

# Safety Data Sheet



## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

**Product Name:** **POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (SOLID)**

**Other name(s):** Caustic potash; potassium hydrate; lye.

**Recommended Use of the Chemical and Restrictions on Use** Chemical intermediate.

**Supplier:** Bermuda Industrial Supplies  
**ABN:** 71 149 716 003  
**Street Address:** 16/1 Cowpasture Place  
Wetherill Park  
NSW 2164  
Australia  
**Telephone Number:** 02 9604 4344  
**Emergency Telephone:** **02 9604 4344**

Please ensure you refer to the limitations of this Safety Data Sheet as set out in the "Other Information" section at the end of this Data Sheet.

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (ADG Code) for Transport by Road and Rail; DANGEROUS GOODS.

This material is hazardous according to Safe Work Australia; HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL.

### Classification of the chemical:

Corrosive to Metals - Category 1  
Acute Oral Toxicity - Category 4  
Skin Corrosion - Sub-category 1A  
Eye Damage - Category 1

**SIGNAL WORD:** DANGER



### Hazard Statement(s):

H290 May be corrosive to metals.  
H302 Harmful if swallowed.  
H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

### Precautionary Statement(s):

#### Prevention:

P234 Keep only in original container.  
P260 Do not breathe dust / fume / gas / mist / vapours / spray.  
P264 Wash hands thoroughly after handling.  
P270 Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.  
P280 Wear protective gloves / protective clothing / eye protection / face protection.

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## Response:

P301+P330+P331 IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.  
P301+P312 IF SWALLOWED: Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician if you feel unwell.  
P303+P361+P353 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water/shower.  
P321 Specific treatment (see First Aid Measures on Safety Data Sheet).  
P363 Wash contaminated clothing before re-use.  
P304+P340 IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.  
P310 Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.  
P305+P351+P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.  
P390 Absorb spillage to prevent material damage.

## Storage:

P405 Store locked up.  
P406 Store in corrosive resistant container with a resistant inner liner.

## Disposal:

P501 Dispose of contents and container in accordance with local, regional, national, international regulations.

**Poisons Schedule (SUSMP):** S6 Poison.

## 3. COMPOSITION AND INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Components	CAS Number	Proportion	Hazard Codes
Potassium hydroxide	1310-58-3	>=90%	H290 H302 H314 H318

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

For advice, contact a Poisons Information Centre (e.g. phone Australia 131 126; New Zealand 0800 764 766) or a doctor.

### Inhalation:

Remove victim from area of exposure - avoid becoming a casualty. Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing. Allow patient to assume most comfortable position and keep warm. Keep at rest until fully recovered. If patient finds breathing difficult and develops a bluish discoloration of the skin (which suggests a lack of oxygen in the blood - cyanosis), ensure airways are clear of any obstruction and have a qualified person give oxygen through a face mask. Apply artificial respiration if patient is not breathing. Seek immediate medical advice.

### Skin Contact:

If spilt on large areas of skin or hair, immediately drench with running water and remove clothing. Continue to wash skin and hair with plenty of water (and soap if material is insoluble) until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Centre or a doctor. For skin burns, cover with a clean, dry dressing until medical help is available.

### Eye Contact:

Immediately wash in and around the eye area with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes. Eyelids to be held apart. Remove clothing if contaminated and wash skin. Urgently seek medical assistance. Transport promptly to hospital or medical centre.

### Ingestion:

Immediately rinse mouth with water. If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting. Give a glass of water. Seek immediate medical assistance.

### Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment needed:

Treat symptomatically. Can cause corneal burns.

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

### Suitable Extinguishing Media:

Not combustible, however, if material is involved in a fire use: Fine water spray, normal foam, dry agent (carbon dioxide, dry chemical powder).

**Hazchem or Emergency Action Code:** 2W

### Specific hazards arising from the chemical:

Corrosive substance. Non-combustible material.

### Special protective equipment and precautions for fire-fighters:

Contact with metals may liberate hydrogen gas which is extremely flammable. Fire fighters to wear self-contained breathing apparatus and suitable protective clothing if risk of exposure to products of decomposition.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### Emergency procedures/Environmental precautions:

Clear area of all unprotected personnel. If contamination of sewers or waterways has occurred advise local emergency services.

### Personal precautions/Protective equipment/Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up:

Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contact and breathing in dust. Work up wind or increase ventilation. Cover with damp absorbent (inert material, sand or soil). Sweep or vacuum up, but avoid generating dust. Collect and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

This material is a Scheduled Poison S6 and must be stored, maintained and used in accordance with the relevant regulations.

### Precautions for safe handling:

Avoid skin and eye contact and breathing in dust. Keep out of reach of children.

### Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities:

Store in a cool, dry, well ventilated place. Store away from incompatible materials described in Section 10. Store away from foodstuffs. Keep containers closed when not in use - check regularly for spills.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Potassium hydroxide: Peak Limitation = 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

As published by Safe Work Australia Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants.

Peak Limitation - a maximum or peak airborne concentration of a particular substance determined over the shortest analytically practicable period of time which does not exceed 15 minutes.

These Workplace Exposure Standards are guides to be used in the control of occupational health hazards. All atmospheric contamination should be kept to as low a level as is workable. These workplace exposure standards should not be used as fine dividing lines between safe and dangerous concentrations of chemicals. They are not a measure of relative toxicity.

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## Appropriate engineering controls:

Ensure ventilation is adequate to maintain air concentrations below Workplace Exposure Standards. Keep containers closed when not in use.

If in the handling and application of this material, safe exposure levels could be exceeded, the use of engineering controls such as local exhaust ventilation must be considered and the results documented. If achieving safe exposure levels does not require engineering controls, then a detailed and documented risk assessment using the relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (refer to PPE section below) as a basis must be carried out to determine the minimum PPE requirements.

## Individual protection measures, such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

The selection of PPE is dependent on a detailed risk assessment. The risk assessment should consider the work situation, the physical form of the chemical, the handling methods, and environmental factors.

OVERALLS, SAFETY SHOES, CHEMICAL GOGGLES, GLOVES, DUST MASK.



Wear overalls, chemical goggles and impervious gloves. Avoid generating and inhaling dusts. If determined by a risk assessment an inhalation risk exists, wear a dust mask/respirator meeting the requirements of AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716. Always wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking or using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing and other protective equipment before storage or re-use.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

<b>Physical state:</b>	Flakes or Pellets
<b>Colour:</b>	White
<b>Odour:</b>	Odourless
<b>Molecular Formula:</b>	KOH
<b>Solubility:</b>	Soluble in water.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	0.9 kg/dm <sup>3</sup>
<b>Relative Vapour Density (air=1):</b>	Not applicable
<b>Vapour Pressure (20 °C):</b>	Not applicable
<b>Flash Point (°C):</b>	Not applicable
<b>Flammability Limits (%):</b>	Not applicable
<b>Autoignition Temperature (°C):</b>	Not applicable
<b>Solubility in water (g/L):</b>	770
<b>Melting Point/Range (°C):</b>	360
<b>Boiling Point/Range (°C):</b>	1320
<b>pH:</b>	14 (10g/100 mL water)

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

<b>Reactivity:</b>	Reacts violently with acids. Reacts with ammonium salts liberating ammonia gas.
<b>Chemical stability:</b>	Stable under normal conditions of use. Deliquescent.
<b>Possibility of hazardous reactions:</b>	Corrosive to metals in the presence of moisture.

Product Name: POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (SOLID)

Issued: 10/02/2016  
Version: 1.0

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<b>Conditions to avoid:</b>	Avoid exposure to moisture. Avoid exposure to air. Avoid exposure to humidity. Avoid contact with organic materials .
<b>Incompatible materials:</b>	Incompatible with acids , ammonium salts , chlorinated hydrocarbons , water , and many metals .
<b>Hazardous decomposition products:</b>	None known.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No adverse health effects expected if the product is handled in accordance with this Safety Data Sheet and the product label. Symptoms or effects that may arise if the product is mishandled and overexposure occurs are:

<b>Ingestion:</b>	Swallowing can result in nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and chemical burns to the gastrointestinal tract.
<b>Eye contact:</b>	A severe eye irritant. Corrosive to eyes; contact can cause corneal burns. Contamination of eyes can result in permanent injury.
<b>Skin contact:</b>	Contact with skin will result in severe irritation. Corrosive to skin - may cause skin burns.
<b>Inhalation:</b>	Breathing in dust may result in respiratory irritation.
<b>Acute toxicity:</b>	Oral LD50 (rat): 273 mg/kg.
<b>Skin corrosion/irritation:</b>	Severe irritant (rabbit).
<b>Chronic effects:</b>	No information available for the product.

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

<b>Ecotoxicity</b>	Avoid contaminating waterways.
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## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Disposal methods:

Refer to Waste Management Authority. Dispose of contents and container in accordance with local, regional, national, international regulations.

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

### Road and Rail Transport

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (ADG Code) for Transport by Road and Rail; DANGEROUS GOODS.



<b>UN No:</b>	1813
<b>Transport Hazard Class:</b>	8 Corrosive

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**Packing Group:** II  
**Proper Shipping Name or Technical Name:** POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID  
**Hazchem or Emergency Action Code:** 2W

## Marine Transport

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) for transport by sea; DANGEROUS GOODS.

**UN No:** 1813  
**Transport Hazard Class:** 8 Corrosive  
**Packing Group:** II  
**Proper Shipping Name or Technical Name:** POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID

**IMDG EMS Fire:** F-A  
**IMDG EMS Spill:** S-B

## Air Transport

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations for transport by air; DANGEROUS GOODS.

**UN No:** 1813  
**Transport Hazard Class:** 8 Corrosive  
**Packing Group:** II  
**Proper Shipping Name or Technical Name:** POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID

## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

### Classification:

This material is hazardous according to Safe Work Australia; HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL.

### Classification of the chemical:

Corrosive to Metals - Category 1  
Acute Oral Toxicity - Category 4  
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Eye Damage - Category 1

### Hazard Statement(s):

H290 May be corrosive to metals.  
H302 Harmful if swallowed.  
H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

**Poisons Schedule (SUSMP):** S6 Poison.

This material is listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

<sup>1</sup>Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances'. Ed. D. Sweet, US Dept. of Health & Human Services: Cincinnati, 2014.

# Safety Data Sheet



This safety data sheet has been prepared by Bermuda Industrial Supplies & SDS Services.

**Reason(s) for Issue:**

Revised Primary SDS

Alignment to GHS requirements

This SDS summarises to our best knowledge at the date of issue, the chemical health and safety hazards of the material and general guidance on how to safely handle the material in the workplace. Since Bermuda Industrial Supplies cannot anticipate or control the conditions under which the product may be used, each user must, prior to usage, assess and control the risks arising from its use of the material.

If clarification or further information is needed, the user should contact their Bermuda representative or Bermuda Industrial Supplies at the contact details on page 1.

Bermuda Industrial Supplies' responsibility for the material as sold is subject to the terms and conditions of sale, a copy of which is available upon request.