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De-Comp Composites, Inc.
Rt 4 Box 4460 Cleveland OK 74020
Phone (918)-358-5881

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

POLYESTER STAPLE

L31010

Issue Date: October 28, 1985

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Emergency Contact - CHEMTREC 1-(800)-424-9300

Product Identification

Polyester Staple is a family of fiber products having similar hazard and physical property characteristics. These products are made from polyethylene terephthalate polymer (CAS# 25038-59-9) and one or more surface finishes applied at < 1% total weight of fiber.

Hazardous Ingredients

There are no known physical or health hazards associated with this product. In skin tests on human subjects, the fibers produced no irritation or sensitization.

The polymer immobilizes the constituents of the polymer system (delusterants, catalyst residues, etc.) which, therefore, presents no likelihood of exposure under normal conditions of processing and handling.

However, exposure to chemical substances may occur as a result of processing these fibers. Processing may release and aerosolize the residual moisture and surface finishes. Heating the fibers may volatilize the finishes or produce a chemical change.

Physical-Chemical Data

Polyethylene terephthalate is chemically stable and resistant to attack by oils, solvents, weak acids and weak alkalis. The polymer melts at about 500°F.

Physical Hazards

Polyester Staple will burn if exposed to flame. Decomposition products generated from molten polymer may be subject to autoignition. Combustion products will be comprised of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. The exact composition will depend on the conditions of combustion.

Health Hazard Data

Results from toxicity studies suggest that these fibers would pose no significant health problems under normal conditions of handling and use.

Control Measures

Adequate ventilation is recommended to maintain finish mist levels below 3 mg/m³ 8-hour TWA.

Fire fighters should protect themselves from decomposition and combustion products that may include carbon monoxide and other toxic gases.

Safe Handling Procedures

Customary personal hygiene measures, such as washing hands after working with such fibers, are recommended. Use of safety glasses and gloves and standing to one side when cutting bale wires is advised.

Disposal and Shipping Information

These products are not classified as hazardous wastes under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and, unless prohibited by state or local regulation, can be disposed of in a municipal landfill or incinerated. Any finish oils contained in plant waste water should be biodegradable in conventional biological wastewater treatment systems.

These fibers are not classified by the Department of Transportation as a hazardous material.

Information Contact

ARTEVA SPECIALTIES S.à.r.l. d/b/a KoSa
Environmental Safety and Health Affairs
P. O. Box 37388
Charlotte, NC 28237-7388
(704) 586-7434

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