



## Section 1: Identification of the Material and Supplier

**Product Name:** Liquid Alkali 30 %

**Other Names:** Aqueous solution of sodium and potassium hydroxides.

**Proper shipping name (ADG Code):** Caustic alkali liquids, n.o.s.  
(sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide)

**Recommended use:** As a concentrated strong alkali.  
Use as directed on the product label.

**Supplier:** Hunters Products (TAS) Pty. Ltd.,  
A.C.N. 004 601 263

### HEAD OFFICE

60 Gleadow Street,  
INVERMAY TAS 7248  
Tel: 03 6331 4755  
Fax: 03 6334 1065

### HOBART OFFICE

105 Albert Road,  
MOONAH TAS 7009  
Tel: 03 6228 7955  
Fax: 03 6228 7988

### BURNIE OFFICE

22 Pearl Street,  
WIVENHOE TAS 7320  
Tel: 03 6431 9627  
Fax: 03 6432 2083

### Emergency Phone Numbers:

Transport/Fire Emergency: 000 (Emergency services)  
Medical Emergency: 131126 (Poisons Information Centre)

## Section 2: Hazards Identification

Classified as hazardous according to criteria of Worksafe Australia.

Dangerous goods.

**Risk Phrases:** R: 35 Causes severe burns.

**Safety Phrases:** S: 1/2 Keep locked up and out of the reach of children.  
S: 26 In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice.  
S: 36/37/39 Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection.  
S: 45 In case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately (show the label where possible).

## Section 3: Composition/Information on Ingredients

**Ingredients:**

Sodium hydroxide	[1310-73-2]	10 - 30 %
Potassium hydroxide	[1310-58-3]	10 - 30 %
Other ingredients deemed not to be hazardous		< 10 %
Water	[7732-18-5]	to 100 %

## Section 4: First Aid Measures

**For advice, contact a Poisons Information Centre (Phone 131126) or a doctor.**

**Swallowed:** If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting.

**Skin:** If skin or hair contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing and flush skin and hair with running water.

**Eyes:** If in eyes, hold eyelids apart and flush the eye continuously with running water. Continue flushing until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Centre or a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes.

**Inhaled:** Remove from exposure, rest and keep warm. Seek medical advice.

**First Aid facilities:**

**Mandatory:** Eye wash. Hand wash basin.

**Recommended:** Emergency shower if handling industrial quantities.

**Advice to Doctor:**

Product is a concentrated aqueous solution of sodium and potassium hydroxides. Corrosive by all routes. Risk of serious eye damage. If swallowed, may cause holes in stomach and intestines. Contact Poisons Information Centre.

**Aggravated medical conditions:**

No specific data found.

## Section 5: Fire Fighting Measures

**HAZCHEM Code:** 2 R

**Evacuate:** No.

**Extinguishant:** Water fog or fine water spray.

**Risk of violent reaction or explosion:** No.

**Products of combustion:** Water vapour, oxides of sodium and potassium.

**Protective Equipment:** Full protective clothing including breathing apparatus and protective gloves.

## Section 6: Accidental Release Measures

**Emergency Procedures:**

Dilute.

**For large spills:**

Contain spillages with sand or earth. Transfer both liquid and solids to suitable container(s). Treat residues as for small spills.

**For small spills:**

If local regulations permit, mop up with plenty of water and run to waste, diluting greatly with running water. Otherwise, absorb on inert absorbent and transfer to suitable closed container. Wash site of spillage thoroughly with water and detergent.

## Section 7: Handling and Storage

**Precautions for safe handling:**

Avoid contact with skin and eyes.  
 Avoid breathing aerosols.  
 Keep away from acids and acidic salts, ammonium compounds, active metals.

**Conditions for safe storage:**

Store in a cool, well ventilated place, out of reach of children. Large quantities should be stored in a bonded dangerous goods store. Store in original container. Keep container tightly closed and out of direct sunlight. Keep away from acids, active metals, ammonium compounds, nitro compounds, organic halides. Protect from physical damage. Clean up all spills and splashes promptly; avoid secondary accidents.

**Incompatibles:**

Acids, active metals, ammonium compounds, nitro compounds, organic halides.

## Section 8: Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

**National Exposure Standards:**

<b>ES-TWA:</b>	Sodium hydroxide	2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Potassium hydroxide	2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
<b>ES-STEL:</b>	None assigned.	
<b>ES-PEAK:</b>	Sodium hydroxide	2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Potassium hydroxide	2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>

**Notations:** None assigned.

*[Peak] indicates a ceiling concentration which should not be exceeded, even momentarily.*

**Biological Limit Values:** No data found.

**Engineering Controls:**

Do not use active metals (e.g. aluminium, lead, tin, zinc or galvanised iron), wood or wood products as materials of construction.

Ensure adequate ventilation (same as outdoors) when using.

If handling industrial quantities, or if aerosol risk exists, consider local mechanical exhaust/extraction to keep airborne contamination as low as possible and at least below the TLV.

**Personal Protective Equipment:**

Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid breathing aerosols. Personal protection to be selected from those recommended below, as appropriate to mode of use, quantity handled and degree of hazard:-

**Normal Use:**

Eye/face protection

Gloves, rubber or plastic.

**Industrial Quantities:**

Face shield or safety glasses

Gloves, rubber or plastic

Plastic apron, sleeves and boots

Impervious overalls.

## Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

Appearance: Clear, colourless, heavy liquid.

Odour: Almost odourless.

pH: About 14 - very alkaline.

Vapour Pressure: No data.

Vapour Density: No data.

Boiling Point: > 100 °C

Melting Point: No data.

Volatiles: About 70 % [water]

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC): < 1 %

Evaporation Rate: No data.

Solubilities: Miscible with water in all proportions.

Specific Gravity/Density: About 1.29 g/mL @ 20 °C

Flash Point: None.

Flammable Limits: None.

Dust Explosion: Not applicable.

Auto-ignition Temperature: No data.

**Other Information:**

Highly alkaline. Will react vigorously or violently with acids or acidic salts. Will absorb carbon dioxide from the air, forming carbonates. Will attack active metals (such as aluminium, lead, tin, zinc or galvanised iron) generating hydrogen, a flammable gas. Contact with ammonium compounds may generate ammonia, a toxic gas. Will attack wood, sawdust, wood shavings and wood products (such as paper, cardboard, chipboards). May attack glass on prolonged contact. Will saponify animal fats and tallows, forming

soaps. Corrosive to living tissues. Incompatible with nitro compounds, organic halides. Very slippery when spilled.

## Section 10: Stability and Reactivity

- Chemical Stability:** Stable under normal conditions.
- Conditions to Avoid:** Incompatible materials.
- Incompatible Materials:** Acids, active metals, ammonium compounds, nitro compounds, organic halides, wood and wood products.
- Hazardous Decomposition Products:** Oxides of sodium, oxides of potassium.
- Hazardous Reactions:** Will react vigorously or violently with acids. Corrodes active metals with evolution of hydrogen. Contact with ammonium compounds may generate ammonia. May form shock-sensitive salts with nitro compounds.

## Section 11: Toxicological Information

**Health Effects:**

No data available for the mixture. Information presented relates to individual ingredients.

- Acute:**
- Swallowed:** Corrosive. May be fatal. Causes severe damage to any tissues it comes into contact with. May cause swelling of the larynx and subsequent suffocation. May cause burns in the mouth and throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea (sometimes bloody), fall in blood pressure, heart failure, coma and death. May cause perforation of the stomach and intestines. The sites of subsequent scarring has been associated with the development of stomach cancers.
  - Skin:** Corrosive. Causes severe burns and deep ulceration. Mists and aerosols may cause small burns.
  - Eyes:** Corrosive. Risk of serious damage to the eyes. Damage may be permanent, including impaired or total loss of sight.
  - Inhaled:** Aerosols may cause damage to the lungs and upper respiratory tract. Effects may range from mild irritation, coughing, a burning sensation, laboured breathing, sneezing, sore throat and runny nose, to severe pneumonitis (inflammation of lung tissues). Over-exposure may cause pulmonary oedema (fluid build-up in the lungs) with potential

to become a medical emergency. Onset of symptoms may be delayed for several hours.

**Chronic:** Repeated skin exposure may lead to dermatitis and burns.  
Repeated inhalation exposure may cause lung damage.

**LD<sub>50</sub> :** Sodium hydroxide No data found.  
Potassium hydroxide 273 mg/kg oral, rat.

**LDLo:** Sodium hydroxide 1.57 mg/kg oral, human -  
anorexia, body temperature increase,  
primary irritation (after topical  
exposure), death.

## Section 12: Ecological Information

**Ecotoxicity:** Harmful to aquatic organisms.  
**Persistence and degradability:** No data.  
**Mobility:** Readily transported by water.  
**Environmental Fate:** No data.  
**Bioaccumulative potential:** No data.  
**Other adverse environmental effects:** No data.

## Section 13: Disposal Considerations

The generator of any wastes from this product is responsible for its proper classification, transport and disposal.

Consult appropriate local and State regulations.

**Disposal methods and containers:**  
Avoid disposal to natural waters or the environment.

**Special precautions for landfill or incineration:**  
Unsuitable for incineration.

## Section 14: Transport Information

**UN Number:** UN 1719  
**UN Proper shipping name:** Caustic alkali liquid, n.o.s.  
(sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide)  
**Class and subsidiary risk:** 8 Corrosive.  
**Packaging group:** II

**Special precautions for user:** Do not store or transport with dangerous goods of classes 1, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 7, 8 (acidic), foodstuff and foodstuff empties.  
Dilute spillages.

**HAZCHEM Code:** 2 R

**Material for export:** Regulated.  
Refer to **IMO/IMDG** and **IATA/ICAO**.

## Section 15: Regulatory Information

**Poisons (SUSDP):** Schedule 6  
*Sodium hydroxide > 5 %, and  
Potassium hydroxide > 5 %.*

**Dangerous Goods:** Yes. UN 1719 8/II 2 R.

<b>Carcinogen:</b>	<b>Australia</b>	<b>IARC</b>	<b>NTP</b>	<b>RTECS</b>
	No.	No.	No.	No.

**Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act:** Not applicable.

**Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS):** Listed.

**Other National/International Regulations:** No data.

## Section 16: Other information

**Date of MSDS update:** August 2008  
Complete review and re-write of all sections.

**Abbreviations:**

NOHSC - National Occupational Health and Safety Commission.  
ACGIH - American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.  
MAK - Maximum workplace concentration - Germany,  
(*maximale Arbeitsplatzkonzentration*)  
IARC - International Agency for Research on Cancer (France).  
NPT - National Toxicology Program (USA).  
RTECS - Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.

**Literature references:**

**Other Available Sources of Data:**

*National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets 2nd Edition [2011(2003)] - NOHSC.*  
*Australian Dangerous Goods Code.*  
*Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons - AHMAC.*  
*Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment [1003]- NOHSC.*  
*List of Designated Hazardous Substances [10005] - NOHSC.*  
*Merck Index - Merck Inc.*  
*Sax's Dangerous Properties of Industrial Materials - Lewis.*  
*Handbook of Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals and Carcinogens - Sittig.*  
*Handbook of Reactive Chemical Hazards - Bretherick.*

*Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary - Wiley Interscience.*  
*AUSREG's Chemical Data Package for PCs - AUSREG Consultancy.*