

## SAFETY DATA SHEET

according to Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006

Version 5.0 Revision Date 26.04.2012

Print Date 17.04.2014

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1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE/MIXTURE AND OF THE COMPANY/UNDERTAKING

## 1.1 Product identifiers

Product name : Paraformaldehyde

Product Number : P6148  
Brand : Sigma-Aldrich  
CAS-No. : 30525-89-4

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

Identified uses : Laboratory chemicals, Manufacture of substances

## 1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Company : Sigma-Aldrich Company Ltd.  
The Old Brickyard  
NEW ROAD, GILLINGHAM  
Dorset  
SP8 4XT  
UNITED KINGDOMTelephone : +44 (0)1747 833000  
Fax : +44 (0)1747 833313  
E-mail address : eurtechserv@sial.com

## 1.4 Emergency telephone number

Emergency Phone # : +44 (0)1747 833100

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2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

## 2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

**Classification according to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 [EU-GHS/CLP]**Flammable solids (Category 2)  
Acute toxicity, Inhalation (Category 4)  
Acute toxicity, Oral (Category 4)  
Skin irritation (Category 2)  
Serious eye damage (Category 1)  
Skin sensitization (Category 1)  
Carcinogenicity (Category 2)  
Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure (Category 3)**Classification according to EU Directives 67/548/EEC or 1999/45/EC**

Highly flammable. Harmful by inhalation and if swallowed. Irritating to respiratory system and skin. Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect. Risk of serious damage to eyes. May cause sensitization by skin contact.

## 2.2 Label elements

**Labelling according Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 [CLP]**

Pictogram



Signal word : Danger

Hazard statement(s)

H228 : Flammable solid.  
H302 : Harmful if swallowed.

H315 Causes skin irritation.  
H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction.  
H318 Causes serious eye damage.  
H332 Harmful if inhaled.  
H335 May cause respiratory irritation.  
H351 Suspected of causing cancer.

Precautionary statement(s)

P210 Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. - No smoking.  
P261 Avoid breathing dust/ fume/ gas/ mist/ vapours/ spray.  
P280 Wear protective gloves/ eye protection/ face protection.  
P305 + P351 + P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

Supplemental Hazard Statements

none

**According to European Directive 67/548/EEC as amended.**

Hazard symbol(s)



R-phrases(s)

R11 Highly flammable.  
R20/22 Harmful by inhalation and if swallowed.  
R37/38 Irritating to respiratory system and skin.  
R40 Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.  
R41 Risk of serious damage to eyes.  
R43 May cause sensitization by skin contact.

S-phrases(s)

S26 In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice.  
S36/37/39 Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection.  
S45 In case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately (show the label where possible).

**2.3 Other hazards - none**

**3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS**

**3.1 Substances**

Synonyms : Polyoxymethylene

Formula : HO(CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>H

Molecular Weight : 30.03 g/mol

Component		Concentration
<b>Paraformaldehyde</b>		
CAS-No.	30525-89-4	-

**4. FIRST AID MEASURES**

**4.1 Description of first aid measures**

**General advice**

Consult a physician. Show this safety data sheet to the doctor in attendance.

**If inhaled**

If breathed in, move person into fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. Consult a physician.

**In case of skin contact**

Wash off with soap and plenty of water. Consult a physician.

**In case of eye contact**

Rinse thoroughly with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and consult a physician.

**If swallowed**

Do NOT induce vomiting. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Rinse mouth with water. Consult a physician.

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

May cause irreversible eye damage.

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

no data available

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**5. FIREFIGHTING MEASURES****5.1 Extinguishing media****Suitable extinguishing media**

Use water spray, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide.

**5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture**

Carbon oxides

**5.3 Advice for firefighters**

Wear self contained breathing apparatus for fire fighting if necessary.

**5.4 Further information**

Use water spray to cool unopened containers.

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**6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES****6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures**

Use personal protective equipment. Avoid dust formation. Avoid breathing vapors, mist or gas. Ensure adequate ventilation. Remove all sources of ignition. Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Avoid breathing dust.

**6.2 Environmental precautions**

Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Do not let product enter drains. Discharge into the environment must be avoided.

**6.3 Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up**

Sweep up and shovel. Contain spillage, and then collect with an electrically protected vacuum cleaner or by wet-brushing and place in container for disposal according to local regulations (see section 13). Keep in suitable, closed containers for disposal. Contain spillage, pick up with an electrically protected vacuum cleaner or by wet-brushing and transfer to a container for disposal according to local regulations (see section 13).

**6.4 Reference to other sections**

For disposal see section 13.

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**7. HANDLING AND STORAGE****7.1 Precautions for safe handling**

Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid formation of dust and aerosols.

Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where dust is formed. Keep away from sources of ignition - No smoking. Take measures to prevent the build up of electrostatic charge.

**7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities**

Store in cool place. Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place.

Recommended storage temperature: 2 - 8 °C

**7.3 Specific end uses**

no data available

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**8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION****8.1 Control parameters****Components with workplace control parameters**

Contains no substances with occupational exposure limit values.

## 8.2 Exposure controls

### Appropriate engineering controls

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Wash hands before breaks and at the end of workday.

### Personal protective equipment

#### Eye/face protection

Face shield and safety glasses Use equipment for eye protection tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or EN 166(EU).

#### Skin protection

Handle with gloves. Gloves must be inspected prior to use. Use proper glove removal technique (without touching glove's outer surface) to avoid skin contact with this product. Dispose of contaminated gloves after use in accordance with applicable laws and good laboratory practices. Wash and dry hands.

The selected protective gloves have to satisfy the specifications of EU Directive 89/686/EEC and the standard EN 374 derived from it.

#### Immersion protection

Material: Nitrile rubber

Minimum layer thickness: 0.11 mm

Break through time: > 480 min

Material tested: Dermatrill® (Aldrich Z677272, Size M)

#### Splash protection

Material: Nitrile rubber

Minimum layer thickness: 0.11 mm

Break through time: > 30 min

Material tested: Dermatrill® (Aldrich Z677272, Size M)

data source: KCL GmbH, D-36124 Eichenzell, phone +49 (0)6659 873000, e-mail sales@kcl.de, test method: EN374

If used in solution, or mixed with other substances, and under conditions which differ from EN 374, contact the supplier of the CE approved gloves. This recommendation is advisory only and must be evaluated by an Industrial Hygienist familiar with the specific situation of anticipated use by our customers. It should not be construed as offering an approval for any specific use scenario.

#### Body Protection

Complete suit protecting against chemicals, Flame retardant antistatic protective clothing, The type of protective equipment must be selected according to the concentration and amount of the dangerous substance at the specific workplace.

#### Respiratory protection

Where risk assessment shows air-purifying respirators are appropriate use a full-face particle respirator type N100 (US) or type P3 (EN 143) respirator cartridges as a backup to engineering controls. If the respirator is the sole means of protection, use a full-face supplied air respirator. Use respirators and components tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or CEN (EU).

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## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### 9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a) Appearance                              | Form: crystalline                        |
| b) Odour                                   | pungent                                  |
| c) Odour Threshold                         | no data available                        |
| d) pH                                      | 4.0 - 5.5                                |
| e) Melting point/freezing point            | Melting point/range: 120 - 170 °C - lit. |
| f) Initial boiling point and boiling range | no data available                        |

g) Flash point	70 °C - closed cup
h) Evaporation rate	no data available
i) Flammability (solid, gas)	The substance or mixture is a flammable solid with the category 2.
j) Upper/lower flammability or explosive limits	no data available
k) Vapour pressure	no data available
l) Vapour density	no data available
m) Relative density	0.88 g/cm <sup>3</sup> at 25 °C
n) Water solubility	insoluble
o) Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water	no data available
p) Autoignition temperature	no data available
q) Decomposition temperature	no data available
r) Viscosity	no data available
s) Explosive properties	no data available
t) Oxidizing properties	no data available

## 9.2 Other safety information

Bulk density	500 - 800 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
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## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

### 10.1 Reactivity

no data available

### 10.2 Chemical stability

no data available

### 10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

no data available

### 10.4 Conditions to avoid

Exposure to moisture.  
Heat, flames and sparks. Extremes of temperature and direct sunlight.

### 10.5 Incompatible materials

Brass, Steel (all types and surface treatments), Copper, Acid anhydrides, Strong oxidizing agents, Strong reducing agents

### 10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

Other decomposition products - no data available

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## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### 11.1 Information on toxicological effects

#### Acute toxicity

LD<sub>50</sub> Oral - rat - 592 mg/kg

LC<sub>50</sub> Inhalation - rat - 4 h - 1,070 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Remarks: Sense Organs and Special Senses (Nose, Eye, Ear, and Taste): Eye: Lacrimation. Lungs, Thorax, or Respiration: Dyspnea.

LDLO Dermal - rat - 10,000 mg/kg

**Skin corrosion/irritation****Serious eye damage/eye irritation**

Eyes - rabbit - Severe eye irritation

**Respiratory or skin sensitization**

May cause allergic skin reaction.

**Germ cell mutagenicity**

no data available

**Carcinogenicity**

Formaldehyde, the decomposition product of paraformaldehyde, has been listed as a carcinogen by NTP and IARC.

Limited evidence of carcinogenicity in animal studies

IARC: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as probable, possible or confirmed human carcinogen by IARC.

**Reproductive toxicity**

no data available

**Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure**

Inhalation - May cause respiratory irritation.

**Specific target organ toxicity - repeated exposure**

no data available

**Aspiration hazard**

no data available

**Potential health effects**

<b>Inhalation</b>	Harmful if inhaled. Causes respiratory tract irritation.
<b>Ingestion</b>	Harmful if swallowed.
<b>Skin</b>	May be harmful if absorbed through skin. Causes skin irritation.
<b>Eyes</b>	Causes eye burns.

**Signs and Symptoms of Exposure**

May cause irreversible eye damage.

**Additional Information**

RTECS: RV0540000

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**12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION****12.1 Toxicity**

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates      EC50 - Daphnia magna (Water flea) - 42 mg/l - 24 h

**12.2 Persistence and degradability**

no data available

**12.3 Bioaccumulative potential**

no data available

**12.4 Mobility in soil**

no data available

**12.5 Results of PBT and vPvB assessment**

no data available

**12.6 Other adverse effects**

Harmful to aquatic life.  
no data available

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**13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS****13.1 Waste treatment methods****Product**

Burn in a chemical incinerator equipped with an afterburner and scrubber but exert extra care in igniting as this material is highly flammable. Offer surplus and non-recyclable solutions to a licensed disposal company.

**Contaminated packaging**

Dispose of as unused product.

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**14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION****14.1 UN number**

ADR/RID: 2213

IMDG: 2213

IATA: 2213

**14.2 UN proper shipping name**

ADR/RID: PARAFORMALDEHYDE

IMDG: PARAFORMALDEHYDE

IATA: Paraformaldehyde

**14.3 Transport hazard class(es)**

ADR/RID: 4.1

IMDG: 4.1

IATA: 4.1

**14.4 Packaging group**

ADR/RID: III

IMDG: III

IATA: III

**14.5 Environmental hazards**

ADR/RID: no

IMDG Marine pollutant: no

IATA: no

**14.6 Special precautions for user**

no data available

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**15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**

This safety datasheet complies with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006.

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

no data available

**15.2 Chemical Safety Assessment**

no data available

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**16. OTHER INFORMATION****Further information**

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