

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

This product is classified as a Hazardous Substance according to criteria of NOHSC Australia  
Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the Australian Dangerous Goods Code for transport by Rail and Air

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL

Product Name: Methyl Ethyl Ketone  
Other Names; MEK  
Product Code: RMK05  
Supplier: KCB Sales. Pty. Ltd  
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Wacol Qld 4077

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Major Uses and Methods of Application: Thinner for nitrocellulose paints

## 2. COMPOSITION

	CAS No.	Proportion
Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK)	78-93-3	> 60 % w/w

## 3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Risk Phrases: Highly Flammable  
Irritating to eyes  
Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking  
Vapours may cause drowsiness and dizziness

Poisons Schedule: S5

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

For advice contact a Poisons Information Centre (Phone: Australia 1131 126; New Zealand 0800 764 766)

Swallowed: Rinse mouth with water. If swallowed DO NOT INDUCE vomiting. If vomiting occurs spontaneously, keep head below hips to prevent aspiration

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

Skin: If skin contact occurs, flush skin with flowing water for at least 15 minutes. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. If irritation persists, seek medical attention  
Decontaminate clothing before re-use or discard

Inhalation: Remove source of contamination or move person to fresh air. Remove contaminated clothing and keep patient warm and comfortable. Give artificial respiration if breathing has stopped. Seek medical attention

Advice to doctor: Causes central nervous system depression. Dermatitis may result from prolonged or repeated exposure. Potential for chemical pneumonitis. Consider: gastric lavage with protected airway, administration of activated charcoal.

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Use dry chemical or foam to extinguish.  
Combustion may cause dense smoke. Carbon monoxide evolved if combustion is incomplete.  
Flammable material, keep containers cool with water spray.  
Shut off fuel to fire.  
Use dry chemical, foam or carbon dioxide  
Water may be ineffective, but should be used to keep fire-exposed containers cool.  
If a leak or spill has ignited, use waster spray to disperse water vapour and to protect men attempting to stop leak.  
Avoid spraying water directly into storage containers due to danger of boil over.  
Minimise breathing gases, vapour fumes or decomposition products.  
Use supplied air breathing equipment for enclosed areas.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Eliminate ignition sources.  
Contain spills for salvage or disposal.  
Minimise dilution water to control spill volume.  
Liquid spills should be absorbed prior to disposal. ("Silicate" type absorbent materials are suggested).  
Avoid run off into sewers and ditches.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Precautions to be taken in handling and storage:  
Practice personal cleanliness by prompt removal of solvent in contact with the skin  
Train all employees in special handling procedure prior to working with this product.  
DO NOT eat food ext to this product.  
Keep containers closed with not in use.  
Do not store near heat, sparks, flame or strong oxidants.  
Transfer product in effectively bonded system to prevent fire or explosion risk from static accumulation and discharge.  
Adequate ventilation required.  
Wash skin thoroughly with soap and water after contact.

Other precautions:

Store in original containers in a cool, shaded location, safe from physical damage, with containers tightly closed.  
DO NOT reuse containers.  
DO NOT pressurize, cut, weld, braze, solder, drill or grind container or contents.  
DO NOT expose to heat, flame, sparks, electricity, static electricity or any other sources of ignition as they may cause container/s to explode and may cause injury or death.  
Empty containers can retain product residue (liquid and/or vapour) and can be dangerous.  
Empty containers should be completely drained, properly bunged and promptly returned to a drum re-conditioner.

## 8. EXPOSURE AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

Not established, for the mixture.  
Worksafe Australia Exposure Standard [N0HSC:1003(1995)]: for Individual components:

Butanone - TWA 150ppm (445mg/ m<sup>3</sup> ), STEL 300 ppm (890mg/ m<sup>3</sup>)

TWA – Time-weighted average airborne concentration over an eight hour working day, for a five day working week over an entire working life.

STEL - short term exposure limit – the average airborne concentration over a 15 minute period which should not be exceeded at any time during a normal eight hour work day

Personal Protection:

Eye protection:	Safety glasses, goggles or face shield as required
Hand Protection:	PVC, neoprene or nitrile rubber gloves
Footwear:	Rubber boots
Respiratory Protection:	If airborne concentrations are likely to exceed the Exposure Standard, wear approved organic vapour respiratory protection (AS/NZS 1715 and 1716). In high vapour concentrations, wear an air-supplied hood Safety showers with eyewash should be provided in all areas where product is handled. No respiratory protection required if engineering, storage and handling controls are adequate

Engineering Controls: General (mechanical) room ventilation plus special local exhaust ventilation at points where vapour could escape to the work environment. All ventilation equipment must be fitted with flame and explosion proof electrical fittings

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance:	Clear liquid. Characteristic odour.
Boiling Range:	79 - 81°C
Vapour Pressure:	9.5kPa @20 °C
Specific Gravity:	0.81
Flash Point:	-4 °C
Flammability Limits:	LEL 1.8% v/v, UEL 11.5% v/v
Solubility in water:	partially soluble
% Volatiles by volume:	100%

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability:	Stable under ordinary conditions of use and storage.
Conditions to Avoid:	Strong oxidizers, strong alkalis, strong acids and selected amines.
Incompatibility – Materials to avoid for purposes of transport, handling and storage only:	Strong oxidizing agents (eg. liquid chlorine, concentrated oxygen, sodium hypochlorite).
Hazardous Decomposition Products:	Carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### Toxicological Data

Oral LD 50(rat)	2737 mg/kg
Oral LD 50 (mice)	4050 mg/kg

No adverse health effects expected if the product is handled in accordance with this MSDS and product label. Symptoms or effects that may arise if the product is misused and overexposure occurs are:

Swallowed:	Harmful. Irritant to mouth, throat and digestive tract. Large dose may cause drowsiness and lead to unconsciousness. If aspirated into lungs can cause serious lung inflammation and may be fatal
Eye:	Moderate irritant
Skin:	Irritant. May cause dermatitis, liquid & vapour may be absorbed through the skin with subsequent toxic effects
Inhalation:	High concentrations may cause depression, dizziness, nausea, and headache. Irritation of mucous membranes and respiratory tract are possible. Aspiration (e.g. during vomiting) into the lungs can cause serious (even fatal) pneumonitis

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Environmental Mobility:	This product is highly volatile and will rapidly evaporate to the air if released into the water.
Environmental Degradability:	Based upon data for a similar component or preparation or estimated data. This substance is expected to be removed in a wastewater treatment facility. This product is expected to biodegrade rapidly and be "readily" biodegradable according to OECD guidelines.
Ecotoxicity & Bioaccumulation:	Based upon data for a similar component of preparation or estimated data. Expected to be toxic to aquatic organisms. Long term adverse effects to aquatic organisms are possible if continuous exposure is maintained.

This product is expected to be toxic to aquatic organisms  
CL50 (fish,96h): 1mg/l – 10mg/l  
Avoid discharge to sewers, storm drains, surface waters and soil

### 13. DISPOSAL

Do not dispose into public waste or sewage system

Recover or recycle waste product, if possible, otherwise incinerate

Absorbed spills or any other contaminated materials (ie. Rags, paper etc), are considered hazardous wastes in preparing for disposal.

Consult Federal, State or Local regulations controlling proper disposal of hydrocarbon containing materials.

Empty containers must also be disposed of in an environmentally safe manner.

### 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

U.N. Number:	1193	Hazchem Code:	2[Y]E
D. G Class:	3	Packaging Group:	II

### 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Risk Phrase: R11 Highly Flammable  
R36 Irritating to eyes  
R66 Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking  
R67 Vapours may cause drowsiness and dizziness

Safety Phrase: S2 Keep out of the reach of children  
S9 Keep container in a well ventilated place  
S16 Keep away from source of ignition – No smoking

Poisons Schedule: S5

Hazard Category: Xi Irritant, F Flammable

### 16. OTHER INFORMATION

Contact: Technical Manager  
Telephone +61 07 3271 2666

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