



Chemicals Inc.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

ASHTA Chemicals Inc.

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POTASSIUM CARBONATE, DRY

CHEMTREC: (800) 424-9300

SECTION I

MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION

CHEMICAL NAME:	Potassium Carbonate	C.A.S. NO.:	584-08-7
TRADE NAME:	Carbonate of Potash	WHMIS:	1%
SYNONYMS:	Pearl Ash, Anhydrous Potassium Carbonate, APC		
CHEMICAL FORMULA:	K₂CO₃	SARA:	No
CHEMICAL FAMILY:	Alkali	TSCA (COMPONENTS):	Yes
N.F.P.A. REGISTRY:	N/A	H.M.I.S.:	1-0-0-A+
LABELING:	N/A	REPORTABLE QUANTITY:	None
D.O.T. IDENTIFICATION NO.:	Not regulated as a D.O.T. hazardous material.		
D.O.T. SHIPPING NAME:	Potassium Carbonate Dry	D.O.T. HAZARD GUIDE:	None
D.O.T. HAZARD CLASS:	None.	PLACARD:	None

SECTION II

INGREDIENTS AND HAZARDS

PRINCIPAL COMPONENT:	K₂CO₃	PERCENT:	84.0 to 99.0
HAZARDOUS MIXTURES OF OTHER LIQUIDS, SOLIDS OR GASES:	None reported.		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	Alkali carbonate is regulated as a nuisance dust.		
	ACGIH TLV: 10 mg/m³ or 5 mg/m³ respirable portion.		
	OSHA PEL: 15 mg/m³ total or 5 mg/m³ respirable portion.		

SECTION III

PHYSICAL DATA

BOILING POINT:	N/A	pH:	N/A - Solid
SPECIFIC GRAVITY(H ₂ O=1):	2.29	MOLECULAR WEIGHT:	138.2
VAPOR PRESSURE:	N/A	VAPOR DENSITY:	N/A
APPEARANCE/ODOR:	White powder, no odor.		
PERCENT VOLATILE BY VOLUME:	Not Volatile at normal temperatures.		
EVAPORATION RATE:	N/A - Solid		
SOLUBILITY IN WATER:	At 0°C = 50%, at 100°C = 60%		
FREEZE/SOLIDIFICATION TEMPERATURE:	891°C		

SECTION IV

FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

FLASH POINT (METHOD):	None.
EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:	Suitable for surrounding fire.
AUTO IGNITION TEMP:	Not combustible.
SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:	If carbon dioxide is released, use an approved self contained breathing apparatus.
UNUSUAL FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARDS:	High temperatures due to fire or mixing with acids can cause this material to decompose releasing carbon dioxide gas.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	If there is evidence that product decomposition has occurred, atmospheric tests should be run for carbon dioxide and oxygen content. Excessive quantities of carbon dioxide can cause suffocation of personnel in the immediate area.

SECTION V	HEALTH HAZARD DATA
OSHA PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMIT:	Nuisance dust (15 mg/m ³ or 5 mg/m ³ respirable portion).
ACGIH THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE:	Nuisance dust (10 mg/m ³ or 5 mg/m ³ respirable portion).
IARC/NTP CARCINOGEN:	Not listed.
MUTAGENIC:	Not listed.
REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY:	Not listed.
MEDICAL CONDITIONS	
AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE:	Exacerbates existing skin wounds.
PRIMARY ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:	Inhalation (of dust).
EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE:	
INHALATION:	Irritates the nasal membranes.
SKIN:	Contact causes irritation and possible burns, esp. if skin is wet or moist, or material has become wet or moist.
EYES:	May cause injury or severe irritation.
INGESTION:	May cause severe gastro intestinal tract irritation - Decomposes releasing CO ₂ upon contact with stomach acid.
EMERGENCY FIRST AID:	
INHALATION:	Remove from exposure. Get medical attention.
SKIN:	Remove from skin and flush thoroughly with tempered water
EYES:	Flush with water for at least 15 minutes.
INGESTION:	Drink plenty of water or fruit juice. Obtain the services of a physician immediately.

SECTION VI	REACTIVITY DATA
STABILITY:	Stable under normal conditions.
CONDITIONS TO AVOID: <i>exposed</i>	Do not allow dust to blow freely into the environment. <i>Material to conditions of high moisture, or water, will form high pH sludges or liquids.</i>
INCOMPATIBILITY (MATERIALS TO AVOID):	Magnesium, acids and excessive heat. Large quantities of CO ₂ in an enclosed area will result in lack of oxygen and may cause suffocation of personnel.
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:	Carbon dioxide is generated when reacted with acids or exposed to high temperatures. When heated to decomposition, may emit toxic K ₂ O fumes.
POLYMERIZATION:	Will not occur.
CONDITIONS TO AVOID:	Cross contamination with other chemicals.

SECTION VII	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROCEDURES
SPILL RESPONSE:	Shovel up <i>dry</i> spills and place in sealable containers for recovery or disposal. This material is not classified as hazardous. Remainder of spill may normally be washed to the sewer providing environmental control limits are not affected. <i>Avoid skin contact with wetted material.</i>
WASTE DISPOSAL METHODS:	Reclaim and reuse as much as possible.

SECTION VIII	SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION
EYE PROTECTION:	Goggles where dust contact may be encountered.
RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (SPECIAL TYPE):	A NIOSH-approved particulate respirator or dust filter mask should be worn if dust is present.
OTHER PROTECTION:	Usually not required.
VENTILATION RECOMMENDED:	To meet OSHA PEL.
GLOVE TYPE RECOMMENDED:	Rubber.

SECTION IX**SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS**

**HYGIENIC PRACTICES IN
HANDLING/STORING:****Avoid excessive dusting.****PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN FOR
HANDLING/STORING:****Cross contamination of other chemicals. Material is hygroscopic and will
absorb moisture to self dissolve.****PRECAUTIONS FOR REPAIR,
MAINTENANCE OF
CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT:
OTHER PRECAUTIONS:****Flush with water.
Do not permit personnel to handle this material without proper training and
equipment.**

SECTION X**TRANSPORTATION**

USUAL SHIPPING CONTAINERS:**Pneumatic trucks or rail cars, drums, bags, supersacks.****USUAL SHELF LIFE:****Indefinite if kept dry.****STORAGE/TRANSPORT TEMPERATURES:****Ambient.****SUITABLE STORAGE****MATERIALS/COATINGS:****Moisture proof containers - plastics, metal, cloth, paper.****UNSUITABLE:****Porous containers.****REVIEWED: 04/09**

(No changes made)

SUPERSEDES: 10/06(Added handling precautions should the material become wet in Health Hazard
Data, Effects of Exposure, Skin; in Reactivity Data, Conditions to Avoid, and in
Environmental Protection Procedures, Spill Response)**03/06**

(No changes made)

05/03

(Added WHMIS percentage.)

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