

Isopropyl Alcohol Product Stewardship Summary

(CAS number 67-63-0)

What is Isopropyl Alcohol?

Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) – also known as 2-propanol or isopropanol – is produced by the hydration of propylene.

How is Isopropyl Alcohol used?

Isopropyl alcohol is used in a variety of applications including as a solvent for industrial processes and coatings; as a component in cleaning, car care and deicing products; as a wetting agent for printing inks and as a feedstock in the manufacture of ester and Mogas/Luboil additives.

Health, Safety and Environmental considerations

IPA is highly flammable and flammable atmospheres can be created at temperatures as low as 12°C. This means that any environment where IPA is being used needs to be well ventilated. It should be kept away from heat and open flame. As the vapour is heavier than air, it may spread along the ground, so care needs to be taken that the vapour is not ignited by a distant source.

Continuous inhalation of very high concentrations of IPA, well in excess of the occupational exposure limits, can result in unconsciousness and death. The effects of swallowing large quantities of IPA are similar to the effects of excessive alcohol intake. This can include narcosis (numbness and stupor), coma or death.

Short-term, high-level exposure to IPA can result in dizziness, drowsiness and/or irritation to the eyes.

Storing and transporting Hydrocarbon Solvents

IPA is transported by marine vessels, road tankers, and railcars. During transport, the product is stored in bulk containers that meet local and international regulated specifications.

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, applications may vary from use as an intermediate for the manufacture of other chemicals, as commercial products or as formulated consumer products. Equipment design and handling procedures ensure exposures, and therefore risks, are low where the product is used as a chemical intermediate. Exposures may be higher in commercial and consumer applications. To minimise 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 [Material 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.



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