

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

## 1. Product and Company Identification

Material name	POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE
Version #	02
Revision date	06-25-2010
CAS #	Mixture
Product Codes	J.T.Baker: 3140, 3141, 3146, 3150, 3152, 5685 Mallinckrodt: 6964, 6976, 6984, 7679, 7704, 7815, 8815
Synonym(s)	POTASSIUM HYDRATE * CAUSTIC POTASH
Manufacturer	Mallinckrodt Baker, Inc.
Address	222 Red School Lane Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 US
Customer Service	800-582-2537
24 Hour Emergency	908-859-2151
Chemtrec	800-424-9300

## 2. Hazards Identification

Emergency overview	DANGER -- POISON TOXIC. Extremely corrosive and destructive to tissue. Causes severe skin and eye burns. May be fatal if swallowed. Harmful if inhaled.
OSHA regulatory status	This product is considered hazardous under 29 CFR 1910.1200 (Hazard Communication).
Potential health effects	
Routes of exposure	Inhalation. Ingestion. Skin contact. Eye contact.
Eyes	Causes eye burns. Corrosive to the eyes and may cause severe damage including blindness. Risk of serious damage to eyes. Do not get this material in contact with eyes.
Skin	Corrosive. Causes severe skin burns. Causes permanent skin damage (scarring). Do not get this material in contact with skin.
Inhalation	Severely irritating to respiratory system. Causes burns. May cause lung damage. Prolonged inhalation may be harmful. Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray.
Ingestion	Ingestion causes burns of the upper digestive and respiratory tracts. Ingestion may produce burns to the lips, oral cavity, upper airway, esophagus and possibly the digestive tract. Ingestion may cause gastrointestinal irritation, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. May be fatal if swallowed. Do not ingest.
Chronic effects	Corrosive. Prolonged contact causes serious eye and tissue damage. Can cause lung damage. Frequent or prolonged contact may defat and dry the skin, leading to discomfort and dermatitis.
Signs and symptoms	Irritation of eyes and mucous membranes.
Potential environmental effects	Components of this product are hazardous to aquatic life. May cause long-term adverse effects in the environment.

## 3. Composition / Information on Ingredients

Components	CAS #	Percent
POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE	1310-58-3	80 - 90
Other components below reportable levels		10 - 20

## 4. First Aid Measures

First aid procedures	
Eye contact	Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Get medical attention immediately.

<b>Skin contact</b>	Remove and isolate contaminated clothing and shoes. Immediately flush skin with plenty of water. Get medical attention immediately. For minor skin contact, avoid spreading material on unaffected skin. Wash clothing separately before reuse.
<b>Inhalation</b>	Move to fresh air. Oxygen or artificial respiration if needed. Do not use mouth-to-mouth method if victim inhaled the substance. Induce artificial respiration with the aid of a pocket mask equipped with a one-way valve or other proper respiratory medical device. Get medical attention immediately.
<b>Ingestion</b>	IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician. Do not induce vomiting without advice from poison control center. Never give anything by mouth to a victim who is unconscious or is having convulsions. Do not use mouth-to-mouth method if victim ingested the substance. Induce artificial respiration with the aid of a pocket mask equipped with a one-way valve or other proper respiratory medical device. Rinse mouth thoroughly. If vomiting occurs, keep head low so that stomach content doesn't get into the lungs.
<b>Notes to physician</b>	In case of shortness of breath, give oxygen. Keep victim warm.
<b>General advice</b>	Immediate medical attention is required. In case of shortness of breath, give oxygen. Keep victim warm. Ensure that medical personnel are aware of the material(s) involved, and take precautions to protect themselves.

## 5. Fire Fighting Measures

<b>Flammable properties</b>	The product is not flammable. Not flammable, but reacts with most metals to form flammable hydrogen gas.
<b>Extinguishing media</b>	
<b>Suitable extinguishing media</b>	Water. Use any media suitable for the surrounding fires.
<b>Protection of firefighters</b>	
<b>Specific hazards arising from the chemical</b>	Not flammable, but reacts with most metals to form flammable hydrogen gas.
<b>Protective equipment and precautions for firefighters</b>	In the event of fire, cool tanks with water spray. Use water spray to cool unopened containers. Cool containers exposed to flames with water until well after the fire is out.
<b>Specific methods</b>	In the event of fire, cool tanks with water spray. Use water spray to cool unopened containers.

## 6. Accidental Release Measures

<b>Personal precautions</b>	Ensure adequate ventilation. Keep unnecessary personnel away. Local authorities should be advised if significant spillages cannot be contained. Wear appropriate protective equipment and clothing during clean-up. Do not touch damaged containers or spilled material unless wearing appropriate protective clothing. Ventilate closed spaces before entering them.
<b>Environmental precautions</b>	Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Do not contaminate water.
<b>Methods for containment</b>	Prevent entry into waterways, sewer, basements or confined areas.
<b>Methods for cleaning up</b>	Should not be released into the environment. Do not allow material to contaminate ground water system. Sweep up or vacuum up spillage and collect in suitable container for disposal. Avoid dust formation. Neutralize spill with a weak acid such as vinegar or acetic acid. Use a non-combustible material like vermiculite, sand or earth to soak up the product and place into a container for later disposal. Following product recovery, flush area with water.
	J. T. Baker NEUTRACIT®-2 or BuCAIM® caustic neutralizers are recommended for spills of solutions of this product.

## 7. Handling and Storage

<b>Handling</b>	Do not get this material in contact with eyes. Do not get this material in contact with skin. Do not get this material on clothing. Do not use in areas without adequate ventilation. Never pour water into acid/base. Dilute by slowly pouring the product into water while stirring. Product may generate heat if it comes in contact with water or water vapor. Avoid prolonged exposure. Wash thoroughly after handling. Handle and open container with care.
<b>Storage</b>	Store in a well-ventilated place. Store in a closed container away from incompatible materials. Keep away from moisture. Use care in handling/storage. Keep out of the reach of children.

## 8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protection

### Occupational exposure limits

#### ACGIH

##### Components

##### Type

##### Value

POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (1310-58-3)

TWA

2.0000 mg/m3

#### U.S. - OSHA

##### Components

##### Type

##### Value

POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (1310-58-3)

Ceiling

2.0000 mg/m3

### Engineering controls

Good general ventilation (typically 10 air changes per hour) should be used. Ventilation rates should be matched to conditions. If applicable, use process enclosures, local exhaust ventilation, or other engineering controls to maintain airborne levels below recommended exposure limits. If exposure limits have not been established, maintain airborne levels to an acceptable level.

### Personal protective equipment

#### Eye / face protection

Chemical goggles are recommended. Face-shield. Provide eyewash station and safety shower. Do not get in eyes.

#### Skin protection

Wear appropriate chemical resistant clothing. Chemical resistant gloves. Do not get this material in contact with skin. Do not get this material on clothing.

#### Respiratory protection

Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray.

#### General hygiene considerations

Do not get in eyes. Do not get this material in contact with skin. Do not get this material on clothing. When using, do not eat, drink or smoke. Keep away from food and drink. Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice.

#### General

Structural firefighters protective clothing provides limited protection in fire situations ONLY; it is not effective in spill situations.

## 9. Physical & Chemical Properties

Appearance	Not available.
Color	White.
Odor	Odorless.
Odor threshold	Not available.
Physical state	Solid.
Form	Solid.
pH	13.5 (0.1 molar solution)
Melting point	631.4 °F (333 °C) estimated
Freezing point	631.4 °F (333 °C) estimated
Boiling point	2145.2 °F (1174 °C) estimated
Flash point	Not available.
Evaporation rate	Not available.
Flammability	Not available.
Flammability limits in air, upper, % by volume	Not available.
Flammability limits in air, lower, % by volume	Not available.
Vapor pressure	1.17 hPa estimated
Vapor density	Not available.
Specific gravity	2.0442 estimated
Relative density	Not available.

<b>Solubility (water)</b>	Not available.
<b>Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water)</b>	Not available
<b>Auto-ignition temperature</b>	Not available.
<b>Decomposition temperature</b>	Not available.
<b>Percent volatile</b>	0 % estimated
<b>Molecular weight</b>	56.11 g/mol
<b>Molecular formula</b>	KOH

## 10. Chemical Stability & Reactivity Information

<b>Chemical stability</b>	Material is stable under normal conditions. The substance is hygroscopic and will absorb water by contact with the moisture in the air.
<b>Conditions to avoid</b>	This product may react with oxidizing agents. Do not mix with other chemicals. Reacts violently with strong acids. Heat. Moisture. Incompatible materials.
<b>Incompatible materials</b>	Moisture. Flammable liquid. Oxidizing agents. Acids. Maleic anhydride. Halogens. Nitromethane. Contact with most metals produces highly flammable hydrogen gas.
<b>Hazardous decomposition products</b>	Carbon monoxide. Potassium oxide (K <sub>2</sub> O).
<b>Possibility of hazardous reactions</b>	Hazardous polymerization does not occur.

## 11. Toxicological Information

Toxicological data	
Components	Test Results
POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (1310-58-3)	Acute Oral LD50 Rat: 273 mg/kg

\* Estimates for product may be based on additional component data not shown.

<b>Acute effects</b>	Causes burns.
<b>Chronic effects</b>	Prolonged inhalation may be harmful.
<b>Carcinogenicity</b>	This product is not considered to be a carcinogen by IARC, ACGIH, NTP, or OSHA.
<b>Skin corrosion/irritation</b>	Hazardous by OSHA criteria.
<b>Epidemiology</b>	Not available.
<b>Neurological effects</b>	Not available.

## 12. Ecological Information

Ecotoxicological data	
Product	Test Results
POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (Mixture)	LC50 Fish: 91.43 mg/l 96.00 Hours estimated
Components	Test Results
POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (1310-58-3)	LC50 Western mosquitofish (Gambusia affinis): 80 mg/l 96.00 Hours

\* Estimates for product may be based on additional component data not shown.

<b>Ecotoxicity</b>	Components of this product are hazardous to aquatic life.
<b>Environmental effects</b>	Harmful to aquatic organisms.
<b>Persistence and degradability</b>	Not available.

## 13. Disposal Considerations

<b>Waste codes</b>	D002: Waste Corrosive material [pH ≤2 or ≥12.5, or corrosive to steel]
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**Disposal instructions**

Dispose of this material and its container to hazardous or special waste collection point. Incinerate the material under controlled conditions in an approved incinerator. Dispose in accordance with all applicable regulations.

**14. Transport Information**

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**DOT****Basic shipping requirements:**

UN number	UN1813
Proper shipping name	Potassium hydroxide, solid
Hazard class	8
Packing group	II
Additional information:	
Special provisions	IB8, IP2, IP4, T3, TP33
Packaging exceptions	154
Packaging non bulk	212
Packaging bulk	240
ERG number	154

**IATA****Basic shipping requirements:**

UN number	1813
Proper shipping name	Potassium hydroxide, solid
Hazard class	8
Packing group	II

**IMDG****Basic shipping requirements:**

UN number	1813
Proper shipping name	POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID
Hazard class	8
Packing group	II



DOT



IATA



IMDG

**15. Regulatory Information**

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**US federal regulations**

This product is a "Hazardous Chemical" as defined by the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200.  
All components are on the U.S. EPA TSCA Inventory List.

**CERCLA (Superfund) reportable quantity**

POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE: 1000.0000

**Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA)**

Hazard categories	Immediate Hazard - Yes
	Delayed Hazard - Yes
	Fire Hazard - No
	Pressure Hazard - No
	Reactivity Hazard - Yes

Section 311 hazardous chemical	Yes
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**Inventory status**

Country(s) or region	Inventory name	On inventory (yes/no)*
Australia	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)	Yes
Canada	Domestic Substances List (DSL)	Yes
Canada	Non-Domestic Substances List (NDSL)	No
China	Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances in China (IECSC)	Yes
Europe	European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances (EINECS)	Yes
Europe	European List of Notified Chemical Substances (ELINCS)	No
Japan	Inventory of Existing and New Chemical Substances (ENCS)	Yes
Korea	Existing Chemicals List (ECL)	Yes
New Zealand	New Zealand Inventory	Yes
Philippines	Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances (PICCS)	Yes
United States & Puerto Rico	Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Inventory	Yes

\*A "Yes" indicates that all components of this product comply with the inventory requirements administered by the governing country(s)

**State regulations** This product does not contain a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm.

**US - Pennsylvania RTK - Hazardous Substances: Listed substance**

POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (CAS 1310-58-3) Listed.

**Saf-T-Data** Health: 3 - Severe (Poison)  
Flammability: 0 - None  
Reactivity: 2 - Moderate  
Contact: 4 - Extreme (Corrosive)  
Lab Protective Equip: D - GOGGLES & SHIELD; LAB COAT & APRON; VENT HOOD; PROPER GLOVES  
Storage Color Code: WS - White Stripe (Store Separately)

**16. Labeling Info**

**Label Hazard Warning** DANGER -- POISON  
TOXIC. Extremely corrosive and destructive to tissue. Causes severe skin and eye burns. May be fatal if swallowed. Harmful if inhaled.

**Label Precautions** Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. Do not breathe dust. Keep container closed. Use only with adequate ventilation. Wash thoroughly after handling.

**Label First Aid** Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention immediately. Flush skin thoroughly with water. Get medical attention immediately. For minor skin contact, avoid spreading material on unaffected skin. If gas/fume/vapor/dust/mist from the material is inhaled, remove the affected person immediately to fresh air. Get medical attention immediately. IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician. Do not induce vomiting without advice from poison control center. Do not use mouth-to-mouth method if victim ingested the substance. Induce artificial respiration with the aid of a pocket mask equipped with a one-way valve or other proper respiratory medical device. If vomiting occurs, keep head low so that stomach content doesn't get into the lungs.

**17. Other Information**

**NFPA ratings** Health: 3  
Flammability: 0  
Instability: 1

**Disclaimer**

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**Issue date**

06-25-2010

**This data sheet contains  
changes from the previous  
version in section(s):**

Fire Fighting Measures: Specific hazards arising from the chemical  
Toxicological Information: Carcinogenicity  
Toxicological Information: Reproductive effects