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| <b>SECTION 1: Identification of the substance</b> | / mixture and of the company / undertaking  |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1.1 Product Identifier                            |   |  |
| Product Name:                                     | Bentonite Powder  |  |
| Chemical Name:                                    | Bentonite   |  |
| 1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substan       | ce or mixture and uses advised against  |  |
| Recommended Use:                                  | Bentonite Powder is a high-quality premium grade powder produced to OCMA standard. It is specially formulated to provide rapid development of viscosity and gel strength for drilling and civil engineering applications. |  |
| Restriction on Use:                               | Uses other than those recommended.  |  |
| Physical Properties:                              | Light grey/ yellow or red / brown solid material of varying sizes: lump, granular or fine powder  |  |
| 1.3 Details of the supplier of the Safety Dat     | •   |  |
| Name:   | MGS Ltd   |  |
| Address:  | Rougham Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 9ND  |  |
| Country:  | UK  |  |
| Phone N°:   | +44 1359 271167   |  |
| E-mail:   | info@mgs.co.uk  |  |
| Website:  | www.mgs.co.uk   |  |
| 1.4 Emergency telephone number                    |   |  |
| Emergency telephone at the company                | +44 7738 197 517  |  |
| Available outside office hours:                   | Yes   |  |
| Language of the phone service:                    | English   |  |
| E-mail of competent person responsible:           | darren.portway@mgs.co.uk  |  |
| National contact:                                 | Darren Portway  |  |
| SECTION 2: Hazard Identification                  |   |  |

### **SECTION 2: Hazard Identification**

# 2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

The product is not classified as hazardous within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 1272/2008.

# 2.2 Label elements

None.

### 2.3 Other hazards

Bentonite is not classed as hazardous, but if may cause respiratory irritation if inhaled in large amounts. Prolonged skin contact may cause dryness. It is recommended to avoid breathing dust, use protective gloves and safety glasses, and ensure adequate ventilation when handling Bentonite.

Crystalline Silica Quartz, Cristobalite and Tridymite EC 238-878-4, CAS 14808-60-7, at <10% of which the Respirable Crystalline Silica ( $<7.1\mu$ ) is <1% may be present and at this concentration is not classified (as hazardous).

# **SECTION 3: Composition / Information on Ingredients**

# 3.1 Substances

Chemical Name: Bentonite
CAS No: 1302-78-9
EC No: 215-108-5
Registration No: Exempt

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| Impurities or additives that affect the classification: |            |             |  |                     |
|---|------------|-------------|--|---------------------|
|   |            |             | (*) Classification –<br>Regulation (EC) No 1272 / 2008 |                     |
| Identifiers   | Name       | Concentrate | Classification   | Specific            |
|   |            |             |  | concentration limit |
| CAS No: 14808-60-7                                      | (1) Quartz | 0 – 1%      |  |                     |
| EN No: 238-878-4  | (SiO2)     |             | -  | -                   |

### 3.2 Mixtures

Not applicable

#### **SECTION 4: First Aid Measures**

#### 1.1 Description of first aid measures

| 4.1 Description of first aid measures |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| General Advice:                       | Due to the composition and type of the substances present in the product, no warnings are necessary.   |  |
| Inhalation                            | Move source of dust or move person to fresh air. If respiratory irritation persists or breathing becomes difficult seek medical attention immediately. |  |
| Eye contact                           | Rinse eyes immediately with plenty of water. If symptoms persist, seek medical advice.   |  |
| Skin contact                          | Wash affected area with soap and plenty of water. If necessary, seek medical advice.   |  |
| Ingestion                             | Clean mouth with water and drink afterwards plenty of water. If symptoms persist, seek medical advice.   |  |

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

The acute symptoms would pain in the eyes because of dust entry. No delayed effects are anticipated if first aid treatment is applied and is effective.

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

No need for immediate medical attention.

# **SECTION 5: Fire Fighting Measures**

### 5.1 Extinguishing media

# Suitable extinguishing media

The product is not combustible. Use extinguishing measures that are appropriate to local circumstances and the surrounding environment.

By preference use a dry powder, foam, or CO2 fire extinguisher to extinguish the surrounding fire as the Bentonite becomes very slippery and hard to clean up when wet.

### Unsuitable extinguishing media:

No restriction on the extinguishing media to be used in cases of fire in its vicinity – though it should be noted that Bentonite becomes very slippery when wet.

# 5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

The material is not flammable, and it does not support fire. No hazardous thermal decomposition products.

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## 5.3 Advice for fire fighters

Avoid generation of dust. Use breathing apparatus.

Product on floor when wetted will become slippery and may present a significant slip hazard; wear anti-slip boots Use extinguishing measures that are appropriate to local circumstances and the surrounding environment.

### **SECTION 6: Accidental Release Measures**

### 6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment, and emergency procedures

### 6.1.1. For non-emergency personnel

Ensure adequate ventilation.

Keep dust levels to a minimum respect Workplace Exposure Limits (WEL)

Keep unprotected persons away.

Avoid contact with skin, eyes, and clothing – wear suitable protective equipment (see section 8).

Avoid inhalation of dust – ensure that sufficient ventilation or suitable respiratory protective equipment is used, wear suitable protective equipment (see section 8).

Try not to wet, and take care of wet product on floor, which presents a slip hazard.

### 6.1.2. For emergency responders

Keep dust levels to a minimum. Ensure adequate ventilation. Keep unprotected persons away.

Avoid contact with skin, eyes, and clothing – wear suitable protective equipment (see section 8).

Avoid inhalation of dust – ensure that sufficient ventilation or suitable respiratory protective equipment is used, wear suitable protective equipment (see section 8).

Try not to wet and take care of wet product on floor, which presents a slip hazard.

# 6.2 Environmental precautions

No special requirement.

Contain the spillage. If product is released from trucks in roads, place signposts to divert traffic and remove the spill using vacuum cleaning systems, or shovel into bags – do not attempt to wash away.

### 6.3 Methods and material for containment and cleaning up

Avoid dust formation; avoid dry sweeping where possible.

Use vacuum suction unit, or shovel into bags.

Do not use water.

# 6.4 Reference to other sections

For more information on exposure controls/personal protection or disposal considerations, please refer to sections 8 and 13 of this safety data sheet.

# **SECTION 7: Handling & Storage**

### 7.1 Precautions for safe handling

#### **Protective measures**

Keep dust levels to a minimum and Minimize dust generation.

Respect Workplace Exposure Limits (WEL)

Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where airborne dust is generated. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory protective equipment refer to section 8 of this safety data sheet. Manage packaged products carefully to prevent accidental bursting. If you require advice on safe handling techniques, please contact your supplier or check the Good Practice Guide referred to in section 16.

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### Measures to prevent fire

The product is not flammable. No special protective measures against fire required.

Advice on general occupational hygiene Keep dust levels to a minimum. Minimize dust generation. Keep dry.

General occupational hygiene measures are required to ensure safe handling of the substance. These measures involve good personal and housekeeping practices (i.e. regular cleaning with suitable

cleaning devices), no drinking, eating, and smoking at the workplace. Shower and change clothes at end of work shift. Do not wear contaminated clothing at home.

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

Minimize airborne dust generation and prevent wind dispersal during loading and unloading. Keep containers closed and store packaged products so as to prevent accidental bursting.

Keep dry and do not use water for clean up as becomes slippery when wet.

# 7.3 Specific end use(s)

If you require advice on specific uses, please contact your supplier or check the Good Practice Guide referred to in section 16.

# **SECTION 8: Exposure Controls / Personal Protection**

### 8.1 Control parameters

#### 8.1.1

Components with occupational exposure limits and/or biological occupational exposure limits requiring monitoring.

#### Air limits values:

Maintain personal exposure below occupational exposure limit for inhalable and respirable dust as according to COSHH E40/ 2005 amended Oct 2007 (For data on EU TWA for dust see Appendix 1)

| Substance          | Description           | Inhalable Dust WEL – Workplace Exposure Limit - 8 hr. TWA (Time Weighted Average) | Respirable Dust WEL – Workplace Exposure Limit – 8 hr. TWA (Time Weighted Average) |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| Bentonite          | Nuisance Dust         | 10 mg/m3  | 4 mg/m3  |
| Crystalline Silica | Respirable Dust <7.1μ |   | 0.1 mg/m3  |

For further information see "The occupational exposure limit for respirable crystalline silica in EU countries given in: http://www.crystallinesilica.eu/115-what-are-regulatory-measures-taken-eu-member-states

### **Biological limit values:**

None

### 8.1.2 Recommended monitoring procedures

None

### 8.1.3 Occupational exposure limits and/or biological limits for air contaminants

Not applicable

#### 8.1.4 DNEL/DMEL and PNEC values

Not available

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### 8.2 Exposure controls

### 8.2.1 Appropriate engineering controls

Minimize airborne dust generation. Use process enclosures, local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls to keep airborne levels below specified exposure limits. If user operations generate dust, fumes, or mist, use ventilation to keep exposure to airborne particles below the exposure limit. Apply organizational measures e.g. by isolating personnel from dusty areas. Remove and wash soiled clothing.

### 8.2.2 Individual protection measures, such as personal protective equipment

# 8.2.2.1 Eye/face Protection

Do not wear contact lenses. For powders, tight fitting goggles with side shields, or wide vision full goggles. It is also advisable to have individual pocket eyewash.



### 8.2.2.2 Skin and hands protection

For skin, normal work clothes are appropriate.

For hands, appropriate protection (e.g. gloves, barrier cream) is recommended for workers who suffer from dermatitis or sensitive skin. Wash hands at the end of each work session.



### 8.2.2.3 Respiratory protection

Local ventilation to keep levels below established threshold values is recommended. In case of prolonged exposure to airborne dust concentrations, a suitable particle filter mask that complies with the requirements of national legislation is recommended, depending on the expected exposure level.



# 8.2.2.4 Thermal hazards

The substance does not represent a thermal hazard, thus special consideration is not required.

#### 8.2.3 Environmental exposure controls

All ventilations systems should be filtered before discharge to atmosphere. Avoid releasing to the environment. Contain the spillage.

# **SECTION 9: Physical and Chemical Properties**

| SECTION 9: Physical and Chemical Properties |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 9.1 Information on basic p                  | 9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties                            |  |
| Appearance:                                 | light grey/ yellow or red / brown solid material of varying sizes: Lump, granular or |  |
|   | fine powder  |  |
| Odor:                                       | odorless   |  |
| Odor threshold:                             | not applicable   |  |
| pH:   | 7.0-10.5 (5% solids in water suspension) typically 7.0 - 9.5                         |  |
| Melting point:                              | > 450 °C (study result, EU A.1 method)   |  |
| <b>Boiling point:</b>                       | not applicable (solid with a melting point > 450 °C)                                 |  |
| Flash point:                                | not applicable (solid with a melting point > 450 °C)                                 |  |
| <b>Evaporation rate:</b>                    | not applicable (solid with a melting point > 450 °C)                                 |  |
| Flammability:                               | non-flammable (study result, Method1 of the United Nations, Recommendations          |  |
|   | on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria, fourth revised    |  |
|   | edition 2003)  |  |
| Explosive limits:                           | nonexplosive (explosive properties predicted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No   |  |
|   | 1272/2008, using Appendix 6, screening procedures, specified in the United           |  |
|   | Nations, Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests        |  |
|   | and Criteria, fourth revised edition 2003 (void of any chemical structures commonly  |  |
|   | associated with explosive properties)  |  |
| Vapour pressure:                            | not applicable (solid with a melting point > 450 °C)                                 |  |

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| Vapour density:            | not applicable   |
|----------------------------|--|
| Relative density:          | 2.5 g/cm³ at 20°C  |
| Bulk density:              | 1 – 1.4 g/cm³  |
| Solubility in water:       | <0.9 mg/L at 20°C (study results, EU A.6 method)                                   |
| Partition of coefficient:  | not applicable (inorganic substance)   |
| Auto ignition temperature: | no self-ignition temperature below 400 °C (study result, Method 4 of the United    |
|                            | Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests       |
|                            | and Criteria, Fourth revised edition, 2003)  |
| Decomposition temperature: | not applicable   |
| Viscosity:                 | not applicable (solid with a melting point > 450 °C)                               |
| Oxidizing properties:      | no oxidizing properties predicted from the structure in accordance with Appendix 6 |
|                            | section 6 of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous      |
|                            | Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria, Fourth revised edition 2003                   |
| 9.2 Other information      |  |

None

# **SECTION 10: Stability and Reactivity**

### 10.1 Reactivity

Inert, not reactive.

# 10.2 Chemical stability

Bentonite is chemically stable under normal conditions of use and storage.

# 10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

No hazardous reactions.

# 10.4 Conditions to avoid

Minimize exposure to air.

Slippery when wet.

# 10.5 Incompatible materials

Avoid storing together with materials that may be affected by dust.

# 10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

None.

# SECTION 11: Toxicological Informati

| SECTION 11: Toxicological Information     |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 11.1 Information on toxicological effects |   |  |
| Acute toxicity:                           | Bentonite is not acutely toxic.   |  |
|   | Oral LD50 > 2000 mg/kg bw (OECD 420, rat)   |  |
|   | Dermal Data not available. Bentonite is almost insoluble and has a low absorption through the skin. |  |
|   | Inhalation LC50 > 5,27 mg/L (OECD 436, rat) Classification for acute toxicity is not warranted.     |  |
| Irritation/corrosion:                     | Bentonite is not irritating to skin (in vivo, OECD 404, rabbit).                                    |  |
|   | Bentonite is not irritating to the eye (in vivo, OECD 405, rabbit).                                 |  |
|   | Bentonite is classified as a mild irritant to eyes (according to the modified Kay &                 |  |
|   | Calandra criteria).   |  |
|   | Classification for Irritation/corrosion is not warranted.   |  |
| Sensitization:                            | Bentonite is not a skin sensitizer in accordance with the local lymph node assay                    |  |
|   | (OECD 429, mouse).  |  |
|   | Classification for sensitization is not warranted.  |  |

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| STOT single exposure:      | No organ toxicity observed in acute tests  |
|----------------------------|--|
| STOT single exposure       | Short-term repeated dose toxicity study (28 days) and sub-chronic toxicity study   |
| Oral:                      | (90 days) on mice have been conducted with Bentonite.  |
|                            | Bentonite fed to mice at 10%, 25%, or 50% for 61 days. Hepatoma was seen in mice   |
|                            | receiving a diet of 50% Bentonite. This was due to Bentonite being a base- exchange  |
|                            | silicate and thus removing choline from the content of the intestine >   |
|                            | 200 day feeding study of 50% Bentonite. Hepatomas developed in 11 of 12 mice. The  |
|                            | livers of mice on 50/50 Bentonite-basal diet were severely damaged.  |
|                            | The liver damage noted in the group ingesting Bentonite is consistent with that expected during prolonged choline deficiency, a base-exchange silicate, is advanced as a |
|                            | partial explanation for the development of the Hepatomas in the mice in these  |
|                            | experiments  |
|                            | Effect seen on livers. However, studies were conducted in mice at very high  |
|                            | concentration and effects seen are considered secondary due to disruption of digestion.  |
|                            | Therefore, classification of Bentonite for toxicity upon prolonged exposure by oral route  |
|                            | is not warranted.  |
| STOT repeated exposure     | Animal and in vitro data indicate a difference between crystalline quartz and the  |
| Inhalation:                | quartz-content of Bentonite. A quantitative assessment based on the animal data is not   |
|                            | possible as no relevant repeated-dose inhalation study is available. Human data is   |
|                            | restricted to case reports that suggest a relationship between high Bentonite exposure   |
|                            | (exposures in the early 20th century without state-of-<br>the- art protective measures and maximum dust exposure limits). The link between                               |
|                            | Bentonite exposure and silicosis is not considered to be demonstrated sufficiently.  |
|                            | With regards to classification and labeling of Bentonite, the evidence is not considered   |
|                            | adequate to conclude on specific classification of Bentonite with specific target organ  |
|                            | toxicity upon repeated exposure (STOT-RE).   |
|                            | The lung can be affected at repeated high-dose exposure which has been suggested by  |
|                            | case reports in humans. Whether this effect occurs only at concentrations overloading  |
|                            | the lung's clearance capacity and is not relevant to humans since establishment of   |
|                            | general dust exposure limits.  |
|                            | Therefore, classification of Bentonite for toxicity upon prolonged exposure is not warranted.  |
| Aspiration hazard:         | No aspiration hazard envisaged.  |
| Mutagenicity:              | In vitro tests (OECD 471, 473 and 476) negative.   |
| Carcinogenicity:           | No data available.   |
| caremogementy.             | Sepiolite was evaluated by IARC as class 3 ("Cannot be classified as to  |
|                            | carcinogenicity to humans"). Based on read across with Sepiolite, Bentonite was  |
|                            | assessed as non-carcinogenic.  |
|                            | Therefore, classification of Bentonite for carcinogenicity is not warranted.   |
| Toxicity for reproduction: | Two developmental studies are available:   |
|                            |  |
|                            |  |
|                            |  |
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|                            |  |
|                            |  |
|                            | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  |
|                            | ·  |
| Toxicity for reproduction: | assessed as non-carcinogenic. Therefore, classification of Bentonite for carcinogenicity is not warranted.   |

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### **SECTION 12: Ecological Information**

### 12.1 Toxicity

# 2.1.1. Acute/Prolonged toxicity to fish

LC50 (96h) for freshwater fish (rainbow trout): 16000 mg/l

LC50 (24h) for marine water fish (black bass, warmouth bass, blue gill and sunfish): 2800-3200 mg/l

# 12.1.2. Acute/Prolonged toxicity to aquatic invertebrates

EC50 (96h) for freshwater invertebrates (Dungeness crab): 81.6 mg/l

EC50 (96h) for freshwater invertebrates (dock shrimp): 24.8 mg/l

LC50 (24h) for C. dubia and H. limbata: >500 mg/L

### 12.1.3. Acute/Prolonged toxicity to aquatic plants

EC50 (72h) for freshwater algae: > 100 mg/l

# 12.1.4. Toxicity to micro-organisms e.g. bacteria

EC50 (48h) for daphnia magna (OECD 202): > 100 mg/l

### 12.1.5. Chronic toxicity to aquatic organisms

No data available

### 12.1.6. Toxicity to soil dwelling organisms

No data available

## 12.1.7. Toxicity to terrestrial plants

No effect was observed on the growth of beans (Phaseolus vulgaris) or corn (Zea mays) when Bentonite was added at a concentration of 135 g/1.6 kg soil

# 12.1.8. General effect

No specific adverse effects known

### 12.1.9. Further information

None

### 12.2 Persistence and degradability

Not relevant for inorganic substances.

# 12.3 Bio accumulative potential

Not relevant for inorganic substances.

### 12.4 Mobility in soil

Bentonite is almost insoluble and thus presents a low mobility in most soils.

# 12.5 Results of PBT and vPvB assessment

This substance does not meet the criteria for classification as PBT or vPvB.

### 12.6 Other adverse effects

No other adverse effects have been identified. According to the criteria of the European classification and labeling system, the substance does not require classification as hazardous for the environment.

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### **SECTION 13: Disposal Considerations**

### 13.1 Waste treatment methods

The residues/unused product can be disposed in landfills following national and local regulations. Dispose of waste in accordance with the European Directives. Dispose in such a way to avoid dust generation. Where possible, recycling should be preferred to disposal.

# **Packaging disposal**

No specific requirements. In all cases dust formation from residues in the packaging should be avoided and suitable protection be assured. Empty containers, dispose of as unused product. The empty and clean containers are to be reused in conformity with regulations.

### **SECTION 14: Transportation Information**

The material is not classified as dangerous in terms of transport regulations and no restrictions apply for land/sea/air transportation. Avoid dust spreading.

### **SECTION 15: Regulatory Information**

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

### Other EU regulations:

Bentonite is not a SEVESO substance (SEVESO III is the latest EU legislation that deals specifically with the control of onshore major accident hazards involving dangerous substances), it is not an ozone depleting substance and not a persistent organic pollutant.

# **National regulations:**

EH / COSH limits for Workplace Exposure Limits (WEL)

### **International legislation requirements:**

The product (Bentonite) is not separately classified by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA). The product has not been classified as a human carcinogen by OSHA, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP).

# 15.2 Chemical safety assessment

Bentonite is exempted from REACH registration in accordance with Annex V.7. A hazard assessment has been conducted under the umbrella of the European Bentonite Association (EUBA) and the outcome was that Bentonite is not a hazardous substance. Therefore, in absence of identified hazard, the substance is safe and presents no risk.

### **SECTION 16: Other Information**

Depending on the handling and use (grinding, drying, bagging), airborne respirable dust may be generated. Dust contains respirable crystalline silica. Prolonged and or massive inhalation of respirable crystalline silica dust may cause lung fibrosis, commonly referred to as silicosis. Principal symptoms of silicosis are cough and breathlessness. Occupational exposure to respirable dust should be monitored and controlled. The product should be handled using methods and techniques that minimize or eliminate dust generation.

The product contains less than 1% w/w RCS (respirable crystalline silica) as determined by the SWERF method. The respirable crystalline silica content can be measured using the "Size-Weighted Respirable Fraction – SWERF" method. All details about the SWERF method are available at www.crystallinesilica.eu

Data are based on our latest knowledge but do not constitute a guarantee for any specific product features and do not establish a legally valid contractual relationship.

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| 16.2 Abbreviati | ons and acronyms                                       |
|-----------------|--|
| ACGIH:          | American Conference of Industrial Hygienists           |
| DMEL:           | Derived maximum effect level                           |
| DNEL:           | Derived no effect level                                |
| EC50:           | Median effect concentration                            |
| EU:             | European Union   |
| EWC:            | European Waste Catalogue                               |
| IARC:           | International Agency for Research on Cancer            |
| LC50:           | Median lethal concentration                            |
| LD50:           | Medial lethal dose                                     |
| NIOSH:          | National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health     |
| OECD:           | Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| OEL:            | Occupational exposure level                            |
| OSHA:           | Occupational Safety and Health Administration          |
| PBT:            | Persistent bio accumulative toxic                      |
| PEL:            | Permissible exposure limit                             |
| PNEC:           | Predicted no effect level                              |
| REL:            | Recommended exposure level                             |
| SCOEL:          | Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits   |
| SDS:            | Safety data sheet                                      |
| STOT:           | Specific target organ toxicity                         |
| STOT RE:        | Specific target organ toxicity upon repeated exposure  |
| TLV:            | Threshold limit value                                  |
| TWA:            | Time weighted average                                  |
| vPvB:           | Very persistent very bio accumulative                  |

# Disclaimer:

This information relates only to the specific material designated and may not be valid for such material used in combination with any other materials or in any process. Such information is, to the best of the company's knowledge and belief, accurate and reliable as of the date indicated. However, no warranty guarantee or representation is made to its accuracy, reliability of completeness. It is the user's responsibility to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of such information for their own particular use.