

1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY NAME

Product Information: Fibreglass PTFE coated compression packings

Information about the producer: CARRARA SpA

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2. IDENTIFICATION OF HAZARDS

The product is not subject to classification under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (CLP) as considered "article" in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 REACH. The details of chemical hazards are given in the next paragraph. The toxicological aspects are described in detail in chapter 11. It is necessary to reiterate the fact that glass fibres are not "breathable" since their diameter is greater than 3 µm and it has been demonstrated that they do not cause lung cancer.

Dangers noted:

- Mechanical irritation (itching).
- Formation of breathable fibres.
- Exceptionally likely to cause allergies.

3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON THE COMPONENTS

Chemical name	CAS No -
Glass, oxides and chemicals	65997-17-3
PTFE aqueous dispersion	9002-84-0

The CAS code 65997-17-3 corresponds to the oxides used for the production of glass fibre. The glass yarns used in the manufacture do not contain any substance of the SVHC type (extremely problematic substances). Glass E: glass with low alkaline content; Glass C: glass with high alkaline content and low aluminium oxide content; Sizing: max 3% and generally between 1 and 1.5%. Based on non-reactive polymers, often of natural origin (starches). The dispersion of PTFE CAS 9002-84-0 is based on an inert polymer that does not pose a danger to human health at room temperature and up to decomposition temperature.

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Contact of hazardous decomposition products with the eyes

- immediately rinse with running water for at least 15 minutes
- promptly request a doctor's intervention

Contact of hazardous decomposition products with the skin

- immediately wash with soap and water taking care to rinse between the creases of the skin and under the nails;
- promptly request a doctor's intervention.

Inhalation of hazardous decomposition products

- bring the subject to the open air and possibly give oxygen
- if the subject is not breathing, give artificial respiration, preferably mouth-to-mouth
- promptly request a doctor's intervention and keep under observation for at least 48 hours

5. FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES

Glass fibre products are not combustible. It is a flammable material, which does not favour combustion.

Only the packaging materials are combustible (plastic film, paper, cardboard, wood), as well as a small part of the treatments (e.g. traces of lubrication oils), the combustion of which could emit a small amount of dangerous gases such as CO and CO₂.

Extinction:

all common agents (water, nebulized water, dry fire extinguishers, O₂).

Exposure risks:

risk of formation of toxic pyrolysis products

Additional information: fire residues and contaminated water for extinguishing must be disposed of in accordance with the regulations in force. The decomposition of PTFE instead produces fumes containing fluorinated compounds. The extinction must be addressed with the appropriate respiratory protection.

6. MEASURES IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENTAL RELEASE

Personal precautions

Avoid contact with the eyes and skin. Avoid the formation of dust and if exposed, wear respiratory protection.

Environmental precautions

Special measures are not required – all types of glass fibre residues are considered as **normal industrial waste** or **inert industrial waste**.

Cleaning methods

Extraction, sweeping and collection in containers normally used for waste in accordance with local regulations.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

HANDLING:

It is important to prevent prolonged contact with the skin. Use personal protective devices, as reported in chapter 8.

Prevent and restrict the creation of dust.

In case of dust formation, ensure a suitable extraction system. Equip the processing machinery with a suitable extraction system.

STORAGE:

Technical measures: Observe the recommended stacking method for each type of product. Storage conditions: no special measures are required

Additional information: Store preferably in well-ventilated areas. Do not expose to the sun.

8. LIMITATION OF EXPOSURE/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Additional information on work design

Ensure adequate ventilation of the workplace

Components with exposure limits to be mentioned:

Substances	LTEL [ppm]	LTEL[mg/m ³]	General remarks
glass, oxides and chemicals			
LTEL: Long-term exposure limit			

Limit values for exposure in the workplace:

Even if the infinite glass fibres are not breathable, some mechanical processes can create dust or fibres transportable in the air (see Chapter 11).

Threshold values by-products of thermal decomposition:

HF	TLV/CEILING	2.6 mg/mc	3 ppm
COF₂	TLV/STEL	13.5 mg/mc	5 ppm

Machinery:

Ensure local extraction and/or a ventilation system suitable to maintain very low exposure values.

Personal protection equipment:

Respiratory system:

During the activities in which a high quantity of dust is released, use the authorised dust masks (according to EEC standards), minimum the FP1 type or better FP2.

Skin protection:

To prevent irritation, wear gloves, long-sleeved garments and long working trousers. People with sensitive skin should apply a protective cream to the exposed skin parts.

Eye protection:

Use suitable goggles (or masks), possibly protective goggles.

General measures:

avoid dust inhalation and contact with eyes and skin

Hygiene measures:

wash hands before breaks and after work. Use protective creams.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES	
Form	Solid
Vapour pressure KPa	Not applicable
Colour	Grey/White
Smell	None
pH	Not applicable
Boiling point °C	Not applicable
Flash Point °C	Not applicable
Flammability	Not applicable
Explosive properties	None
Combustion properties	None
Vapour pressure KPa	Not applicable
Density g/cm3	2.6 (molten glass)
Water solubility	Non-miscible
Partition coefficient	Not applicable
Viscosity	Not applicable
Melting point	Not determined - softening of the glass at approx. 850°C
Autoignition temperature	None applicable
Decomposition temperature	Not applicable
10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY	
Possibility of hazardous reactions: No dangerous reactions are known	
Hazardous decomposition products: fluorinated compounds, HF and COF2	

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CAS 65997-17-3

ACUTE TOXICITY : negligible**LOCAL EFFECTS ON HEALTH**: possible temporary irritation

Such irritation has the only mechanical and temporary character. The irritation disappears as soon as the exposure ends. It can affect the skin, eyes and upper part of the respiratory system. In Europe, mechanical irritation is not regarded as a health risk under the European Directive 67/548/EEC on hazardous waste, as stated in the Directive 97/69/EC, which for mineral fibres does not define the need to use Identification Xi (irritant) as well as the classification of continuous glass fibres.

SENSITIVITY: Some allergies to continuous glass fibres have been declared. **LONG-TERM TOXICITY**: glass fibres are not breathable (they do not penetrate the pulmonary alveoli), as the diameter of the fibre exceeds 3 µm.

Legal requirements:

Given the conclusions of the IARC, **glass fibres are not classified as carcinogenic. They are included in Group 3 IARC.** This classification was confirmed by the IARC Working Group during its meeting in October 2001 and in the recent IARC monograph on the assessment of carcinogenic health risks (file 81 on artificial glass substances), published in 2002.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Chemical Safety International Program (CSIP) also reached the same conclusions during the 1987 Congress.

The European Commission Directive 97/69/EC of the 5.12.1997, which is the twenty-third amendment to Directive 67/548/EEC on classification, packaging and identification of hazardous substances, does not consider it appropriate to insert glass fibres in the list of substances with carcinogenic risks.

The OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the NTP - U.S. National Toxicology Program, official organizations of the United States, do not mention glass fibre products as hazardous substances and the ACGIH - American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists has classified such products as A4 (substances not classified as human carcinogens). Furthermore, these products are not classified by the Canadian regulation for products subject to regulation (CPR).

MUTAGENIC AND TERATOGENIC RISKS AND REPRODUCTION RISKS: no known risks

CAS 9002-84-0

ACUTE TOXICITY:

Under normal conditions of use, they do not exist or are not foreseen.

Inhalation of the thermal decomposition fumes of fluorinated polymers may cause, after a period of latency of a few hours, the appearance of flu-like symptoms (headache, tremor, high fever, chills and deep sweating), especially smoking contaminated tobacco; risk of major damage, in the case of prolonged exposures. The surfactants components of the preparation can be absorbed through the skin; they can be harmful by ingestion; if inhaled they can cause lung damage (chemical pneumonia).

LOCAL EFFECTS ON HEALTH:

Prolonged or repeated exposure may cause irritation in contact with skin, moderate or severe corneal injury, moderate or severe irritation; decomposition products can cause burns to skin, eyes and mucous membranes.

LONG-TERM TOXICITY:

IARC assessment on Politetrafluoroethylene: Group 3 (Substances that can not be classified as human carcinogens). Do not report evidence of this effect evaluated by governmental bodies or national and international official bodies in relation to Mutagenesis and Reprotoxicity.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No adverse effects of products on animals, including fish, or on vegetables, have been found.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Residues of glass fibres, in accordance with local rules, may be regarded as inert waste or normal industrial waste. As such, they can be deposited in approved landfills for these materials. Small quantities can be disposed of together with municipal waste. Uncontaminated packaging can be recycled.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

International transport standards (IMDG, ADR/RID, ICAO/IATA, DOT, TDG, MEX) do not consider the glass fibres as hazardous goods.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Glass fibre products do not require identification for hazardous products. No particular labelling is foreseen according to EC regulations.

Glass fibre products are objects and as such in most countries should not be highlighted in the special lists. In Europe, it is the EINECS list, in the USA, the ELINCS, TSCA lists, in Canada the DSL and NDSL lists, in Japan the CSCL, in Australia the AICS list, in the Philippines the PICCS list, in South Korea the KECL list, etc.

16. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The current information provided is based on the best knowledge on the date reported. In addition, we inform the user of any risks in the case of use of the product for purposes other than those intended.