MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

TRADE NAME: Sodium Metabisulphite

1. CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product name: SODIUM METABISULPHITE

2. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Appearance:	White crystals or powder with sulphur dioxide odour.
Melting Point:	>300°C
Boiling Point:	N. A.
Vapour Pressure:	N. A.
Flash Point:	N. A.
Specific Gravity (20°C):	1.40
Bulk Density (kg/m3):	1000 - 2000
Flammability Limits:	N. A.
Solubility in water:	650g/L
pH (50%solution):	3.5 - 5.0
Decomposition Point:	120°C
Solubility:	Soluble in water and glycerol. Slightly soluble in alcohol
Formula:	Na2S2O5

OTHER PROPERTIES

Auto ignition Temperature: No data available
INGREDIENTS
Chemical Name CAS Number Proportion
Sodium Metabisulphite 7681-57-4 >97.5%

3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

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

ACUTE EFFECTS

SWALLOWED:	Swallowing large amounts may cause nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.
EYE:	A Moderate to severe eye irritant.
SKIN:	Contact with skin may result in moderate irritation.
INHALED:	Exposure to dust will result in respiratory irritation. Under certain circumstances, sulphur dioxide may be generated which will also irritate the respiratory tract.
CHRONIC EFFECTS:	THIS PRODUCT CAN SENSITISE THE SKIN AND/OR RESPIRATORY TRACT OF ALLERGIC PERSONS.

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED:	Rinse mouth with water. Give water to drink. Do NOT induce vomiting. Seek immediate medical attention.
EYE:	Immediately irrigate with copious quantities of water for at least 15 minutes. Eyelids to be held open. Seek medical assistance.
SKIN:	Remove all contaminated clothing including footwear, launder before re-use. Wash affected areas thoroughly with mild soap and water. Seek medical assistance.

INHALED:	Remove from contaminated area immediately. Avoid becoming a casualty. If not breathing apply artificial resuscitation. Experienced person may administer oxygen if breathing is difficult. Immediately transport to a hospital or doctor.
ADVICE TO DOCTOR	Treat symptomatically

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Flammable limits: This material is non-combustible.
Extinguishing Media: This material is compatible with all extinguishing media
Fire-fighting equipment: The following protective equipment for fire fighters is recommended when this material is present in the area of a fire: chemical goggles, body-covering protective clothing, chemical resistant gloves, and rubber boots. Hazardous Combustion
Products: Not available
Explosion data
Sensitivity to mechanical impact and static discharge: Not applicable

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Personal protection:	Wear chemical goggles, body-covering protective clothing, chemical resistant gloves, and rubber boots, NIOSH-approved dust respirator where dust occurs.
Environmental Hazards:	Sinks and mixes with water. High pH of this material is harmful to aquatic life,
Small spill cleanup:	Carefully shovel or sweep up spilled material and place in suitable container. Avoid generating dust. Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
Large spill cleanup:	Keep unnecessary people away; isolate hazard area and deny entry. Do not touch or walk through spilled material. Carefully shovel or sweep up spilled material and place in suitable container. Avoid generating dust. Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). In case of contact with water, prevent runoff from entering into storm sewers and ditches which lead to natural waterways. Neutralize contaminated area and flush with large quantities of water. Comply with applicable environmental regulations.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Handling:	Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. Do not breathe dust. Keep container closed. Promptly clean up spills. Wash thoroughly after handling.
Storage:	Keep containers closed. Store in clean, tightly closed steel, fibre, or plastic containers. Separate from acids, reactive metals, and ammonium salts. Do not store in aluminium, fibreglass, copper, brass, zinc or galvanized containers. This product can absorb water from the air. In case of high humidity or storage for extended periods of time, use plastic bags to enclose product containers to avoid caking. Packaged inventory should be used on a first in, first out (FIFO) basis.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Engineering controls:	Use only with adequate ventilation. Keep containers closed. Safety shower and eyewash fountain should be within direct access.
Respiratory protection:	Use a NIOSH-approved dust respirator where dust occurs. Observe Provincial regulations for respirator use.
Skin protection:	Wear body-covering protective clothing and gloves.
Eye protection:	Wear chemical goggles.

9. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability:	This material is stable under all conditions of use and storage.
Conditions to avoid:	None.
Materials to avoid:	Generates heat when mixed with acid. May react with ammonium salt solutions resulting in evolution of ammonia gas. Flammable hydrogen gas may be produced on contact with aluminium, tin, lead, and zinc. Carbon monoxide gas may be produced on contact with reducing sugars.
Hazardous decomposition products:	Hydrogen.

10. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Acute Data: This material has not been tested for primary eye irritation potential. However, on the basis of its high degree of alkalinity, it is regarded as corrosive to the eyes. When this material was tested for skin corrosion/irritation potential according to OECD Guidelines Section 404, it produced dermal corrosion. The acute oral toxicity of this product has not been tested. When sodium silicates were tested on a 100% solids basis, their single dose acute oral LD_{50} in rats ranged from 1500 mg/kg to 3200 mg/kg. The acute oral lethality resulted from nonspecific causes.

Subchronic Data: In a study of rats fed sodium silicate in drinking water for three months, at 200, 600 and 1800 ppm, changes were reported in the blood chemistry of some animals, but no specific changes to the organs of the animals due to sodium silicate administration were observed in any of the dosage groups. Another study reported adverse effects to the kidneys of dogs fed sodium silicate in their diet at 2.4g/kg/day for 4 weeks, whereas rats fed the same dosage did not develop any treatment-related effects. Decreased numbers of births and survival to weaning was reported for rats fed sodium silicate in their drinking water at 600 and 1200 ppm.

Special Studies: Sodium silicate was not mutagenic to the bacterium E. Coli when tested in a mutagenicity bioassay. There are no known reports of carcinogenicity of sodium silicates. Frequent ingestion over extended periods of time of gram quantities of silicates is associated with the formation kidney stones and other siliceous urinary calculi in humans. Sodium silicate is not listed by IARC, NTP or OSHA as a carcinogen.

11. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Eco toxicity: The following data is reported for sodium silicates on a 100% solids basis: A 96 hour median tolerance for fish (Gambusia affnis) of 2320 ppm; a 96 hour median tolerance for water fleas (Daphnia magna) of 247 ppm; a 96 hour median tolerance for snail eggs (Lymnea) of 632 ppm; and a 96 hour median tolerance for Amphipoda of 160 ppm.

Environmental Fate: This material is not persistent in aquatic systems, but its high pH when undiluted or unneutralized is acutely harmful to aquatic life. Diluted material yields dissolved silica in a form that is indistinguishable from natural dissolved silica. It does not contribute to BOD. This material does not bioaccumulate except in species that use silica as a structural material such as diatoms and siliceous sponges. Where abnormally low natural silica concentrations exist (less than 0.1 ppm), dissolved silica may be a limiting nutrient for diatoms and a few other aquatic algal species.

However, the addition of excess dissolved silica over the limiting concentration will not stimulate the growth of diatom populations; their growth rate is independent of silica concentration once the limiting concentration is exceeded. Neither silica nor sodium will appreciably bioconcentrate up the food chain.

Physical/Chemical: Sinks and dissolves in water.

12. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Classification: Waste material is classified as a hazardous waste because it exhibits the corrosive characteristic (pH greater than or equal to 12.5).

Disposal Method: Dispose in accordance with federal, provincial and local regulations.

13. OTHER INFORMATION :

THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE A SAFE WORKPLACE REMAINS WITH THE USER. THE USER SHOULD CONSIDER THE HEALTH HAZARDS AND SAFETY INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN AS A GUIDE AND SHOULD TAKE THOSE PRECAUTIONS REQUIRED IN AN INDIVIDUAL OPERATION TO INSTRUCT EMPLOYEES AND DEVELOP WORK PRACTICE PROCEDURES FOR A SAFE WORK ENVIRONMENT. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ACCURATE. HOWEVER, SINCE THE CONDITIONS OF HANDLING AND USE ARE BEYOND OUR CONTROL, WE MAKE NO GUARANTEE OF RESULTS, AND ASSUME NO LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES INCURRED BY THE USE OF THIS MATERIAL. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.