Dichlorotoluene Mixture

This document provides a brief description of Dichlorotoluene Mixture, its uses, and the potential hazards associated with short and long term exposure. Environmental impact information for accidental releases is included. This information is general in nature and is not intended as a replacement for the safety data sheet (SDS), product label and other safe handling literature. For additional information consult the LANXESS safety data sheet.

Identification

Product Name:	Dichlorotoluene Mixture
Chemical Name:	Benzene, dichloromethyl-
Synonym(s):	Dichloromethylbenzene
CAS Number:	29797-40-8

Description

Overview: Dichlorotoluene Mixture is a clear to yellow, oily liquid at ambient temperatures with a strong, pungent odor.

Uses: Dichlorotoluene Mixture is sold by LANXESS for use as an intermediate or solvent in the manufacture of dyes, pigments, brighteners, pesticides and other products.

Properties:

Melting Point:	253.4°F (123°C)
Boiling Point:	392°F (200°C)
Flash Point:	185°F (85°C)
Solubility in Water:	Slightly
Auto-ignition:	977°F (525°C)

Potential Human Health Effects

Occupational Exposure

Potential for exposure exists during manufacture, at transloading facilities, during transfers to storage or staging areas and during sampling operations. A much lower potential for exposure exists in facilities using the chemical in closed manufacturing processes by trained personnel.

Employee Training

Workers handling Dichlorotoluene Mixture should be trained to implement proper handling procedures and to understand the potential health and physical hazards of this product. A NIOSH approved air-purifying respirator is recommended for transloading, unloading and other operations not contained within a closed system. In addition, LANXESS recommends that goggles, permeation resistant clothing, gloves and foot protection be worn when handling Dichlorotoluene Mixture.

Consumer Exposure

LANXESS does not sell Dichlorotoluene Mixture to the general public.

Short-Term Health Effects

Skin contact may be irritating with symptoms of redness and itching. Eye contact with Dichlorotoluene Mixture vapors is expected to be irritating with symptoms of redness, tearing and stinging. Inhalation may cause respiratory tract irritation with symptoms of coughing, burning, sore throat and runny nose. Ingestion may be irritating to the esophagus or gastrointestinal tract with symptoms of a burning sensation and vomiting. Inhalation and ingestion may cause central nercous system depression.

Inhalation, ingestion or absorption of Dichlorotoluene Mixture in sufficient amounts may result in temporary nervous system effects. Symptoms may include dizziness, headache, numbness, lack of coordination and/or confusion. Extreme cases of overexposure may result in pulmonary edema (a buildup of fluid in the lungs), liver, kidney or heart damage.

Long-Term Health Effects

Repeated or prolonged exposure may cause an allergic reaction in sensitive individuals. Dichlorotoluene Mixture is not defined as a carcinogen, however the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classifies a combined exposure to alpha-chlorinated toluenes and benzoyl chloride as Group 2A, probable human carcinogen.

Physical Hazards

Dichlorotoluene Mixture is a corrosive, combustible liquid. Care should be taken to avoid contact with metals and strong oxidizing agents. Vapors or mist may be a fire and explosion hazard when exposed to high temperature or heat. Heating to decomposition may release hydrochloric acid and other toxic, corrosive or flammable gases. Vapors are heavier than air. Avoid heat, open flames and other potential sources of ignition. Reactions with water (or moist air) and acids may produce hydrogen chloride and other toxic fumes. Do not pressurize.

Potential Environmental Impact

Dichlorotoluene Mixture is readily biodegradable and bioaccumulation is not expected. An accidental release to water will hydrolyze rapidly, but may pose a danger to fish (high toxicity), invertebrates (low toxicity) and other aquatic organisms (low toxicity) prior to degrading.

Conclusion

Under normal conditions of anticipated use as described in this Product Safety Assessment, and if the recommended safe use and handling procedures are followed, Dichlorotoluene Mixture is not expected to pose a significant risk to human health or the environment.

References

IARC Monograph - Chlorinated Toluenes and Benzoyl Chloride, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), World Health Organization

International Chemical Safety Card, International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS)

Safety Data Sheet (SDS), DICHLOROTOLUENE MIXTURE, LANXESS Corporation

MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia, U.S. National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health

ToxNet Hazardous Substances Data Bank, U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Contact Information

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Notices

Use and Application Information