

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET****ETHYLENE GLYCOL**

PRODUCT CODE NUMBER(S): 4650-1

**PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION**

**Chemical Name and Synonyms:** Ethylene glycol;  
1,2-Ethanediol; 2-Ethoxyethanol  
**Chemical Family:** Aliphatic dihydric alcohol  
**Chemical Formula:** CH<sub>2</sub>OHCH<sub>2</sub>OH  
**Product Use:** Laboratory reagent  
**Manufacturer's Name and Address:**  
Caledon Laboratories Ltd.  
40 Armstrong Avenue  
Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4R9  
**Telephone No:** (905) 877-0101  
**Fax No:** (905) 877-6666  
**Emergency Telephone No:** CANUTEC (613) 996-6666

**HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS OF MATERIALS**

Ingredients	%	TLV Units	CAS No.
Ethylene glycol	99	Not established	107-21-1

**PHYSICAL DATA**

**Physical State:** Liquid  
**Odour and Appearance:** Clear, colourless, syrupy liquid  
**Odour Threshold (ppm):** 0.08 to 25 ppm. Not reliable warning properties, thresholds vary widely.  
**Vapour Pressure (mm Hg):** 0.05 mm Hg at 20°C  
**Vapour Density (Air = 1):** 2.14  
**Evaporation Rate (Bu ac=1):** < 0.1  
**Boiling Point (degrees C):** 198°C  
**Freezing Point (degrees C):** -13°C  
**pH:** Neutral  
**Specific Gravity:** 1.1135 at 20°C  
**Coefficient of Water/Oil distribution:** Log P (oct)=-1.93

**SHIPPING DESCRIPTION**

**UN:** Not regulated  
**T.D.G. Class:** Not regulated  
**Pkg. Group:** Not regulated

**REACTIVITY DATA**

**Chemical Stability:** Stable, hygroscopic  
**Incompatibility with other substances:** Increased risk of fire and explosion with strong oxidizing agents, phosphorus pentasulphide. Decomposes violently with strong bases, strong acids, with increased temperature and pressure. Silvered copper wires carrying DC current will ignite on contact with ethylene glycol. Not corrosive to most metals; corrosive to aluminum above 100°C.  
**Reactivity:** Avoid temperatures above 111°C, sparks and flame, all incompatible materials. Avoid generation of mist.  
**Hazardous Decomposition Products:** CO, CO<sub>2</sub>

**FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA**

**Flammability:** Can probably burn if strongly heated. Vapour is heavier than air and may travel considerable distance to source of ignition and flash back. Concentrated solutions in water may be flammable. Closed containers may rupture violently when heated.  
**Extinguishing Media:** Alcohol or polymer foam, dry chemical powder, carbon dioxide, water. Water as spray or fog will cause frothing that will smother the fire. Water can also be used to cool containers and disperse vapours or flush spills away from ignition sources. Fight fire from upwind, from a safe distance. Firefighters must wear NIOSH/MSHA approved, full face-piece, positive-pressure self-contained breathing apparatus and chemical splash suit.  
**Flash Point (Method Used):** 111°C (CC)  
**Autoignition Temperature:** 398°C  
**Upper Explosion Limit (% by volume):** 15.3  
**Lower Explosion Limit (% by volume):** 3.2  
**Hazardous Combustion Products:** CO<sub>2</sub>, CO  
**Sensitivity to Impact:** None identified  
**Sensitivity to Static discharge:** Probably not sensitive (high flash point)

**TOXICOLOGICAL PROPERTIES AND HEALTH DATA****Toxicological Data:**

**LD<sub>50</sub>:** (oral, rat) 5.89 g/kg; (dermal, rabbit) 9.5 g/kg  
**LC<sub>50</sub>:** Not available

**Effects of Acute Exposure to Product:**

**Inhaled:** Concentrations of 56 ppm cause severe irritation of eyes, nose, throat, and respiratory tract. Because of low vapour pressure, concentrations at room temperature are normally too low to cause toxic effects. If heated, adverse effects, including drowsiness and CNS depression have occurred, without irritation.

**In contact with skin:** TOXIC. May be harmful or fatal by skin absorption. Readily absorbed through broken skin, causing systemic poisoning. Absorption through intact skin not known, but animal studies indicate that prolonged skin contact can cause toxic effects, as in "Ingested". Contact with vapour, mist or liquid may cause defatting, drying and cracking of skin. Prolonged or repeated contact may lead to dermatitis.

**In contact with eyes:** Liquid, vapour or mist may cause irritation, redness and pain.

**Ingested:** TOXIC. Ingestion of small quantities may cause restlessness, unsteady gait, drowsiness. Lethal dose reported to be 100 cc. Death results from respiratory or cardiac arrest. If the victim survives, kidney failure may occur in the next few days. Ethylene glycol poisoning occurs in three stages: CNS depression, cardiopulmonary failure and kidney failure.

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**Effects of Chronic Exposure to Product:**

Workers exposed to ~12 ppm for 22 h through 28 days experienced only mild throat irritation, slight headache, and low backache. Prolonged or repeated exposure causes blood changes, CNS toxicity, kidney damage. Symptoms include, headaches, lethargy, uremia. Skin sensitization may occur. Toxic exposure is primarily by inhalation or skin absorption.

**Carcinogenicity:** No human information available. Negative in animal testing. Not classifiable as human carcinogen (ACGIH).

**Teratogenicity:** No human information available. Possible animal teratogen; embryotoxic and teratogenic in animal studies at doses that were not maternally toxic.

**Reproductive Effects:** Some effects in animal testing

**Mutagenicity:** No human information available. Negative in Ames test.

**Synergistic Products:** None known

**PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

**Engineering Controls:** Local exhaust ventilation required

**Respiratory Protection:** NIOSH/MSHA approved chemical cartridge respirator with organic vapour cartridges, or powered air-purifying respirator with organic vapour cartridges. High or unknown concentrations, as in fire or spill conditions: positive pressure, full facepiece self-contained breathing apparatus, or positive pressure, full face-piece air-supplied respirator with an auxiliary positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus.

**Eye Protection:** Chemical safety goggles/ face shield.

**Skin Protection:** Butyl, nitrile, or natural rubber, neoprene, polyethylene, polyvinyl chloride, Teflon, Viton, Barricade, Saranex, 4H, or Trelchem HPS gloves. Impervious apron, boots, and other protective clothing sufficient to prevent contact.

**Other Personal Protective Equipment:** An eyewash and safety shower should be nearby and ready for use.

**Leak and Spill Procedure:** Eliminate all sources of ignition. Ventilate area. Restrict access to area of spill. Cleanup personnel must be trained in the hazards of this chemical and its safe handling, and must wear protective equipment and clothing sufficient to prevent inhalation of dust or fumes, and contact with skin and eyes. Mix with inert material. Transfer carefully into container and arrange removal by disposal company. Contaminated absorbent may pose the same hazards as the spilled product; treat with caution. Wash site of spillage thoroughly with water and detergent.

**Waste Disposal:** Follow all federal, provincial and local regulations for disposal.

**Handling Procedures and Equipment:** VERY TOXIC (suspect reproductive hazard). Have all engineering controls operating before handling. Workers must be thoroughly trained in the hazards of this material and its safe use, and must wear appropriate protective equipment and clothing. Follow routine safe handling procedures. Use the smallest amount possible for the purpose in an area with appropriate ventilation. Avoid generating vapour or mist. Avoid all contact and inhalation. Keep away from all incompatible materials (see "Incompatibility with other substances"). Do not return contaminated material to the original container. Empty containers may contain hazardous residues; treat with caution.

**Storage Requirements:** Store in suitable, labelled containers, in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area, out of direct sunlight

and away from all sources of ignition and incompatible materials. Keep tightly closed when not in use. Protect from damage and inspect regularly for signs of leaking or damage. Storage facilities should be made of fire-resistant materials, and should have raised sills and trenches to drain to a safe area.

**FIRST AID MEASURES****Specific Measures:**

**Eyes:** Immediately flush eyes with gently running water for five to ten (5-10) minutes, holding eyelids open during flushing, or until no trace of chemical remains. Take care not to flush contaminated water into unaffected eye. Wear protective gloves and other clothing to avoid contact. Get medical attention.

**Skin:** Remove contaminated clothing, including watches, rings, belts, and shoes. Drench skin with plenty of running water for at least fifteen (15) minutes. Wear protective gloves and other clothing to avoid contact. Get medical attention immediately. Decontaminate clothing before reuse, or discard.

**Inhalation:** Immediately remove to fresh air. Give oxygen or get medical attention for any breathing difficulty. If breathing has stopped begin artificial respiration immediately. GET MEDICAL ATTENTION. Onset of symptoms may be delayed; if victim feels unwell during the next 24 hours, get medical attention immediately.

**Ingestion:** If victim is alert and not convulsing, rinse mouth thoroughly with water, give 2 to 4 glasses of water to drink to dilute. GET MEDICAL ATTENTION. If breathing has stopped begin artificial respiration immediately. If spontaneous vomiting occurs, rinse mouth thoroughly with water, and give 2 to 4 more glasses of water to drink. Onset of symptoms may be delayed; if victim feels unwell during the next 24 hours, get medical attention immediately.

**REFERENCES USED**

Budavari: *The Merck Index*, 12th ed., 1997

Sax, Lewis: *Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary*, 11th ed., 1987

Royal Society of Chemistry, *Chemical Safety Data Sheets*, Vol. 1, 1992

Suppliers' Material Safety Data Sheets

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Date Issued:** November 1, 1988

**Revision:** May 2010

**MSDS:** 4650-1

**Proposed WHMIS Designation:** D2A (possible teratogen and reproductive toxin)

Prepared by: Caledon Laboratories Ltd. (905) 877-0101  
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