the small intestine with glottic, brain and pulmonary edema. Death may result from asphyxiation due to paralysis of the muscles of respiration or cardiovascular collapse. Fatal poisoning may arise even when the only pathological signs are visceral congestion, swallowing, mild pulmonary edema or varying signs of gastrointestinal irritation. Individuals who survive a period of severe hypertension may develop kidney failure. Cloudy swelling, patchy necrosis and fatty infiltration in such visceral organs as the heart, liver and kidneys shows at death.

## EYE

- This material can cause eye irritation and damage in some persons.
- If applied to the eyes, this material causes severe eye damage.

## SKIN

- This material can cause inflammation of the skin on contact in some persons.
- The material may accentuate any pre-existing dermatitis condition.
- Skin contact with the material may damage the health of the individual; systemic effects may result following absorption.
- 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.
- Absorption by skin may readily exceed vapor inhalation exposure. Symptoms for skin absorption are the same as for inhalation.

## INHALED

- The material can cause respiratory irritation in some persons. The body's response to such irritation can cause further lung damage.
- Persons with impaired respiratory function, airway diseases and conditions such as emphysema or chronic bronchitis, may incur further disability if excessive concentrations of particulate are inhaled.
- Not normally a hazard due to non-volatile nature of product.
- Strong evidence exists that the substance may cause irreversible but non-lethal mutagenic effects following a single exposure.

## CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

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

Strong evidence exists that the substance may cause irreversible but non-lethal mutagenic effects following a single exposure. Exposure to the material may result in a possible risk of irreversible effects. The material may produce mutagenic effects in man. This concern is raised, generally, on the basis of appropriate studies using mammalian somatic cells in vivo. Such findings are often supported by positive results from in vitro mutagenicity studies.

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.

Based on experience with animal studies, there is a possibility that exposure to the material may result in toxic effects to the development of the fetus, at levels which do not cause significant toxic effects to the mother.

Long term exposure to high dust concentrations may cause changes in lung function i.e. pneumoconiosis; caused by particles less than 0.5 micron penetrating and remaining in the lung. Prime symptom is breathlessness; lung shadows show on X-ray.

Prolonged or repeated skin contact may cause degreasing with drying, cracking and dermatitis following..

Iodine and iodides, may give rise to local allergic reactions such as hives, rupture of skin blood vessels, pain in joints or diseases of the lymph nodes.






Iodine and iodides cause goiter and diminished as well as increased activity of the thyroid gland. A toxic syndrome resulting from chronic iodide overdose and from repeated administration of small amounts of iodine is characterized by excessive saliva production, head cold, sneezing, conjunctivitis, headache, fever, laryngitis, inflammation of the bronchi and mouth cavity, inflamed parotid gland, and various skin rashes. Swelling and inflammation of the throat, irritated and swollen eyes and lung swelling may also occur. Swelling of the glottis, necessitating a tracheotomy has been reported. Use of iodides in frequency can cause fetal death, severe goiter, hypothyroidism and the cretinoid appearance of the newborn.

May alter genetic material. [Calbiochem]

Danger of serious damage to health from exposure. [Fluka]

## Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

### HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max	
Flammability:	1		
Toxicity:	2		
Body Contact:	3		
Reactivity:	1		
Chronic:	2		

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



NAME	CAS RN	%
propidium iodide	25535-16-4	>90

## Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

### SWALLOWED

- 
- IF SWALLOWED, REFER FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION, WHERE POSSIBLE, WITHOUT DELAY.
- Where Medical attention is not immediately available or where the patient is more than 15 minutes from a hospital or unless instructed otherwise:
  - For advice, contact a Poisons Information Center or a doctor.
  - Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed.
  - If conscious, give water to drink.
- INDUCE vomiting with fingers down the back of the throat, ONLY IF CONSCIOUS. Lean patient forward or place on left side (head-down position, if possible) to maintain open airway and prevent aspiration.

NOTE: Wear a protective glove when inducing vomiting by mechanical means.

- In the mean time, qualified first-aid personnel should treat the patient following observation and employing supportive measures as indicated by the patient's condition.
- If the services of a medical officer or medical doctor are readily available, the patient should be placed in his/her care and a copy of the MSDS should be provided. Further action will be the responsibility of the medical specialist.
- If medical attention is not available on the worksite or surroundings send the patient to a hospital together with a copy of the MSDS.

### EYE

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

### SKIN

- If skin contact occurs:
  - Immediately remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear
  - Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).
  - Seek medical attention in event of irritation.

### INHALED

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

### NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- Treat symptomatically.
- For exposures to quaternary ammonium compounds:
  - For ingestion of concentrated solutions (10% or higher): Swallow promptly a large quantity of milk, egg whites / gelatin solution. If not readily available, a slurry of activated charcoal may be useful. Avoid alcohol. Because of probable mucosal damage omit gastric lavage and emetic drugs.
  - For dilute solutions (2% or less): If little or no emesis appears spontaneously, administer syrup of Ipecac or perform gastric lavage.
  - If hypotension becomes severe, institute measures against circulatory shock.
  - If respiration laboured, administer oxygen and support breathing mechanically. Oropharyngeal airway may be inserted in absence of gag reflex. Epiglottic or laryngeal edema may necessitate a tracheotomy.
  - Persistent convulsions may be controlled by cautious intravenous injection of diazepam or short-acting barbiturate drugs. [Gosselin et al, Clinical Toxicology of Commercial Products]

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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

### EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- 
- Water spray or fog.
- Foam.
- Dry chemical powder.
- BCF (where regulations permit).
- Carbon dioxide.

### FIRE FIGHTING

- 
- Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water course.
- Use water delivered as a fine spray to control fire and cool adjacent area.

- DO NOT approach containers suspected to be hot.
- Cool fire exposed containers with water spray from a protected location.
- If safe to do so, remove containers from path of fire.
- Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.

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

- 
- 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>), hydrogen iodide, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.

May emit poisonous fumes.

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:

Chemical goggles.

Gloves:

Respirator:

Particulate

# **Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

## **MINOR SPILLS**

- 
- 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.

Treat any spill of this material as a MAJOR spill.

## **MAJOR SPILLS**

- - DO NOT touch the spill material
- Moderate hazard.
- CAUTION: Advise personnel in area.
  - Alert Emergency Responders and tell them location and nature of hazard.
  - Control personal contact by wearing protective clothing.
  - Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.
  - Recover product wherever possible.
  - IF DRY: Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust. Collect residues and place in sealed plastic bags or other containers for disposal. IF WET: Vacuum/shovel up and place in labelled containers for disposal.
  - ALWAYS: Wash area down with large amounts of water and prevent runoff into drains.
  - If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.

While material is only handled in gram quantities; treat any spill as a MAJOR spill.

## **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.

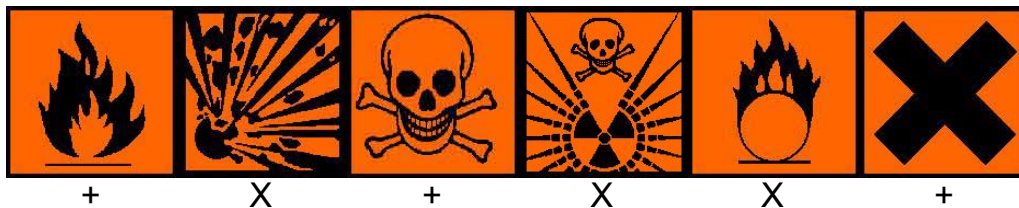
### RECOMMENDED STORAGE METHODS

- Store in a dark glass or other suitable light resistant container.
- Polyethylene or polypropylene container.
- Check all containers are clearly labelled and free from leaks.

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- 
- Material is hygroscopic, i.e. absorbs moisture from the air. Keep containers well sealed in storage.
- 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

The following materials had no OELs on our records

- propidium iodide: CAS:25535-16-4

### MATERIAL DATA

PROPIDIUM IODIDE:

- Airborne particulate or vapor must be kept to levels as low as is practicably achievable given access to modern engineering controls and monitoring hardware. Biologically active compounds may produce idiosyncratic effects which are entirely unpredictable on the basis of literature searches and prior clinical experience (both recent and past).

### PERSONAL PROTECTION



Consult your EHS staff for recommendations

### EYE

- When handling very small quantities of the material eye protection may not be required.
- For laboratory, larger scale or bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs:
  - Chemical goggles
  - Face shield. Full face shield may be required for supplementary but never for primary protection of eyes

- 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 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.

Experience indicates that the following polymers are suitable as glove materials for protection against undissolved, dry solids, where abrasive particles are not present.

- polychloroprene
- nitrile rubber
- butyl rubber
- fluorocarbon
- polyvinyl chloride

Gloves should be examined for wear and/ or degradation constantly.

Carefully dispose of gloves after use.

## OTHER

- 
- 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.

## 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 65°C).

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

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



Type K for use against ammonia and organic ammonia derivatives

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

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

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

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

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

## ENGINEERING CONTROLS

■ Enclosed local exhaust ventilation is required at points of dust, fume or vapor generation.

HEPA terminated local exhaust ventilation should be considered at point of generation of dust, fumes or vapors.

Barrier protection or laminar flow cabinets should be considered for laboratory scale handling.

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.

Fume-hoods and other open-face containment devices are acceptable when face velocities of at least 1 m/s (200 feet/minute) are achieved. Partitions, barriers, and other partial containment technologies are required to prevent migration of the material to uncontrolled areas. For non-routine emergencies maximum local and general exhaust are necessary. Air contaminants generated in the workplace possess varying "escape" velocities which, in turn, determine the "capture velocities" of fresh circulating air required to effectively remove the contaminant.

Type of Contaminant:	Air Speed:
solvent, vapors, etc. evaporating from tank (in still air)	0.25-0.5 m/s (50-100 f/min.)
aerosols, fumes from pouring operations, intermittent container filling, low speed conveyer transfers (released at low velocity into zone of active generation)	0.5-1 m/s (100-200 f/min.)
direct spray, drum filling, conveyer loading, crusher dusts, gas discharge (active generation into zone of rapid air motion)	1-2.5 m/s (200-500 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

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

Simple theory shows that air velocity falls rapidly with distance away from the opening of a simple extraction pipe. Velocity generally decreases with the square of distance from the extraction point (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 1-2.5 m/s (200-500 f/min.) for extraction of gases discharged 2 meters distant from the extraction point. Other mechanical considerations, producing performance deficits within the extraction apparatus, make it essential that theoretical air velocities are multiplied by factors of 10 or more when extraction systems are installed or used.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.

Mixes with water.

State	Divided solid	Molecular Weight	668.40
Melting Range (°F)	428- 437 (decomp)	Viscosity	Not Applicable
Boiling Range (°F)	Not applicable.	Solubility in water (g/L)	Miscible
Flash Point (°F)	Not Available	pH (1% solution)	Not available
Decomposition Temp (°F)	428- 437	pH (as supplied)	Not applicable
Autoignition Temp (°F)	Not available.	Vapour Pressure (mmHG)	Not applicable.
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not available.	Specific Gravity (water=1)	Not available
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not available.	Relative Vapor Density (air=1)	Not applicable.
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not applicable.	Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

### APPEARANCE

Dark red powder; mixes with water. Also available as a 1 percent solution in water.

## 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

propidium iodide

### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

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

TOXICITY	IRRITATION
Subcutaneous (rat) LD50: 16 mg/kg	Nil Reported

■ 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 hyperactivity 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.

Most undiluted cationic surfactants satisfy the criteria for classification as Harmful (Xn) with R22 and as Irritant (Xi) for skin and eyes with R38 and R41.

#### For quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs):

Quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs) are cationic surfactants. They are synthetic organically tetra-substituted ammonium compounds, where the R substituents are alkyl or heterocyclic radicals. A common characteristic of these synthetic compounds is that one of the R's is a long-chain hydrophobic aliphatic residue

The cationic surface active compounds are in general more toxic than the anionic and non-ionic surfactants. The positively-charged cationic portion is the functional part of the molecule and the local irritation effects of QACs appear to result from the quaternary ammonium cation.

Due to their relative ability to solubilise phospholipids and cholesterol in lipid membranes, QACs affect cell permeability which may lead to cell death. Further QACs denature proteins as cationic materials precipitate protein and are accompanied by generalised tissue irritation.

It has been suggested that the experimentally determined decrease in acute toxicity of QACs with chain lengths above C16 is due to decreased water solubility.

In general it appears that QACs with a single long-chain alkyl groups are more toxic and irritating than those with two such substitutions.

The straight chain aliphatic QACs have been shown to release histamine from minced guinea pig lung tissue. However, studies with benzalkonium chloride have shown that the effect on histamine release depends on the concentration of the solution. When cell suspensions (11% mast cells) from rats were exposed to low concentrations, a decrease in histamine release was seen. When exposed to high concentrations the opposite result was obtained.

In addition, QACs may show curare-like properties (specifically benzalkonium and cetylpyridinium derivatives, a muscular paralysis with no involvement of the central nervous system. This is most often associated with lethal doses. Parenteral injections in rats, rabbits and dogs have resulted in prompt but transient limb paralysis and sometimes fatal paresis of the respiratory muscles. This effect seems to be transient.

From human testing of different QACs the generalised conclusion is obtained that all the compounds investigated to date exhibit similar toxicological properties.

Acute toxicity: Studies in rats have indicated poor intestinal absorption of QACs. Acute toxicity of QACs varies with the compound and, especially, the route of administration. For some substances the LD50 value is several hundreds times lower by the i.p. or i.v. than the oral route, whereas toxicities between the congeners only differ in the range of two to five times.

At least some QACs are significantly more toxic in 50% dimethyl sulfoxide than in plain water when given orally

Probably all common QAC derivatives produce similar toxic reactions, but as tested in laboratory animals the oral mean lethal dose varies with the compound.

Oral toxicity: LD50 values for QACs have been reported within the range of 250-1000 mg/kg for rats, 150-1000 mg/kg for mice, 150-300 mg/kg for guinea pigs and about 500 mg/kg b.w. for rabbits and dogs. The ranges observed reflect differences in the study designs of these rather old experiments as well as differences between the various QACs.

The oral route of administration was characterised by delayed deaths, gastrointestinal lesions and respiratory and central nervous system depression. It was also found that given into a full stomach, the QACs lead to lower mortality and fewer gastrointestinal symptoms. This supports the suggestion of an irritating effect.

Dermal toxicity: It has been concluded that the maximum concentration that did not produce irritating effect on intact skin is 0.1%. Irritation became manifest in the 1-10% range. Concentrations below 0.1% have caused irritation in persons with contact dermatitis or broken skin.

Although the absorption of QACs through normal skin probably is of less importance than by other routes, studies with excised guinea pig skin have shown that the permeability constants strongly depend on the exposure time and type of skin.

Sensitisation: Topical mucosal application of QACs may produce sensitisation. Reports on case stories and patch test have shown that compounds such as benzalkonium chloride, cetalkonium chloride and cetrimide may possibly act as sensitisers. However, in general it is suggested that QACs have a low potential for sensitising man. It is difficult to distinguish between an allergic and an irritative skin reaction due to the inherent skin irritating effect of QACs.

#### Long term/repeated exposure:

Inhalation: A group of 196 farmers (with or without respiratory symptoms) were evaluated for the relationship between exposure to QACs (unspecified, exposure levels not given) and respiratory disorders by testing for lung function and bronchial responsiveness to histamine. After histamine provocation statistically significant associations were found between the prevalence of mild bronchial responsiveness (including asthma-like symptoms) and the use of QACs as disinfectant. The association seems even stronger in people without respiratory symptoms.

Genetic toxicity: QACs have been investigated for mutagenicity in microbial test systems. In Ames tests using *Salmonella typhimurium* with and without metabolic activation no signs of mutagenicity have been observed. Negative results were also obtained in *E. coli* reversion and *B. subtilis* rec assays. However, for benzalkonium chloride also positive and equivocal results were seen in the *B. subtilis* rec assays.

NOTE: Substance has been shown to be mutagenic in at least one assay, or belongs to a family of chemicals producing damage or change to cellular DNA.



## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Refer to data for ingredients, which follows:

PROPIDIUM IODIDE:

- Toxic to aquatic organisms.

- Do NOT allow product to come in contact with surface waters or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when cleaning equipment or disposing of equipment wash-waters.

Wastes resulting from use of the product must be disposed of on site or at approved waste sites.

- For quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs):

QACs are white, crystalline powders. Low molecular weight QACs are very soluble in water, but slightly or not at all soluble in solvents such as ether, petrol and benzene. As the molecular weight and chain lengths increases, the solubility in polar solvents (e.g. water) decreases and the solubility in non-polar solvents increases.

Environmental fate

A major part of the QACs is discharged into wastewater and removed in the biological processes of sewage treatment plant. A 90% reduction of the QACs in the water phase of sludge has been reported and alkyl di-/ trimethyl ammonium and alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium compounds seem almost completely degraded in sewage sludge.

However, the aerobic and anaerobic biodegradability of QACs is not well investigated. Only sparse data are available concerning stability, solubility and biodegradability. In general, it seems that the biodegradability decreases with increasing numbers of alkyl chains:  $R(CH_3)_3N^+ > R_2(CH_3)_2N^+ > R_3(CH_3)N^+$ . Within each category the biodegradability seems inversely proportional to the alkyl chain length. Heterocyclic QACs are less degradable than the non-cyclic.

Investigations have shown that bioaccumulation of considerable dimensions will probably not take place.

Ecotoxicity:

Quaternary ammonium compounds and their polymers may be highly toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms. The toxicity of the quaternary ammoniums is known to be greatly reduced in the environment because of preferential binding to dissolved organics in surface water.

- Iodine is an important element in studies of environmental protection and human health, global-scale hydrologic processes and nuclear nonproliferation. Biogeochemical cycling of iodine is complex, because iodine occurs in multiple oxidation states and as inorganic and organic species that may be hydrophilic, atmophilic, and biophilic. Experiments illustrate complex behavior with various processes occurring, including iodate reduction, irreversible retention or mass loss of iodide, and rate-limited and nonlinear sorption. There was an appreciable iodate reduction to iodide, presumably mediated by the structural Fe(II) in some clay minerals; therefore, careful attention must be given to potential interconversion among species when interpreting the biogeochemical behavior of iodine in the environment.

Iodine ( $I_2$ ) is electrochemically reduced to ionic iodide by natural processes but humic acid appears to promote the reaction. The different oxidation species of iodine have markedly different sorption properties. Hence, changes in iodine redox states can greatly affect the mobility of iodine in the environment. A major microbial role has been suggested in the past to account for at least some of these redox changes. Both soluble ferrous iron and sulfide, as well as iron monosulfide (FeS) were shown to abiologically reduce iodate to iodide. These results indicate that ferric iron and/or sulfate reducing bacteria are capable of mediating both direct, enzymatic, as well as abiotic reduction of iodate in natural anaerobic environments.

Environmental and geological evidence indicates that iodine can become associated with natural organic matter (NOM) in soils and sediments. Previous studies have shown that iodine (including  $^{129}I$ ) can be strongly retained in organic-rich surface soils and sediment and that soluble iodine may be associated with dissolved humic material. Iodine and iodate undergo an abiotic pseudo first-order reaction with peat leading to either reduction of iodate or iodine to iodide or incorporation of the iodine atoms into the organic matrix. Iodine appears to be incorporated in sphagnum peat by aromatic substitution for hydrogen on phenolic constituents of the peat.

- DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

### Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
propidium iodide	HIGH		LOW	LOW

## Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### 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.
- 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

NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS: DOT, IATA, IMDG

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

No data for propidium iodide (CAS: , 25535-16-4)

## Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

### LIMITED EVIDENCE

- Skin contact may produce health damage\*.
- Cumulative effects may result following exposure\*.
- Eye contact may produce serious damage\*.
- Possible skin sensitizer\*.
- May possibly be harmful to the fetus/ embryo\*.

\* (limited evidence).

*Reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this information, but the author makes no warranty of merchantability or any other warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to this information. The author makes no representations and assumes no liability for any direct, incidental or consequential damages resulting from its use. For additional technical information please call our toxicology department on +800 CHEMCALL.*

- 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.

*This document is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, review or criticism, as permitted under the Copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission from CHEMWATCH. TEL (+61 3) 9572 4700.*

Issue Date: Jun-12-2009

Print Date: Apr-21-2010