



## Section 1 - Identification of The Material and Supplier

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**Chemical nature:** Water solution of ingredients.  
**Trade Name:** **Mechanix Degreaser**  
**Product Use:** Heavy Duty Cleaning and degreasing preparation.  
**Creation Date:** **August, 2011**  
**This version issued:** **September, 2011** and is valid for 5 years from this date.

## Section 2 - Hazards Identification

### Statement of Hazardous Nature

This product is classified as: C, Corrosive. Hazardous according to the criteria of SWA.  
Dangerous according to the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.

**Risk Phrases:** R34, R37. Causes burns. Irritating to respiratory system.

**Safety Phrases:** S20, S23, S26, S28, S38, S45, S24/25, S36/39. When using, do not eat or drink. Do not breathe vapours or mists. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of water. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment. In case of accident or if you feel unwell, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre immediately (show this MSDS where possible). Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear suitable protective clothing and eye/face protection.

**SUSMP Classification:** S5

**ADG Classification:** Class 8: Corrosive Substances.

**UN Number:** 1719, CAUSTIC ALKALI LIQUID, N.O.S. (contains Potassium Hydroxide).

### Emergency Overview

**Physical Description & Colour:** Clear pink fluorescent liquid

**Odour:** Slight odour.

**Major Health Hazards:** causes burns, respiratory tract irritant.

### Potential Health Effects

#### Inhalation:

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. However product is an inhalation irritant. Symptoms may include headache, irritation of nose and throat and increased secretion of mucous in the nose and throat. Other symptoms may also become evident, but they should disappear after exposure has ceased. If liquid enters nasal passages, it will cause pain and burn nasal membranes. Patients with inhalation burns may develop acute pulmonary oedema.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term inhalation.

#### Skin Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. It should present no hazards in normal use. However product is corrosive to the skin. Capable of causing moderate to severe burns with ulceration. Can penetrate to deeper layers of skin, resulting in third degree burns. Corrosion will continue until product is removed or neutralised. Severity depends on concentration and duration of exposure. Burns may not be immediately painful; the onset of pain may be minutes to hours.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term skin exposure.

#### Eye Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** This product is corrosive to eyes. It will cause severe pain, and corrosion of the eye and surrounding facial tissues. Unless exposure is quickly treated, permanent blindness and facial scarring is likely.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term eye exposure.

#### Ingestion:

**Short Term Exposure:** Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. However, this product is corrosive to the gastrointestinal tract. Capable of causing moderate to severe burns with ulceration. Can penetrate to deeper layers of skin, resulting in third degree burns. Corrosion will continue until product is removed or neutralised. Severity depends on concentration and duration of exposure.

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**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term ingestion.

**Carcinogen Status:**

**SWA:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by SWA.

**NTP:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

**IARC:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by IARC.

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### Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients

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Ingredients	CAS No	Conc,%	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Potassium hydroxide	1310-58-3	30g/L	2	Peak
Alkaline salts	various	3-6	not set	not set
Other non hazardous ingredients	various	5-10	not set	not set
Water	7732-18-5	to 100	not set	not set

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary slightly. Minor quantities of other non hazardous ingredients are also possible.

The SWA TWA exposure value is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that may be equalled (but should not be exceeded) for no longer than 15 minutes and should not be repeated more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The term "peak" is used when the TWA limit, because of the rapid action of the substance, should never be exceeded, even briefly.

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### Section 4 - First Aid Measures

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**General Information:**

You should call The Poisons Information Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia (0800 764 766 in New Zealand) and is available at all times. Have this MSDS with you when you call.

**Inhalation:** If irritation occurs, contact a Poisons Information Centre, or call a doctor. Remove source of contamination or move victim to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, oxygen may be beneficial if administered by trained personnel, preferably on a doctor's advice. In severe cases, symptoms of pulmonary oedema can be delayed up to 48 hours after exposure.

**Skin Contact:** Flush contaminated area with lukewarm, gently flowing water for at least 20-30 minutes, by the clock. DO NOT INTERRUPT FLUSHING. If necessary, keep emergency vehicle waiting (show paramedics this MSDS and take their advice). Under running water, remove contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods (eg watchbands and belts). If irritation persists, repeat flushing. Seek medical attention.

**Eye Contact:** Immediately flush the contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for at least 20-30 minutes, by the clock, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Neutral saline solution may be used as soon as it is available. DO NOT INTERRUPT FLUSHING. If necessary, keep emergency vehicle waiting (show paramedics this MSDS and take their advice). Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto face. If irritation persists, repeat flushing. Call a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor urgently. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

**Ingestion:** If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting; rinse mouth thoroughly with water and contact a Poisons Information Centre. Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed. Give activated charcoal if instructed.

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### Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

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**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** The major hazard in fires is usually inhalation of heated and toxic or oxygen deficient (or both), fire gases. There is no risk of an explosion from this product under normal circumstances if it is involved in a fire.

Only small quantities of decomposition products are expected from this product at temperatures normally achieved in a fire. This will only occur after heating to dryness.

Fire decomposition products from this product are likely to be irritating if inhaled.

**Extinguishing Media:** Not Combustible. Use extinguishing media suited to burning materials.

**Fire Fighting:** If a significant quantity of this product is involved in a fire, call the fire brigade.

**Flash point:** Does not burn.

**Upper Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.

**Lower Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.

**Autoignition temperature:** Not applicable - does not burn.

**Flammability Class:** Does not burn.

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## Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

**Accidental release:** This product is sold in small packages, and the accidental release from one of these is not usually a cause for concern. For minor spills, clean up, rinsing to sewer and put empty container in garbage. Although no special protective clothing is normally necessary because of occasional minor contact with this product, it is good practice to wear impermeable gloves when handling chemical products. In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses and call emergency services.

## Section 7 - Handling and Storage

**Handling:** Keep exposure to this product to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Check Section 8 of this MSDS for details of personal protective measures, and make sure that those measures are followed. The measures detailed below under "Storage" should be followed during handling in order to minimise risks to persons using the product in the workplace. Also, avoid contact or contamination of product with incompatible materials listed in Section 10.

**Storage:** This product is a Scheduled Poison. Observe all relevant regulations regarding sale, transport and storage of this schedule of poison. Make sure that containers of this product are kept tightly closed. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with substances listed under "Incompatibilities" in Section 10. Some liquid preparations settle or separate on standing and may require stirring before use. Check packaging - there may be further storage instructions on the label.

## Section 8 - Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

The following Australian Standards will provide general advice regarding safety clothing and equipment:

Respiratory equipment: **AS/NZS 1715**, Protective Gloves: **AS 2161**, Occupational Protective Clothing: AS/NZS 4501 set 2008, Industrial Eye Protection: **AS1336** and **AS/NZS 1337**, Occupational Protective Footwear: **AS/NZS2210**.

SWA Exposure Limits	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Potassium hydroxide	2	Peak

No special equipment is usually needed when occasionally handling small quantities. The following instructions are for bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs without proper containment systems.

**Ventilation:** This product should only be used in a well ventilated area. If natural ventilation is inadequate, use of a fan is suggested.

**Eye Protection:** Your eyes must be completely protected from this product by splash resistant goggles with face shield. All surrounding skin areas must be covered. Emergency eye wash facilities must also be available in an area close to where this product is being used.

**Skin Protection:** Because of the dangerous nature of this product, make sure that all skin areas are completely covered by impermeable gloves, overalls, hair covering, apron and face shield. See below for suitable material types.

**Protective Material Types:** We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: rubber, Viton, nitrile, butyl rubber, Barricade, neoprene, Teflon, polyethylene, PE/EVAL, Saranex, Responder.

**Respirator:** Usually, no respirator is necessary when using this product. However, if you have any doubts consult the Australian Standard mentioned above.

Safety deluge showers should, if practical, be provided near to where this product is being handled commercially.

## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

<b>Physical Description &amp; colour:</b>	Clear pink fluorescent liquid
<b>Odour:</b>	Slight odour.
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	Approximately 100°C at 100kPa.
<b>Freezing/Melting Point:</b>	Below 0°C.
<b>Volatiles:</b>	Water component.
<b>Vapour Pressure:</b>	2.37 kPa at 20°C (water vapour pressure).
<b>Vapour Density:</b>	No data.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	1.05
<b>Water Solubility:</b>	Completely soluble in water.
<b>pH:</b>	12.5
<b>Volatility:</b>	No data.
<b>Odour Threshold:</b>	No data.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	No data.
<b>Coeff Oil/water Distribution:</b>	No data
<b>Autoignition temp:</b>	Not applicable - does not burn.

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## Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

**Reactivity:** This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. However, if you have any doubts, contact the supplier for advice on shelf life properties.

**Conditions to Avoid:** Keep containers tightly closed.

**Incompatibilities:** acids, zinc, tin, aluminium and their alloys.

**Fire Decomposition:** Only small quantities of decomposition products are expected from this product at temperatures normally achieved in a fire. This will only occur after heating to dryness. Combustion forms carbon dioxide, and if incomplete, carbon monoxide and smoke. Water is also formed. May form nitrogen and its compounds, and under some circumstances, oxides of nitrogen. Occasionally hydrogen cyanide gas in reducing atmospheres. Potassium compounds. Carbon monoxide poisoning produces headache, weakness, nausea, dizziness, confusion, dimness of vision, disturbance of judgment, and unconsciousness followed by coma and death.

**Polymerisation:** This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

## Section 11 - Toxicological Information

**Local Effects:**

**Target Organs:** There is no data to hand indicating any particular target organs.

## Classification of Hazardous Ingredients

Ingredient	Risk Phrases
Potassium Hydroxide	$\geq 2\%$ Conc $< 5\%$ : C; R34

## Section 12 - Ecological Information

Insufficient data to be sure of status. However, until diluted or neutralised it will kill all aquatic organisms it contacts due to extreme pH.

## Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

**Disposal:** Dispose of small quantities and empty containers by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage. For larger quantities, if recycling or reclaiming is not possible, use a commercial waste disposal service.

## Section 14 - Transport Information

**ADG Code:** 1719, CAUSTIC ALKALI LIQUID, N.O.S. (contains Potassium Hydroxide).

**Hazchem Code:** 2R

**Special Provisions:** 223, 274

**Limited quantities:** ADG 7 specifies a Limited Quantity value of 5 L for this class of product.

**Dangerous Goods Class:** Class 8: Corrosive Substances.

**Packaging Group:** III

**Packaging Method:** P001, IBC03

Class 8 Corrosive Substances shall not be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 1 (Explosives), 4.3 (Dangerous When Wet Substances), 5.1 (Oxidising Agents), 5.2 (Organic Peroxides), 6 (Toxic Substances where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids), 7 (Radioactive Substances), Foodstuffs and foodstuff empties. They may however be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 2.1 (Flammable Gases), 2.2 (Non-Flammable, Non-Toxic Gases), 2.3 (Poisonous Gases), 3 (Flammable liquids), 4.1 (Flammable Solids), 4.2 (Spontaneously Combustible Substances), 6 (Toxic Substances except where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids) and 9 (Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods).

## Section 15 - Regulatory Information

**AICS:** All of the significant ingredients in this formulation are compliant with NICNAS regulations.

The following ingredients: Potassium hydroxide, Alkaline salts, are mentioned in the SUSMP.

## Section 16 - Other Information

This MSDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.

**Acronyms:**

**ADG Code** Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (7<sup>th</sup> edition)  
**AICS** Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Issued by: Pascoe's Pty Ltd

Phone: 1800 065 326 (office hours)

Poisons Information Centre: 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia, (0800 764 766 in New Zealand)



<b>SWA</b>	Safe Work Australia, formerly ASCC and NOHSC
<b>CAS number</b>	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
<b>Hazchem Code</b>	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
<b>IARC</b>	International Agency for Research on Cancer
<b>NOS</b>	Not otherwise specified
<b>NTP</b>	National Toxicology Program (USA)
<b>R-Phrase</b>	Risk Phrase
<b>SUSMP</b>	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines & Poisons
<b>UN Number</b>	United Nations Number

THIS MSDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER MUST REVIEW THIS MSDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE.

IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

This MSDS is prepared in accord with the SWA document "National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets" 2nd Edition [NOHSC:2011(2003)]  
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## **MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET**