



# PURITAN PRODUCTS

Effective Date: 01/01/13  
Replaces Revision: 04/23/12

NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE  
610-866-4225

24-HOUR CHEMTREC EMERGENCY TELEPHONE  
800-424-9300

## SDS – SAFETY DATA SHEET

### 1. Identification

**Product Identifier:** FORMALDEHYDE

**Synonyms:** Formaldehyde 37%, Formalin, Morbicid Acid, Methylene Oxide, Methyl Aldehyde

**Chemical Formula:** HCHO and CH<sub>3</sub>OH in water

**Recommended Use of the Chemical and Restrictions On Use:** Laboratory Reagent

**Manufacturer / Supplier:** Puritan Products; 2290 Avenue A, Bethlehem, PA 18017 **Phone:** 610-866-4225

**Emergency Phone Number:** 24-Hour Chemtrec Emergency Telephone 800-424-9300

### 2. Hazard(s) Identification

**Classification of the Substance or Mixture:**

Flammable liquids (Category 4)  
Acute toxicity, Oral (Category 3)  
Acute toxicity, Inhalation (Category 3)  
Acute toxicity, Dermal (Category 3)  
Skin corrosion (Category 1A)  
Serious eye damage (Category 1)  
Respiratory sensitization (Category 1)  
Skin sensitization (Category 1)  
Carcinogenicity (Category 2)  
Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure (Category 1)  
Acute aquatic toxicity (Category 3)

**Risk Phrases:**

Symbol: T  
R23/24/25: Toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed.  
R34: Causes burns.  
R40: Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.  
R43: May cause sensitization by skin contact.

**Label Elements:**

**Trade Name:** FORMALDEHYDE

**Signal Word:** Danger



**Hazard Statements:**

H227: Combustible liquid.

H301 + H311: Toxic if swallowed or in contact with skin.

H314: Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

H317: May cause an allergic skin reaction.

H331: Toxic if inhaled.

H334: May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled.

H351: Suspected of causing cancer.

H370: Causes damage to organs.

H402: Harmful to aquatic life.

**Precautionary Statements:**

P260: Do not breathe dust / fume / gas / mist / vapors / spray.

P280: Wear protective gloves / protective clothing.

P301 + P310: IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor / physician.

P305 + P351 + P338: IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

P307 + P311: IF exposed: Call a POISON CENTER or doctor / physician.

**3. Composition / Information on Ingredients****CAS Number:** 50-00-0**EC Number:** 200-001-8**Index Number:** 605-001-00-5**Molecular Weight:** 30.03 g/mol

Ingredient	CAS Number	EC Number	Percent	Hazardous	Chemical Characterization
Formaldehyde	50-00-0	200-001-8	37 %	Yes	Substance
Methyl Alcohol	67-56-1	200-659-6	10 – 15 %	Yes	Substance
Water	7732-18-5	231-791-2	48 – 53 %	No	Mixture

**4. First-aid Measures**

In all cases, immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor / physician.

**Inhalation:** Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give Oxygen. Call a physician immediately.

**Ingestion:** If swallowed and the victim is conscious, dilute, inactivate, or absorb the ingested formaldehyde by giving milk, activated charcoal, or water. Any organic material will inactivate formaldehyde. Keep affected person warm and at rest. Get medical attention immediately. If vomiting occurs, keep head lower than hips.

**Skin Contact:** Immediately flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention immediately. Wash clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse.

**Eye Contact:** Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, lifting lower and upper eyelids occasionally. Get medical attention immediately.

**Note to Physician:** Monitor arterial blood gases and methanol levels after significant ingestion. Hemodialysis may be effective in formaldehyde removal. Use formic acid in urine and formaldehyde in blood or expired air as diagnostic tests.

## 5. Fire-fighting Measures

**Fire:** Flammable liquid and vapor! Gas vaporizes readily from solution and is flammable in air. / Flash point: 60C (140F) CC / Autoignition temperature: 300C (572F) / Flammable limits in air % by volume: lel: 7.0; uel: 73

**Explosion:** Above flash point, vapor-air mixtures are explosive within flammable limits noted above. Containers may explode when involved in a fire.

**Fire Extinguishing Media:** Water spray, dry chemical, alcohol foam, or Carbon Dioxide.

**Special Information:** In the event of a fire, wear full protective clothing and NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus with full face piece operated in the pressure demand or other positive pressure mode. Water may be used to flush spills away from exposures and to dilute spills to non-flammable mixtures.

## 6. Accidental Release Measures

**Personal Precautions, Protective Equipment and Emergency Procedures:** Ventilate area of leak or spill. Remove all sources of ignition. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment as specified in Section 8. Isolate hazard area. Keep unnecessary and unprotected personnel from entering.

**Environmental Precautions and Methods and Materials for Containment and Cleaning Up:** Contain and recover liquid when possible. Use non-sparking tools and equipment. Do not let product enter drains. Collect liquid in an appropriate container or absorb with an inert material (e. g., vermiculite, dry sand, earth,) and place in a chemical waste container. Do not use combustible materials, such as saw dust. Do not flush to sewer! Use water spray to reduce vapors and dilute spills to nonflammable mixtures. If a leak or spill has not ignited, use water spray to disperse the vapors, to protect personnel attempting to stop leak, and to flush spills away from exposures. US Regulations (CERCLA) require reporting spills and releases to soil, water and air in excess of reportable quantities. The toll free number for the US Coast Guard National Response Center is (800) 424-8802.

## 7. Handling and Storage

**Precautions for Safe Handling and Conditions for Safe Storage, Including Any Incompatibilities:** Store in a tightly closed container. Protect against physical damage. Store in a cool, dry well-ventilated location, away from any area where the fire hazard may be acute. Outside or detached storage is preferred. Separate from incompatibles. Containers should be bonded and grounded for transfers to avoid static sparks. Storage and use areas should be No Smoking areas. Use non-sparking type tools and equipment, including explosion proof ventilation. Wear special protective equipment (Section 8, herein) for maintenance break-in or where exposures may exceed established exposure levels. Wash hands, face, forearms and neck when exiting restricted areas. Shower, dispose of outer clothing, and change to clean garments at the end of the day. Avoid cross-contamination of street clothes. Wash hands before eating and do not eat, drink, or smoke in workplace. Protect from freezing. Containers of this material may be hazardous when empty since they retain product residues (vapors, liquid.) Observe all warnings and precautions listed for the product.

## 8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protection

### Airborne Exposure Limits:

OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL): 0.75 ppm (TWA), 2 ppm (STEL), 0.5 ppm (TWA) action level for formaldehyde, 200 ppm (TWA) for methanol

ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV): 0.3 ppm Ceiling formaldehyde, Sensitizer, A2 Suspected Human Carcinogen 200 ppm (TWA) 250 ppm (STEL) skin for methanol

**Ventilation System:** A system of local and / or general exhaust is recommended to keep employee exposures below the Airborne Exposure Limits. Local exhaust ventilation is generally preferred because it can control the emissions of the contaminant at its source, preventing dispersion of it into the general work area. Please refer to the ACGIH document, *Industrial Ventilation, A Manual of Recommended Practices*, most recent edition, for details.

**Personal Respirators (NIOSH Approved):** If the exposure limit is exceeded and engineering controls are not feasible, a full face piece respirator with a formaldehyde cartridge may be worn up to 50 times the exposure limit or the maximum use concentration specified by the appropriate regulatory agency or respirator supplier, whichever is lowest. For emergencies or instances where the exposure levels are not known, use a full face piece positive-pressure, air-supplied respirator. **WARNING:** Air purifying respirators do not protect workers in Oxygen-deficient atmospheres. Irritation also provides warning.

**Skin Protection:** Wear impervious protective clothing, including boots, gloves, lab coat, apron or coveralls, as appropriate, to prevent skin contact.

**Eye Protection:** Use chemical safety goggles and / or a full face shield where splashing is possible. Maintain eye wash fountain and quick-drench facilities in work area.

## 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

**Appearance:** Clear, colorless liquid

**Odor:** Pungent odor

**Odor Threshold:** Not determined

**pH:** 2.8 (31% solution)

**% Volatiles by volume @ 21C (70F):** 100

**Melting Point:** -15C (5F)

**Boiling Point / Boiling Range:** 96C (205F)

**Flash Point:** 60C (140F) CC

**Evaporation Rate (BuAC=1):** 1

**Flammability:** Flammable liquid and vapor

**Upper / Lower Flammability or Explosive Limits:** lel: 7.0; uel: 7.3

**Vapor Pressure (mm Hg):** 53 hPa (40 mmHg) at 39 C (102 F)

**Vapor Density (Air=1):** 1.04

**Relative Density:** 1.09 g/cm<sup>3</sup> at 25 °C (77 °F)

**Solubility:** Infinitely soluble

**Partition Coefficient: n-octanol / water:** log Pow: 0.35

**Auto-ignition Temperature:** 300C (572F)

**Decomposition Temperature:** No information found

**Viscosity:** No information found

## 10. Stability and Reactivity

**Reactivity and / or Chemical Stability:** Stable under ordinary conditions of use and storage.

**Possibility of Hazardous Reactions and Conditions to Avoid:** Heat, flames, ignition sources and incompatibles.

**Incompatible Materials:** Incompatible with oxidizing agents and alkalis. Reacts explosively with Nitrogen Dioxide at ca. 180C (356F). Reacts violently with Perchloric Acid, Perchloric Acid-aniline mixtures, and Nitromethane. Reaction with Hydrochloric Acid may form Bis-chloromethyl Ether, an OSHA regulated carcinogen.

**Hazardous Decomposition Products:** May form Carbon Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, and Formaldehyde when heated to decomposition.

## 11. Toxicological Information

**Emergency Overview:** POISON! DANGER! SUSPECT CANCER HAZARD. MAY CAUSE CANCER. Risk of cancer depends on level and duration of exposure. VAPOR HARMFUL. HARMFUL IF INHALED OR ABSORBED THROUGH SKIN. N CAUSES IRRITATION TO SKIN, EYES AND RESPIRATORY TRACT. STRONG SENSITIZER. MAY BE FATAL OR CAUSE BLINDNESS IF SWALLOWED. CANNOT BE MADE NONPOISONOUS. FLAMMABLE LIQUID AND VAPOR.

## Potential Health Effects:

The perception of formaldehyde by odor and eye irritation becomes less sensitive with time as one adapts to formaldehyde. This can lead to overexposure if a worker is relying on formaldehyde's warning properties to alert him or her to the potential for exposure.

**Inhalation:** May cause sore throat, coughing, and shortness of breath. Causes irritation and sensitization of the respiratory tract. Concentrations of 25 to 30 ppm cause severe respiratory tract injury leading to pulmonary edema and pneumonitis. May be fatal in high concentrations.

**Ingestion:** Can cause severe abdominal pain, violent vomiting, headache, and diarrhea. Larger doses may produce decreased body temperature, pain in the digestive tract, shallow respiration, weak irregular pulse, unconsciousness and death. Methanol component affects the optic nerve and may cause blindness.

**Skin Contact:** Toxic. May cause irritation to skin with redness, pain, and possibly burns. Skin absorption may occur with symptoms paralleling those from ingestion. Formaldehyde is a severe skin irritant and sensitizer. Contact causes white discoloration, smarting, cracking and scaling.

**Eye Contact:** Vapors cause irritation to the eyes with redness, pain, and blurred vision. Higher concentrations or splashes may cause irreversible eye damage.

**Chronic Exposure:** Frequent or prolonged exposure to formaldehyde may cause hypersensitivity leading to contact dermatitis. Repeated or prolonged skin contact with formaldehyde may cause an allergic reaction in some people. Vision impairment and enlargement of liver may occur from methanol component. Formaldehyde is a suspected carcinogen (positive animal inhalation studies.)

**Aggravation of Pre-existing Conditions:** Persons with pre-existing skin disorders or eye problems, or impaired liver, kidney or respiratory function may be more susceptible to the effects of the substance. Previously exposed persons may have an allergic reaction to future exposures.

**Specific Target Organ Toxicity - Single Exposure (Globally Harmonized System):** No data available.

**Specific Target Organ Toxicity - Repeated Exposure (Globally Harmonized System):** No data available.

**Numerical Measures of Toxicity:** Cancer Lists: NTP Carcinogen

Ingredient	Known	Anticipated	IARC Category
Formaldehyde (50-00-0)	No	Yes	2A
Methyl Alcohol (67-56-1)	No	No	None
Water (7732-18-5)	No	No	None

### Acute Toxicity:

Formaldehyde:

Oral rat LD50: 100 mg/kg; skin rabbit LD50: 270 uL/kg, Irritation data: eye, rabbit, 750ug Severe; inhalation rat LC50: 203 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; investigated as a tumorigen, mutagen, reproductive effector; Cancer Status: an OSHA regulated carcinogen.

Methanol:

Oral rat LD50: 5628 mg/kg; inhalation rat LC50: 64000 ppm/4H; skin rabbit LD50: 15800 mg/kg; investigated as a tumorigen, mutagen, reproductive effector.

## 12. Ecological Information

### Ecotoxicity:

Formaldehyde:

96 h LC50 fathead minnow: 24.1 mg/L (flow-through)

96 h LC50 bluegill: 0.10 mg/L (flow-through)

96 h EC50 water flea: 20 mg/L

The Methanol portion is expected to be slightly toxic to aquatic life. The LC50 / 96 h values for fish are between 10 and 100 mg/l.

### Persistence and Degradability:

#### Formaldehyde:

When released into water, this material is expected to readily biodegrade. When released into the air, this material is expected to be readily degraded by reaction with photochemically produced hydroxyl radicals. When released into the air, this material is expected to be readily degraded by photolysis. When released into the air, this material is expected to be readily removed from the atmosphere by dry and wet deposition. When released into the air, this material is expected to have a half-life of less than 1 day.

#### Methanol:

When released into the soil, this material is expected to readily biodegrade. When released into water, this material is expected to readily biodegrade. When released into the water, this material is expected to have a half-life between 1 and 10 days. When released into the air, this material is expected to be readily degraded by reaction with photochemically produced hydroxyl radicals. When released into the air, this material is expected to be readily removed from the atmosphere by wet deposition. When released into air, this material is expected to have a half-life between 10 and 30 days.

### Bioaccumulative Potential:

#### Formaldehyde:

This material is not expected to significantly bioaccumulate.

#### Methanol:

When released into the soil, this material is expected to quickly evaporate.

### Mobility in Soil:

When released into the soil, this material is expected to leach into groundwater.

**Other adverse effects:** US Regulations (CERCLA) require reporting spills and releases to soil, water and air in excess of reportable quantities. The toll free number for the US Coast Guard National Response Center is (800) 424-8802.

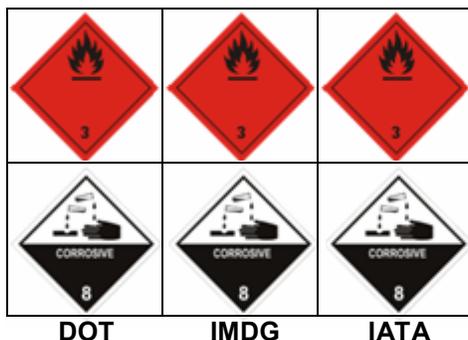
## 13. Disposal Considerations

Whatever cannot be saved for recovery or recycling should be handled as hazardous waste and sent to a RCRA approved incinerator or disposed in a RCRA approved waste facility. Processing, use or contamination of this product may change the waste management options. State and local disposal regulations may differ from federal disposal regulations. Dispose of container and unused contents in accordance with federal, state and local requirements.

## 14. Transport Information

**UN Number:** UN1198

**Packing Group:** III



**Land Transport ADR/RID and GGVS/GGVE (Cross Border / Domestic)****UN Proper Shipping Name:** RQ, FORMALDEHYDE, SOLUTION, FLAMMABLE**Transport Hazard Class(es):** 3, 8**Maritime Transport IMDG/GGVSea****UN Proper Shipping Name:** FORMALDEHYDE, SOLUTION**Transport Hazard Class(es):** 3, 8**Marine Pollutant:** No**Air Transport ICAO-TI and IATA-DGR****UN Proper Shipping Name:** FORMALDEHYDE, SOLUTION**Transport Hazard Class(es):** 3, 8**Transport in Bulk According to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code****Special Precautions for User:** No additional information**15. Regulatory Information****Chemical Inventory Status – Part 1**

Ingredient	TSCA	EC	Japan	Australia
Formaldehyde (50-00-0)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Methyl Alcohol (67-56-1)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Water (7732-18-5)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Chemical Inventory Status – Part 2**

Ingredient	Korea	Canada		Phil.
		DSL	NDSL	
Formaldehyde (50-00-0)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Methyl Alcohol (67-56-1)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Water (7732-18-5)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

**Federal, State & International Regulations - Part 1**

Ingredient	SARA 302		SARA 313	
	RQ	TPQ	List Chemical	Catg.
Formaldehyde (50-00-0)	100	500	Yes	No
Methyl Alcohol (67-56-1)	No	No	Yes	No
Water (7732-18-5)	No	No	No	No

**Federal, State & International Regulations - Part 2**

Ingredient	RCRA		TSCA
	CERCLA	261.33	8(d)
Formaldehyde (50-00-0)	100	U122	Yes
Methyl Alcohol (67-56-1)	5000	U154	No
Water (7732-18-5)	No	No	No

<b>Chemical Weapons Convention:</b> No	<b>TSCA 12(b):</b> No		<b>CDTA:</b> No
<b>SARA 311/312:</b> Acute: Yes	<b>Chronic:</b> Yes	<b>Fire:</b> Yes	<b>Pressure:</b> No
<b>Reactivity:</b> No	Mixture / Liquid		

WARNING: THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS A CHEMICAL(S) KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CAUSE CANCER.

## 16. Other Information

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DATA SHEET IS BASED ON THE DATA AVAILABLE TO PURITAN PRODUCTS AT THIS TIME. WHILE BELIEVED TO BE ACCURATE, PURITAN PRODUCTS DOES NOT CLAIM IT TO BE ALL INCLUSIVE. IT IS PROVIDED INDEPENDENT OF ANY SALE OF THE PRODUCT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAZARD COMMUNICATION, AND AS A GUIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATE PRECAUTIONARY HANDLING OF THE PRODUCT BY PROPERLY TRAINED INDIVIDUALS. IT IS NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE PRODUCT PERFORMANCE OR APPLICABILITY INFORMATION, AND NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF ANY KIND IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE PRODUCT, THE UNDERLYING PRODUCT DATA, OR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN.

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