

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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## 1. CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

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**MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC.**  
**150 Allen Road Suite 302**  
**Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920**  
**Information: 1-800-416-2505**

**Emergency Contact:**  
**CHEMTREC 1-800-424-9300**  
**Calls Originating Outside the US:**  
**703-527-3887 (Collect Calls Accepted)**

### **SUBSTANCE: FORMALDEHYDE GAS**

#### **TRADE NAMES/SYNONYMS:**

FORMALDEHYDE; METHANAL; OXOMETHANE; OXYMETHYLENE; METHYLENE OXIDE;  
FORMIC ALDEHYDE; METHYL ALDEHYDE; FORMALIN (FORMULATION); METHALDEHYDE;  
RCRA U122; CH<sub>2</sub>O; MAT10030; RTECS LP8925000

**CHEMICAL FAMILY:** aldehydes, aliphatic

**CREATION DATE:** Jan 24 1989

**REVISION DATE:** Dec 11 2008

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## 2. COMPOSITION, INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

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**COMPONENT:** FORMALDEHYDE GAS  
**CAS NUMBER:** 50-00-0  
**PERCENTAGE:** 100

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## 3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

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**NFPA RATINGS (SCALE 0-4):** HEALTH=4 FIRE=4 REACTIVITY=0



#### **EMERGENCY OVERVIEW:**

**COLOR:** colorless

**PHYSICAL FORM:** gas

**ODOR:** pungent odor

**MAJOR HEALTH HAZARDS:** potentially fatal if inhaled, harmful on contact with the skin or swallowed, respiratory tract burns, skin burns, eye burns, allergic reactions, cancer hazard (in humans)

**PHYSICAL HAZARDS:** Flammable gas. May cause flash fire. Flash back hazard. May polymerize. Containers may rupture or explode.

#### **POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS:**

**INHALATION:**

**SHORT TERM EXPOSURE:** allergic reactions, burns, death

**LONG TERM EXPOSURE:** burns, cancer

**SKIN CONTACT:**

**SHORT TERM EXPOSURE:** allergic reactions, burns

**LONG TERM EXPOSURE:** burns

**EYE CONTACT:**

**SHORT TERM EXPOSURE:** burns

**LONG TERM EXPOSURE:** burns

**INGESTION:**

**SHORT TERM EXPOSURE:** ingestion of a gas is unlikely

**LONG TERM EXPOSURE:** ingestion of a gas is unlikely

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## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

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**INHALATION:** If adverse effects occur, remove to uncontaminated area. Give artificial respiration if not breathing. If breathing is difficult, oxygen should be administered by qualified personnel. Get immediate medical attention.

**SKIN CONTACT:** Wash skin with soap and water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Get immediate medical attention. Thoroughly clean and dry contaminated clothing before reuse. Destroy contaminated shoes.

**EYE CONTACT:** Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Then get immediate medical attention.

**INGESTION:** If a large amount is swallowed, get medical attention.

**NOTE TO PHYSICIAN:** For inhalation, consider oxygen.

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## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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**FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:** Severe fire hazard. Vapor/air mixtures are explosive. The vapor is heavier than air. Vapors or gases may ignite at distant ignition sources and flash back. Containers may rupture or explode if exposed to heat.

**EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:** carbon dioxide, regular dry chemical

Large fires: Use regular foam or flood with fine water spray.

**FIRE FIGHTING:** Move container from fire area if it can be done without risk. Cool containers with water spray until well after the fire is out. Stay away from the ends of tanks. For fires in cargo or storage area: Cool containers with water from unmanned hose holder or monitor nozzles until well after fire is out. If this is impossible then take the following precautions: Keep unnecessary people away, isolate hazard area and deny

entry. Let the fire burn. Withdraw immediately in case of rising sound from venting safety device or any discoloration of tanks due to fire. For tank, rail car or tank truck: Evacuation radius: 800 meters (1/2 mile). Do not attempt to extinguish fire unless flow of material can be stopped first. Flood with fine water spray. Cool containers with water. Apply water from a protected location or from a safe distance. Avoid inhalation of material or combustion by-products. Stay upwind and keep out of low areas. Stop flow of gas.

**LOWER FLAMMABLE LIMIT:** 7.0%

**UPPER FLAMMABLE LIMIT:** 73%

**AUTOIGNITION:** 795 F (424 C)

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## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

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### **AIR RELEASE:**

Reduce vapors with water spray. Stay upwind and keep out of low areas.

### **WATER RELEASE:**

Subject to California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65). Keep out of water supplies and sewers.

### **OCCUPATIONAL RELEASE:**

Avoid heat, flames, sparks and other sources of ignition. Stop leak if possible without personal risk. Reduce vapors with water spray. Keep unnecessary people away, isolate hazard area and deny entry. Remove sources of ignition. Ventilate closed spaces before entering. Notify Local Emergency Planning Committee and State Emergency Response Commission for release greater than or equal to RQ (U.S. SARA Section 304). If release occurs in the U.S. and is reportable under CERCLA Section 103, notify the National Response Center at (800)424-8802 (USA) or (202)426-2675 (USA).

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## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

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**STORAGE:** Store and handle in accordance with all current regulations and standards. Protect from physical damage. Use diking sufficient to contain total contents plus 10%. Subject to storage regulations: U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.101. Notify State Emergency Response Commission for storage or use at amounts greater than or equal to the TPQ (U.S. EPA SARA Section 302). SARA Section 303 requires facilities storing a material with a TPQ to participate in local emergency response planning (U.S. EPA 40 CFR 355 Part B). Keep separated from incompatible substances.

**HANDLING:** Subject to handling regulations: U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.119.

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## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS, PERSONAL PROTECTION

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### **EXPOSURE LIMITS:**

**FORMALDEHYDE GAS:**

**FORMALDEHYDE:**

0.75 ppm OSHA TWA  
2 ppm OSHA STEL 15 minute(s)  
0.5 ppm OSHA action level  
0.3 ppm ACGIH ceiling (sensitizer)  
0.016 ppm NIOSH recommended TWA 10 hour(s)  
0.1 ppm NIOSH recommended ceiling 15 minute(s)

**VENTILATION:** Ventilation equipment should be explosion-resistant if explosive concentrations of material are present. Provide local exhaust or process enclosure ventilation system. Ensure compliance with applicable exposure limits.

**EYE PROTECTION:** Wear splash resistant safety goggles with a faceshield. Provide an emergency eye wash fountain and quick drench shower in the immediate work area.

**CLOTHING:** Wear appropriate chemical resistant clothing.

**GLOVES:** Wear appropriate chemical resistant gloves. OSHA REGULATED SUBSTANCES: U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1048.

**RESPIRATOR:** The following respirators and maximum use concentrations are drawn from NIOSH and/or OSHA.

OSHA Standard:

Respirator selection should comply with 29 CFR 1910.134, 29 CFR 1910.1048, and the final rule published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2006.

NIOSH Recommendations:

**At any detectable concentration -**

Any self-contained breathing apparatus that has a full facepiece and is operated in a pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode.

Any supplied-air respirator with a full facepiece that is operated in a pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode in combination with an auxiliary self-contained breathing apparatus operated in pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode.

**Escape -**

Any air-purifying full-facepiece respirator (gas mask) with a chin-style, front-mounted or back-mounted canister providing protection against the compound of concern.

Any appropriate escape-type, self-contained breathing apparatus.

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## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

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**PHYSICAL STATE:** gas

**COLOR:** colorless

**ODOR:** pungent odor

**MOLECULAR WEIGHT:** 30.03

**MOLECULAR FORMULA:** H-C-H-O

**BOILING POINT:** -6 F (-21 C)

**FREEZING POINT:** -134 F (-92 C)

**VAPOR PRESSURE:** 400 mmHg @ -33 C

**VAPOR DENSITY (air=1):** 1.07

**SPECIFIC GRAVITY (water=1):** 0.815 @ -20 C

**WATER SOLUBILITY:** 55%

**PH:** Not applicable

**VOLATILITY:** Not applicable

**ODOR THRESHOLD:** 1 ppm

**EVAPORATION RATE:** Not applicable

**COEFFICIENT OF WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION:** Not applicable

**SOLVENT SOLUBILITY:**

**Soluble:** alcohol, ether, acetone, benzene, chloroform

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## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

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**REACTIVITY:** Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.

**CONDITIONS TO AVOID:** Avoid heat, flames, sparks and other sources of ignition. Minimize contact with material. Containers may rupture or explode if exposed to heat.

**INCOMPATIBILITIES:** acids, bases, reducing agents, metals, metal salts, halogens, combustible materials, peroxides, oxidizing materials

**HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION:**

Thermal decomposition products: oxides of carbon

**POLYMERIZATION:** May polymerize.

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## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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**FORMALDEHYDE GAS:**

**IRRITATION DATA:** 150 ug/3 day(s)-intermittent skin-human mild; 4 ppm/5 minute(s) eyes-human; 1 ppm/6 minute(s) rinsed eyes-human mild; 2 mg/24 hour(s) skin-rabbit severe; 540 mg open skin-rabbit mild; 50 mg/24 hour(s) skin-rabbit moderate; 750 ug/24 hour(s) eyes-rabbit severe; 750 ug eyes-rabbit severe; 10 mg eyes-rabbit severe; 37 percent eyes-rabbit severe; 2 percent/48 hour(s) skin-human

**TOXICITY DATA:** 203 mg/m<sup>3</sup> inhalation-rat LC50; 270 ul/kg skin-rabbit LD50; 100 mg/kg oral-rat LD50

**CARCINOGEN STATUS:** OSHA: Carcinogen; NTP: Anticipated Human Carcinogen; IARC: Human Sufficient Evidence, Animal Sufficient Evidence, Group 1; ACGIH: A2 -Suspected Human Carcinogen; EC: Category 3

**LOCAL EFFECTS:**

Corrosive: inhalation, skin, eye, ingestion

**ACUTE TOXICITY LEVEL:**

Highly Toxic: inhalation

Toxic: dermal absorption, ingestion

**TARGET ORGANS:** immune system (sensitizer)

**MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE:** respiratory disorders, skin disorders and

allergies

**TUMORIGENIC DATA:** Available.

**MUTAGENIC DATA:** Available.

**REPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS DATA:** Available.

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## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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**ECOTOXICITY DATA:**

**FISH TOXICITY:** 4960 ug/L 96 hour(s) LC50 (Mortality) Striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*)

**INVERTEBRATE TOXICITY:** 14000 ug/L 48 hour(s) EC50 (Physiological) Water flea (*Daphnia magna*)

**ALGAL TOXICITY:** 4500 ug/L 48 hour(s) (Population Growth) Cryptomonad (*Chilomonas paramecium*)

**FATE AND TRANSPORT:**

**KOW:** 151.36 (log = 2.18) (estimated from water solubility)

**KOC:** 481.95 (log = 2.69) (estimated from water solubility)

**HENRY'S LAW CONSTANT:** 2.9 E -5 atm-m<sup>3</sup>/mol

**BIOCONCENTRATION:** 0.35 (estimated from water solubility)

**AQUATIC PROCESSES:** 1.4256148 hours (River Model: 1 m deep, 1 m/s flow, 3 m/s wind)

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY:** Relatively non-persistent in the environment. Leaches through the soil or the sediment at a moderate rate. Accumulates very little in the bodies of living organisms. Moderately volatile from water.

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## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

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Dispose in accordance with all applicable regulations. Subject to disposal regulations: U.S. EPA 40 CFR 262. Hazardous Waste Number(s): U122.

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## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

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**INTERNATIONAL U.S. DOT 49 CFR 172.101:**

**PROPER SHIPPING NAME:** Compressed gas, toxic, flammable, corrosive, n.o.s. (FORMALDEHYDE GAS)

**ID NUMBER:** UN3305

**HAZARD CLASS OR DIVISION:** 2.3

**LABELING REQUIREMENTS:** 2.3; 2.1; 8

**QUANTITY LIMITATIONS:**

**PASSENGER AIRCRAFT OR RAILCAR:** Forbidden

**CARGO AIRCRAFT ONLY:** Forbidden

**CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS:**

**SHIPPING NAME:** Compressed gas, toxic, flammable, corrosive, n.o.s. (FORMALDEHYDE GAS)

**UN NUMBER:** UN3305

**CLASS:** 2.3; 2.1; 8

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**15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**

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**U.S. REGULATIONS:**

**CERCLA SECTIONS 102a/103 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (40 CFR 302.4):**

**Formaldehyde:** 100 LBS RQ

**SARA TITLE III SECTION 302 EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (40 CFR 355 Subpart B):**

**Formaldehyde:** 500 LBS TPQ

**SARA TITLE III SECTION 304 EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (40 CFR 355 Subpart C):**

**Formaldehyde:** 100 LBS RQ

**SARA TITLE III SARA SECTIONS 311/312 HAZARDOUS CATEGORIES (40 CFR 370 Subparts B and C):**

ACUTE: Yes

CHRONIC: Yes

FIRE: Yes

REACTIVE: No

SUDDEN RELEASE: Yes

**SARA TITLE III SECTION 313 (40 CFR 372.65):**

**Formaldehyde**

**OSHA PROCESS SAFETY (29 CFR 1910.119):**

**Formaldehyde:** 1000 LBS TQ

**STATE REGULATIONS:**

**California Proposition 65:**

Known to the state of California to cause the following:

**Formaldehyde**

Cancer (Jan 01, 1988)

**CANADIAN REGULATIONS:**

**WHMIS CLASSIFICATION:** Not determined.

**NATIONAL INVENTORY STATUS:**

**U.S. INVENTORY (TSCA):** Listed on inventory.

**TSCA 12(b) EXPORT NOTIFICATION:** Not listed.

**CANADA INVENTORY (DSL/NDSL):** Not determined.

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## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

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