



HANDLING AND STORAGE OF EPOXY RESINS

Handling

When using and/or handling epoxy resins or any chemical, a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) should be obtained and reviewed. The MSDS contains instructions, precautions, recommendations, and possible hazard potentials with the use of that material. Anyone who is expected to use, handle, or have exposure to the material should review and understand the instructions and recommendations contained with the MSDS.

The base component in most common epoxy resins are a reaction product of Epichlorohydrin and Bisphenol A or Bisphenol F. Epoxy Resin Formulations usually contain other components such as reactive diluents, solvents, fillers, pigments, and other additives, which contribute to the system's physical properties. Hazards associated with epoxy resin formulations will depend on the hazardous properties of its components and amounts associated within the formulation. Epoxy resins can have hazardous properties but are generally safe to use when handled properly.

Most epoxy resins are considered and classified as "Irritants". They are usually considered as mild to moderate irritants to the eye, skin, and mucous membranes. Epoxy resins are dermal sensitizers with increased irritant potential with prolonged exposure to the skin. Due to the "sticky" nature of epoxy resins, Dermal Exposure is the most likely route of exposure. Individuals with dermal sensitivity may have an increased susceptibility.

Personal protective equipment such as gloves, eye protection, protective clothing, and respirators should be considered before handling epoxy resins. There are many types of personal equipment, which offer various safety benefits. The determination of the correct protective equipment is dependent on the hazards present during the application. Once the hazards are identified, personal protective equipment should be selected which will minimize exposure and allow maximum protection.

Storage

Two component epoxy resin systems should be stored between 65°F - 90°F. Refrigeration will not enhance the storage stability of two component epoxy resin systems. Most two-component epoxy resin systems are naturally susceptible to crystallization, especially at temperatures below the recommended storage temperatures.

Containers should be stored in clean dry areas with adequate ventilation. Do not store near sources of heat. All lids should be securely fastened to prevent foreign matter contamination and moisture entry.

IMPORTANT:

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