Material Safety Data Sheet
Potassium Metabisulfite

ACC# 19450

Section 1 - Chemical Product and Company Identification

**MSDS Name:** Potassium Metabisulfite  
**Catalog Numbers:** P197 500, P197-500, P197500, P269-12, P269-212, P269-500, P269212, P269500  
**Synonyms:** Potassium Pyrosulfate; Dipotassium Disulfate; Pyrosulfurous Acid, Dipotassium Salt; Disulfurous Acid, Dipotassium Salt  
**Company Identification:**  
Fisher Scientific  
1 Reagent Lane  
Fairifn, NJ 07410  
**For information, call:** 201-796-7100  
**Emergency Number:** 201-796-7100  
**For CHEMTREC assistance, call:** 800-424-9300  
**For International CHEMTREC assistance, call:** 703-527-3887

Section 2 - Composition, Information on Ingredients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAS#</th>
<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>EINECS/ELINCS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16731-55-8</td>
<td>Potassium metabisulfite</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>240-795-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hazard Symbols:** XN  
**Risk Phrases:** 22 31

Section 3 - Hazards Identification

**EMERGENCY OVERVIEW**

Appearance: white. **Caution!** May cause allergic respiratory reaction. May cause eye and skin irritation. Ingestion may result in anallergic reaction.
Target Organs: None.

Potential Health Effects

Eye: May cause eye irritation.
Skin: May cause skin irritation. Low hazard for usual industrial handling.
Ingestion: May cause gastrointestinal irritation with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. May cause worsening of asthma in asthmatics. Individuals sensitive to sulfides may experience stomach upset, tightness in the chest, or wheezing.
Inhalation: May cause asthmatic attacks due to allergic sensitization of the respiratory tract. May cause respiratory tract irritation.
Chronic: No information found.

Section 4 - First Aid Measures

Eyes: Flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, occasionally lifting the upper and lower lids. If irritation develops, get medical aid.
Skin: Get medical aid if irritation develops or persists. Flush skin with plenty of soap and water.
Ingestion: If victim is conscious and alert, give 2-4 cupfuls of milk or water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical aid if irritation or symptoms occur.
Inhalation: Remove from exposure to fresh air immediately. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical aid if cough or other symptoms appear.
Notes to Physician: Treat symptomatically and supportively.

Section 5 - Firefighting Measures

General Information: As in any fire, wear a self-contained breathing apparatus in pressure-demand, MSHA/NIOSH (approved or equivalent), and full protective gear. Substance is noncombustible.
Extinguishing Media: Substance is noncombustible; use agent most appropriate to extinguish surrounding fire.
Autoignition Temperature: Not applicable.
Flash Point: Not applicable.

Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

General Information: Use proper personal protective equipment as indicated in Section 8.
Spills/Leaks: Clean up spills immediately, observing precautions in the Protective Equipment section. Sweep up or absorb material, then place into a suitable clean, dry, closed container for disposal.

Section 7 - Handling and Storage

Handling: Wash thoroughly after handling. Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse. Use with adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid ingestion and inhalation. Do not allow contact with water.
Storage: Keep away from heat and flame. Store in a cool, dry place. Keep containers tightly closed.
Section 8 - Exposure Controls, Personal Protection

Engineering Controls: Use adequate ventilation to keep airborne concentrations low.

Exposure Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>ACGIH</th>
<th>NIOSH</th>
<th>OSHA - Final PELs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potassium metabisulfite</td>
<td>none listed</td>
<td>none listed</td>
<td>none listed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OSHA Vacated PELs: Potassium metabisulfite: No OSHA Vacated PELs are listed for this chemical.

Personal Protective Equipment

Eyes: Wear appropriate protective eyeglasses or chemical safety goggles as described by OSHA's eye and face protection regulations in 29 CFR 1910.133 or European Standard EN166.

Skin: Wear appropriate protective gloves to prevent skin exposure.

Clothing: Wear appropriate protective clothing to prevent skin exposure.

Respirators: A respiratory protection program that meets OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.134 and ANSI Z88.2 requirements or European Standard EN 149 must be followed whenever workplace conditions warrant a respirator's use.

Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties

Physical State: Solid

Appearance: white

Odor: faint odor

pH: Not available.

Vapor Pressure: Not available.

Vapor Density: Not available.

Evaporation Rate:

Viscosity: Not available.

Boiling Point: Not available.

Freezing/Melting Point: Not available.

Decomposition Temperature: 150-190 deg C

Solubility: Appreciable solubility in water.

Specific Gravity/Density: 2.3

Molecular Formula: K2S2O5

Molecular Weight:

Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

Chemical Stability: Stable under normal temperatures and pressures.

Conditions to Avoid: Incompatible materials.

Incompatibilities with Other Materials: Strong acids, water, metals, nitrites.

Hazardous Decomposition Products: Oxides of potassium, sulfur oxides (SOx), including sulfur oxide and sulfur dioxide.

Hazardous Polymerization: Will not occur.

Section 11 - Toxicological Information

RTECS#: 

CAS# 16731-55-8: TT4920000

LD50/LC50:
Not available.

**Carcinogenicity:**
CAS# 16731-55-8: Not listed by ACGIH, IARC, NIOSH, NTP, or OSHA.

**Epidemiology:** According to IARC, there is inadequate evidence for the carcinogenicity in humans of metabisulfites.

**Teratogenicity:** No data available.

**Reproductive Effects:** In laboratory studies, potassium metabisulfite has caused reduced weight gain in newborn rats. TDL0 = 35 gm/kg.

**Neurotoxicity:** No data available.

**Mutagenicity:** In experimental systems, potassium metabisulfite has been observed to cause unscheduled DNA synthesis in rats when administered orally at a dose of 400 mg/kg.

**Other Studies:** No data available.

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**Section 12 - Ecological Information**

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**Section 13 - Disposal Considerations**

Dispose of in a manner consistent with federal, state, and local regulations.

**RCRA D-Series Maximum Concentration of Contaminants:** None listed.

**RCRA D-Series Chronic Toxicity Reference Levels:** None listed.

**RCRA F-Series:** None listed.

**RCRA P-Series:** None listed.

**RCRA U-Series:** None listed.

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**Section 14 - Transport Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>US DOT</th>
<th>IATA</th>
<th>RID/ADR</th>
<th>IMO</th>
<th>Canada TDG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>No information available.</td>
<td>No information available.</td>
<td>No information available, No information available.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hazard Class:**

**UN Number:**

**Packing Group:**

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**Section 15 - Regulatory Information**

**US FEDERAL**

**TSCA**
CAS# 16731-55-8 is listed on the TSCA inventory.

**Health & Safety Reporting List**
None of the chemicals are on the Health & Safety Reporting List.

**Chemical Test Rules**
None of the chemicals in this product are under a Chemical Test Rule.

**Section 12b**
None of the chemicals are listed under TSCA Section 12b.

**TSCA Significant New Use Rule**
None of the chemicals in this material have a SNUR under TSCA.
SARA

Section 302 (RQ)
None of the chemicals in this material have an RQ.

Section 302 (TPQ)
None of the chemicals in this product have a TPQ.

SARA Codes
CAS # 16731-55-8: acute.

Section 313
No chemicals are reportable under Section 313.

Clean Air Act:
This material does not contain any hazardous air pollutants. This material does not contain any Class 1 Ozone depleters. This material does not contain any Class 2 Ozone depleters.

Clean Water Act:
None of the chemicals in this product are listed as Hazardous Substances under the CWA. None of the chemicals in this product are listed as Priority Pollutants under the CWA. None of the chemicals in this product are listed as Toxic Pollutants under the CWA.

OSHA:
None of the chemicals in this product are considered highly hazardous by OSHA.

STATE
CAS# 16731-55-8 is not present on state lists from CA, PA, MN, MA, FL, or NJ.

California No Significant Risk Level: None of the chemicals in this product are listed. European/International Regulations

European Labeling in Accordance with EC Directives

Hazard Symbols:
XN

Risk Phrases:
R 22 Harmful if swallowed. R 31 Contact with acids liberates toxic gas.

Safety Phrases:
S 14 Keep away from ... (incompatible materials to be indicated by the manufacturer).

WGK (Water Danger/Protection)
CAS# 16731-55-8: 1

Canada
CAS# 16731-55-8 is listed on Canada’s DSL/NDSL List.
This product has a WHMIS classification of D1B, D2B.
CAS# 16731-55-8 is not listed on Canada’s Ingredient Disclosure List.

Exposure Limits

Section 16 - Additional Information

MSDS Creation Date: 5/08/1995
Revision #8 Date: 12/12/1997

The information above is believed to be accurate and represents the best information currently available to us. However, we make no warranty of merchantability or any other warranty, express or implied, with respect to such information, and we assume no liability resulting from its use. Users should make their own investigations to determine the suitability of the information for their particular purposes. In no way shall Fisher be liable for any claims, losses, or damages of any third party or for lost profits or any special, indirect, incidental, consequential or exemplary damages, howsoever arising, even if Fisher has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

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