

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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Product Name: **ABSORBACIDE**

**Not classified as a hazardous substance according to criteria of NOHSC**

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE/PREPARATION AND COMPANY

**Product name** ABSORBACIDE  
**Other names** Diatomaceous earth, Amorphous silica  
**Product use** Used as insecticide dust for the control of insect pests..  
**Company Name** Mount Sylvania Diatomite Pty Ltd.  
**Address** 35 Wongoola Close, O'Conner, ACT, 2606  
**Emergency Tel.** 02 6161 5992  
**Telephone/fax** 02 6161 5992 Fax: 02 6248 6066

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Not classified as hazardous according to the criteria of NOHSC. Must be stored under dry, well-ventilated conditions.

Not classified as dangerous goods according to the ADG code..

## 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

**Composition, Information on ingredients** Diatomaceous earth, which is a natural product, derived from the remains of freshwater plankton. The product contains less than 4% respirable crystalline silica.

<b>Chemical Ingredients</b>	<b>Powder</b>	<b>CAS</b>	<b>Proportion</b>
	<b>Name</b>		
	Diatomaceous earth	61790-53-2	96%
	Silica as quartz and cristobalite	14808-60-7	<4%
		14464-46-1	

**Other information** **Mineralogy**  
Amorphous silica as diatom microfossils generally 96%, cristobalite and quartz generally less than 4%.

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

**Inhalation** Move the victim to fresh air. Drink a glass of water to clear throat and blow nose to evacuate dust. If irritation persists see a doctor.

**Ingestion** Wash out mouth with water. If irritation persists seek medical advice.

**Skin** Wash gently with water and non-abrasive soap. If irritation develops and persists, seek medical attention.

**Eye** If contact with eye(s) occurs, wash with water while holding lid open. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**First aid facilities** Eye wash and normal washroom facilities.

**Advice to doctor** Treat symptomatically. The hazard from the product is the same as from any fine, inert dust. The product absorbs moisture and may cause dryness in contact with mucous membranes. Pre-existing upper respiratory and lung conditions such as bronchitis, emphysema or asthma may be aggravated by exposure to the dust.

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

**Flammability** The material is not flammable.

**Means of extinction** Use appropriate fire extinguisher for surrounding environment.

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**Special fire fighting procedures** Use NIOH approved self-contained breathing apparatus  
**Unusual fire and explosion hazards.** and full protective clothing to minimise skin exposure.

## **6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

Increase ventilation. Wear sufficient respiratory protection and protective clothing and sweep up material avoiding dust generation or dampen spilled material with water to avoid airborne dust, then transfer material to a suitable container. Use absorbent paper dampened with water to pick up remaining material. Prevent the release from entering a waterway or sewer. Dispose of any contaminated material at an approved facility such as a municipal landfill.

## **7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**

This material is stable and should be stored in a well-ventilated, dry, cool environment.

## **8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION**

**Exposure limits** The following National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) Exposure limits apply:

SUBSTANCE	TWA	
	ppm	mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Silica: quartz, cristobalite	-	0.2
Silica: amorphous (diatomaceous earth)	-	10
Dust, not otherwise specified		10

**Other exposure Information** TWA – The Time-Weighted Average airborne concentration over an eight hour working day, for a five-day working week over an entire working life. According to current knowledge these concentrations should neither impair the health of, nor cause undue discomfort to nearly all workers. These Exposure Standards are guides to be used in the control of occupational health hazards. All atmospheric contamination should be kept as low as possible. Exposure standards should not be used as a fine dividing line between safe and dangerous concentrations of chemicals. They are not a measure of relative toxicity.

**Respiratory Protection** Where sufficient ventilation is not available avoid breathing dusts by wearing an AS 1716 approved particulate filter respirator. For the most appropriate respirator device, reference should be made to AS/NZS 1715/1716 standards publication, which deals with respiratory protective devices.

**Eye protection** The use of chemical goggles or safety glasses with side shield protection is recommended.

**Hand protection** The use of nitrile gloves is recommended.

**Eng. Controls** Natural ventilation should be sufficient, however a mechanical exhaust system is recommended if the product is being handled in a poorly ventilated area.

**Other information** Biological Limit Values: No biological limit allocated.

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

**Appearance** White to light grey dust.  
**Odour** No odour  
**Melting point** 1500 degrees C (approx).  
**Boiling point** Not applicable  
**Solubility in water** Insoluble

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<b>Specific gravity</b>	Not available
<b>Vapour pressure</b>	Not applicable
<b>Flash point</b>	Not applicable
<b>Flammability</b>	Not flammable.
<b>Flammable limits</b>	Not determined.

## **10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

<b>Stability</b>	Stable under normal conditions of use.
<b>Hazardous</b>	Will not occur.
<b>Polymerisation</b>	
<b>Incompatibility</b>	None

## **11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

**Toxicology information** No toxicology information is available for this product. However for crystalline silica the following data has been extracted from the Register of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances:

### **TOXICITY**

Inhalation (human) LCLo: 0.3/m<sup>3</sup>/10Y

Inhalation (human) TCLo: 16mppcf/8H/17.9Y

-Intermittent; focal fibrosis, (pneumoconiosis), cough, dyspnoea.

Inhalation (rat) TCLo: 50mg/m<sup>3</sup>/6H/71W

-Intermittent; liver – tumours.

**WARNING:** For inhalation exposure only : Crystalline silica (respirable size <=7µm) has been classified by the IARC as Group 1 **CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS.**

**NOTE:** The physical nature of quartz in the product determines whether it is likely to present a chronic health problem. To be a hazard the material must enter the breathing zone as respirable particles. .

<b>Inhalation</b>	Inhalation of dust may cause irritation to the mucous membranes and upper airways. Symptoms of exposure can include nausea, coughing, sneezing and breathing difficulties.
<b>Ingestion</b>	Not a likely source of exposure. May cause irritation to the mouth, oesophagus and stomach.
<b>Skin</b>	May cause drying of the skin resulting in redness and itching.
<b>Eye</b>	May cause mechanical irritation in contact with the eyes.
<b>Chronic Effects</b>	Prolonged or repeated exposure to this material may result in irritation to the eyes and respiratory tract. As this product may contain traces of respirable silica, bronchitis, silicosis, and lung cancer may occur if the required dust mask is not worn during prolonged and repeated exposure. Studies have shown that smoking increases the risk in persons exposed to crystalline silica.

## **12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

<b>Ecotoxicity</b>	No data is available for this material.
<b>Persistence/degradability</b>	No data is available for this material.
<b>Mobility</b>	No data is available for this material.

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## **13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Disposal method and containers** Dispose of waste material at an approved municipal landfill or land application site. No special containers are required.  
**Other information** In NSW, diatomaceous earth used as cat litter in a domestic situation can be disposed of with the normal domestic waste stream ie in the garbage bin. The NSW EPA does not regulate domestic waste sources.

## **14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

Not classified as a Dangerous Good, according to the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail.

**ADG UN Number** None allocated  
**ADG Proper** None allocated  
**Dangerous goods class** None allocated  
**Subsidiary Risk** None  
**Hazchem Code** None allocated

## **15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**

**Poisons schedule** Not scheduled

## **16. OTHER INFORMATION**

**Contact person/Point** Manager: Ph 61-2-61615992, Mine: 61-7-54629137

**SDS History** MSDS prepared October 2006 by I.R Neering, Director.

**END OF MSDS**