

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET****POTASSIUM ACETATE**

PRODUCT CODE NUMBER(S): 5660-1

**PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION**

**Chemical Name and Synonyms:** *Potassium acetate*  
**Chemical Family:** *Organic acid salt*  
**Chemical Formula:**  $CH_3COOK$   
**Product Use:** *Laboratory reagent*  
**Manufacturer's Name and Address:**  
*Caledon Laboratories Ltd.*  
*40 Armstrong Avenue*  
*Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4R9*  
**Telephone No:** (905) 877-0101  
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**HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS OF MATERIALS**

<i>Ingredients</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>TLV Units</i>	<i>CAS No.</i>
<i>Potassium acetate</i>	<i>&gt;98</i>	<i>Not established</i>	<i>127-08-2</i>

**PHYSICAL DATA**

**Physical State:** *Solid*  
**Odour and Appearance:** *Colourless or white powder or flakes; odourless*  
**Odour Threshold (ppm):** *Not applicable*  
**Vapour Pressure (mm Hg):** *Not available*  
**Vapour Density (Air = 1):** *Not available*  
**Evaporation Rate:** *Not available*  
**Boiling Point (degrees C):** *Not available*  
**Melting Point (degrees C):** *292°C*  
**pH:** *7.0-9.0 (1M, aqueous, 20°C)*  
**Specific Gravity:** *1.800*  
**Coefficient of Water/Oil distribution:** *Not available*

**SHIPPING DESCRIPTION**

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

**REACTIVITY DATA**

**Chemical Stability:** *Stable, deliquescent; absorbs water from air and forms wet solid or solution.*  
**Incompatibility with other substances:** *May react vigorously with strong oxidizers or strong acids. Mildly corrosive to most metals.*  
**Reactivity:** *Protect from moisture and extreme heat. Avoid static charge, all ignition sources, generation of dust, all incompatible materials.*  
**Hazardous Decomposition Products:**  $CO_x$ ; *may emit acid fumes, oxides of potassium when heated.*

**FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA**

**Flammability:** *May be combustible if strongly heated. As with most organic compounds, fine dust dispersed in air in the presence of an ignition source is a potential dust explosion hazard.*  
**Extinguishing Media:** *Use extinguishing media appropriate to the surrounding fire. Use water as spray or fog to minimize dust, absorb heat, cool containers, and disperse vapours. Water applied as a fine spray or fog, may cause frothing, which will blanket and smother the fire. Firefighters should wear protective equipment (positive-pressure, full face-piece self-contained breathing apparatus) and clothing sufficient to prevent inhalation of dust or fumes, and contact with skin and eyes (full Bunker Gear).*

**Flash Point (Method Used):** *Not applicable*

**Autoignition Temperature:** *Not applicable*

**Upper Flammable Limit (% by volume):** *Not applicable*

**Lower Flammable Limit (% by volume):** *Not applicable*

**Hazardous Combustion Products:**  $CO$ ,  $CO_2$ , *oxides of potassium.*

**Sensitivity to Impact:** *None identified*

**Sensitivity to Static discharge:** *As with most organic powders, mixtures of dust with air may be sensitive under certain conditions, when ignited by an electrostatic or other high-voltage spark, or other ignition source.*

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

**LD<sub>50</sub>:** *Not available*

**LC<sub>50</sub>:** *Not available*

**Effects of Acute Exposure to Product:**

**Inhaled:** *Essentially non-toxic. Inhalation of dust may cause mechanical irritation of upper respiratory tract with coughing, sneezing and shortness of breath.*

**In contact with skin:** *Solutions or dust may cause mild irritation. Probably not absorbed through skin.*

**In contact with eyes:** *Solutions or dust may cause mild irritation to eyes.*

**Ingested:** *Probably low in oral toxicity. Ingestion of <10 g net expected to cause a problem, based on animal information for related acetates. Toxic intravenously.*

**Effects of Chronic Exposure to Product:**

*Prolonged or repeated inhalation may cause minor, reversible, irritation. Prolonged or repeated skin contact may cause dermatitis.*

**Carcinogenicity:** *No human or animal information available. Not expected to be carcinogenic.*

**Teratogenicity:** *No human or animal information available. Not expected to be a hazard.*

**Reproductive Effects:** *No human or animal information available. Not expected to be a hazard.*

CODE: 5660-1

**Mutagenicity:** No human or animal information available. Not expected to be a hazard.

**Synergistic Products:** None found

## PREVENTIVE MEASURES

**Engineering Controls:** Local exhaust ventilation recommended.

**Respiratory Protection:** Dust mask. NIOSH approved respirator for high concentrations. For higher or unknown concentrations, as in fire or spill conditions, positive-pressure, full face-piece self-contained breathing apparatus, or supplied-air respirator.

**Eye Protection:** Chemical safety goggles.

**Skin Protection:** Saranex, Barricade gloves for solutions. Rubber or plastic gloves for handling solids. Plastic apron, sleeves and other protective clothing sufficient to prevent contact.

**Other Personal Protective Equipment:** Safety shower and eye-wash fountain in work area.

**Leak and Spill Procedure:** Ventilate area. Eliminate ignition sources. Cleanup personnel should be trained in the handling of hazardous chemicals, and should wear protective equipment and clothing sufficient to prevent inhalation of dust or fumes and contact with skin and eyes. Gather up in a manner that does not raise dust. Prevent from entering sewers or waterways. Transfer carefully into container and arrange removal by disposal company. Wash site of spillage thoroughly with water and detergent.

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

**Handling Procedures and Equipment:** May be COMBUSTIBLE DUST. Use routine safe handling procedures. Personnel working with this product should be trained in its hazards and its safe use, and should wear appropriate protective equipment and clothing. Avoid generating dust. Use the smallest amount possible for the purpose, in a designated area with appropriate ventilation. Keep work areas free of incompatible materials. Keep away from excessive heat, and all ignition sources. If dust is present, use non-sparking tools, post "No Smoking" signs. Avoid all contact and inhalation. Wash thoroughly after working with this chemical. Keep containers closed when not in use.

**Storage Requirements:** Store in suitable, labelled containers, in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area, out of direct sunlight. Store away from incompatible materials. Keep containers tightly closed when not in use and when empty. Protect from exposure to light and air. Protect from damage, and inspect frequently for signs of leaking.

## FIRST AID MEASURES

### Specific Measures:

**Eyes:** Flush eyes thoroughly with gently running water, holding eyelids open while flushing, for five to ten (5-10) minutes, or until no trace of chemical remains. Get medical advice if irritation develops.

**Skin:** Remove contaminated clothing, including watches, rings, belts, and shoes. Flush skin with plenty of running water for five to ten (5-10) minutes. Get medical advice if irritation develops.

**Inhalation:** Remove to fresh air. Give oxygen and get medical attention for any breathing difficulty.

**Ingestion:** If the victim is alert and not convulsing, rinse mouth thoroughly with water and give 2 to 4 glasses of wa-

ter to drink to dilute. If victim feels unwell, or if a large amount has been ingested, get medical attention.

## REFERENCES USED

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

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

Sax: *Dangerous Properties of Industrial Materials*, 5th ed., 1979

Suppliers' Material Safety Data Sheets

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Date Issued:** July 22, 1991

**Revision:** June 2010

**MSDS:** 5660-1

**Proposed WHMIS Designation:** Not a controlled product. Not required to be updated every three years (WHMIS 1992, B-40, Section 29,2)

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