



Section 01 Identification

Product Identifier	Laundry Buffer
Other Means of Identification	Not available
Product Use and Restrictions on Use	pH reducer and stabilizer, laundry sour
Initial Supplier Identifier	Advance Chemicals Ltd 1500 Quebec Avenue Saskatoon, SK. Canada S7K 1V7 Phone: 800.387.7503 Fax: 888.281.8109 www.cleartech.ca
Prepared By	ClearTech Industries Inc. technical writer
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Section 02 Hazard Identification

Physical Hazards

Flammable liquid Category 4

Health Hazards

Skin corrosion / irritation Category 1B

Serious eye damage / eye irritation Category 1

Signal Word

Danger

Hazard Statements

H227 Combustible liquid.

H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

Pictograms



Precautionary Statements

Prevention

P210 Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking.

P260 Do not breathe vapours, fumes, or mists.

P264 Wash affected body parts thoroughly after handling.

P280 Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, eye protection, face protection

Response

P301 P330 P331 IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.

P303 P361 P353 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water or shower. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.
P363

P304 P340 P310 IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor.

P305 P351 P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

Storage

P403 Store in a well-ventilated place.

P405 Store locked up.

Disposal

P501 Dispose of contents / container in accordance with all federal, provincial and / or local regulations including the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.

Hazards Not Otherwise Classified

Not available

Supplemental Information

Not available

Section 03 Composition / Information on Ingredients

Hazardous Ingredients:

Chemical name	Common name(s)	CAS number	Concentration (w/w%)
Formic acid	Formic acid	64-18-6	10-30%*

*Exact concentration withheld as a trade secret.

Section 04 First-Aid Measures

Description of necessary first-aid measures

Inhalation Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so. Remove source of exposure or move person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. Call a POISON CENTER or doctor. If breathing has stopped, trained personnel should begin rescue breathing or if the heart has stopped, immediately start cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or automated external defibrillation (AED). Avoid mouth to mouth contact by using a barrier device.

Ingestion Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor. If vomiting occurs naturally, lie on your side, in the recovery position.

Skin contact Avoid direct contact. Wear chemical protective clothing, if necessary. Take off immediately contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods. Rinse skin with lukewarm, gently flowing water / shower for 30 minutes. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor. Wash contaminated clothing before re-use, or discard.

Eye contact Avoid direct contact. Wear chemical protective gloves, if necessary. Remove source of exposure or move person to fresh air. Rinse eyes cautiously with lukewarm, gently flowing water for several minutes, while holding the eyelids open. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing for 30 minutes. Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto the face. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor.

Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

Inhalation	Causes severe burns to the mouth and throat (mist).
Ingestion	Causes burns to the mouth and throat.
Skin contact	Causes severe skin burns.
Eye contact	Causes serious eye damage.
Further information	For further information see Section 11 Toxicological Information.

Section 05 Fire Fighting Measures

Suitable extinguishing media	Extinguish fire using extinguishing agents suitable for the surrounding fire.
Unsuitable extinguishing media	Water jets are not recommended in fires involving chemicals.
Specific hazards arising from the chemical	Combustible liquid. In the event of a fire oxides of carbon may be released.
Special protective equipment for fire-fighters	Wear NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus and chemical-protective clothing.

Section 06 Accidental Release Measures

Personal Precautions / Protective Equipment / Emergency Procedures	Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (See Section 08 Exposure Controls and Personal Protection). Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking. Stay upwind, ventilate area. Do not breathe vapours, fumes, or mists.
Environmental Precautions	Prevent material from entering waterways, sewers or confined spaces. Notify local health and wildlife officials. Notify operators of nearby water intakes.
Methods and Materials for Containment and Cleaning Up	SMALL SPILLS: Stop or reduce leak if safe to do so. Clean up spill with non-reactive absorbent and place in suitable, covered, labeled containers. Flush area with water. Contaminated absorbent material may pose the same hazards as the spilled product. Use vented containers to avoid pressure buildup. LARGE SPILLS: Contact fire and emergency services and supplier for advice.

Section 07 Handling and Storage

Precautions for Safe Handling	Use proper equipment for lifting and transporting all containers. Use sensible industrial hygiene and housekeeping practices. Wash thoroughly after handling. Avoid all situations that could lead to harmful exposure. Prevent the release of vapours, fumes, or mists into the workplace air. Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking. Inspect containers for damage or leaks before handling. If the original label is damaged or missing replace with a workplace label. Have suitable emergency equipment for fires, spills and leaks readily available. Never return contaminated material to its original container.
Conditions for Safe Storage	Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area, out of direct sunlight, away from heat sources and incompatible materials. Always store in original labeled container. Keep containers tightly closed when not in use and when empty. Empty containers may contain hazardous residues. Protect label and keep it visible.
Incompatibilities	Bases, such as potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide (slaked lime), ammonia, carbonates. Amines, non-coated metals and base metals.

Section 08 Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

Exposure limits

Component	Regulation	Type of listing	Value
Formic acid	ACGIH	TWA	5 ppm (9 mg/m ³)
	ACGIH	STEL/Ceiling	10 ppm (18 mg/m ³)

Engineering controls

Ventilation Requirements Mechanical ventilation (dilution or local exhaust), process or personnel enclosure and control of process conditions should be provided in accordance with all fire codes and regulatory requirements. Supply sufficient replacement air to make up for air removed by exhaust systems.

Other An emergency shower and eyewash station should be available, tested, and be in close proximity to the product being handled in accordance with provincial regulations.

Protective equipment

The following are recommendations only. It is the responsibility of the employer / user to conduct a hazard assessment of the process in which this product being used and determine the proper engineering controls and PPE for their process. Additional regulatory and safety information should be sought from local authorities and, if needed, a professional industrial hygienist.

Eye and face protection Where there is potential eye or face exposure, tightly fitting safety goggles and a face shield or a full face respirator or similar protective equipment which protects the wearer's face and eyes are recommended. Contact lenses are not recommended; they may contribute to severe eye injury.

Hand and body protection Disposable latex or nitrile gloves are recommended to prevent incidental contact. Butyl rubber, neoprene, or PVC skin protection is recommended for extended contact. Leather gloves are not recommended for chemical protection. Refer to manufacturer's specifications for breakthrough times and permeability information; note that breakthrough times and permeability vary with temperature, application and age of material. Continued use of contaminated safety gear or clothing is not recommended; wash before reuse or discard.

Respiratory protection In case of insufficient ventilation wear suitable respiratory equipment.

NIOSH respirator recommendations for: Formic acid

Up to: 30 ppm

(APF = 10) Any supplied-air respirator

(APF = 50) Any self-contained breathing apparatus with a full facepiece.

Emergency or planned entry into unknown concentrations or IDLH conditions:

(APF = 10,000) Any self-contained breathing apparatus that has a full facepiece and is operated in a pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode

(APF = 10,000) Any supplied-air respirator that has a full facepiece and is operated in a pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode in combination with an auxiliary self-contained positive-pressure breathing apparatus

Escape:

(APF = 50) Any air-purifying, full-facepiece respirator with an N100, R100, or P100 filter.

Thermal hazards Not available

Section 09 Physical and Chemical Properties

Appearance

Physical state	Liquid
Colour	Clear, colourless
Odour	Pungent, penetrating
Odour threshold	21 ppm

Property

pH	1.5-2.5
Melting point / freezing point	~0 °C
Initial boiling point and boiling range	~100 °C
Flash point	Not available
Evaporation rate	2.1 (butyl acetate = 1)
Flammability	Not applicable
Upper flammable limit	47.6%
Lower flammable limit	14.3%
Vapour pressure	42.71 hPa @ 20 °C
Vapour density	1.6
Relative density	Not applicable
Solubility	Miscible in water
Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water	log Kow = -0.54
Auto-ignition temperature	528 °C
Decomposition temperature	Not available
Viscosity	Not available
Specific gravity	~1.05 g/mL

Section 10 Stability and Reactivity

Reactivity	Combustible liquid. Reacts violently with bases.
Stability	This product is stable if stored according to the recommendations in Section 07.
Possibility of hazardous reactions	Hazardous polymerization is not known to occur.
Conditions to avoid	Avoid contact with incompatible materials. Do not heat.
Incompatible materials	Bases, such as potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide (slaked lime), ammonia, carbonates. Amines, non-coated metals and base metals.
Hazardous decomposition products	Thermal decomposition may produce oxides of carbon.

Section 11 Toxicological Information

Acute Toxicity (LD50 / LC50 values)

Safety Data Sheet

Laundry Buffer
Advance Chemicals Ltd

Component	Route	Species	Value	Exposure time
Acute Toxicity Estimate	Oral	Rat	>5,000 mg/kg	
	Inhalation (vapours)	Rat	78 mg/L	4 hours
	Dermal	Rat	>2,000 mg/kg	

Toxic Health Effect Summary

Chemical characteristics	Formic acid may be absorbed via the oral, dermal, and inhalation routes of exposure. Local toxicity may be seen due to its corrosivity. Systemically, formic acid will be present as the formate anion at physiological pH-values. Formate is metabolised by hepatic folate-dependent reactions and does not accumulate. Formate blood levels are generally low. Levels may be high during poisoning, e.g. with formate salts or methanol, because the limited human formate metabolism capacity may be exceeded. Systemic toxicity (acidosis and related metabolic disorders; photoreceptor damage) may then occur.
Skin	Causes severe skin burns.
Ingestion	Causes burns to the mouth and throat.
Inhalation	Causes severe burns to the mouth and throat (mist).
Eye contact	Causes serious eye damage.
Sensitization	This product and its components at their listed concentration have no known sensitizing effects.
Mutagenicity	This product and its components at their listed concentration have no known mutagenic effects.
Carcinogenicity	This product and its components at their listed concentration have no known carcinogenic effects.
Reproductive toxicity	This product and its components at their listed concentration have no known reproductive effects.
Specific organ toxicity	This product and its components at their listed concentration have no known effects on specific organs.
Aspiration hazard	Not available
Synergistic materials	Not available

Section 12 Ecological Information

Ecotoxicity

Component	Type	Species	Value	Exposure Time
Formic acid	LC50	Freshwater fish	130 mg/L	96 hours
	LC 50	Marine water fish	1700 mg/L	96 hours
	EC50	fresh and marine water algae	1000 mg/L	72 hours
	EC50	freshwater invertebrates	365 mg/L	48 hours
Biodegradability	The domestic substance list categorizes formic acid as non-persistent.			
Bioaccumulation	The domestic substance list categorizes formic acid as non-bioaccumulative.			
Mobility	This product is water soluble, is not predicted to adsorb to soil and may contaminate ground water. This product will evaporate and may be spread via wind.			
Other adverse effects	Not available			

Section 13 Disposal Considerations

Waste From Residues / Unused Products	Dispose in accordance with all federal, provincial, and local regulations including the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.
Contaminated Packaging	Do not remove label, follow label warnings even after the container is empty. Empty containers should be recycled or disposed of at an approved waste handling facility.

Section 14 Transport Information

UN number	UN3412
UN proper shipping name and description	FORMIC ACID with not less than 10% but not more than 85% acid by mass
Transport hazard class(es)	8
Packing group	II
Excepted quantities	1 L
Environmental hazards	Not listed as a marine pollutant under Canadian TDG Regulations, schedule III.
Special precautions	No special provisions
Transport in bulk	ERAP index: not available
	MARPOL 73/78 and IBC Code:
	Product name: Formic acid (85% or less acid)
	Pollution category: Y
	Hazards: the product is included in the Code because of both its safety and pollution hazards.
	Ship type: ship type 3
	Tank type: integral gravity tank
	Tank vents: controlled venting
	Tank environmental control: no special requirements under this Code
	Temperature classes no requirements
	Electrical equipment: Apparatus group no requirements
	Flash point flashpoint exceeding 60 °C
	Gauging: restricted gauging
	Vapour detection: toxic vapours
	Fire protection: alcohol-resistant foam or multi-purpose foam
	Emergency equipment see 14.3.1
	Specific and operational requirements 15.11.2, 15.11.3, 15.11.4, 15.11.6, 15.11.7, 15.11.8, 15.12.3, 15.12.4, 15.19.6, 16.2.9
Additional information	Secure containers (full or empty) during shipment and ensure all caps, valves, or closures are secured in the closed position.

TDG PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION: This product has been classified on the preparation date specified at section 16 of this SDS, for transportation in accordance with the requirements of part 2 of the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations. If applicable, testing and published test data regarding the classification of this product are listed in the references at section 16 of this SDS.

Section 15 Regulatory Information.

NOTE: THE PRODUCT LISTED ON THIS SAFETY DATA SHEET HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HAZARD CRITERIA OF THE CANADIAN HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS REGULATIONS. THIS SAFETY DATA SHEET CONTAINS ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THOSE REGULATIONS.

All components of this product appear on the domestic substance list.

Formic acid is listed in the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI). Reporting threshold: 10 tonnes manufactured, processed or otherwise used. Formic acid is a volatile organic compound.

Section 16 Other Information

Date of latest revision: October 09, 2020

Note: The responsibility to provide a safe workplace remains with the buyer / user. The buyer / user should consider the health hazards and safety information contained herein as a guide and should take those precautions required in an individual operation to instruct employees and develop work practice procedures for a safe work environment. The information contained herein is, to the best of our knowledge and belief, accurate. However, since the conditions of handling and use are beyond our control, we make no guarantee of results, and assume no liability for damages incurred by the use of this material. It is the responsibility of the buyer / user to comply with all applicable laws and regulations regarding handling, using, reselling and shipping this product.

Attention: Receiver of the chemical goods / SDS coordinator

As part of our commitment to the RDC Responsible Distribution® initiative, ClearTech Industries Inc. and its associated companies require, as a condition of sale, that you forward the attached Safety Data Sheet(s) to all affected employees, customers, and end-users. ClearTech will send any available supplementary handling, health, and safety information to you at your request.

If you have any questions or concerns please call our customer service center.

References:

- 1) CHEMINFO
- 2) TOXNET
- 3) eChemPortal
- 4) ECHA
- 5) Transportation of Dangerous Goods Canada
- 6) HSDB
- 7) PAN