

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET**

**SECTION 1 - PRODUCT INFORMATION**

PRODUCT NAME:

Gatorfoam®  
GatorLite™

PRODUCT SYNONYM:

Light-weight Foam Panel Laminated with Paper

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Styrene foam sheet laminated with white, tan, black or other colored kraft process cellulose paper.

MANUFACTURER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

ALCAN COMPOSITES  
P.O. Box 1839  
Statesville, North Carolina 28687-1839  
(800) 438-1701 (Eastern Standard Time)

TECHNICAL CONTACT:

Craig Roberson  
Manager, Environment, Health & Safety  
(704) 838-7038

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE:

Chemtrec (800) 424-9300

**SECTION II - HAZARDOUS COMPONENTS**

| <u>COMPONENT</u><br><u>(C.A.S. Number)</u> | <u>WEIGHT</u><br><u>PERCENT (%)</u> | <u>OSHA</u><br><u>PEL</u>                                     | <u>ACGIH</u><br><u>TLV</u> |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Formaldehyde<br>(50-00-0)                  | <0.1                                | TWA 0.5 ppm<br>(Action Level)<br>TWA 0.75 ppm<br>STEL 2.0 ppm | Ceiling 0.3 ppm            |

Additional Information:

Product contains condensed urea-formaldehyde based polymeric resin which is classified as a non-hazardous component when polymerized.

Nuisance dust may be generated during cutting or abrading operations. OSHA considers nuisance dust as Particulate Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR) with an OSHA PEL of 15 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (total dust) and 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (respirable dust). ACGIH considers nuisance dust as Particulates Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC) with an ACGIH TLV of 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (inhalable particulate) and 3 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (respirable particulate).

### **SECTION III - PHYSICAL PROPERTIES**

**APPEARANCE AND ODOR:**

Rigid cellular plastic panel faced with resin-impregnated paper veneer.

**MOLECULAR WEIGHT:**

Not applicable to mixture.

**SPECIFIC GRAVITY:**

Specific gravity less than water.

**SOLUBILITY IN WATER:**

Not soluble in water.

**pH:**

Not applicable to solid product.

### **SECTION IV - FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA**

**FLASH POINT (DEGREES F< PENSKEY MARTINS CLOSED CUP):**

Not applicable to solid product.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:**

For small fires, use water spray, foam, carbon dioxide or dry chemical extinguishers. Larger fires should be extinguished immediately by drenching with water spray from fire hose.

**FLAMMABLE LIMITS:**

LOWER: None

UPPER: None

**SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:**

Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus and protective turnout clothing when involved in fire fighting activities.

**UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:**

The fire hazards associated with this product are comparable to those known to exist for normally combustible paper products. The formaldehyde constituent of this product should not increase the fire or explosive hazard nor alter fire fighting procedures. Similar to precautions for all paper products, do not smoke or use open flames, space heaters or other ignition sources near fabrication operations.

HAZARDOUS COMBUSTION PRODUCTS:

During a fire, smoke may contain the original material in addition to combustion products of varying composition which may be toxic and/or irritating. In smoldering or flaming conditions, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and carbon are generated. Combustion products may include and are not limited to hydrogen chloride, hydrogen bromide and hydrogen fluoride. Studies have shown that the products of combustion of this material are not more acutely toxic than the products of common building materials such as wood.

**SECTION V - REACTIVITY DATA**

STABILITY:

Stable.

CONDITIONS TO AVOID:

Heat and moisture can result in increased rate of formaldehyde off-gassing from the product.

INCOMPATIBILITY:

None known.

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:

Decomposition products can be affected by temperature, air supply and the presence of other materials. Decomposition products can include and are not limited to aromatic compounds, aldehydes, ethyl benzene, hydrogen bromide, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride, polymer fragments and styrene. Under high heat, non-flaming conditions, small amounts of aromatic hydrocarbons such as styrene and ethyl benzene are generated.

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:

Hazardous polymerization is not expected to occur. Heat and moisture can result in increased rate of formaldehyde off-gassing from the product.

**SECTION VI - HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION**

EXPOSURE FROM ROUTINE USE:

Solid or dust can cause irritation to the eyes, nose, throat, lungs, and skin.

EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE:

SKIN AND EYE CONTACT: Solid or dust may cause irritation or corneal injury due to mechanical action. Formaldehyde gas is an irritant and may cause tearing of the eyes at concentrations above 1 ppm. Effect is immediately reversible when exposure is terminated. Hypersensitive individuals may experience symptoms at concentrations lower than 1 ppm.

INGESTION: Ingestion is unlikely due to physical state.

INHALATION: Exposures of 1 ppm and above of free formaldehyde gas may cause upper respiratory tract irritation. Irritation is reversible when exposure is terminated. Hypersensitive individuals may experience symptoms at concentrations below 1 ppm.

PROBABLE ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:

Skin, eyes, inhalation

EMERGENCY FIRST AID PROCEDURES:

EYE CONTACT: Flush eyes with plenty of water for dust in eyes. Remove affected individual to fresh air if eyes are irritated from chemical gas/vapor.

SKIN CONTACT: Wash off dust with water

INHALATION: Remove to fresh air if effects occur. Consult a physician.

INGESTION: No adverse effects anticipated by this route of exposure.

## SECTION VII - TOXICITY DATA

ORAL: No tests have been performed.

DERMAL: No tests have been performed.

INHALATION: No tests have been performed.

EYE: No tests have been performed.

CARCINOGENICITY:

No tests have been conducted on the product, as a whole. Formaldehyde is classified by ACGIH as a suspected human carcinogen (Class A2) of the lung, nasopharynx, oropharynx and nasal passages when exposure limits are exceeded. EPA, OSHA and NIOSH consider formaldehyde as a probable human carcinogen. Young children and the elderly may be more at risk in the presence of formaldehyde emissions. Those persons with a history of allergies, asthma or lung problems may also be at a greater risk from formaldehyde emissions. Formaldehyde is known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. NTP -- Class 2 carcinogen, IARC -- Class 2A.

## **SECTION VIII - SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION**

### **WORK AND HYGIENE PRACTICES:**

Practice good personal hygiene when handling product. After contact with product, wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking. Do not eat, drink or smoke in areas where the product is being cut or sawn. Avoid blowing dust with compressed air.

### **STORAGE AND HANDLING PRACTICES:**

Store in well-ventilated areas. Where dust is stored for disposal, keep in a cool area away from heat and ignition sources.

### **PROTECTIVE PRACTICES DURING MAINTENANCE OF CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT:**

Keep open ignition sources out of areas where dust is generated.

### **VENTILATION AND ENGINEERING CONTROLS:**

Provide general and/or local exhaust ventilation to control airborne levels below the exposure guidelines. General ventilation is normally sufficient unless the product is subject to hot or humid conditions. If the environment is hot or humid, local exhaust ventilation may be the most effective means of controlling formaldehyde build-up.

### **RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:**

Atmospheric levels should be maintained below the exposure guidelines. When respiratory protection is required for certain operations, use NIOSH-approved air-purifying or supplied air respirators. A full-face respirator may be needed for excessively sensitive individuals to control upper respiratory tract irritation from formaldehyde gas.

### **EYE PROTECTION:**

Use safety glasses. If there is a potential for exposure to particles, which could cause mechanical injury to the eye, wear chemical goggles. A few excessively sensitive individuals may experience eye irritation, which may require use of a full-face piece respirator appropriate for controlling formaldehyde exposures.

### **HAND AND BODY PROTECTION:**

No skin protection precautions, other than clean body-covering clothing, should be required.

## **SECTION IX - SPILL, LEAK, AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES**

### **IN CASE MATERIAL IS SPILLED OR RELEASED:**

Do not use compressed air to remove dust. Vacuum or wet mop area.

## SECTION X - REGULATORY INFORMATION

DOT: Not Regulated.

Additional Requirements for State of California: Warning: Decorative laminated products contain formaldehyde, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Laminates contain small amounts of residual formaldehyde that may be released in measurable quantities when stored in bulk quantities.

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