

# SAFETY DATA SHEET



## Hazardous Substance, Dangerous Goods

### 1. MATERIAL AND SUPPLY COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product name: **CAUSTIC SODA**

**Synonyms**

Caustic  
Soda Lye  
Sodium Hydrate  
Sodium Hydroxide

**Product Code**

**Recommended use:** Drain cleaner, soap making ingredient, paint remover.

**Supplier:** Town and Country Chemicals  
**ABN:** 68 169 963 651  
**Street Address:** Unit 5 / 6 Catamaran Road  
Fountaindale NSW 2258  
Australia  
**Telephone:** +61 2 4388-3711  
**Facsimile:** +61 2 4389-3343

**Emergency telephone number:**

- (02) 4388-3711 (Mon-Fri; 9am-4pm; AEST)
- 131126 all hours Poisons Information Centre
- **000** EMERGENCY

### 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

This material is hazardous according to health criteria of Safe Work Australia.



**Signal Word**

Danger

**Hazard Classification**

Skin Corrosion/Irritation - Category 1A

**Hazard Statement**

H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

**Prevention Precautionary Statements**

P102 Keep out of reach of children.  
P103 Read label before use.  
P260 Do not breathe dust.  
P264 Wash hands thoroughly after handling.  
P280 Wear gloves, eye/face protection and suitable respirator.

**Response Precautionary Statements**

P101 If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand.

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- P301+P330+P331 IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.
- P303+P361+P353 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Remove/Take off immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water/shower.
- P304+P340 IF INHALED: Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.
- P305+P351+P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
- P310 Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.
- P363 Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

### Storage Precautionary Statement

- P405 Store locked up.

### Disposal Precautionary Statement

- P501 Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local, regional, national and international regulations.

Poison Schedule: S6. Poison

### DANGEROUS GOOD CLASSIFICATION

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the "Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail" and the "New Zealand NZS5433: Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land".

Dangerous Goods Class: 8

### 3. COMPOSITION INFORMATION

CHEMICAL ENTITY	CAS NO	PROPORTION
Sodium hydroxide (Na(OH))	1310-73-2	>98 %
Ingredients determined to be Non-Hazardous		Balance
		100%

### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre (Phone Australia 131 126, New Zealand 0800 764 766).

**Inhalation:** Remove victim from exposure - avoid becoming a casualty. Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing. Allow patient to assume most comfortable position and keep warm. Keep at rest until fully recovered. Seek medical advice if effects persist.

**Skin Contact:** If skin or hair contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing and flush skin and hair with running water. If swelling, redness, blistering or irritation occurs seek medical assistance. For gross contamination, immediately drench with water and remove clothing. Continue to flush skin and hair with plenty of water (and soap if material is insoluble). For skin burns, cover with a clean, dry dressing until medical help is available. If blistering occurs, do NOT break blisters. If swelling, redness, blistering, or irritation occurs seek medical assistance.

**Eye contact:** Immediately irrigate with copious quantities of water for 15 minutes. Eyelids to be held open. Remove clothing if contaminated and wash skin. Urgently seek medical assistance. Transport to hospital or medical centre. If in eyes wash out immediately with water. In all cases of eye contamination, it is a sensible precaution to seek medical advice.

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**Ingestion:** Rinse mouth with water. If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting. Give a glass of water to drink. Never give anything by the mouth to an unconscious patient. If vomiting occurs give further water. Seek medical advice.

**Notes to physician:** Treat symptomatically.

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

**Hazchem Code:** 2W

**Suitable extinguishing media:** If material is involved in a fire use water fog (or if unavailable fine water spray), alcohol resistant foam, standard foam, dry agent (carbon dioxide, dry chemical powder).

**Specific hazards:** Non-combustible material.

**Firefighting further advice:** Not applicable.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### SMALL SPILLS

Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination. Avoid inhalation of vapours or dust. Wipe up with absorbent (clean rag or paper towels). Collect and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal.

### LARGE SPILLS

Clear area of all unprotected personnel. Slippery when spilt. Avoid accidents, clean up immediately. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and the inhalation of dust. Work up wind or increase ventilation. Cover with damp absorbent (inert material, sand or soil). Sweep or vacuum up, but avoid generating dust. Collect and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal. If contamination of crops, sewers or waterways has occurred advise local emergency services.

**Dangerous Goods – Initial Emergency Response Guide No:** 37

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

**Handling:** Avoid eye contact and skin contact. Avoid inhalation of dust.

**Storage:** Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated place and out of direct sunlight. Store away from foodstuffs. Store away from incompatible materials described in Section 10. Store away from sources of heat and/or ignition. Store locked up. Keep container standing upright. Keep containers closed when not in use - check regularly for spills.

This material is classified as a Class 8 Corrosive as per the criteria of the “Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail” and/or the “New Zealand NZS5433: Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land” and must be stored in accordance with the relevant regulations.

This material is a Scheduled Poison Schedule 6 (Poison) and must be stored, maintained and used in accordance with the relevant regulations.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

**National occupational exposure limits:**

	TWA	STEL	NOTICES	
	ppm	mg/m3	ppm	mg/m3

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Sodium hydroxide 1310-73-2

- 2 Peak  
- limitation

As published by Safe Work Australia.

TWA - The time-weighted average airborne concentration over an eight-hour working day, for a five-day working week over an entire working life.

STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) - the average airborne concentration over a 15 minute period which should not be exceeded at any time during a normal eight-hour workday.

These Exposure Standards are guides to be used in the control of occupational health hazards. All atmospheric contamination should be kept too as low a level as is workable. These exposure standards should not be used as fine dividing lines between safe and dangerous concentrations of chemicals. They are not a measure of relative toxicity.

If the directions for use on the product label are followed, exposure of individuals using the product should not exceed the above standard. The standard was created for workers who are routinely, potentially exposed during product manufacture.

**Biological Limit Values:** As per the "National Model Regulations for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances (Safe Work Australia)" the ingredients in this material do not have a Biological Limit Allocated.

**Engineering Measures:** Ensure ventilation is adequate to maintain air concentrations below Exposure Standards. Use only in well ventilated areas. Avoid generating and inhaling dusts. Use with local exhaust ventilation or while wearing dust mask.

**Personal Protection Equipment:** GLOVES, CHEMICAL GOGGLES, DUST MASK.

Wear gloves, chemical goggles, dust mask. Available information suggests that gloves made from nitrile rubber, neoprene, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) should be suitable for intermittent contact. However, due to variations in glove construction and local conditions, the user should make a final assessment. Always wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking or using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing and other protective equipment before storing or re-using.

**Hygiene measures:** Keep away from food, drink and animal feeding stuffs. When using do not eat, drink or smoke. Wash hands prior to eating, drinking or smoking. Avoid contact with clothing. Avoid eye contact and skin contact. Avoid inhalation of dust. Ensure that eyewash stations and safety showers are close to the workstation location.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

**Material Family:** Sodium Compounds  
**Base Units:** Kilogram  
**Form:** Crystalline Powder  
**Colour:** White  
**Odour:** None

**Solubility:** Miscible with water  
**Specific Gravity (20 °C):** N Av  
**Density:** 2.13  
**Relative Vapour Density (air=1):** N Av  
**Vapour Pressure (20 °C):** N Av  
**Flash Point (°C):** N Av  
**Flammability Limits (%):** N Av  
**Autoignition Temperature (°C):** N Av  
**Melting Point/Range (°C):** 318  
**Boiling Point/Range (°C):** 1390  
**pH:** 12.7

Product Name: CAUSTIC SODA

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**Viscosity:** N Av

(Typical values only - consult specification sheet)  
N Av = Not available, N App = Not applicable

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

**Chemical stability:** This material is thermally stable when stored and used as directed.

**Conditions to avoid:** Elevated temperatures and sources of ignition.

**Incompatible materials:** Oxidising agents.

**Hazardous decomposition products:** Oxides of carbon and nitrogen, smoke and other toxic fumes.

**Hazardous reactions:** No known hazardous reactions.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No adverse health effects expected if the product is handled in accordance with this Safety Data Sheet and the product label. Symptoms or effects that may arise if the product is mishandled and overexposure occurs are:

### Acute Effects

**Inhalation:** Material may be an irritant to mucous membranes and respiratory tract.

**Skin contact:** Contact with skin will result in severe irritation. Corrosive to skin - may cause skin burns.

**Ingestion:** Swallowing can result in nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and chemical burns to the gastrointestinal tract.

**Eye contact:** A severe eye irritant. Corrosive to eyes: contact can cause corneal burns. Contamination of eyes can result in permanent injury. Exposure to the dust may cause discomfort due to particulate nature. May cause physical irritation to the eyes.

### Acute toxicity

**Inhalation:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous. Acute toxicity estimate (based on ingredients): >5 mg/L

**Skin contact:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous. Acute toxicity estimate (based on ingredients): >2,000 mg/Kg

**Ingestion:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous. Acute toxicity estimate (based on ingredients): >2,000 mg/Kg

**Corrosion/Irritancy:** Eye: this material has been classified as not corrosive or irritating to eyes. Skin: this material has been classified as a Category 1A Hazard (irreversible effects to skin).

**Sensitisation:** Inhalation: this material has been classified as not a respiratory sensitiser. Skin: this material has been classified as not a skin sensitiser.

**Aspiration hazard:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous.

**Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure):** This material has been classified as non-hazardous.

### Chronic Toxicity

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**Mutagenicity:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous.

**Carcinogenicity:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous.

**Reproductive toxicity (including via lactation):** This material has been classified as non-hazardous.

**Specific target organ toxicity (repeat exposure):** This material has been classified as non-hazardous.

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Avoid contaminating waterways.

**Acute aquatic hazard:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous. Acute toxicity estimate (based on ingredients): >100 mg/L

**Long-term aquatic hazard:** This material has been classified as non-hazardous. Non-rapidly or rapidly degradable substance for which there are adequate chronic toxicity data available OR in the absence of chronic toxicity data, Acute toxicity estimate (based on ingredients): >100 mg/L, where the substance is not rapidly degradable and/or BCF < 500 and/or log  $K_{ow}$  < 4.

**Ecotoxicity:** No information available.

**Persistence and degradability:** No information available.

**Bioaccumulative potential:** No information available.

**Mobility:** No information available.

## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Persons conducting disposal, recycling or reclamation activities should ensure that appropriate personal protection equipment is used, see "Section 8. Exposure Controls and Personal Protection" of this SDS.

If possible material and its container should be recycled. If material or container cannot be recycled, dispose in accordance with local, regional, national and international Regulations.

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

### ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the "Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail" and the "New Zealand NZS5433: Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land".



**UN No:** 1823

**Dangerous Goods Class:** 8

**Packing Group:** II

**Hazchem Code:** 2W

**Emergency Response Guide No:** 37

**Proper Shipping Name:** SODIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID

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**Segregation Dangerous Goods:** Not to be loaded with explosives (Class 1), dangerous when wet substances (Class 4.3), oxidising agents (Class 5.1), organic peroxides (Class 5.2), radioactive substances (Class 7) or food and food packaging in any quantity. Note 1: Concentrated strong alkalis are incompatible with concentrated strong acids. Note 2: Concentrated strong acids are incompatible with concentrated strong alkalis. Note 3: Acids are incompatible with Dangerous Goods of Class 6 which are cyanides. Exemptions may apply.

## MARINE TRANSPORT

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) for transport by sea.



**UN No:** 1823  
**Dangerous Goods Class:** 8  
**Packing Group:** II  
**Proper Shipping Name:** SODIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID

## AIR TRANSPORT

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations for transport by air.



**UN No:** 1823  
**Dangerous Goods Class:** 8  
**Packing Group:** II  
**Proper Shipping Name:** SODIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID

## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

**HSNO Group Standard:** Not Allocated

**This material is not subject to the following international agreements:**

- Montreal Protocol (Ozone depleting substances)
- The Stockholm Convention (Persistent Organic Pollutants)
- The Rotterdam Convention (Prior Informed Consent)
- Basel Convention (Hazardous Waste)
- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)

**This material/constituent(s) is covered by the following requirements:**

- The *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons* (SUSMP) established under the Therapeutic Goods Act (Commonwealth).
- All the constituents of this material are listed on the *Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances* (AICS).

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

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## Literary reference

This SDS has been prepared by Town & Country Chemicals ([www.tandcc.com.au](http://www.tandcc.com.au)).

Reasons for issue: Revised  
Format change

Safety Data Sheets are updated frequently. Please ensure that you have a current copy.

## References:

- (1) Code of Practice for the Preparation of Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals, December 2011.
- (2) Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS (Rev.3) (2009)).
- (3) GHS Hazardous Chemical Information List, December 2015.
- (4) Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail.
- (5) Standards Australia SAA/SNZ HB76:2010 "Dangerous Goods – Initial Response Guide" (2010)

This SDS summarises at the date of issue our best knowledge of the health and safety hazard information of the product, and in particular how to safely handle and use the product in the workplace. Since Town and Country Chemicals Pty Ltd Company Pty Ltd cannot anticipate or control the conditions under which the product may be used, each user must, prior to usage, review this SDS in the context of how the user intends to handle and use the product in the workplace.

If clarification or further information is needed to ensure that an appropriate assessment can be made, the user should contact this company.

Our responsibility for product as sold is subject to our standard terms and conditions, a copy of which is sent to our customers and is also available upon request.