# MSDS CAUSTIC SODA FLAKES

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SAUDI FACTORY FOR CHLORINE & ALKALIES

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Approved by: General Manager  Author: Plant Manager  Dev. Date: 05-03-13
Issued To: All Concerned
Title: Material Safety Data Sheet Caustic Soda Flakes

MSDS CAUSTIC SODA FLAKES

SECTION 1: CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT IDENTIFIER: SODIUM HYDROXIDE, FLAKE (F-NaOH)
RECOMMENDED USAGE: NEUTRALIZING AGENT, INDUSTRIAL CLEANER, PULPING AND BLEACHING, CATALYST

MANUFACTURER:
Saudi Factory for Chlorine & Alkalies
PO Box 262000 Riyadh 11342
Tel: +966 11 810 1219
Fax: +966 11 415 5198
Contact Department: Logistics Department
EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: +966 554 098 650

SECTION 2: COMPOSITION, INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Synonyms: Caustic soda flakes; sodium hydroxide solid; sodium hydrate
CAS No.: 1310-73-2
Molecular Weight: 40.00
Chemical Formula: NaOH

SECTION 3: HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Emergency Overview:
POISON! DANGER! CORROSIVE, MAY BE FATAL IF SWALLOWED. HARMFUL IF INHALED. CAUSES BURNS TO ANY AREA OF CONTACT. REACTS WITH WATER, ACIDS AND OTHER MATERIALS.

NFPA Rating:
Health Rating: 3 - Severe (Poison)
Flammability Rating: 0 - None
Reactivity Rating: 2 - Moderate
Contact Rating: 4 - Extreme (Corrosive)
Lab Protective Equip: GOGGLES; LAB COAT; VENT HOOD; PROPER GLOVES
Storage Color Code: White Stripe (Store Separately)

Potential Health Effects
Inhalation:
Severe irritant. Effects from inhalation of dust or mist vary from mild irritation to serious damage of the
upper respiratory tract, depending on severity of exposure. Symptoms may include sneezing, sore throat or runny nose. Severe pneumonitis may occur.

**Ingestion:**
Corrosive! Swallowing may cause severe burns of mouth, throat, and stomach. Severe scarring of tissue and death may result. Symptoms may include bleeding, vomiting, diarrhea, fall in blood pressure. Damage may appear days after exposure.

**Skin Contact:**
Corrosive! Contact with skin can cause irritation or severe burns and scarring with greater exposures.

**Eye Contact:**
Corrosive! Causes irritation of eyes, and with greater exposures it can cause burns that may result in permanent impairment of vision, even blindness.

**Chronic Exposure:**
Prolonged contact with dilute solutions or dust has a destructive effect upon tissue.

**Aggravation of Pre-existing Conditions:**
Persons with pre-existing skin disorders or eye problems or impaired respiratory function may be more susceptible to the effects of the substance.

### SECTION 4: FIRST AID MEASURES

**Inhalation:**
Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Call a physician.

**Ingestion:**
DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING! Give large quantities of water or milk if available. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical attention immediately.

**Skin Contact:**
Immediately flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Call a physician, immediately. Wash clothing before reuse.

**Eye Contact:**
Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, lifting lower and upper eyelids occasionally. Get medical attention immediately.

**Note to Physician:**
Perform endoscopy in all cases of suspected sodium hydroxide ingestion. In cases of severe esophageal corrosion, the use of therapeutic doses of steroids should be considered. General supportive measures with continual monitoring of gas exchange, acid-base balance, electrolytes, and fluid intake are also required.
SECTION 5: FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Fire:
Not considered to be a fire hazard. Hot or molten material can react violently with water. Can react with certain metals, such as aluminum, to generate flammable hydrogen gas.

Explosion:
Not considered to be an explosion hazard.

Fire Extinguishing Media:
Use any means suitable for extinguishing surrounding fire. Adding water to caustic solution generates large amounts of heat.

Special Information:
In the event of a fire, wear full protective clothing and NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus with full face piece operated in the pressure demand or other positive pressure mode.

SECTION 6: ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Ventilate area of leak or spill. Keep unnecessary and unprotected people away from area of spill. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment. Spills: Pick up and place in a suitable container for reclamation or disposal, using a method that does not generate dust. Do not flush caustic residues to the sewer. Residues from spills can be diluted with water, neutralized with dilute acid such as acetic, hydrochloric or sulfuric. Absorb neutralized caustic residue on clay, vermiculite or other inert substance and package in a suitable container for disposal.

SECTION 7: HANDLING AND STORAGE

Keep in a tightly closed container. Protect from physical damage. Store in a cool, dry, ventilated area away from sources of heat, moisture and incompatibilities. Always add the caustic to water while stirring; never the reverse. Containers of this material may be hazardous when empty since they retain product residues (dust, solids); observe all warnings and precautions listed for the product. Do not store with aluminum or magnesium. Do not mix with acids or organic materials.

SECTION 8: EXPOSURE CONTROLS, PERSONAL PROTECTION

Airborne Exposure Limits:
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL): 2 mg/m³ Ceiling
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV): 2 mg/m³ Ceiling
Ventilation System:
A system of local and/or general exhaust is recommended to keep employee exposures below the Airborne Exposure Limits. Local exhaust ventilation is generally preferred because it can control the emissions of the contaminant at its source, preventing dispersion of it into the general work area. Please refer to the ACGIH document, *Industrial Ventilation, A Manual of Recommended Practices*, most recent edition, for details.

Personal Respirators (NIOSH Approved):
If the exposure limit is exceeded, a half-face dust/mist respirator may be worn for up to ten times the exposure limit or the maximum use concentration specified by the appropriate regulatory agency or respirator supplier, whichever is lowest. A full-face piece dust/mist respirator may be worn up to 50 times the exposure limit, or the maximum use concentration specified by the appropriate regulatory agency, or respirator supplier, whichever is lowest. For emergencies or instances where the exposure levels are not known, use a full-face piece positive-pressure, air-supplied respirator. WARNING: Air-purifying respirators do not protect workers in oxygen-deficient atmospheres.

Skin Protection:
Wear impervious protective clothing, including boots, gloves, lab coat, apron or coveralls, as appropriate, to prevent skin contact.

Eye Protection:
Use chemical safety goggles and/or a full face shield where splashing is possible. Maintain eye wash fountain and quick-drench facilities in work area.

### SECTION 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

**PHYSICAL STATE:** Flake  
**COLOR:** white  
**CHANGE IN APPEARANCE:** hygroscopic  
**ODOR:** odorless  
**ODOR THRESHOLD:** Not available  
**MOLECULAR FORMULA:** NaOH
SAUDI FACTORY FOR CHLORINE & ALKALIES

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MOLECULAR WEIGHT: 40.00
PH: 14 (5% solution)
MELTING POINT: 604 F (318 C)
BOILING POINT: 2534 F (1390 C)
FLASH POINT: Not available
EVAPORATION RATE: Not applicable
FLAMMABILITY (solid, gas): Not available
VAPOR PRESSURE: 100 mmHg @ 1111 C
VAPOR DENSITY: Not applicable
RELATIVE GRAVITY (water=1): 2.130
SOLUBILITY IN WATER: VERY soluble (111 g/100 mL at 20 º C(68˚F))
SOLVENT SOLUBILITY:
Soluble: alcohol, glycerol
Insoluble: acetone, ether
PARTITION COEFFICIENT n-octanol / water: Not available
AUTO-IGNITION TEMPERATURE: Not available
DECOMPOSITION TEMPERATURE: Not available

SECTION 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

CHEMICAL STABILITY:
Stable at room temperature. Rapidly absorbs carbon dioxide from the air, forming sodium carbonate. Slowly absorbs moisture from the air
POSSIBILITY OF HAZARDOUS REACTIONS:
REACTIVITY: May react with evolution of heat on contact with water.
CONDITIONS TO AVOID: Water, moisture, and air. Dangerous gases may accumulate in confined spaces. May ignite or explode on contact with combustible materials.
INCOMPATIBILITIES: combustible materials, acids, halo carbons, metals, halogens, oxidizing materials, peroxides, metal salts
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS: Thermal decomposition; SODIUM OXIDE
POLYMERIZATION: Will not polymerize. However, it can induce hazardous polymerization of acetaldehyde, acrolein, and acrylonitrile.

SECTION 11: TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

IRRITATION DATA:
1 percent/24 hour(s) eyes-monkey severe; 500 mg/24 hour(s) skin-rabbit severe; 400 ug eyes-rabbit mild; 1 percent eyes-rabbit severe; 50 ug/24 hour(s) eyes-rabbit severe; 1 mg/24 hour(s) eyes-rabbit severe; 1 mg/30 second(s) rinsed eyes-rabbit severe
**MSDS CAUSTIC SODA FLAKES**

**TOXICITY DATA:**
1350 mg/kg skin-rabbit LD$_{50}$; 104-340 mg/kg oral-rat LD$_{50}$; 40 mg/kg intra peritoneal-mouse LD$_{50}$; 500 mg/kg oral-rabbit LD$_{Lo}$

**LOCAL EFFECTS:**
Corrosive: inhalation, skin, eye, ingestion

**ACUTE TOXICITY LEVEL:**
Toxic: ingestion
Moderately Toxic: dermal absorption

**MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE:** eye disorders, skin disorders and allergies

**MUTAGENIC DATA:**
Cytogenetic analysis - grasshopper parenteral 20 mg; cytogenetic analysis hamster lung 10 mmol/L; Cytogenetic analysis - hamster ovary 16 mmol/L

**HEALTH EFFECTS:**

**INHALATION:**
**ACUTE EXPOSURE:** Effects due to inhalation of dusts or mist may vary from mild irritation of the nose at 2 mg/m$^3$ to severe pneumonitis depending on the severity of exposure. Low concentrations may cause mucous membrane irritation with sore throat, coughing, and dyspnea. Intense exposures may result in destruction of mucous membranes and delayed pulmonary edema or pneumonitis. Shock may occur.

**CHRONIC EXPOSURE:** Prolonged exposures to high concentrations of dusts or mists may cause discomfort and ulceration of the nasal passages. Repeated exposures of 5000 mg/L were harmless to rats, but 10,000 mg/L led to nervousness, sore eyes, diarrhea and retarded growth. Rats exposed 30 minutes/day to unmeasured concentrations of sodium hydroxide aerosols suffered pulmonary damage after 2-3 months. Death occurred in 2 of 10 rats exposed to an aerosol of 40% aqueous sodium hydroxide for 30 minutes, twice a week for 3 weeks. Histopathological examination showed mostly normal lung tissue with foci of enlarged alveolar septae, emphysema, bronchial ulceration, and enlarged lymph adenoidal tissues. An epidemiologic study of 291 workers chronically exposed to caustic dusts for 30 years or more found no significant increase in mortality in relation to duration or intensity of such exposures.

**INGESTION:**
**ACUTE EXPOSURE:** The reported lethal dose in rats is 140-340 mg/kg. Ingestion may cause a burning sensation in the mouth, corrosion of the lips, mouth, tongue and pharynx, and severe esophageal and abdominal pain, vomiting of blood and large pieces of mucosa, and bloody diarrhea. Asphyxia can occur from swelling of the throat. Mediastinitis, alkalemia, pallor, weak, slow pulse, cardiovascular collapse, shock, coma and death may occur. Perforation of the alimentary tract and constrictive scarring may result. Esophageal stricture may occur weeks, months, or even years later to make swallowing difficult. The estimated fatal dose in man is 5 grams. Cases of
squamous cell carcinoma of the esophagus have occurred with latent periods of 12 to 42 years after ingestion. These cancers were believed to be sequela of tissue destruction and possibly scar formation rather than the result of direct carcinogenic action of sodium hydroxide.

**CHRONIC EXPOSURE:** Depending on the concentration, repeated ingestion of alkaline substances may result in inflammatory and ulcerative effects on the oral mucous membranes and other effects as with acute ingestion.

**SKIN CONTACT:**

**ACUTE EXPOSURE:** Upon contact with the skin, damage including redness, cutaneous burns, skin tissues and white eschars may occur without immediate pain. Exposure to solutions as weak as 0.03 N (0.12%) for 1 hour has caused injury to healthy skin. With solutions of 0.4-4%, irritation does not occur until after several hours. Solutions of 25-50% caused no sensation of irritation within 3 minutes in human subjects. Skin biopsies from human subjects having 1 N sodium hydroxide applied to their arms for 15 to 180 minutes showed progressive changes beginning with dissolution of the cells in the horny layer and progressing through edema to total destruction of the epidermis in 60 minutes. A 5% aqueous solution caused severe necrosis to the skin of rabbits when applied for 4 hours. Alkalies penetrate the skin slowly. The extent of injury depends on the duration of contact. If sodium hydroxide is not removed from the skin, severe burns with deep ulceration may occur. Exposure to the dust or mist may cause multiple small burns and temporary loss of hair. Pathologic findings due to alkalies may include gelatinous, necrotic areas at the site of contact.

**CHRONIC EXPOSURE:** Effects are dependent upon concentration and duration of exposure. Dermatitis or effects similar to those for acute exposure may occur.

**EYE CONTACT:**

**ACUTE EXPOSURE:** Contact may cause disintegration and sloughing of conjunctival and corneal epithelium, corneal opacification, marked edema and ulceration. After 7 to 13 days either gradual recovery begins or there is progression of ulceration and corneal opacification. Complications of severe eye burns are symblepharon with overgrowth of the cornea by a vascularized membrane, progressive or recurrent corneal ulceration and permanent corneal opacification. Blindness may occur.

**CHRONIC EXPOSURE:** Effects are dependent upon concentration and duration of exposure. Conjunctivitis or effects similar to those for acute exposure may occur.

**SECTION 12: ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

**ECOTOXICITY:**

**FISH TOXICITY:** 240 ug/L 96 hour(s) LC50 (Mortality) Bluegill (Lepomismacrochirus)

**INVERTEBRATE TOXICITY:** 330000-1000000 ug/L 48 hour(s) LC50 (Mortality) Cockle (Cerastoderma edule)

**ALGAL TOXICITY:** 765 ug/L 30 day(s) (Biomass) Algae, phytoplankton, algal mat (Algae)

**PHYTOTOXICITY:** 230 ug/L 21 week(s) (Biomass) Waterweed (Elodea Canadensis)

**FATE AND TRANSPORT:**

**BIOCONCENTRATION:**

1066 ug/L 32 hour(s) BCF (Residue) Fathead minnow (Pimephales promelas) 3.1 ug/L
ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY: Highly toxic to aquatic life.

SECTION 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Review federal, state and local government requirements prior to disposal. Do not dispose of waste with normal garbage, or to sewer systems. Whatever cannot be saved for recovery or recycling, including containers, should be managed in an appropriate and approved waste disposal facility. Processing, use or contamination of this product may change the waste management options.

SECTION 14: TRANSPORT INFORMATION

U.S. DOT 49 CFR 172.101:
PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Sodium hydroxide, solid
ID NUMBER: UN1823
HAZARD CLASS OR DIVISION: 8
PACKING GROUP: II

CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS: No classification assigned.

LAND TRANSPORT ADR/RID:
PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Sodium hydroxide, solid
UN NUMBER: UN1823
ADR/RID CLASS: 8
CLASSIFICATION CODE: C6
PACKING GROUP: II

AIR TRANSPORT IATA/ICAO:
PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Sodium hydroxide, solid
UN/ID NUMBER: UN1823
IATA/ICAO CLASS: 8
PACKING GROUP: II

MARITIME TRANSPORT IMDG:
PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Sodium hydroxide, solid
UN NUMBER: UN1823
IMDG CLASS: 8
PACKING GROUP: II
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SECTION 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. REGULATIONS:
CERCLA SECTIONS 102a/103 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (40 CFR 302.4): 1000 LBS RQ
SARA TITLE III SARA SECTIONS 311/312 HAZARDOUS CATEGORIES (40 CFR 370.21):
ACUTE: Yes
CHRONIC: No
FIRE: No
REACTIVE: Yes
SUDDEN RELEASE: No

CANADIAN REGULATIONS:
WHMIS CLASSIFICATION: Not determined.

EUROPEAN REGULATIONS:
EC CLASSIFICATION (ASSIGNED): C Corrosive
EC Classification may be inconsistent with independently-researched data.

DANGER/HAZARD SYMBOL:
C Corrosive

EC RISK AND SAFETY PHRASES:
R 35 Causes severe burns.
S ½ Keep locked-up and out of reach of children.
S 26 In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice.
S 37/39 Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection.
S 45 In case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately (show the label where possible).

CONCENTRATION LIMITS:
C>=5% C R 35
2%<=C<5% C R 34
0.5%<=C<2% Xi R 36/38

GERMAN REGULATIONS:
MSDS CAUSTIC SODA FLAKES

WATER HAZARD CLASS (WGK):
STATE OF CLASSIFICATION: VwVwS
CLASSIFICATION UNDER HAZARD TO WATER: 1

NATIONAL INVENTORY STATUS:
U.S. INVENTORY (TSCA): Listed on inventory.
TSCA 12(b) EXPORT NOTIFICATION: Not listed.

SECTION 16: OTHER INFORMATION

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