

# POLYURETHANE FOAM AND ELASTOMERS

### PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

When drill mixing polyurethane foam and elastomers the following protective equipment is recommended:

- An approved respirator suitable for organic vapours, eg 3M 6000 series respirator with 3M 6001 organic vapour grade cartridge.



- Overalls, gloves, protective eyewear and safety footwear.



### EMPLOYEE PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

All personnel be employed in using these materials should have a complete physical examination prior to beginning spray operations. Periodic check-ups are recommended. Personnel with the following conditions should avoid the using these components:

- Asthma or chronic bronchitis
- Chronic respiratory disorders
- Sensitisation to chemical substances including polymeric isocyanates.

### INDOOR AND OUTDOOR APPLICATION PRECAUTIONS

All personnel in the mixing and/or foaming area must be equipped with the appropriate personal protective equipment. Additional precautions include:

- Close off the work area from any adjacent rooms and ventilation ducts.
- Restrict the access of non application personnel.
- No welding, smoking or open flames.

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**POLYURETHANE FOAM AND  
ELASTOMERS****DERMAL EXPOSURE**

If a major splash or spill of the isocyanate component comes in contact with the skin, the affected area should immediately be washed with copious amounts of water from a safety shower or other water source. Contaminated clothing should be removed and the skin wiped with a clean dry cloth to remove residual isocyanate. The affected area should then be wiped with a 70% solution of rubbing alcohol (isopropanol) followed by repeated washing with soap and water. If a rash develops, a physician should be consulted.

**EYE EXPOSURE**

Splashes of either component into the eyes should be flushed immediately with copious amounts of water for at least 15 minutes. **CONSULT MEDICAL PERSONNEL IMMEDIATELY.**

**INHALATION**

Symptoms of vapour inhalation are characterized by coughing, tightness in the chest, and shortness of breath. Excessive exposure to vapour can produce serious, possible irreversible lung damage. Smoking in the area of application increases the risk of pulmonary injury and must be prohibited. Chronic exposure may cause symptoms and problems to appear immediately. If breathing has stopped, artificial respiration must be promptly applied. If breathing is short, oxygen (if available) should be administered by trained medical personnel. **OBTAIN MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.**

Excessive heating of the isocyanate component can produce isocyanate vapour, mist and other hazardous organic compounds.

**CLEAN UP**

Non flammable solvents should be used for clean up, eg NMP solvent (N-Methylpyrrolidone). Consult your technical representative.

**INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS**

The isocyanate component (A component) is incompatible with strong bases, tertiary amines or water. These materials may cause rapid, spontaneous polymerisation with subsequent generation of heat and vapour.

**POLYURETHANE FOAM AND  
ELASTOMERS****DECONTAMINATION OF SPILLS**

In the event of a major isocyanate spill, the area should be immediately evacuated. Only personnel equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment should remain. If the spill occurs indoors, the area should be ventilated and leaking containers should be taken outdoors and the remaining isocyanate transferred to other containers. The spill should be covered with sawdust, Ekoperl, vermiculite, or fullers earth and the oil-absorbed material should then be treated with a dilute solution of ammonium hydroxide/detergent. The neutralised material should be swept up and placed in a suitable container. The material should then be disposed of by a standard method consistent with good industrial practice in accordance with environmental protection regulations in your area. Where permissible, sanitary landfill disposal is recommended.

**GENERAL**

Material safety data sheets and work procedures are available. Ensure that personnel using these materials are aware of the potential hazards and how to eliminate, isolate or minimise these hazards.

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