

# FLINN SCIENTIFIC, INC.

## Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)

MSDS #: 626.00

Revision Date: April 21, 2011

### SECTION 1 — CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

#### Potassium Cyanide

Flinn Scientific, Inc. P.O. Box 219 Batavia, IL 60510 (800) 452-1261

CHEMTREC Emergency Phone Number: (800) 424-9300

### SECTION 2 — COMPOSITION, INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Potassium Cyanide

CAS#: 151-50-8

### SECTION 3 — HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

White amorphous crystals or powder. Faint almond-like odor.  
Highly toxic. May be fatal. Irritating to body tissues. Avoid all body contact.  
Any body contact can cause poisoning.  
Contact with acid with release poisonous hydrogen cyanide gas.

#### FLINN AT-A-GLANCE

Health-3

Flammability-0

Reactivity-2

Exposure-3

Storage-3

0 is low hazard, 3 is high hazard

### SECTION 4 — FIRST AID MEASURES

Call a physician and seek medical attention for further treatment, observation, and support after first aid.  
Inhalation: Break amyl nitrite pearl in a cloth and hold to nose for 15 seconds. Repeat 5 times. Remove to fresh air at once.  
If breathing has stopped, give artificial respiration immediately.  
Eye or Eye or External: Immediately flush with fresh water for at least 15 minutes.  
Internal: Call a physician or poison control at once.

### SECTION 5 — FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Nonflammable solid.  
When heated to decomposition, emits toxic fumes of  $K_2O$ , CN, and  $NO_x$ .  
**Fire Fighting Instructions:** Use triclass, dry chemical fire extinguisher. Firefighters should wear PPE and SCBA with full facepiece operated in positive mode.

#### NFPA CODE

H-3

F-0

R-0

### SECTION 6 — ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Restrict unprotected personnel from area. Ventilate area and remove all sources of water. Sweep up, place in sealed bag or container and dispose. Wash spill site after material pickup is complete. See Sections 8 and 13 for further information.

### SECTION 7 — HANDLING AND STORAGE

Flinn Suggested Chemical Storage Pattern: Inorganic #7. Store with arsenates, cyanides and cyanates.  
Store in a Flinn Chem-Saf bag and then locked up in a poisons cabinet.

### SECTION 8 — EXPOSURE CONTROLS, PERSONAL PROTECTION

Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing. Wear chemical splash goggles, chemical-resistant gloves, and chemical-resistant apron. Use ventilation to keep airborne concentrations below exposure limits. Always wear a NIOSH-approved respirator with proper cartridges or a positive pressure, air-supplied respirator when handling this material in emergency situations (spill or fire).  
Exposure guidelines: PEL  $5 \text{ mg/m}^3$  (as CN) Ceiling:  $5 \text{ mg/m}^3$  (as CN) (OSHA, NIOSH)

**SECTION 9 — PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

White amorphous crystals or powder with faint odor of almonds.  
Solubility: Soluble in water, alcohol and glycerol.  
Formula: KCN  
Formula weight: 65.12

Boiling point: 1625 °C  
Melting point: 634 °C  
Specific gravity: 1.52

**SECTION 10 — STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

Avoid contact with strong oxidizers, acids, and acid salt. Contact with acids liberates toxic and flammable hydrogen cyanide.  
Shelf life: Good, if stored properly.

**SECTION 11 — TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

Acute effects: Highly, irritant, nausea, dizziness, headache  
Chronic effects: Lung irritation, cyanosis, CNS depression  
Target organs: Central nervous system, blood, heart

ORL-RAT LD<sub>50</sub>: 5 mg/kg  
IHL-RAT LC<sub>50</sub>: N.A.  
SKN-RBT LD<sub>50</sub>: N.A.

N.A. = Not available, not all health aspects of this substance have been fully investigated.

**SECTION 12 — ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

Data not yet available.

**SECTION 13 — DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Please review all federal, state and local regulations that may apply, before proceeding.  
Flinn Suggested Disposal Method #14 is one option.

**SECTION 14 — TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

Shipping name: Potassium cyanide  
Hazard class: 6.1, Poison  
UN number: UN1680  
N/A = Not applicable

**SECTION 15 — REGULATORY INFORMATION**

TSCA-listed, EINECS-listed (205-792-3), RCRA code P098.

**SECTION 16 — OTHER INFORMATION**

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**Consult your copy of the *Flinn Science Catalog/Reference Manual*  
for additional information about laboratory chemicals.**