POTASSIUM CARBONATE

Univar USA Inc Material Safety Data Sheet

Univar USA Inc., 17425 NE Union Hill Rd., Redmond WA 98052
(425) 889 3400

Emergency Assistance

For emergency assistance involving chemicals call
Chemtrec - (800) 424-9300

The Version Date and Number for this MSDS is : 03/20/2008 - #002

PRODUCT NAME:	POTASSIUM CARBONATE
MSDS NUMBER:	68608
DATE ISSUED:	08/16/2006
SUPERSEDES:	06/06/2003
ISSUED BY:	005241

****
****

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

1. Chemical Product And Company Information

Chemical Name: POTASSIUM CARBONATE
Synonyms/Trade Names: Carbonic Acid, Dipotassium Salt; Potassium Carbonate, Dense Granular, Glass Grades
Chemical Family: Inorganic potassium compound, inorganic carbonate
Formula: K2CO3
Molecular Weight: 138.21
CAS No.: 584-08-7
Uses:

Transportation Emergency Telephone Numbers:
Not Regulated

Emergency Information:
Call toll-free 24 hours a day:
866-855-6947

Manufacturer & Supplier:
ERCO Worldwide, a division of Superior Plus Inc.
302 The East Mall, Ste. 200
Toronto, Ontario Canada M9B 6C7
(416) 239-7111

ERCO Worldwide (USA) Inc.
101 Highway 73 South
Nekoosa, Wisconsin 54457
(715) 887-4000

Canadian WHMIS Classification(s):
D2B - Other Toxic Effects E - Corrosive

2. Composition / Information On Ingredients

Name:	Conc. % By Weight	CAS No.
Potassium Carbonate	100	584-08-7

3. Hazard Identification

Emergency Overview:
White, free flowing, hygroscopic, odorless granules.
WARNING! Causes skin, eye, respiratory and digestive tract irritation.
Harmful if swallowed.

Routes of Entry:
Inhalation, Skin Contact, Eye Contact, Ingestion

Symptoms of Exposure:

Inhalation:
Irritation of the nose and throat with sneezing and coughing may occur, based on pH.

Skin Contact:
Dust and concentrated solutions may be mild to moderate skin irritants, based on alkalinity. Sodium carbonate, a closely related chemical is a mild skin irritant.

Eye Contact:
The dust and concentrated solutions are probably moderate to severe eye irritants, based on alkalinity and comparison to sodium carbonate, which is a severe eye irritant. The dust will also cause irritation as a "foreign substance". Some tearing, blinking and mild, temporary pain may occur as the solid material is rinsed from the eye by tears. There is no human information available.

Ingestion:
Potassium carbonate is low in oral toxicity, based on animal information. Ingestion of very large amounts may cause stomach cramps, vomiting, and diarrhea. There is no human information available. Ingestion is not a typical route of occupational exposure.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE
Preexisting disorders of the following organs or systems which may be aggravated by exposure to this material (or a component) include: skin, respiratory system (including asthma and other breathing disorders), gastrointestinal system.

4. First Aid Measures

Skin:
Brush off excess chemical. Wash exposed skin well with plenty of soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Wash clothing and thoroughly

clean shoes before reuse. If symptoms develop, get medical attention.

Eyes:
Hold the eyelids apart and flush the eye gently with a large amount of water for at least 20 minutes. Get medical attention.

Inhalation:
If symptoms develop, remove individual to fresh air and get medical attention immediately. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. If breathing stops, give artificial respiration.

Ingestion:
Have person drink a glass of water immediately if able to swallow. Get immediate medical attention. Do not induce vomiting unless directed to do so by medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN
Never attempt to neutralize potassium carbonate with chemicals. Development of pulmonary edema may be delayed 48-72 hours. See Section 11 for Toxicological Information.

5. Fire-Fighting Measures

Conditions Of Flammability:
Material will not burn. Firefighters should wear self-contained, positive-pressure breathing apparatus and avoid skin contact.

Means To Extinguish:
Not Applicable - Choose extinguishing media suitable for surrounding materials.

Hazardous Combustion Products:

Flash Point & Method: Not applicable (TCC)
Upper Flammability Limit: Not applicable
Lower Flammability Limit: Not applicable
Auto-Ignition Temperature: Not applicable
Mechanical Impact Sensitivity: Not applicable
Static Discharge Sensitivity: Not applicable

6. Accidental Release Measures

Leak Or Spill Procedures:
Confine spill. Shovel into closed containers. Flush spill area with water. Dispose of wash water in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and local regulations.

For all transportation accidents, call CHEMTREC at 800-424-9300.

Waste Control Procedures:
Comply appropriate Federal, State/Provincial and local regulations

authorities to ascertain disposal procedures.

7. Handling Storage

Handling Procedures And Equipment:
Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Do not taste or swallow. Avoid breathing dust. Use only with adequate ventilation. Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the work area. Wash thoroughly after handling. Any protective clothing or shoes which become contaminated with potassium carbonate should be removed and thoroughly laundered and cleaned before wearing again. Discard any footwear that has been contaminated on the inner surface.

Carefully monitor handling, use and storage to avoid spills and leaks. Follow protective controls set forth in Section 8 when handling this product.

Water must always be readily accessible whenever potassium carbonate is loaded, unloaded, stored or used.

Storage:
Store in labeled, sealed containers in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area. Keep containers closed and dry. Do not remove or deface label. Material is hygroscopic and will absorb moisture if exposed to humidity.

INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS FOR STORAGE OR TRANSPORT
Avoid contact with lime (CaO). This product will react with lime in the presence of water to produce corrosive caustic potash (KOH)

8. Exposures Controls / Personal Protection

Protective Equipment:

EYE AND FACE PROTECTION
Wear chemical goggles. A face shield should be worn in addition to goggles where splashing or spraying is possible.

SKIN PROTECTION
Wear chemical resistant clothing, boots, and gloves, which are made of Neoprene, PVC, or rubber. Always place pants legs over boots.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION
Where airborne potassium carbonate dust may be present, a NIOSH/MSHA approved high-efficiency particulate filter with full face piece or self-contained breathing apparatus should be used. Follow any applicable respirator use standards and regulations.

Engineering Controls:
VENTILATION
Local exhaust ventilation should be used where airborne potassium carbonate dust may be present. Otherwise, use general exhaust ventilation.

GENERAL

Safety shower and eyewash station must be provided in the immediate work area. Portable or temporary systems should be provided for remote areas. Protective equipment and clothing should be selected, used, and maintained according to applicable standards and regulations. For further information, contact the clothing or equipment manufacturer.

9. Physical And Chemical Properties

State:	Solid
Odor:	Odorless
Odor Threshold:	Not applicable
Boiling Point:	Decomposes
Melting Point:	891 C
Freezing Point:	not applicable
pH:	11.6 @ 25 C (3% Solution)
Coefficient Of Water/Oil Distribution:	No data
Appearance:	White, hygroscopic, granules
Specific Gravity:	2.428 @ 19 C
Vapor Pressure:	Not applicable
Vapor Density:	Not applicable
Evaporation Rate:	Not applicable
Solubility In Water:	100%
Bulk Density:	81-83 lb/ft3 or 1,300 - 1,330 kg/m3

10. Stability And Reactivity

Chemical Stability:
Stable

Reactivity Conditions:
Avoid contact with lime (CaO). Potassium carbonate and lime will react in the presence of water to form caustic potash.

Incompatible Substances:
Chlorine trifluoride; Magnesium; Acids.

Hazardous Decomposition Products:
Potassium oxide (K2O)

11. Toxicological Information

Skin Contact:	Causes severe skin irritation with redness, an itching or burning feeling, and/or swelling of the skin. May cause skin damage.
Skin Absorption:	No information available
Eye Contact:	Causes severe eye irritation with tearing, redness, or a stinging or burning feeling. May cause swelling of the eyes with blurred vision. Can injure eye tissue. Effects may become more serious with repeated or prolonged

	contact.
Inhalation:	This material can produce dust during processing. Breathing high concentrations may be harmful. Breathing this material causes irritation of the throat and lungs with cough and difficult breathing.
Ingestion:	Swallowing this material may be harmful or cause death. Harmful effects include burns and permanent damage to the digestive tract, including the mouth, throat, stomach and intestines. Symptoms may include severe abdominal pain and vomiting of blood. Blood loss through damaged tissue may lead to low blood pressure and shock.
LD50:	1870 mg/kg (rat)
LC50:	2570 mg/ kg (mouse)
Exposure Limits:	No occupational exposure levels have been established for potassium carbonate. However, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has established a PEL-TWA of 15 mg/m3, total particulate, and 5 mg/m3, respirable particulate, for Particulates Not Otherwise Classified (PNOCs.)
Irritancy:	See Skin / Eye Contact
Sensitization:	No information available
Carcinogenicity:	This product is not known or reported to be carcinogenic by any reference source including IARC, OSHA, NTP, or EPA.
Teratogenicity & Mutagenicity:	No information available
Reproductive Toxicology:	Based on available data, it is not known whether exposure of the mother to this material can cause harm to the fetus.
Toxicological Synergism:	No information available

12. Ecological Information

Ecological Information:
No data available

Biodegradability:
Not biodegradable

Aquatic Toxicity:
No data available

13. Disposal Considerations

Disposal Considerations:
If this product becomes a waste, it may meet the criteria of a hazardous waste as defined under 40 CFR 261. Concentrated solutions of potassium carbonate having a pH of 12.5 or greater would have the following RCR

hazardous waste designation: D002. (40 CFR 261.22)

14. Transportation Information

Shipping Name (TDGR)	UN Number	Hazard Class	Packing Group
Not Regulated	N/A	N/A	N/A
(TDGR/DOT)	N/A	N/A	N/A

15. Regulatory Information

This product has been classified in accordance with the hazard criteria of the CPR and the MSDS contains all of the information required by the CPR.

Safety:
CANADIAN WORKPLACE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION SYSTEM (WHMIS)
CLASSIFICATION
WHMIS Classification applicable to this product:
D-2B (Toxic Material) based on skin and eye irritation effects.
E-Corrosive material

U.S. Regulatory Rules
Ingredients Potassium Carbonate
CERCLA/SARA Section 302: Not listed
SARA (311, 312) Hazard Class: not listed
CERCLA/SARA Section 313: not listed
OSHA: Not a Hazardous Substance under 29 CFR Section 1910, Subpart Z.

California Proposition 65: Not Listed.
MA Right to Know List: Not Listed.
New Jersey Right-to-Know List: Not Listed.
Pennsylvania Right to Know List: Not Listed.

Environmental:
US Federal Regulations Reportable Quantity (RQ) is not applicable
The components of this product are listed on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) inventory
Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III Hazard Category - Immediate Health
This substance is listed in the Canadian Domestic Substances List (DSL)

Transportation:
Refer to Section 14.

16. Other Information

Information on this form is furnished in compliance with the Regulations Respecting Controlled Products under the Hazardous Products Act and is not to be used for any other purpose, nor is it to be reproduced or published.

ERCO Worldwide, a division of Superior Plus Inc., assumes no responsibility for injury to or death of the recipient of this material or third persons, or

for any loss of damage, howsoever, caused, and the user, owner, bailee and their respective employees and agents assume all such risks if reasonable safety procedures are not adhered to.

In addition, ERCO Worldwide, a division of Superior Plus Inc., assumes no responsibility for injury to or death of the recipient of this material or third persons, or for any loss or damage to any property, or for any consequential damage resulting from any abnormal user or theft of the material, and the user, owner, bailee and their respective employees and agents assume all such risks even when caused by negligence, omission, default or error in judgment of ERCO Worldwide, a division of Superior Plus Inc. or its agents or servants.

Each recipient should carefully review the information, data and recommendations in the specific context of the intended use.

Univar USA Inc Material Safety Data Sheet

For Additional information contact MSDS Coordinator during business hours, Pacific time: (425) 889-3400

Notice

Univar USA Inc. ("Univar") expressly disclaims all express or implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, with respect to the product or information provided herein, and shall under no circumstances be liable for incidental or consequential damages.

Do not use ingredient information and/or ingredient percentages in this MSDS as a product specification. For product specification information refer to a product specification sheet and/or a certificate of analysis. These can be obtained from your local Univar sales office.

All information appearing herein is based upon data obtained from the manufacturer and/or recognized technical sources. While the information is believed to be accurate, Univar makes no representations as to its accuracy or sufficiency. Conditions of use are beyond Univar's control and therefore users are responsible to verify this data under their own operating conditions to determine whether the product is suitable for their particular purposes and they assume all risks of their use, handling, and disposal of the product, or from the publication or use of, or reliance upon, information contained herein.

This information relates only to the product designated herein, and does not relate to its use in combination with any other material or in any other process