SAFETY DATA SHEET
Potassium Hydroxide, Solid

SECTION 1 PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product Name: Caustic Potash, Caustic Potash Flake, Caustic Potash Walnut, Caustic Potash 90%, Caustic Potash Briquettes 90%

Identified Uses: Chemical manufacturing, fertilizer, batteries, soaps

Company Information:
ASHTA Chemicals Inc.
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Fax: (440) 998-0286
24-hour Emergency Phone: CHEMTREC: (800) 424-9300

SECTION 2 HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

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

GHS label elements, including precautionary statements:

Signal Word: Danger

Pictogram(s):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard Statements</th>
<th>Precautionary Statements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H302 Harmful if swallowed.</td>
<td>P260 Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage. Causes serious eye damage.</td>
<td>P264 Wash skin thoroughly after handling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H402 Harmful to aquatic life.</td>
<td>P273 Avoid release to the environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P270 Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P280 Wear protective gloves/eye protection/face protection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P301 + P310 IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTICE: The data and information in this bulletin are to the best of ASHTA Chemicals' knowledge complete, accurate and correct; however, no representations or warranties, written or oral, express or implied, are made by ASHTA Chemicals Inc., as to such data and information or that the goods mentioned herein are suitable for any particular purpose or merchantable, or that such goods are free from any patent infringement. Purchasers should satisfy themselves of the suitability of any such goods for the purpose intended prior to purchase.

Rev. 11/03/2020
SECTION 3 COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Synonyms:
CHEMICAL NAME: Potassium Hydroxide
TRADE NAME: Caustic Potash, Caustic Potash Walnut, Anhydrous
SYNONYMS: Caustic Potash, Potassium Hydrate, Lye, KOH
CONCENTRATION: >90% potassium hydroxide (balance is moisture)

C.A.S: 1310-58-3
WHMIS: D1B, E

CHEMICAL FORMULA: KOH
CHEMICAL FAMILY: Alkali

SECTION 4 FIRST AID MEASURES

Description of first aid measures:
Move out of dangerous area. Consult a physician. Show this safety data sheet to the doctor in attendance.

If inhaled:
If breathed in, move person into fresh air. If breathing is difficult, give humidified air. Give oxygen but only by a certified physician. If breathing stops, provide artificial respiration. Get medical attention immediately.

In case of skin contact:
Immediately take off all contaminated clothing. Wash off IMMEDIATELY with plenty of water for at least 15-20 minutes. Get medical attention. Wash clothing separately before reuse. Destroy or thoroughly clean contaminated shoes.

In case of eye contact:
Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Call a physician or poison control center immediately.
If ingested:
Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Rinse mouth with water. Give plenty of water to drink. Consult a physician.

### SECTION 5  FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flash Point:</td>
<td>Material is not flammable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extinguishing Media:</td>
<td>Use water spray, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Ignition Temp:</td>
<td>Non-combustible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Fire Fighting Procedures:</td>
<td>Wear self-contained breathing apparatus and full protective clothing. In case of fire and/or explosion do not breathe fumes. Move containers from fire area if you can do so without risk. Use water spray to cool unopened containers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unusual Fire/Explosion Hazards:</td>
<td>Reacts with metals (aluminum, brass, copper, zinc, etc.) to generate flammable hydrogen gas, which then may cause fire and explosion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SECTION 6  ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

**Environmental Precautions:**
Do not discharge into drains, water courses or onto the ground.

**Containment and Cleaning:**
Cleanup personnel must wear proper protective equipment. Completely contain spilled material with dikes, sandbags, etc., and prevent any run-off into ground or surface waters or sewers. Recover as much material as possible into containers for disposal. Remaining material may be neutralized with dilute hydrochloric or acetic acid. Neutralization products, both liquid and solid, must be recovered for disposal.

**Waste Control Procedures:**
All disposals of this material must be done in accordance with federal, state and local regulations. Waste characterization and compliance with disposal regulations are the responsibilities of the waste generator.

### SECTION 7  HANDLING AND STORAGE

**Precautions to be taken for handling and storage:**
This material generates considerable amounts of heat when added to water. Storage areas should be free of potential contact with acids, organics and reactive metals. Keep container tightly closed. Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated place. Store in corrosive-resistant container with a resistant inner liner. Store away from incompatible materials. Store at temperatures not exceeding 40°C/104°F. Compatible storage materials may include, but not be limited to, the following: nickel and nickel alloys, steel, plastics, plastic or rubber-lined steel, FRP or Derakane vinyl ester resin.

**Precautions for repair:**
**Equipment:** Only personnel trained and qualified in handling this product should prepare equipment for maintenance. Wash thoroughly with water.
**Other precautions:** Spillage, when wet, can be slippery. Potassium hydroxide is very hygroscopic and will become wet upon sitting in open moist air.

### SECTION 8  EXPOSURE CONTROL/PERSONAL PROTECTION

**Principal Component:** Potassium Hydroxide  
**Occupational Exposure Limits:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>ACGIH TLV</th>
<th>OSHA PEL</th>
<th>15 Minute STEL</th>
<th>NIOSH IDLH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inhalable Particulate</td>
<td>2 mg/m3 (ceiling)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exposure Controls:**  
Eye Protection: Chemical splash goggles and face shield.  
Respiratory Protection: None is normally required; however, if dusting, misting or heavy vapor formation should occur, a NIOSH-approved respirator shall be worn.  
Other Protection: Rubber boots. Rubbers over leather shoes are not recommended. Rubber apron, rainwear or disposal Tyvek suit with hard hat should be worn.  
Ventilation Recommended: Provide adequate ventilation to meet TLV requirements.  
Glove Type Recommended: Rubber, nitrile, neoprene, PVL.  
Additional Information: Safety eyewash/shower stations must be available in the work area.

**Appropriate Engineering Controls:**  
Good general ventilation should be used. Ventilation rates should be matched to conditions. If applicable, use process enclosures, local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls to maintain airborne levels below recommended exposure limits. If exposure limits have not been established, maintain airborne levels to an acceptable level. Eye wash facilities and emergency shower must be available when handling this product.

### SECTION 9  PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

**Information on basic physical and chemical properties:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appearance</td>
<td>Whitish flake, walnut, pieces, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odor</td>
<td>No odor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odor threshold</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>&gt;14 (in aqueous solution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial boiling point</td>
<td>1,320°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flash point</td>
<td>Not flammable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaporation rate</td>
<td>No data available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flammability (solid, gas)</td>
<td>Not flammable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper/lower flammability or explosive limits</td>
<td>Not flammable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autoignition temperature</td>
<td>No data available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water solubility</td>
<td>Very soluble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical state</td>
<td>Solid at room temperature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular weight</td>
<td>56.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melting point</td>
<td>361°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific gravity (water = 1)</td>
<td>2.044 at 15.6°C (60°F)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SECTION 10 STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

**Stability:** Stable under normal condition.

**Conditions to avoid:** Exposure to air can form potassium carbonate.

**Incompatibility:** Organic chemicals, nitrocarbons, halocarbons and certain metals or alloys (aluminum, brass, copper, zinc, etc.). Oxidizing agents, acids. Initiates or catalyzes violent reactions of acetaldehyde, acrolein or acrylonitrile.

**Hazardous decomposition products:** When KOH and certain metals (aluminum, brass, copper, zinc, etc.) react, hydrogen is generated which can be flammable or explosive.

**Polymerization:** Hazardous polymerization will generally not occur.

**Additional Information:** Trichlorethylene will react to form dichloracetylene, which is spontaneously flammable.

### SECTION 11 TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**Information on likely routes of exposure:**

**Skin Contact:** Major potential hazard – Contact with the skin can cause severe burns with deep ulcerations. Contact with solution or mist can cause multiple burns with temporary loss of hair at contact site. Solutions may not cause immediate pain or irritation upon skin contact. Prolonged or repeated contact with dilute solutions may cause drying and cracking of skin and possible skin damage.

**Skin Absorption:** It can penetrate to deeper layers of skin and corrosion will continue until removed. The severity of injury depends on the concentration and the duration of exposure.

**Eye Contact:** Major potential hazard – Liquid in the eye can cause severe destruction and blindness. These effects can occur rapidly affecting all parts of the eye. Mist or dust can cause irritation with high concentrations causing destructive burns.

**Inhalation:** By analogy with sodium hydroxide, inhalation of solution mist is expected to cause mild irritation at 2 mg/m³. More severe burns and tissue damage in the upper respiratory tract can occur at higher concentrations. Pneumonitis can result from severe exposures.

**Ingestion:** Ingestion of potassium hydroxide can cause severe burning and pain in lips, mouth, tongue, throat and stomach. Severe scarring of the throat can occur after swallowing. Death can result from ingestion.
Information on toxicological effects:

Irritancy: A study with a 10% solution showed severe tissue damage when applied to skin for 4 hours.

Sensitization: Not available

Carcinogenicity: Potassium hydroxide is not listed on the IARC, OSHA or NTP carcinogen lists.

Teratogenicity & Mutagenicity: Not available

Reproductive Toxicology: Not available

Toxicological Synergism: Not available

Product Species Test Results:
LD₅₀: 333 mg/kg (oral rat)
LC₅₀: Fresh water mosquito fish: 80.0 mg/L (24 Hours, static)

SECTION 12  ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Ecological Information:
Persistence and degradability: No data is available on the degradability of this product.
Bioaccumulative potential: No data available for this product.
Mobility in soil: Not available.
Other adverse effects: No other adverse environmental effects (e.g., ozone depletion, photochemical ozone creation potential, endocrine disruption, global warming potential) are expected from this component.
Aquatic toxicity: May cause shifts in water pH outside the range of pH 7-9. This change may be toxic to aquatic organisms.

Biodegradability:
Not biodegradable (biodegradability term pertains to an organic material capable of decomposition as a result of attack by microorganisms). However, potassium hydroxide will be neutralized by acidity present in natural environment.

SECTION 13  DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Collect and reclaim or dispose in sealed containers at licensed waste disposal site if possible. Do not allow this material to drain into sewers/water supplies. Do not contaminate ponds, waterways or ditches with chemical or used container. Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local/regional/national/international regulations. Empty containers or liners may retain some product residues.

SECTION 14  TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Shipping:
Usual Shipping Containers: Tank car, tank truck, ABS drums.
Usual Shelf Life: Sealed containers, unlimited.
Storage/Transport Temperatures: Ambient.
Suitable Storage:
Materials/Coatings: Steel, plastic, polyethylene (when dry).
Unsuitable: Aluminum or galvanized containers.

D.O.T. Information:
UN number: 1813
Class: 8
Packing group: II
Proper shipping name: Potassium Hydroxide, solid
Reportable Quantity (RQ): 1000 lbs (100% KOH basis)
Marine pollutant: No
Poison Inhalation Hazard: No

SECTION 15 REGULATORY INFORMATION

SARA 302 Components
SARA 302: Not listed.

SARA 313 Components
SARA 313: Not regulated.

SARA 311/312 Hazards
EPCRA reporting quantities: TQ: 10,000 pounds (100% KOH basis).

Massachusetts Right to Know Components
Potassium Hydroxide CAS#: 1310-58-3

Pennsylvania Right to Know Components
Water CAS#: 7732-18-5
Potassium Hydroxide CAS#: 1310-58-3

New Jersey Right to Know Components
Water CAS#: 7732-18-5
Potassium Hydroxide CAS#: 1310-58-3

California Prop. 65 Components
As the result of the raw materials used in the manufacturing process, this product may contain chemicals at trace levels known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

OSHA PSM TPQ: Not listed

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA):
CAS# 1310-58-3 is listed on the TSCA inventory.

Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Act: (CERCLA)
CAS# 1310-58-3 is listed on the CERCLA list.
SECTION 16 OTHER INFORMATION

NFPA Rating:
Health Hazard: 3
Fire Hazard: 0
Reactivity Hazard: 1

HMIS Rating:
Health Hazard: 3
Chronic Health Hazard:
Flammability: 0
Physical Hazard: 1

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<th>Version</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Revision Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>For the new GHS SDS Standard</td>
<td>2/4/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Graphics updated</td>
<td>3/9/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Description update</td>
<td>4/20/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Changes to Sections 1, 9</td>
<td>7/29/2015</td>
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<td>1.4</td>
<td>Changes to Sections 1</td>
<td>4/15/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Changed P501 text (Section 2)</td>
<td>6/15/2016</td>
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<td>Removed Version, Updated Format</td>
<td>5/16/2018</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Corrected section 2 H301 to H302 Harmful if swallowed, Section 15 changed oral, rat</td>
<td>5/22/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Updated Format</td>
<td>11/03/2020</td>
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