



# **Material Safety Data Sheets**

# 1. IDENTIFICATION

**Product Name** Borax decahydrate

**Other Names** Boric acid, disodium salt; Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous; Sodium tetraborate, decahydrate

Uses Ceramics; Detergent; Borosilicate glass; Insulation fiberglass.

**Chemical Family** No Data Available **Chemical Formula** Na<sub>2</sub>B<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>.10H<sub>2</sub>O

**Chemical Name** Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate

**Product Description** No Data Available

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### 2. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

**Hazard Categories** 

Acute Toxicity (Oral) - Category 5 Serious Eye Damage/Irritation - Category 2A

Toxic To Reproduction - Category 2

Warning Signal Word

**Hazard Statements** May be harmful if swallowed.

Causes serious eye irritation.

Suspected of damaging the unborn child.

Obtain special instructions before use. **Precautionary Statements** 

Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.

IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses,

if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice. If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice.

Call a POISON CENTER or doctor if you feel unwell.

Store locked up.

Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local / regional / national /

international regulations.

### Symbol



# 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

# Ingredients

Chemical Entity	Formula	CAS Number	Proportion
Borax decahydrate	Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> .10H <sub>2</sub> O	1303-96-4	<=100 %

#### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

### Description of necessary measures according to routes of exposure

Swallowed IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth, then drink plenty of water. Call a Poison Centre or doctor/physician for advice if large

amounts are swallowed (i.e. more than one teaspoon) or if you feel unwell.

Eye IF IN EYES: Immediately flush eyes with running water for several minutes, holding eyelids open and occasionally lifting

the upper and lower lids. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing for at least 15 minutes. If eye

irritation persists, get medical advice/attention.

Skin IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. If skin irritation

occurs, get medical advice/attention.

Inhaled IF INHALED: Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. If respiratory symptoms

persist, get medical advice/attention.

Advice to Doctor If exposed or concerned, get medical advice/attention. Treat symptomatically.

\*Observation only is required for adult ingestion of less than 7 grams. For ingestion in excess of 7 grams, maintain adequate kidney function and force fluids. Gastric lavage is recommended for symptomatic patients only. Hemodialysis should be reserved for massive acute ingestion or patients with renal failure. Boron analyses of urine or blood are only

useful for documenting exposure and should not be used to evaluate severity of poisoning or to guide treatment.

Medical Conditions Aggravated by No information available.

**Exposure** 

### 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

General Measures Do not attempt to take action without suitable protective equipment. If safe to do so, move undamaged containers from

fire area. Cool containers with water spray until well after fire is out.

Flammability Conditions Not combustible.

\*The product is itself a flame retardant.

**Extinguishing Media** If material is involved in a fire, use water spray, dry powder, foam.

\*Any fire extinguishing media may be used on nearby fires.

Fire and Explosion Hazard Not flammable or explosive.

**Hazardous Products of** 

Combustion

In case of fire, toxic fumes may be released.

Special Fire Fighting Instructions Contain runoff from fire control or dilution water - Runoff may cause pollution.

Personal Protective Equipment Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Structural firefighters' protective clothing will only

provide limited protection.

Flash Point No Data Available
Lower Explosion Limit No Data Available
Upper Explosion Limit No Data Available
Auto Ignition Temperature No Data Available
Hazchem Code No Data Available

# **6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

General Response Procedure Ensure adequate ventilation. Do not touch or walk through spilled material. Avoid generating dust. Avoid breathing dust

and contact with eyes, skin and clothing.

Clean Up Procedures Mechanically recover the product. Vacuum, shovel or sweep up and place in containers for disposal (see SECTION 13).

Containment Stop leak if you can do it without risk. Prevent dust cloud. Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined

areas

**Decontamination** Ventilate spillage area.

**Environmental Precautionary** 

Measures

Avoid contamination of water bodies during clean up and disposal. Notify authorities if product enters sewers or public

waters

**Evacuation Criteria** 

Spill or leak area should be isolated immediately. Keep unauthorised personnel away.

Personal Precautionary Measures Do not attempt to take action without suitable protective equipment (see SECTION 8).

\*In case of exposure to high level of airborne dust, wear a personal respirator in compliance with national legislation.

### 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Handling Safety showers and eyewash facilities should be provided within the immediate work area for emergency use. Ensure

adequate ventilation. Obtain special instructions before use - Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood. Minimise dust generation and accumulation. Avoid breathing dust and contact with eyes, skin and

clothing. Do not ingest. Use personal protective equipment as required (see SECTION 8).

Storage Storage Store in a cool, dry and well-ventilated place, out of direct sunlight. Keep container tightly closed. Prevent any accidental

damage to bags. Keep away from food/feedstuffs and incompatible materials (see SECTION 10). Store locked up.

**Container** Keep in the original container.

### 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

General For Borates, tetra, sodium salts (decahydrate):

- Safe Work Australia Exposure Standard: TWA =5mg/m3.

- New Zealand Workplace Exposure Standard: TWA = 5 mg/m3.

Exposure Limits No Data Available

Biological Limits No information available.

Engineering Measures A system of local and/or general exhaust is recommended to keep employee exposures as low as possible. Local exhaust

ventilation is generally preferred because it can control the emissions of the contaminant at its source, preventing dispersion of it into the general work area. Maintain air concentrations below occupational exposure standards.

**Personal Protection Equipment** 

 $\hbox{- Respiratory protection: Wear respiratory protection, in case of inadequate ventilation or prolonged exposure to dust.}$ 

Recommended: Wear a dust mask/particulate respirator (refer to AS/NZS 1715 & 1716).

- Eye/face protection: Wear appropriate eye protection to avoid eye contact. Recommended: Safety glasses. Goggles may

be warranted if environment is excessively dusty.

- Hand protection: Wear protective gloves.

- Skin/body protection: Wear appropriate personal protective clothing to avoid skin contact.

**Special Hazards Precaustions** 

To maintain package integrity and to minimise caking of the product, bags should be handled on a first-in, first-out basis.

Work Hygienic Practices

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Always wash hands after handling the product. Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. Separate working clothes from town clothes; Launder separately. Routine housekeeping should be instituted to ensure that dusts do not accumulate on surfaces.

### 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Physical State Solid

Appearance Granular/powder

Odour Odourless

Colour White

pH 9-9.5 (4% solution)
Vapour Pressure 0.213 hpa(20° C)
Relative Vapour Density No Data Available

1,575 ° C **Boiling Point** 75° C **Melting Point** 

No Data Available **Freezing Point** Solubility 51.4 g/l (20° C), water

**Specific Gravity** No Data Available Flash Point No Data Available **Auto Ignition Temp** No Data Available No Data Available **Evaporation Rate** 

No Data Available **Bulk Density Corrosion Rate** No Data Available **Decomposition Temperature** No Data Available 1.72 g/cm3(20° C) Density **Specific Heat** No Data Available

**Molecular Weight** 381.37 g/mol

No Data Available **Net Propellant Weight** No Data Available **Octanol Water Coefficient** No Data Available **Particle Size Partition Coefficient** No Data Available Saturated Vapour Concentration No Data Available

No Data Available **Vapour Temperature** No Data Available Viscosity **Volatile Percent** No Data Available **VOC Volume** No Data Available

No information available. **Additional Characteristics Potential for Dust Explosion** No information available. No information available. Fast or Intensely Burning

Characteristics

No information available.

Flame Propagation or Burning

**Rate of Solid Materials** 

Non-Flammables That Could Contribute Unusual Hazards to a

No information available.

Fire

**Properties That May Initiate or** Not combustible.

**Contribute to Fire Intensity** \*The product is itself a flame retardant. Reactions That Release Gases or in case of fire, toxic fumes may be released.

**Vapours** 

Release of Invisible Flammable Reaction with strong reducing agents such as metal hydrides, acetic anhydride or alkali metals will generate hydrogen

gas which could create an explosive hazard. **Vapours and Gases** 

# 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

**General Information** Reaction with strong reducing agents such as metal hydrides, acetic anhydride or alkali metals will generate hydrogen

gas which could create an explosive hazard.

**Chemical Stability** Stable under normal conditions.

**Conditions to Avoid** Avoid generating dust. Avoid contact with incompatible materials.

**Materials to Avoid** Incompatible/reactive with strong reducing agents, such as metal hydrides, acetic anhydride or alkali metals.

**Hazardous Decomposition** 

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

**Products** toxic fumes may be released. No information available.

# 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### **General Information**

- Acute toxicity: May be harmful if swallowed. Products containing Borax decahydrate are not intended for ingestion. Small amounts (e.g. a teaspoonful) swallowed accidentally are not likely to cause effects; swallowing amounts larger than that may cause gastrointestinal symptoms. Dermal exposure is not usually a concern because Borax decahydrate is poorly absorbed through intact skin. Symptoms of accidental over-exposure to Borax decahydrate have been associated with ingestion or absorption through large areas of damaged skin. These may include nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea, with delayed effects of skin redness and peeling.
- Skin corrosion/irritation: Non-irritant. Borax decahydrate does not cause irritation to intact skin.
- Eye damage/irritation: Causes serious eye irritation.
- Respiratory/skin sensitisation: Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate has no respiratory or skin sensitisation.
- Germ cell mutagenicity: Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate is not mutagenic.
- Carcinogenicity: Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate is not carcinogenic.
- Reproductive toxicity: Suspected of damaging the unborn child.
- STOT (single exposure): Occasional mild irritation effects to nose and throat may occur from inhalation of Borax decahydrate dusts at levels higher than 10 mg/m3.
- STOT (repeated exposure): No information available.
- Aspiration toxicity: Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate has no aspiration hazard.

Acute

**Ingestion** Acute toxicity (Oral):

- LD50, Rats: >2,500 mg/kg bw. (Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous).

Other Acute toxicity (Dermal):

- LD50, Rabbits: >2,000 mg/kg bw.

Chronic

Reproduction

Animal feeding studies in rat, mouse and dog, at high doses, have demonstrated effects on fertility and testes. Studies in rat, mouse and rabbit, at high doses, demonstrate developmental effects on the foetus including foetal weight loss and minor skeletal variations. The doses administered were many times in excess of those which humans would normally be exposed to. While boron has been shown to adversely affect male reproduction in laboratory animals, there is no clear evidence of male reproductive effects attributable to boron in studies of highly exposed workers. An epidemiology study under the conditions of normal occupational exposure to borate dusts indicated no effect on fertility. Human epidemiological studies show no increase in pulmonary disease in occupational populations with chronic exposures to borate dusts. A study conducted in Turkey with boron exposed mine workers showed that mean blood concentrations of the high exposure group is ~6 times and ~9 times lower than those of the highest no effect level of boron in blood with regard to developmental and reprotoxic effects (respectively) in rats. With those findings, no unfavourable effects of boron exposure on reproductive indicators are observed in humans.

# **Carcinogen Category**

None

# 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**Ecotoxicity** Aquatic toxicity:

- LC50, Fish (Pimephales promelas): 79.7 mg B/L or 537 mg Borax decahydrate/L (96 h). - EC50, Crustacea (Daphnia magna): 133 mg B/L or 896 mg Borax decahydrate/L (48 h).

- EC50, Algae/aquatic plants (Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata): 40 mg B/L or 270 mg Borax decahydrate/L (72 h) [biomass].

Persistence/Degradability

Boron is naturally occurring and ubiquitous in the environment. Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate decomposes in the environment to natural borate.

**Mobility** The product is soluble in water and is leachable through normal soil.

Environmental Fate Boron is an essential micronutrient for healthy growth of plants; however, it can be harmful to boron sensitive plants in

 $higher\ quantities.\ Care\ should\ be\ taken\ to\ minimise\ the\ amount\ of\ borate\ product\ released\ to\ the\ environment.$ 

Bioaccumulation Potential Not bioaccumulative.

Environmental Impact No Data Available

### 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

General Information Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local/regional/national regulations.

Special Precautions for Land Fill Small quantities of Borax decahydrate can usually be disposed of at landfill sites. Tonnage quantities of product are not recommended to be sent to landfills. Such product should, if possible, be used for an appropriate application.

# 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

# **Land Transport**

Proper Shipping Name

Class

No Data Available

Subsidiary Risk(s)

No Data Available

No Data Available

UN Number

No Data Available

UN Number No Data Available
Hazchem No Data Available
Pack Group No Data Available
Special Provision No Data Available

Comments NON-DANGEROUS GOODS: Not regulated for LAND transport.

# **Sea Transport**

Borax decahydrate **Proper Shipping Name** No Data Available Class No Data Available Subsidiary Risk(s) **UN Number** No Data Available No Data Available Hazchem No Data Available **Pack Group Special Provision** No Data Available No Data Available **EMS** 

Marine Pollutant No

Comments NON-DANGEROUS GOODS: Not regulated for SEA transport.

# Air Transport

Proper Shipping NameBorax decahydrateClassNo Data AvailableSubsidiary Risk(s)No Data AvailableUN NumberNo Data AvailableHazchemNo Data AvailablePack GroupNo Data AvailableSpecial ProvisionNo Data Available

Comments NON-DANGEROUS GOODS: Not regulated for AIR transport.

# 15. OTHER INFORMATION

Revision 3

Key/Legend

< Less Than

> Greater Than

**AICS Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances** 

atm Atmosphere

CAS Chemical Abstracts Service (Registry Number)

cm<sup>2</sup> Square Centimetres

CO2 Carbon Dioxide

**COD Chemical Oxygen Demand** 

deg C (° C) Degrees Celcius

deg F (° F) Degrees Farenheit

g Grams

g/cm³ Grams per Cubic Centimetre

g/I Grams per Litre

**HSNO Hazardous Substance and New Organism** 

IDLH Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health

immiscible Liquids are insoluable in each other.

inHg Inch of Mercury

inH2O Inch of Water

K Kelvin

kg Kilogram

kg/m³ Kilograms per Cubic Metre

Ib Pound

 $LC50 \ LC \ stands \ for \ lethal \ concentration. \ LC50 \ is \ the \ concentration \ of \ a \ material \ in \ air \ which \ causes \ the \ death \ of \ 50\%$ 

(one half) of a group of test animals. The material is inhaled over a set period of time, usually 1 or 4 hours.

LD50 LD stands for Lethal Dose. LD50 is the amount of a material, given all at once, which causes the death of 50% (one half) of a group of test animals.

Itr or L Litre

m³ Cubic Metre

mbar Millibar

mg Milligram

mg/24H Milligrams per 24 Hours

mg/kg Milligrams per Kilogram

mg/m³ Milligrams per Cubic Metre

Misc or Miscible Liquids form one homogeneous liquid phase regardless of the amount of either component present.

mm Millimetre

mmH2O Millimetres of Water

mPa.s Millipascals per Second

N/A Not Applicable

NIOSH National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

NOHSC National Occupational Heath and Safety Commission

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Oz Ounce

PEL Permissible Exposure Limit

Pa Pascal

ppb Parts per Billion

ppm Parts per Million

ppm/2h Parts per Million per 2 Hours

ppm/6h Parts per Million per 6 Hours

psi Pounds per Square Inch

R Rankine

**RCP Reciprocal Calculation Procedure** 

STEL Short Term Exposure Limit

**TLV Threshold Limit Value** 

tne Tonne

TWA Time Weighted Average

ug/24H Micrograms per 24 Hours

**UN United Nations** 

wt Weight