

Chemlok

SAFE HANDLING GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

CHEMLOK® adhesives have been used in the rubber industry for over 40 years. By adhering to established safe handling techniques, these products have been utilized without posing a hazard to people or property. This document serves as a guide to make customers aware of potential hazards, and suggests procedures to eliminate them in the workplace. For more detailed information on individual products, refer to the product Material Safety Data Sheet and labels.

TYPE OF PRODUCTS

There are three basic types of CHEMLOK adhesives.

Solvent-Borne Adhesives

Aqueous Adhesives

100% Solids Adhesives

Potential hazards and suggested safe handling procedures for each type of CHEMLOK adhesive are addressed below.

SOLVENT-BORNE ADHESIVES

Solvents used in these products include aromatics, acetates, alcohols, ketones, chlorinated solvents, or a combination of these types. Use common safety procedures when handling products containing any of these solvents. Typically, chlorinated solvents are not flammable; however, chlorinated solvents when used in conjunction with flammable solvents can result in a flammable mixture. Therefore, use standard cautionary procedures when using any solvent-based Chemlok adhesive containing chlorinated solvents.

Hazard - Flammability

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Use in a well-ventilated area.
- Use explosion-proof electrical outlets, motors and exhaust fans.
- Ground all containers.
- Isolate from heat, electrical equipment, sparks, open flame and other sources of ignition.
- Keep containers tightly closed when not in use.

Hazard - Personal Health and Safety

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Use in well ventilated area. Avoid breathing vapors and spray mist.
- Wear NIOSH/MSHA approved respirators when occupational limits are exceeded.
- Use safety eyewear including safety glasses with sideshields and chemical goggles where splashing may occur.
- Wear appropriate gloves.
- Use disposable or impervious clothing. Remove and wash when contaminated.

SOLVENT-BORNE ADHESIVES cont.

Hazard - Personal Health and Safety

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Wash thoroughly before eating, smoking or using toilet facility.
- Refer to the individual product MSDS and label for health and safety recommendations.

Hazard - Property Damage

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Clean up spills immediately according to instructions on the MSDS.
- Due to the combustibility of certain dried CHEMLOK[®] products, minimize the accumulation of overspray on surfaces to reduce fire hazard.
- Keep dry film accumulation away from high heat (>275°F,>135°C), friction, sparks and other ignition sources.
- Remove dried adhesive film from floors, molds, spindles, spray booth and application equipment. (Use brass brush, plastic scraper or paint stripper.) Take care to avoid the generation of heat or sparking during the cleaning process.
- Replace spray booth filters frequently.

AQUEOUS ADHESIVES

Although most aqueous CHEMLOK adhesives are not flammable or combustible in the wet state, several specialty elastomer adhesives contain alcohol which may make the adhesive system flammable or combustible. Some aqueous CHEMLOK adhesives may contain small amounts of organic materials which make the adhesive residue combustible. Refer to the product MSDS to identify the flash point of individual adhesives.

Hazard - Flammability

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Refer to information given under **SOLVENT-BORNE ADHESIVES**.

Hazard - Personal Health and Safety

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Refer to information given under **SOLVENT-BORNE ADHESIVES**.

Hazard - Property Damage

Safe Handling Procedures:

- Clean up spills immediately according to instructions on the MSDS. Once adhesive residue from aqueous adhesives has dried, more aggressive cleaning methods (such as the use of solvents or mechanical methods) will be necessary to remove the dried residue. Once dry, the residue will not be water soluble.
- Due to the combustibility of certain dried CHEMLOK products, minimize the accumulations of overspray to reduce fire hazard.
- Keep dry film accumulation away from high heat (>275°F,>135°C), friction, sparks and other ignition sources.
- Remove dried adhesive film from floors, molds, spindles, spray booth and application equipment (use brass brush, plastic scraper or paint stripper). Avoid generating heat or sparks during the cleaning process. Replace spray booth filters frequently.

100% SOLIDS ADHESIVES

Most 100% solids adhesives are either epoxy or polyurethane based resins. Fire or explosion hazards are minimal with these products; however, they are combustible and will burn. Take handling precautions to avoid skin contact as some individuals may develop skin sensitization.

Hazard - Combustibility

- Keep away from open flames, heat, sparks and other sources of ignition.
- Keep containers tightly closed when not in use.
- Use in well-ventilated areas.

Hazard - Personal Health and Safety

- Refer to information given under **SOLVENT-BORNE ADHESIVES**.

Hazard - Property Damage

- Clean up spills immediately. Residue can be wiped up with a dry rag prior to cure. Uncured epoxy residue can be removed with alcohol or other solvent. Do not use water or alcohols to clean uncured polyurethane residue. Once cured, the residue will require more aggressive, mechanical cleaning methods to remove.

WASTE

The residue from certain CHEMLOK® adhesives may be considered hazardous. Consult the Regulatory Compliance Department of the Chemical Products Division for information on proper disposal.

SUMMARY

Keep application and storage areas ventilated and free of ignition sources.
Wear protective clothing and respirators where needed.
Keep work and storage areas clean.
Clean application and processing equipment regularly.
Dispose of waste according to federal, state and local regulations.
Read labels, MSDS and product bulletins before using.

There are no short-cuts to Safety!

Before using any CHEMLOK product, read and understand the product MSDS and label for safety and health information.

Values stated in this bulletin represent typical values as not all tests are run on each lot of material produced. For formalized product specifications for specific product end uses, contact the Customer Service Department.

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