

## SAFETY DATA SHEET

Version 4.9  
Revision Date 02/16/2016  
Print Date 07/13/2017

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1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

## 1.1 Product identifiers

Product name : Paraformaldehyde

Product Number : 158127  
Brand : Sigma-Aldrich

CAS-No. : 30525-89-4

## 1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

Identified uses : Laboratory chemicals, Synthesis of substances

## 1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Company : Sigma-Aldrich  
3050 Spruce Street  
SAINT LOUIS MO 63103  
USA

Telephone : +1 800-325-5832  
Fax : +1 800-325-5052

## 1.4 Emergency telephone number

Emergency Phone # : +1-703-527-3887 (CHEMTREC)

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2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

## 2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

**GHS Classification in accordance with 29 CFR 1910 (OSHA HCS)**

Flammable solids (Category 2), H228  
Acute toxicity, Oral (Category 4), H302  
Acute toxicity, Inhalation (Category 4), H332  
Skin irritation (Category 2), H315  
Serious eye damage (Category 1), H318  
Skin sensitisation (Category 1), H317  
Carcinogenicity (Category 2), H351  
Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure (Category 3), Respiratory system, H335  
Acute aquatic toxicity (Category 3), H402  
Chronic aquatic toxicity (Category 3), H412

For the full text of the H-Statements mentioned in this Section, see Section 16.

## 2.2 GHS Label elements, including precautionary statements

Pictogram



Signal word : Danger

Hazard statement(s)

H228 : Flammable solid.  
H302 + H332 : Harmful if swallowed or if inhaled  
H315 : Causes skin irritation.  
H317 : May cause an allergic skin reaction.  
H318 : Causes serious eye damage.

H335	May cause respiratory irritation.
H351	Suspected of causing cancer.
H412	Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.
Precautionary statement(s)	
P201	Obtain special instructions before use.
P202	Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
P210	Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. No smoking.
P240	Ground/bond container and receiving equipment.
P241	Use explosion-proof electrical/ ventilating/ lighting/ equipment.
P261	Avoid breathing dust/ fume/ gas/ mist/ vapours/ spray.
P264	Wash skin thoroughly after handling.
P270	Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
P271	Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.
P272	Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.
P273	Avoid release to the environment.
P280	Wear protective gloves/ protective clothing/ eye protection/ face protection.
P301 + P312 + P330	IF SWALLOWED: Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/ physician if you feel unwell. Rinse mouth.
P302 + P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P304 + P340 + P312	IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/ physician if you feel unwell.
P305 + P351 + P338 + P310	IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/ physician.
P308 + P313	IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/ attention.
P333 + P313	If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/ attention.
P362	Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.
P370 + P378	In case of fire: Use dry sand, dry chemical or alcohol-resistant foam to extinguish.
P403 + P233	Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.
P405	Store locked up.
P501	Dispose of contents/ container to an approved waste disposal plant.

## 2.3 Hazards not otherwise classified (HNOC) or not covered by GHS

Combustible dust

## 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

### 3.1 Substances

Synonyms : Polyoxymethylene

Formula :  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}]_n$

Molecular weight : 30.03 g/mol

CAS-No. : 30525-89-4

#### Hazardous components

Component	Classification	Concentration
<b>Paraformaldehyde</b>		
	Flam. Sol. 2; Acute Tox. 4; Skin Irrit. 2; Eye Dam. 1; Skin Sens. 1; Carc. 2; STOT SE 3; Aquatic Acute 3; Aquatic Chronic 3; H228, H302 + H332, H315, H317, H318, H335, H351, H412	<= 100 %

For the full text of the H-Statements mentioned in this Section, see Section 16.

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## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

### 4.1 Description of first aid measures

#### General advice

Consult a physician. Show this safety data sheet to the doctor in attendance. Move out of dangerous area.

#### If inhaled

If breathed in, move person into fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. Consult a physician.

#### In case of skin contact

Wash off with soap and plenty of water. Consult a physician.

#### In case of eye contact

Rinse thoroughly with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and consult a physician.

#### If swallowed

Do NOT induce vomiting. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Rinse mouth with water. Consult a physician.

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

The most important known symptoms and effects are described in the labelling (see section 2.2) and/or in section 11

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

No data available

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## 5. FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

### 5.1 Extinguishing media

#### Suitable extinguishing media

Use water spray, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide.

### 5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Carbon oxides

### 5.3 Advice for firefighters

Wear self-contained breathing apparatus for firefighting if necessary.

### 5.4 Further information

Use water spray to cool unopened containers.

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## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

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

Use personal protective equipment. Avoid dust formation. Avoid breathing vapours, mist or gas. Ensure adequate ventilation. Remove all sources of ignition. Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Avoid breathing dust.

For personal protection see section 8.

### 6.2 Environmental precautions

Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Do not let product enter drains. Discharge into the environment must be avoided.

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

Sweep up and shovel. Contain spillage, and then collect with an electrically protected vacuum cleaner or by wet-brushing and place in container for disposal according to local regulations (see section 13). Keep in suitable, closed containers for disposal. Contain spillage, pick up with an electrically protected vacuum cleaner or by wet-brushing and transfer to a container for disposal according to local regulations (see section 13).

### 6.4 Reference to other sections

For disposal see section 13.

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## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

### 7.1 Precautions for safe handling

Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid formation of dust and aerosols. Further processing of solid materials may result in the formation of combustible dusts. The potential for combustible dust formation should be taken into consideration before additional processing occurs.

Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where dust is formed. Keep away from sources of ignition - No smoking. Take measures to prevent the build up of electrostatic charge.

For precautions see section 2.2.

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

Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place.

Handle and store under inert gas. Moisture sensitive. Keep in a dry place.

Storage class (TRGS 510): Flammable solid hazardous materials

### 7.3 Specific end use(s)

Apart from the uses mentioned in section 1.2 no other specific uses are stipulated

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## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

### 8.1 Control parameters

#### Components with workplace control parameters

Contains no substances with occupational exposure limit values.

Hazardous components without workplace control parameters

### 8.2 Exposure controls

#### Appropriate engineering controls

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Wash hands before breaks and at the end of workday.

#### Personal protective equipment

##### Eye/face protection

Face shield and safety glasses Use equipment for eye protection tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or EN 166(EU).

##### Skin protection

Handle with gloves. Gloves must be inspected prior to use. Use proper glove removal technique (without touching glove's outer surface) to avoid skin contact with this product. Dispose of contaminated gloves after use in accordance with applicable laws and good laboratory practices. Wash and dry hands.

Full contact

Material: Nitrile rubber

Minimum layer thickness: 0.11 mm

Break through time: 480 min

Material tested: Dermatril® (KCL 740 / Aldrich Z677272, Size M)

Splash contact

Material: Nitrile rubber

Minimum layer thickness: 0.11 mm

Break through time: 480 min

Material tested: Dermatril® (KCL 740 / Aldrich Z677272, Size M)

data source: KCL GmbH, D-36124 Eichenzell, phone +49 (0)6659 87300, e-mail sales@kcl.de, test method: EN374

If used in solution, or mixed with other substances, and under conditions which differ from EN 374, contact the supplier of the CE approved gloves. This recommendation is advisory only and must be evaluated by an industrial hygienist and safety officer familiar with the specific situation of anticipated use by our customers. It should not be construed as offering an approval for any specific use scenario.

##### Body Protection

Complete suit protecting against chemicals, Flame retardant antistatic protective clothing., The type of protective equipment must be selected according to the concentration and amount of the dangerous substance at the specific workplace.

**Respiratory protection**

Where risk assessment shows air-purifying respirators are appropriate use a full-face particle respirator type N100 (US) or type P3 (EN 143) respirator cartridges as a backup to engineering controls. If the respirator is the sole means of protection, use a full-face supplied air respirator. Use respirators and components tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or CEN (EU).

**Control of environmental exposure**

Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Do not let product enter drains. Discharge into the environment must be avoided.

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**9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES****9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties**

a) Appearance	Form: powder
b) Odour	pungent
c) Odour Threshold	No data available
d) pH	4.0 - 5.5
e) Melting point/freezing point	Melting point/range: 120 - 170 °C (248 - 338 °F) - lit.
f) Initial boiling point and boiling range	No data available
g) Flash point	70 °C (158 °F) - closed cup
h) Evaporation rate	No data available
i) Flammability (solid, gas)	May form combustible dust concentrations in air
j) Upper/lower flammability or explosive limits	No data available
k) Vapour pressure	No data available
l) Vapour density	No data available
m) Relative density	0.88 g/cm <sup>3</sup> at 25 °C (77 °F)
n) Water solubility	insoluble
o) Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water	No data available
p) Auto-ignition temperature	No data available
q) Decomposition temperature	No data available
r) Viscosity	No data available
s) Explosive properties	No data available
t) Oxidizing properties	No data available

**9.2 Other safety information**

Bulk density	500 - 800 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
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**10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY****10.1 Reactivity**

No data available

**10.2 Chemical stability**

Stable under recommended storage conditions.

**10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions**

No data available

#### 10.4 Conditions to avoid

Exposure to moisture  
Heat, flames and sparks.

#### 10.5 Incompatible materials

Brass, Steel (all types and surface treatments), Copper, Acid anhydrides, Strong oxidizing agents, Strong reducing agents

#### 10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

Other decomposition products - No data available  
In the event of fire: see section 5

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### 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### 11.1 Information on toxicological effects

##### Acute toxicity

LD50 Oral - Rat - 592 mg/kg

LC50 Inhalation - Rat - 4 h - 1,070 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Remarks: Sense Organs and Special Senses (Nose, Eye, Ear, and Taste):Eye:Lacrimation. Lungs, Thorax, or Respiration:Dyspnea.

LDLO Dermal - Rat - 10,000 mg/kg

No data available

##### Skin corrosion/irritation

No data available

##### Serious eye damage/eye irritation

Eyes - Rabbit

Result: Severe eye irritation

##### Respiratory or skin sensitisation

No data available

##### Germ cell mutagenicity

No data available

##### Carcinogenicity

Formaldehyde, the decomposition product of paraformaldehyde, has been listed as a carcinogen by NTP and IARC.

Limited evidence of carcinogenicity in animal studies

IARC: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as probable, possible or confirmed human carcinogen by IARC.

NTP: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as a known or anticipated carcinogen by NTP.

OSHA: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as a carcinogen or potential carcinogen by OSHA.

##### Reproductive toxicity

No data available

No data available

##### Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure

Inhalation - May cause respiratory irritation.

##### Specific target organ toxicity - repeated exposure

No data available

##### Aspiration hazard

No data available

**Additional Information**

RTECS: RV0540000

May cause permanent eye injury.

Liver - Irregularities - Based on Human Evidence

Liver - Irregularities - Based on Human Evidence

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**12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION****12.1 Toxicity**

Toxicity to daphnia and other aquatic invertebrates      EC50 - Daphnia magna (Water flea) - 42 mg/l - 24 h

**12.2 Persistence and degradability**

No data available

Ratio BOD/ThBOD      37 %

**12.3 Bioaccumulative potential**

No data available

**12.4 Mobility in soil**

No data available

**12.5 Results of PBT and vPvB assessment**

PBT/vPvB assessment not available as chemical safety assessment not required/not conducted

**12.6 Other adverse effects**

An environmental hazard cannot be excluded in the event of unprofessional handling or disposal.  
Harmful to aquatic life.

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**13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS****13.1 Waste treatment methods****Product**

Burn in a chemical incinerator equipped with an afterburner and scrubber but exert extra care in igniting as this material is highly flammable. Offer surplus and non-recyclable solutions to a licensed disposal company. Contact a licensed professional waste disposal service to dispose of this material.

**Contaminated packaging**

Dispose of as unused product.

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**14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION****DOT (US)**

UN number: 2213      Class: 4.1      Packing group: III

Proper shipping name: Paraformaldehyde

Reportable Quantity (RQ): 1000 lbs

Poison Inhalation Hazard: No

**IMDG**

UN number: 2213      Class: 4.1      Packing group: III      EMS-No: F-A, S-G

Proper shipping name: PARAFORMALDEHYDE

**IATA**

UN number: 2213      Class: 4.1      Packing group: III

Proper shipping name: Paraformaldehyde

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**15. REGULATORY INFORMATION****SARA 302 Components**

No chemicals in this material are subject to the reporting requirements of SARA Title III, Section 302.

**SARA 313 Components**

This material does not contain any chemical components with known CAS numbers that exceed the threshold (De Minimis) reporting levels established by SARA Title III, Section 313.

**SARA 311/312 Hazards**

Fire Hazard, Acute Health Hazard, Chronic Health Hazard

**Massachusetts Right To Know Components**

Paraformaldehyde	CAS-No. 30525-89-4	Revision Date 2007-03-01
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**Pennsylvania Right To Know Components**

Paraformaldehyde	CAS-No. 30525-89-4	Revision Date 2007-03-01
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**New Jersey Right To Know Components**

Paraformaldehyde	CAS-No. 30525-89-4	Revision Date 2007-03-01
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**California Prop. 65 Components**

This product does not contain any chemicals known to State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or any other reproductive harm.

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**16. OTHER INFORMATION****Full text of H-Statements referred to under sections 2 and 3.**

Acute Tox.	Acute toxicity
Aquatic Acute	Acute aquatic toxicity
Aquatic Chronic	Chronic aquatic toxicity
Carc.	Carcinogenicity
Eye Dam.	Serious eye damage
Flam. Sol.	Flammable solids
H228	Flammable solid.
H302	Harmful if swallowed.
H302 + H332	Harmful if swallowed or if inhaled
H315	Causes skin irritation.
H317	May cause an allergic skin reaction.
H318	Causes serious eye damage.
H332	Harmful if inhaled.
H335	May cause respiratory irritation.

**HMIS Rating**

Health hazard:	2
Chronic Health Hazard:	*
Flammability:	2
Physical Hazard	2

**NFPA Rating**

Health hazard:	2
Fire Hazard:	2
Reactivity Hazard:	2

**Further information**

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**Preparation Information**

Sigma-Aldrich Corporation  
Product Safety – Americas Region  
1-800-521-8956

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