Tripropyleneglycol methylether (TPGME)  
[MethylTRIPROXITOL]  
Product Stewardship Summary  
(CAS number 25498-49-1)

Chemical Formula for TPGME  
C\textsubscript{11}H\textsubscript{24}O\textsubscript{4}

**What is TPGME?**

TPGME is a glycol ether based on propylene oxide and methanol. It is a speciality solvent having a bi-functional nature (ether-alcohol). It is a clear liquid with a mild ether-like odour.

The Shell Chemicals range of propylene oxide-based glycol ethers are sold under the trade name PROXITOL.

**How is TPGME Used?**

It is used as an intermediate and in formulations in industrial, professional or consumer applications, mainly in surface coatings and printing inks and paints, cleaners and agrochemical formulations.

**Health, Safety and Environmental Considerations**

TPGME is not flammable, but a combustible liquid with a flashpoint of 255°F/124 °C.

TPGME is expected to be non-irritating to skin and eyes and does not meet classification according to the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) criteria. TPGME is not classified as a carcinogen or mutagen; it is not expected to cause cancer in humans, nor does it impair fertility or damage the developing fetus.

Occupational exposure limits exist for TPGME in the range of 50–100 ppm.

TPGME is of low toxicity towards aquatic organisms. It is completely soluble with water, biodegradable and not expected to bio-accumulate.

**Storing and Transporting TPGME**

TPGME is transported by tank truck, rail car and vessel, primarily in bulk quantities, but also as packed product. It is not classified as hazardous for transport under transport regulations.

Glycol ethers should be stored at ambient temperatures away from sources of ignition and substances with oxidizing or corrosive properties. PROXITOLs are stabilized with a certain amount of inhibitor to prevent the formation of peroxides.
Risk Characterization Summary

Risks associated with exposure to these products have been evaluated for the following “chain-of-commerce” activities: manufacture, storage, product transfer, transportation, and customers/markets. They are 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, as commercial products or as 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

The information contained in this publication is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate, but any recommendations or suggestions that may be made are without guarantee, since the conditions of use are beyond our control. Furthermore, nothing contained herein shall be construed as a recommendation to use any product in conflict with existing patents covering any material or its use.

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