Neodol Alcohol Ethoxylate
Product Stewardship Summary


Generic Chemical Formula for NEODOL Alcohol Ethoxylates with Carbon Chain Length M and EO Chain Length N
CH₃(CH₂)ₘO(CH₂CH₂O)ₙH

What are Neodol Alcohol Ethoxylates?
NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates are a group of synthetic chemical products known as surfactants. They are manufactured by reacting NEODOL alcohols with ethylene oxide in a process known as ethoxylation.

How are Neodol Alcohol Ethoxylates Used?
NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates are either further processed or are used as active ingredients in many commonly used cleaning products such as household laundry products. In these products, their surfactant properties improve cleaning by reducing the surface tension between the wash water and dirt on clothes and dishes, helping the removal of the dirt in the waste water. Other uses for NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates include personal care products such as shampoo, industrial and institutional cleaning products, metal rolling oils and leather processing.

Health, Safety and Environmental Considerations
NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates are colourless and range from liquid to paste-like solids. They show low to moderate oral, skin and respiratory toxicity following a single exposure. In undiluted form, prolonged contact with the skin may cause redness; however, when diluted with water, single or repeated skin contact is unlikely to cause any skin irritation. If undiluted NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates come into contact with the eyes, it can cause serious irritation or damage. They have no skin sensitising properties and skin contact is not expected to induce an allergic response. Based on data from similar products, repeated oral or skin exposure to high doses does not induce significant toxicity. These materials do not have adverse effects on reproductive performance or growth and development of the foetus.

These products have been shown to be non-mutagenic. NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates are not listed as carcinogens by international or national organizations.

Generally, NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates are very toxic to aquatic organisms, with the toxicity increasing with the carbon chain length up to C15. They are rapidly biodegradable so they do not
persist in the environment. They are not expected to bioaccumulate significantly in exposed organisms.

NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates are not flammable. These materials will float on water.

Storing and Transporting NEODOL Alcohol Ethoxylates

NEODOL alcohol ethoxylates should be stored in stainless steel, epoxy resin or polyester lined tanks; aluminum and copper should be avoided. These products are transported by tank truck, rail car and vessel.

Risk Characterization Summary

Risks associated with exposure to this product have been evaluated for the following “chain-of-commerce” activities: manufacture, storage, product transfer, transportation, and customers/markets. It is manufactured, stored and transported to customers in closed systems. Depending on the customer, end uses may vary from use as an intermediate for the manufacture other chemicals, commercial products, or certain formulated consumer products. Proper equipment design and handling procedures maintain low risk from exposure where used as an intermediate. Exposures may be higher in commercial and consumer applications. To minimize risk, additional controls, such as, special handling procedures and protective packaging are implemented.

This product stewardship summary is intended to give general information about the chemical or categories of chemicals addressed. It is not intended to provide an in-depth discussion of health and safety information. Additional information is available through the chemical’s applicable Safety Data Sheet, which should be consulted before use of the chemical. This product stewardship summary does not supplant or replace required regulatory and/or legal communication documents.

Disclaimer

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