
MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

BC POWDERS (all grades based on Sodium Bicarbonate)

1/ Chemical product and company identification

Trade name: BC POWDERS (all grades based on Sodium Bicarbonate)
Product Application: Fire fighting powder for use on Class B and C fires
Manufacturer / Supplier: **Kerr Fire Fighting Chemicals** Ashcroft Road Knowsley Ind. Park
Kirkby Liverpool L33 7TS ENGLAND
Tel : (44) 151 548 6424 Fax : (44) 151 548 7263

2/ Composition and ingredient information

There are no hazardous components based upon current legislation. Please see section 8 for respirable dust information.

3/ Hazard identification

Not regarded as a health or environmental hazard under current legislation. No known acute health effects when used as intended.

4/ First aid measures

Inhalation: Remove casualty from exposure. Provide rest, warmth and fresh air.
Ingestion: Rinse mouth with water and give plenty of water to drink. Do not induce vomiting.
Skin contact: Wash the skin immediately with soap and water.
Eye contact: Promptly wash eyes with plenty of water while lifting the eye lids. Continue to rinse for at least 15 minutes.

If symptoms persist seek medical advice and treat symptomatically.

5/ Fire fighting measures

No specific measures required as this product is a fire extinguishing medium. If product containers are involved in fire then suitable extinguishing media should be applied.

6/ Accidental release measures

Do not allow to enter public sewers and watercourses. If contamination of drainage systems or watercourses is unavoidable, immediately inform appropriate authorities.

Shovel into dry containers. Cover and move the containers. Vacuum cleaning is recommended to minimise dust formation. Flush the area with water.

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7/ Handling and storage

Handling: When handling this product use suitable containment methods to avoid generation of dust and local exhaust ventilation to limit personal exposure.

Storage: Keep cool and dry in the absence of vibration. Maintain good housekeeping practice.

8/ Exposure controls and personal protection

Ingredient comments: Product contains respirable Silica which has a MEL of 0.3 mg/m³ (8 hour TWA).

Personal protection: Use of gloves, goggles and protective clothing is recommended.

Ventilation: Provide sufficient ventilation for operations causing dust formation.

Respirators : Respiratory protection (P1) must be used if air concentration exceeds acceptable level.

Protective gloves : No specific hand protection noted but gloves may be still advisable. Use protective gloves made of Impermeable material.

Eye protection : Wear approved chemical safety goggles where eye exposure is reasonably probable.



Hygienic work practices : Wash at end of each work shift and before eating, smoking and using toilet.

9/ Physical and chemical properties

Appearance: Fine powder.

Odour: Odourless.

pH 7.5 to 8.5 of 5% solution in water.

Density/Specific Gravity: Settled apparent density 1100 – 1600 kg/m³.

Solubility: Soluble in water but silicon additive delays dissolution.

Flammability: Non-flammable.

Decomposition: at 270°C in flame zone.

10/ Stability and reactivity

Stability : Normally stable.

Conditions to avoid : Avoid contact with acids. Avoid contact with water. Avoid contact with strong oxidisers.

11/ Toxicological properties

Toxic dose – LD 50 : Sodium bicarbonate: 4220 mg/kg (oral rat)
Calcium carbonate : 6450 mg/kg (oral rat)

Ingestion: May cause discomfort if swallowed.

Skin contact: Prolonged or repeated exposure may cause irritation.

Inhalation: Dust may irritate respiratory system or lungs.

Eye contact: Particles in the eyes may cause irritation and smarting.

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12/ Ecological information

Mobility : Soluble in water therefore it could increase the pH if washed into watercourses.
Bioaccumulation : Low potential for bioaccumulation.
Degradability : Not readily biodegradable.
Acute fish toxicity : Not toxic at limit of water solubility.

In the event of large spillage, advise appropriate authority.

13/ Disposal considerations

Disposal methods : Powder or contaminated packaging to be collected, sealed tightly in bags and disposed on approved landfills. Do not dispose with acids.
Waste class : European Waste Catalogue 160304

14/ Transport information

Not classified as hazardous for transport.

15/ Regulatory information

Risk phrases : Not classified.
Safety phrases : S-22 Do not breathe dust.
UK regulatory references : Classification, Packaging and Labelling Regulations 1984. The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988. Chemicals (Hazard Information & Packaging) Regulations 1993.
EU directives : Dangerous Preparations Directive 88\379. System of specific information relating to Dangerous Preparations. 91\155. Safety Data Sheet Directive 2001/58
Statutory instruments : Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging) Regulations. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health.
Approved code of practice : Safety Data Sheets for Substances and Preparations L62. Classification and Labelling of Substances and Preparations Dangerous for Supply.
Guidance notes : Occupational Exposure Limits EH40. CHIP for everyone HSG(108).

16/ Other information

User notes : N/A
Information sources : Croner's: Substances Hazardous to Health. Croner's: Emergency First Aid Guide.
Revision comments : Croner's: Emergency Spillage Guide. Croner's: Dangerous Substances. Due change in company name.
