



**PQ Corporation**

**MSDS**

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Trade Name: **STAR™ Sodium Silicate Solution**

Date Prepared: 06/26/06

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**1. CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION**

Product name: STAR™ Sodium silicate solution  
 Product description: A 2.50 weight ratio sodium silicate, 37.1% solution in water  
 Manufacturer: PQ Corporation  
 P. O. Box 840  
 Valley Forge, PA 19482 USA  
 Telephone: 610-651-4200  
 In case of emergency call: 610-651-4200  
 For transportation emergency: 800-424-9300  
 Call CHEMTREC: 800-424-9300

**2. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS**

Chemical and Common Name	CAS Registry Number	Wt. %	OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV
Water	7732-18-5	62.9%	Not Established	Not Established
Silicic acid, sodium salt;	1344-09-8	37.1%	Not Established	Not Established
Sodium silicate				

**3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION**

*Emergency Overview:*

Clear, colorless, odorless, thick liquid. Causes moderate eye, skin, and digestive tract irritation. Spray mist causes irritation to respiratory tract. Due to high pH of product, release into surface water is harmful to aquatic life. Noncombustible. Spills are slippery. Reacts with acids, ammonium salts, reactive metals and some organics.

Causes moderate irritation to the eyes.  
 Causes moderate irritation to the skin.  
 Spray mist is irritating to respiratory tract.  
 May cause irritation to mouth, esophagus, and stomach.  
 No known chronic hazards. Not listed by NTP, IARC or OSHA as a carcinogen.  
 Dries to form glass film, which can easily cut skin. Spilled material is very slippery. Can etch glass if not promptly removed.

**4. FIRST AID MEASURES**

*Eye:* In case of contact, immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention.  
*Skin:* In case of contact, immediately flush skin with plenty of water. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention.

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*Inhalation:*

Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention.

*Ingestion:*

If swallowed, DO NOT induce vomiting. Get medical attention immediately. If victim is fully conscious, give a cupful of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

**5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES**

*Flammable limits:*

This material is noncombustible.

*Extinguishing Media:*

This material is compatible with all extinguishing media.

*Hazards to fire-fighters:*

See Section 3 for information on hazards when this material is present in the area of a fire.

*Fire-fighting equipment:*

The following protective equipment for fire fighters is recommended when this material is present in the area of a fire: chemical goggles, body-covering protective clothing, chemical resistant gloves, and rubber boots.

**6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

*Personal protection:*

Wear chemical goggles, body-covering protective clothing, chemical resistant gloves, and rubber boots. See section 8.

*Environmental Hazards:*

Sinks and mixes with water. High pH of this material is harmful to aquatic life, see Section 12. Only water will evaporate from a spill of this material.

*Small spill cleanup:*

Mop up and neutralize liquid, then discharge to sewer in accordance with federal, state and local regulations or permits.

*Large spill cleanup:*

Keep unnecessary people away; isolate hazard area and deny entry. Do not touch or walk through spilled material. Stop leak if you can do so without risk. Prevent runoff from entering into storm sewers and ditches which lead to natural waterways. Isolate, dike and store discharged material, if possible. Use sand or earth to contain spilled material. If containment is impossible, neutralize contaminated area and flush with large quantities of water.

There is no CERCLA Reportable Quantity for this material. If a spill goes off site, notification of state and local authorities is recommended.

CERCLA RQ:

**7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**

*Handling:*

Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Avoid breathing spray mist. Keep container closed. Promptly clean residue from closures with cloth dampened with water. Promptly clean up spills.

*Storage:*

Keep containers closed. Store in clean steel or plastic containers. Separate from acids, reactive metals, and ammonium salts. Storage temperature 0-95° C. Loading temperature 45-95 ° C. Do not store in aluminum, fiberglass, copper, brass, zinc or galvanized containers.

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

*Engineering controls:* Use with adequate ventilation. Keep containers closed. Safety shower and eyewash fountain should be within direct access.  
*Respiratory protection:* Use a NIOSH-approved dust and mist respirator where spray mist occurs. Observe OSHA regulations for respirator use (29 C.F.R. §1910.134)  
*Skin protection:* Wear body-covering protective clothing and gloves.  
*Eye protection:* Wear chemical goggles.

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

*Appearance:* Thick liquid.  
*Color:* Clear and colorless.  
*Odor:* Odorless or musty odor.  
*pH:* Approximately 12.4  
*Specific gravity:* 1.41 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (20°C), 42.0° B<sub>e</sub>, 11.75 lbs/gal  
*Solubility in water:* Miscible.

#### **10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

*Stability:* This material is stable under all conditions of use and storage.  
*Conditions to avoid:* None.  
*Materials to avoid:* Gels and generates heat when mixed with acid. May react with ammonium salts resulting in evolution of ammonia gas. Flammable hydrogen gas may be produced on contact with aluminum, tin, lead, and zinc.  
*Hazardous decomposition products:* Hydrogen.

#### **11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

*Acute Data:* When tested for eye and skin irritation potential, a similar material caused moderate irritation to the eyes and moderate irritation to the skin. Human experience indicates that skin irritation occurs, particularly, when sodium silicates get on clothes at the collar, cuffs or other areas where contact and abrasion may occur.  
*Subchronic Data:* The acute oral toxicity of this product has not been tested. When sodium silicates were tested on a 100% solids basis, their single dose acute oral LD<sub>50</sub> in rats ranged from 1500 mg/kg to 3200 mg/kg. The acute oral lethality resulted from nonspecific causes. This product contains approximately 37.1% sodium silicate.  
In a study of rats fed sodium silicate in drinking water for three months, at 200, 600 and 1800 ppm, changes were reported in the blood chemistry of some animals, but no specific changes to the organs of the animals due to sodium silicate administration were observed in any of the dosage groups. Another study reported adverse effects to the kidneys of dogs fed sodium silicate in their diet at 2.4g/kg/day for 4 weeks, whereas rats fed the same dosage did not develop any treatment-related effects. Decreased

*Special Studies:*

numbers of births and survival to weaning was reported for rats fed sodium silicate in their drinking water at 600 and 1200 ppm. Sodium silicate was not mutagenic to the bacterium *E. Coli* when tested in a mutagenicity bioassay. There are no known reports of carcinogenicity of sodium silicates. Frequent ingestion over extended periods of time of gram quantities of silicates is associated with the formation kidney stones and other siliceous urinary calculi in humans. Sodium silicate is not listed by IARC, NTP or OSHA as a carcinogen.

**12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

*Eco toxicity:*

The following data is reported for sodium silicates on a 100% solids basis: A 96 hour median tolerance for fish (*Gambusia affinis*) of 2320 ppm; a 96 hour median tolerance for water fleas (*Daphnia magna*) of 247 ppm; a 96 hour median tolerance for snail eggs (*Lymnaea*) of 632 ppm; and a 96 hour median tolerance for Amphipoda of 160 ppm. This product contains approximately 37.1% sodium silicate.

*Environmental Fate:*

This material is not persistent in aquatic systems, but its high pH when undiluted or unneutralized is acutely harmful to aquatic life. Diluted material rapidly depolymerizes to yield dissolved silica in a form that is indistinguishable from natural dissolved silica. It does not contribute to BOD. This material does not bioaccumulate except in species that use silica as a structural material such as diatoms and siliceous sponges. Where abnormally low natural silica concentrations exist (less than 0.1 ppm), dissolved silica may be a limiting nutrient for diatoms and a few other aquatic algal species. However, the addition of excess dissolved silica over the limiting concentration will not stimulate the growth of diatom populations; their growth rate is independent of silica concentration once the limiting concentration is exceeded. Neither silica nor sodium will appreciably bioconcentrate up the food chain. Sinks and mixes with water. Only water will evaporate from this material.

*Physical/Chemical:*

**13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

*Classification:*

Disposed material is not a hazardous waste.

*Disposal Method:*

Dispose in accordance with federal, state and local regulations and permits.

**14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

*DOT UN Status:*

This material is not regulated hazardous material for transportation.

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#### 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

CERCLA:  
SARA TITLE III:

No CERCLA Reportable Quantity has been established for this material.  
Not an Extremely Hazardous Substance under §302. Not a Toxic  
Chemical under §313. Hazard Categories under §§311/312: Acute

TSCA:

All ingredients of this material are listed on the TSCA inventory.

FDA:

The use of sodium silicate is authorized by FDA as a boiler water additive  
for the production of steam that will contact food pursuant to 21 CFR  
§173.310; as a component of zinc-silicon dioxide matrix coatings on food  
contact surfaces pursuant to 21 CFR §175.390(e); as a GRAS substance  
when migrating from cotton fabric used in dry food packaging pursuant  
to 21 CFR §182.70; and as a GRAS substance when migrating to food  
from paper and paperboard products pursuant to 21 CFR §182.90.

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#### 16. OTHER INFORMATION

Prepared by:  
Supersedes revision of:

John G. Blumberg  
03/10/05

THE INFORMATION ON THIS SAFETY DATA SHEET IS BELIEVED TO BE ACCURATE AND IT IS THE BEST  
INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO PQ CORPORATION THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED ONLY AS A GUIDE TO THE  
APPROPRIATE PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING A CHEMICAL BY A PERSON TRAINED IN CHEMICAL HANDLING.  
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