

Safety data sheet Ethylene Oxide

Creation date : 28.01.2005
Revision date : 20.05.2011

Version : 1.3

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SECTION 1: Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking

1.1. Product identifier

Product name
Ethylene Oxide

EC No (from EINECS): 200-849-9

CAS No: 75-21-8

Index-Nr. 603-023-00-X

Chemical formula C₂H₄O

REACH Registration number:

01-2119432402-53

1.2. Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

Relevant identified uses
Industrial and professional. Perform risk assessment prior to use.

Biocidal uses.

Uses advised against

Consumer use.

1.3. Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Company identification
BOC, Priestley Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2UT

E-Mail Address ReachSDS@boc.com

1.4. Emergency telephone number

Emergency phone numbers (24h): 0800 111 333

SECTION 2: Hazards identification

2.1. Classification of the substance or mixture

Classification acc. to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008/EC (CLP/GHS)

Press. Gas (Liquefied gas) - Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

Flam. Gas 1 - Extremely flammable gas.

Carc. 1B - May cause cancer.

Muta. 1B - May cause genetic defects.

Acute Tox. 3 - Toxic if inhaled.

Eye Irrit. 2 - Causes serious eye irritation.

STOT SE 3 - May cause respiratory irritation.

Skin Irrit. 2 - Causes skin irritation.

- Explosive with or without contact with air.

Classification acc. to Directive 67/548/EEC & 1999/45/EC

Carc. Cat.2; R45 | Mut. Cat.2; R46 | T; R23 | Xi; R36/37/38 |

F+; R12 | R6

May cause cancer.

May cause heritable genetic damage

Explosive with or without contact with air.

Extremely flammable.

Toxic by inhalation.

Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

Risk advice to man and the environment

Liquefied gas.

Contact with liquid may cause cold burns/frost bite.

2.2. Label elements

- Labelling Pictograms



- Signal word

Danger

- Hazard Statements

H280	Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.
H220	Extremely flammable gas.
H350	May cause cancer.
H340	May cause genetic defects.
H331	Toxic if inhaled.
H319	Causes serious eye irritation.
H335	May cause respiratory irritation.
H315	Causes skin irritation.
EUH006	Explosive with or without contact with air.

- Precautionary Statements

Precautionary Statement Prevention

P210	Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. - No smoking.
P260	Do not breathe gas, vapours.
P202	Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
P280	Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.

Precautionary Statement Response

P304+P340+P315	IF INHALED: Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. Get immediate medical advice/attention.
P305+P351+P338+P315	IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Get immediate medical advice/attention.
P308 + P313	IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention.
P377	Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish, unless leak can be stopped safely.
P381	Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so.
P302 + P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313	If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.

Precautionary Statement Storage

P403	Store in a well-ventilated place.
P405	Store locked up.

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Precautionary Statement Disposal

None.

2.3. Other hazards

Contact with liquid may cause cold burns/frost bite.

SECTION 3: Composition/information on ingredients

Substance / Mixture: Substance.

3.1. Substances

Ethylene Oxide

CAS No: 75-21-8

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Contains no other components or impurities which will influence the classification of the product.

3.2. Mixtures

Not applicable.

SECTION 4: First aid measures

4.1. Description of first aid measures

First Aid General Information:

Remove victim to uncontaminated area wearing self contained breathing apparatus. Keep victim warm and rested. Call a doctor. Apply artificial respiration if breathing stopped.

First Aid Inhalation:

Remove victim to uncontaminated area wearing self contained breathing apparatus. Keep victim warm and rested. Call a doctor. Apply artificial respiration if breathing stopped.

First Aid Skin / Eye:

Remove contaminated clothing. Drench affected area with water for at least 15 minutes. In case of frostbite spray with water for at least 15 minutes. Apply a sterile dressing. Immediately flush eyes thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes. Obtain medical assistance.

First Aid Ingestion:

Ingestion is not considered a potential route of exposure.

4.2. Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility/consciousness. Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation. May cause irritation to cornea (with temporary disturbance to vision). In low concentrations may cause narcotic effects. Symptoms may include dizziness, headache, nausea and loss of co-ordination. May cause irritation to skin. May result in pulmonary oedema.

4.3. Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Obtain medical assistance. Treat with a corticosteroid spray as soon as possible after inhalation.

SECTION 5: Fire fighting measures

5.1. Extinguishing media

Suitable extinguishing media

All known extinguishants can be used.

Unsuitable extinguishing media

Do not use a solid water stream.

5.2. Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Specific hazards

Exposure to fire may cause containers to rupture/explode. Can form violent, spontaneously explosive mixture in air.

Hazardous combustion products

If involved in a fire the following toxic and/or corrosive fumes may be produced by thermal decomposition: Aldehydes.

Carbon dioxide, Carbon monoxide.

5.3. Advice for firefighters

Specific methods

If possible, stop flow of product. Continue water spray from protected position until container stays cool. Do not extinguish a leaking gas flame unless absolutely necessary. Spontaneous/explosive re-ignition may occur. Extinguish any other fire. Move container away or cool with water from a protected position. Prevent water used in emergency cases from entering sewers and drainage systems.

Special protective equipment for fire fighters

Use self-contained breathing apparatus and chemically protective clothing. Clothing for fire-fighters (including helmets, protective boots and gloves) conforming to EN 469 will provide a basic level of protection from chemical incidents. EN 469:2005: Protective clothing for fire-fighters. Performance requirements for protective clothing for fire-fighting.

SECTION 6: Accidental release measures

6.1. Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Consider the risk of potentially explosive atmospheres. Prevent from entering sewers, basements and workpits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous. Monitor concentration of released product. Evacuate area. Use self-contained breathing apparatus and chemically protective clothing. Eliminate ignition sources. Wear self-contained breathing apparatus when entering area unless atmosphere is proved to be safe. Ensure adequate air ventilation.

6.2. Environmental precautions

Try to stop release. Reduce vapour with fog or fine water spray.

6.3. Methods and material for containment and cleaning up

Ventilate area. Keep area evacuated and free from ignition sources until any spilled liquid has evaporated. (Ground free from frost). Hose down area with water. Wash contaminated equipment or sites of leaks with copious quantities of water. Absorb excess liquid spillage on inorganic adsorbent material such as fine sand, brick dust etc. Place spent adsorbent in sealed packages and contact specialist waste disposal contractor. Prevent evaporation by covering with foam.

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6.4. Reference to other sections

See also sections 8 and 13.

SECTION 7: Handling and storage

7.1. Precautions for safe handling

Only experienced and properly instructed persons should handle gases under pressure. The substance must be handled in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety procedures. Use only properly specified equipment which is suitable for this product, its supply pressure and temperature. Contact your gas supplier if in doubt. Avoid exposure, obtain special instructions before use. Take precautionary measures against static discharges. Purge air from system before introducing gas. Keep away from ignition sources (including static discharges). Do not smoke while handling product. Assess the risk of potentially explosive atmosphere and the need for explosion-proof equipment. Consider the use of only non-sparking tools. Ensure equipment is adequately earthed. Ensure the complete gas system has been (or is regularly) checked for leaks before use. Installation of a cross purge assembly between the cylinder and the regulator is recommended. Purge system with dry inert gas (e.g. helium or nitrogen) before gas is introduced and when system is placed out of service. Avoid suckback of water, acid and alkalis. Refer to supplier's handling instructions. Do not allow backfeed into the container. Protect cylinders from physical damage; do not drag, roll, slide or drop. When moving cylinders, even for short distances, use a cart (trolley, hand truck, etc.) designed to transport cylinders. Leave valve protection caps in place until the container has been secured against either a wall or bench or placed in a container stand and is ready for use. If user experiences any difficulty operating cylinder valve discontinue use and contact supplier. Never attempt to transfer gases from one cylinder/container to another. Damaged valves should be reported immediately to the supplier. Keep container valve outlets clean and free from contaminates particularly oil and water. Replace valve outlet caps or plugs and container caps where supplied as soon as container is disconnected from equipment. Close container valve after each use and when empty, even if still connected to equipment. Never use direct flame or electrical heating devices to raise the pressure of a container. Never attempt to repair or modify container valves or safety relief devices. Do not remove or deface labels provided by the supplier for the identification of the cylinder contents.

7.2. Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Keep container below 50°C in a well ventilated place. Segregate from oxidant gases and other oxidants in store. Containers should be stored in the vertical position and properly secured to prevent falling over. Stored containers should be periodically checked for general conditions and leakage. Container valve guards or caps should be in place. Store containers in location free from fire risk and away from sources of heat and ignition. Keep away from combustible materials. All electrical equipment in the storage areas should be compatible with the risk of potentially explosive atmosphere. Observe all regulations and local requirements regarding storage of containers. Containers should not be stored in conditions likely to encourage corrosion.

7.3. Specific end use(s)

None.

SECTION 8: Exposure controls/personal protection

8.1. Control parameters

Exposure limit value

Value type	value	Note
TLV (ACGIH)	1 ppm	ACGIH 1995 - 1996
Great Britain - LTEL	5 ppm	EH 40/07

Derived No Effect Levels

Type	Exposure	Value	Population	Effects
DNEL	Short term inhalation	5 mg/m ³	Workers	Systemic
DNEL	Long term Inhalation	1,6 mg/m ³	Workers	Systemic

Predicted No Effect Concentrations

Type	Compartment Detail	Value
PNEC	Fresh	0,084 mg/l
PNEC	Marine	0,0084 mg/l
PNEC	Fresh water sediment	0,178 mg/kg sediment dw
PNEC	Marine water sediment	0,178 mg/kg sediment dw
PNEC	Soil	0,0136 mg/kg soil dw
PNEC	STP (Sewage Treatment Plant)	13 mg/l

8.2. Exposure controls

Appropriate engineering controls

A risk assessment should be conducted and documented in each work area to assess the risks related to the use of the product and to select the PPE that matches the relevant risk. The following recommendations should be considered. Product to be handled in a closed system and under strictly controlled conditions. Use only permanent leak-tight installations (e.g. welded pipes). Keep concentrations well below occupational exposure limits. Systems under pressure should be regularly checked for leakages. Gas detectors should be used when quantities of flammable gases/vapours may be released. Gas detectors should be used when toxic quantities may be released. Provide adequate general or local ventilation. Consider work permit system e.g. for maintenance activities. The substance must be handled in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety procedures.

Personal protective equipment

Eye and face protection

Wash hands, forearms and face thoroughly after handling chemical products, before eating, smoking and using the lavatory and at the end of the working period. Wear a face-shield when transfilling and breaking transfer connections.

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Safety eyewear, goggles or face-shield to EN166 should be used to avoid exposure to liquid splashes. Wear eye protection to EN 166 when using gases. Full-face mask recommended.

Guideline:

EN 136: Respiratory protective devices. Full face masks. Requirements, testing, marking.

Skin protection

Hand protection

Advice:

Wear working gloves and safety shoes while handling gas cylinders. Chemically resistant gloves complying with EN 374 should be worn at all times when handling chemical products if a risk assessment indicates this is necessary. The substance is readily absorbed by rubber. Change gloves every few minutes and ensure they have been sufficiently degassed before re-use. Materials suitable for prolonged, direct contact.

Material:

Butyl rubber (Butyl)

Min. Breakthrough time:

30 min

Glove thickness:

>= 0,7 mm

Protection index: 2

Body protection

Protect eyes, face and skin from contact with product. Keep suitable chemically resistant protective clothing readily available for emergency use. Personal protective equipment for the body should be selected based on the task being performed and the risks involved.

Guideline:

EN 943: Protective clothing against liquid and gaseous chemicals, aerosols and solid particles.

Other protection

Take precautionary measures against static discharges. Wear flame resistant/retardant clothing. Wear working gloves and safety shoes while handling gas cylinders. ISO 20345 Safety footwear.

Respiratory protection

Keep self contained breathing apparatus readily available for emergency use. Use SCBA in the event of high concentrations. The selection of the Respiratory Protective Device (RPD) must be based on known or anticipated exposure levels, the hazards of the product and the safe working limits of the selected RPD. When allowed by a risk assessment Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) may be used.

Material:

Filter AX

Guideline:

EN 136: Respiratory protective devices. Full face masks. Requirements, testing, marking. EN 14387: Respiratory protective devices. Gas filter(s) and combined filter(s). Requirements, testing, marking

Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)

Material:

Filter AX

Guideline:

EN 14387: Respiratory protective devices. Gas filter(s) and combined filter(s). Requirements, testing, marking

Thermal hazards

If there is a risk of contact with the liquid, all protective equipment should be suitable for extremely low temperatures

Environmental Exposure Controls

Refer to local regulations for restriction of emissions to the atmosphere. See section 13 for specific methods for waste gas treatment.

SECTION 9: Physical and chemical properties

9.1. Information on basic physical and chemical properties

General information

Appearance/Colour: Colourless gas.

Odour: Ethereal Poor warning properties at low concentrations.

Odour threshold:

Odour threshold is subjective and inadequate to warn for over exposure.

Melting point: -112 °C

Boiling point: 10,4 °C

Flash point: Not applicable for gases and gas mixtures.

Evaporation rate:

Not applicable for gases and gas mixtures.

Flammability range: 2,6 %(V) - 100 %(V)

Vapour Pressure 20 °C: 1,4 bar

Relative density, gas: 1,5

Solubility in water: No reliable data available.

Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water: -0,3 logPow

Autoignition temperature: 440 °C

Viscosity:

Dynamic: 0,25 mPa.s

Kinematic: 0,32 mm²/s

Molecular weight: 44 g/mol

Critical temperature: 196 °C

Relative density, liquid: 0,89

Critical pressure: 71,9 bar

9.2. Other information

Gas/vapour heavier than air. May accumulate in confined spaces, particularly at or below ground level.

SECTION 10: Stability and reactivity

10.1. Reactivity

Unreactive under normal conditions.

10.2. Chemical stability

Stable under normal conditions., May polymerise., Containers are commonly pressurised to 5-7 bars with nitrogen.

10.3. Possibility of hazardous reactions

Can form potential explosive atmosphere in air., May react violently with oxidants., Exothermic reaction.

10.4. Conditions to avoid

Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. - No smoking. May decompose violently at high temperature and/or pressure or in the presence of a catalyst Avoid moisture in installation systems.

10.5. Incompatible materials

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Air, Oxidiser. For material compatibility see latest version of ISO-11114.

10.6. Hazardous decomposition products

Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous decomposition products should not be produced.

If involved in a fire the following toxic and/or corrosive fumes may be produced by thermal decomposition: Aldehydes. Carbon dioxide, Carbon monoxide.

SECTION 11: Toxicological information

11.1. Information on toxicological effects

Acute oral toxicity

Value: LD50
Species: Rat
Value in standard unit mg/kg: 72 mg/kg

Acute inhalation toxicity

Value: LC50
Species: Rat
Exposure time: 4 h
Value in non-standard unit: 1,6 - 4,2 mg/kg

Acute dermal toxicity

Value: LD50
Species: Rat
Value in standard unit mg/kg: 187 mg/kg

Acute dermal toxicity

Not applicable.

Skin irritation

Species: Rabbit
Exposure time: >= 0,1 h
Irritant

Eye irritation

Species: Rabbit
Method: OECD Test Guideline 405
Exposure time: 24 - 48 h
May cause severe irritation with corneal damage which may result in permanent impairment of vision, even blindness.

Sensitization

Species: Human
Reactions were observed in people with sensitive skin/respiratory system.

Repeated dose toxicity

Value type: NOAEC
Species: Rat
Route of application: Inhalation
Method: OECD Test Guideline 453
Exposure time: 2 weeks (daily, 5 days/week)
Value: 10ppm
No known effects from this product.

Value type: NOAEC

Species: Mouse
Route of application: Inhalation
Method: Other
Exposure time: 10 weeks (daily, 5 days/week)
Value: 10ppm
No known effects from this product.

Genetic toxicity in vitro

Test type: Ames test in vitro:

Mutagenic.

Genetic toxicity in vivo

Species: Bacteria
Method: OECD 471
Result: Positive

Species: Rat
Method: OECD 478
Result: Positive

Assessment mutagenicity

May cause genetic defects.

Carcinogenicity

Value type: NOAEC
Species: Rat
Route of application: Inhalation
Method: OECD 453: Combined Chronic toxicity/
Carcinogenicity Studies.
Exposure time: 27 to 103 weeks (daily, 5 days/week)
Value: 10ppm
No known effects from this product.

Assessment carcinogenicity

May have carcinogenic effect.

Toxicity to reproduction/fertility

Value type: NOAEC (P)
Species: Rat
Route of application: Inhalation
Method: OECD 415
Exposure time 14 weeks (daily, 5 days/week)
Value: 0,054 mg/l air
No known effects from this product.

Developmental toxicity/teratogenicity

Value type: NOAEC
Species: Rat
Route of application: Inhalation
Method: OECD 414
Exposure time: 6- 15 days (gestation, daily)
Value: 0,18 mg/l air
No known effects from this product.

Assessment teratogenicity

No known effects from this product.

SECTION 12: Ecological information

12.1. Toxicity

No known ecological damage caused by this product.

Acute and prolonged toxicity fish

Species: Fathead Minnow (*Pimephales promelas*)
Exposure time: 96 h
Value type: LC50
Value in standard unit mg/l: 84 mg/l
Harmful to fish.

Acute toxicity aquatic invertebrates

Species: Daphnia magna
Exposure time: 48 h
Value type: EC50
Value in standard unit mg/l: 137 - 300 mg/l
Not harmful to invertebrates

Toxicity aquatic plants

Species: Algae

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Exposure time: 96 h

Value type: EC50

Value in standard unit mg/l: 240 mg/l

Method: OECD Test Guideline 201

Not harmful to algae.

Toxicity microorganisms

Species: Bacteria

Exposure time: 16 h

Value type: EC50

Value in standard unit mg/l: 10 - 100 mg/l

Toxicity microorganisms

Test type: Activated sludge, domestic.

Species: Bacteria

Value type: EC50

Value in standard unit mg/l: > 3.000 mg/l

Not harmful to microorganisms.

12.2. Persistence and degradability

Photodegradation

Exposure time: 57.2 days

Value: 57.2 days

Method SRC AOP v.1.92

Conc. OH-radicals: 500000

Reference: QSAR

Remark: 0.00000000000028 cm³/molecule.s

Stability in water

Exposure time: 28 days

Value: 93/98%

Method: OECD 301C: Modified MITI Test (I)

Readily biodegradable

12.3. Bioaccumulative potential

Does not bioaccumulate., Because of the partition coefficient of the contaminant in the organic fraction of the soil (log Kow), accumulation in organisms is not to be expected.

12.4. Mobility in soil

Log Koc: 0,157

Volatility (Henry's constant H)

Method: SRC HENRYWIN V3.10

Value at 25°C: 12,159 Pa.m³/mol

The substance is soluble in water., Low potential for adsorption into soil.

12.5. Results of PBT and vPvB assessment

Not classified as PBT or vPvB.

12.6. Other adverse effects

Depending on local conditions and existing concentrations, disturbances in the biodegradation process of activated sludge are possible. May cause pH changes in aqueous ecological systems.

SECTION 13: Disposal considerations

13.1. Waste treatment methods

Do not discharge into any place where its accumulation could be dangerous. Toxic and corrosive gases formed during combustion should be scrubbed before discharge to atmosphere. Do not discharge into areas where there is a risk of forming an explosive mixture with air. Waste gas should be flared through a suitable burner with flash back arrestor.

Contact supplier if guidance is required. Must not be discharged to atmosphere. Refer to the EIGA code of practice (Doc.30 "Disposal of Gases", downloadable at <http://www.eiga.org>) for more guidance on suitable disposal methods.

Gases in pressure containers (including halons) containing dangerous substances

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SECTION 14: Transport information

ADR/RID

14.1. UN number

1040

14.2. UN proper shipping name

Ethylene Oxide

14.3. Transport hazard class(es)

Class: 2

Classification Code: 2TF

Labels: 2.3, 2.1

Hazard number: 263

Emergency Action Code: 2PE

Tunnel code: (B/D)

14.4. Packing group (Packing Instruction)

P200

14.5. Environmental hazards

None.

14.6. Special precautions for user

None.

IMDG

14.1. UN number

1040

14.2. UN proper shipping name

Ethylene Oxide

14.3. Transport hazard class(es)

Class: 2.3

Labels: 2.3, 2.1

EmS: FD,SU

14.4. Packing group (Packing Instruction)

P200

14.5. Environmental hazards

None.

14.6. Special precautions for user

None.

14.7. Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL73/78 and the IBC Code

Not applicable.

IATA

14.1. UN number

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1040

14.2. UN proper shipping name

Ethylene Oxide

14.3. Transport hazard class(es)

Class: 2.3

Labels: 2.3, 2.1

14.4. Packing group (Packing Instruction)

P200

14.5. Environmental hazards

None.

14.6. Special precautions for user

None.

Other transport information

Avoid transport on vehicles where the load space is not separated from the driver's compartment. Ensure vehicle driver is aware of the potential hazards of the load and knows what to do in the event of an accident or an emergency. Before transporting product containers ensure that they are firmly secured. Ensure that the cylinder valve is closed and not leaking. Ensure that the valve outlet cap nut or plug (where provided) is correctly fitted. Ensure that the valve protection device (where provided) is correctly fitted. Ensure adequate ventilation. Ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

SECTION 15: Regulatory information

15.1. Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture

Seveso Directive 96/82/EC: Listed

Further regulations

Biocidal Product Directive (98/8/EC)

15.2. Chemical safety assessment

CSA has been carried out.

SECTION 16: Other information

Ensure all national/local regulations are observed. Ensure operators understand the flammability hazard. Ensure operators understand the toxicity hazard. Users of breathing apparatus must be trained. Before using this product in any new process or experiment, a thorough material compatibility and safety study should be carried out.

Advice

Whilst proper care has been taken in the preparation of this document, no liability for injury or damage resulting from its use can be accepted. Details given in this document are believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

Further Information

Note:

When using this document care should be taken, as the decimal sign and its position complies with rules for the structure and drafting of international standards, and is a comma on the line. As an example 2,000 is two (to three

decimal places) and not two thousand, whilst 1.000 is one thousand and not one (to three decimal places).

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