

Revision: 000

Date: 10th November 2003

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE AND COMPANY UNDERTAKING

General Chemical Name Erbium(III)-oxide

Intended or recommended uses of substance: Research.

Supplier (Distributor) New Metals & Chemicals Ltd  
Newmet House, Rue de St. Lawrence  
Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 1PF  
Telephone: +44(0) 1992 711111

## 2. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Ingredient name	Concentration /range	*Classification	CAS No	EINECS No
Erbium(III)-oxide	100%	Xi, R36/37/38	12061-16-4	235-045-7

\*see 16. OTHER INFORMATION for full text of R-phrases

## 3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

This product is irritant to the eyes, mucous membranes and skin.

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation Move the patient to fresh air and administer 100 percent humidified supplemental oxygen with assisted ventilation as required. If breathing has ceased DO NOT use mouth-to-mouth respiration apply artificial respiration using oxygen and a suitable mechanical device such as a bag and a mask. Seek

immediate medical attention.

Skin Contact	Flush skin with copious quantities of water. Remove and destroy all contaminated clothing and shoes. Seek immediate medical attention.
Eye Contact	DO NOT allow patient to rub or keep eyes closed. Irrigate with copious quantities of water for at least 15 minutes. Flush under eyelids by lifting lid. DO NOT use a static eye bath. Seek immediate medical attention.
Ingestion	DO NOT induce vomiting. If patient is conscious and alert, wash out mouth with water. Give nothing by mouth if patient is unconscious. Seek immediate medical attention.

Note: Ensure that medical personnel are aware of the material involved, and take precautions to protect themselves.

## **5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES**

Precautions against fire and explosion

Not flammable

Suitable extinguishing media

Use fire fighting measures that suit the environment i.e. water.

Extinguishing media which must not be used for safety reasons

N/A

Special exposure hazards arising from the substance itself and its combustion products - including any gaseous by-products

Avoid exposure to material in dust , vapour or mist form.

Special protective equipment for fire fighters

Wear self-contained breathing apparatus and full chemical protective clothing. Decontamination must follow before removal of gear. Show documents to the emergency services.

## **6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

### Personal Precautions

Evacuate all but essential authorised control personnel. Wear self-contained breathing apparatus and gloves to avoid inhalation, skin and eye contact. Provide sufficient ventilation.

Structural firefighters` protective clothing provides limited protection in fire situations ONLY; it is not effective in spill situations.

### Environmental Precautions

Prevent entry into drains, surface and ground water, soil and confined areas.

### Methods for Cleaning Up

Only trained, authorised personnel should be involved. Fully encapsulating protective clothing and self contained breathing apparatus should be worn for spills and leaks . Do not touch damaged containers or spilled material unless wearing appropriate protective clothing.

Cover spills with dry sand, dry diatomaceous earth or dry salt followed with plastic sheet to minimise spreading. To avoid dust formation do not dry sweep. Do not vacuum. Collect material and place it into loosely covered plastic containers.

Place residues in a closed plastic container, suitably marked, and dispose of through a licensed waste disposal contractor.

## **7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**

### Precautions for safe handling

Handle in a fume cupboard or dedicated LEV room.

Avoid breathing dusts or contact with skin and eyes.

Do not get in eyes, on skin or on clothing. Do not ingest or inhale.

Wash or decontaminate after handling. Wash hands before eating. Discard contaminated shoes.

Keep container tightly closed.

See section 8 for personal protective equipment.

### Precautions for safe storage

Store in a tightly closed container. Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area

away from incompatible substances (see section 10). Protect from carbon dioxide.

Specific use

Research..

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

### Exposure limit values

Ingredient name	OES LTEL (8hr TWA)	OES STEL (15min)	MEL (LT)	MEL (ST)
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There are no occupational limits for this material.  
However, dust exposure should be adequately controlled.

Total inhalable dust	10mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Total respirable dust	5mg/m <sup>3</sup>

### Occupational exposure controls

Eye protection	Wear appropriate protective eyeglasses, chemical safety goggles or full-face shield to European Standard EN 166.
Hand protection	Wear appropriate gloves. Gloves of nitrile or PVC may be used as single splash disposable gloves and must be discarded immediately after use. Gloves should comply with European Standard EN 374-3 class 3.
Skin protection	Use one or more of the following personal protection equipment as necessary. Full chemical protective suit to EN 465 standard, PVC apron, helmet and boots.
Respiratory protection	If product is not used in a fume cupboard or there is insufficient ventilation wear full face or hood compressed airline breathing apparatus to EN 139 or EN 270/271 alternatively use self contained breathing apparatus to EN 137. This equipment should always be available on standby.
Ingestion	Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Do not ingest. Exhibit the strictest hygiene control.

### Environmental exposure controls

No specific environmental legislation applies in the EU at present; however in accordance with best practice only use in a fume cupboard or with local exhaust ventilation. In case of fire, spillage or leakage, prevent material from entering water courses, sewers or soil.

## **9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

### General information

Appearance	Pink powder
Odour	Odourless

### Important health, safety and environmental information

Melting point/melting range	2400 <sup>0</sup> C
Flash point	N/A
Flammability (solid, gas)	Not flammable
Autoignition temperature	N/A
Explosive properties	Product is not explosive
Oxidising properties	Not determined
Vapour pressure	N/A
Relative density	8.64g/cm <sup>3</sup> at 20 <sup>0</sup> C
Solubility	
-water solubility	insoluble in cold or hot water

## **10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

Conditions to avoid	Stable under normal temperatures and pressures.
Materials to avoid	Acids, air, carbon dioxide.
Hazardous decomposition products	Metal oxide smoke.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Erbium oxide does not present a high risk to health, however it can be hazardous in the form of dusts or fumes.

Dusts or fume may cause eye irritation. Symptoms include redness and watering.

The material may cause irritation to the skin and mucosa.

Effects from skin contact      May cause skin irritation. No allergic reaction have been reported.

Effects from inhalation      Irritating to respiratory system. Repeated exposure may cause lung damage and disorders such as bronchitis. Symptoms include difficulty in breathing, tightness in chest, cough, and dyspnoea.

Effects from ingestion      Ingestion may cause nausea, congestive failure, abdominal pain & vomiting,

- (a) Acute toxicity (oral, inhalation, dermal)  
LD<sub>50</sub> rat oral >5000mg/kg
- (b) Corrosivity/irritation (eye, skin, respiratory tract)  
Irritant for eye, skin and mucous membranes
- (c) Sensitisation (skin, respiratory)  
No sensitising effects known
- (d) Repeated-dose toxicity      not tested/no data
- (e) Mutagenicity      not tested/no data
- (f) Carcinogenicity  
No classification data on carcinogenic properties of this material is available from the EPA, IARC, NTP, OSHA or ACGIH.
- (g) Reproductive toxicity (fertility, developmental)      not tested/no data

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

- (1) Ecotoxicity
  - (a) Aquatic toxicity

(i)	acute and chronic for fish	not tested/no data
(ii)	“ “ “ “ daphnia	not tested/no data
(iii)	“ “ “ “ algae	not tested/no data
(iv)	“ “ “ “ other aquatic plants	not tested/no data

(b) Soil toxicity

(i)	macro organisms	not tested/no data
(ii)	micro organisms	not tested/no data
(iii)	birds	not tested/no data
(iv)	bees	not tested/no data
(v)	plants	not tested/no data
(vi)	fauna	not tested/no data

Although specific data is not available, it is established by experience that the material should not present a hazard in the environment. However, the material should not be released into the environment without proper authority.

(2) Mobility

No data available

(3) Persistence and degradability

No data available

(4) Bioaccumulation potential

No data available

(5) Other adverse effects

No other effects are known.

<b>13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>
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All waste material to be contained in a plastic sealed bin, duly marked, and disposed of as special waste through a licensed waste contractor in accordance with “The Special Waste Regulations 1996”. See sections 6 and 7.

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Airfreight (IATA)      Seafreight (IMDG)      Road (ADR)      Rail (RID)

(a)	UN number	N/A
(b)	Class	N/A
(c)	Proper shipping name	N/A
(d)	Packing group	N/A
(e)	Marine pollutant (if applicable)	N/A
(f)	Other applicable information	N/A

**Erbium(III)-oxide is not restricted for transport**

## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

EC Supply - Chip-3 regulations 2002, regulation 9

Xi      Irritant

Risk Phrases:

36/37/38:      Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

Safety Phrases:

26:      In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice

This material is subject to the COSHH regulations 2002. See COSHH Essentials for further information.

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

R Phrases Full Text:

36/37/38:      Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.

This material should only be handled by qualified, trained persons, fully familiar with its dangerous properties. During use or handling, a minimum of two persons should

always be available.

*Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002*

*Approved classification and labelling guide. Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002 Guidance on Regulations L131*

*Approved Supply List. Information Approved for the Classification and labelling of Substances and Preparations Dangerous for Supply. Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002. Approved List L129*

*Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002*

*Health and Safety at Work Act 1974*

*COSHH Essentials: Easy Steps to Control Chemicals. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations*

*Occupational Exposure Limits 2001/2002 EH40*

European Inventory of Existing Commercial Substances (EINECS) available on the European Chemicals Bureau website at [www.ecb.jrc.it/existing-chemicals](http://www.ecb.jrc.it/existing-chemicals)

*First Aid at Work. The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981. Approved Code of Practice and Guidance L74*

*Personal Protective Equipment (EC Directive) Regulations 1992*

*The Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Equipment: A Practical Guide HSG53*

*Cost and Effectiveness of Chemical Protective Gloves for the Workplace.*

*Guidance for Employers and Health and Safety Specialists. HSG206*

*Environmental Protection Act 1990 c43*

*Environmental Act 1995 c25*

*The Special Waste Regulations 1996*

*The Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002*