



# SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE

UN 1791 (Solution)



Shipping Name: Hypochlorite solution, with more than 5% available chlorine  
Hypochlorite solution, with 16% or more available chlorine

Other Names: B-K Liquid                      Dakins solution  
Bleach    Hypochlorite  
Clorox    Sodium hypochlorite solution

## Hazards:

- Very irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs; skin and eye contact causes severe burns and blindness
- Container may explode or BLEVE when exposed to fire; solutions release oxygen upon storage
- Combustion products include toxic caustic fumes
- Corrosive to aluminum

## Awareness and Operational Level Training Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE or explosion
- Evacuate or shelter in place the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

## Description:

- Greenish-yellow solid but usually found as a colorless to yellow solution in water
- Bleach-like odor
- Soluble in water
- Nonflammable

## Operational Level Training Response:

### RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

### FIRE:

- Material does not burn; fight surrounding fire with an agent appropriate for the burning material
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of expanding), withdraw immediately to a secure location

## First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
  - ◆ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
  - ◆ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
  - ◆ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
  - ◆ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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