

## Material Safety Data Sheet

Revision Issued: 9/28/2011 Supercedes: 9/17/2008 First Issued: 1/02/1986

### Section I - Chemical Product And Company Identification

#### Product Name: Sulfuric Acid

CAS Number: 7664-93-9

HBCC MSDS No. CS18100



# HILL BROTHERS Chemical Co.

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### Section II - Composition/Information On Ingredients

Chemical Name	CAS Number	%	Exposure Limits (TWAs) in Air		
			ACGIH TLV	OSHA PEL	STEL
Sulfuric Acid (H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> )	7664-93-9	20-99	0.2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Sulfur Dioxide	7446-09-5	< 2	2 ppm	5 ppm	5 ppm

### Section III - Hazard Identification

**Routes of Exposure:** Sulfuric acid can affect the body if it is inhaled or if it comes in contact with the eyes or skin. It can also affect the body if it is swallowed.

**Points of Attack:** Sulfuric acid attacks the respiratory system, eyes, skin, teeth, and lungs.

**Summary of Acute Health Hazards:** Concentrated sulfuric acid will effectively remove the elements of water from many organic materials with which it comes in contact. It is even more rapidly injurious to mucous membranes and exceedingly dangerous to the eyes.

**Ingestion:** Corrosive. Causes serious burns of the mouth or perforation of the esophagus or stomach. May be fatal if swallowed.

**Inhalation:** Corrosive and highly toxic. May be harmful or fatal if inhaled. May cause severe irritation and burns of the nose, throat and respiratory tract.

**Skin:** Corrosive. Splashes on the skin will cause severe skin burns. Burning and charring of the skin are a result of the great affinity for, and strong exothermic reaction with, water. Direct contact can be severely irritating to the skin and may result in redness, swelling, burns and severe skin damage.

**Eyes:** Corrosive. Direct contact with the liquid or exposure to vapors or mists may cause stinging, tearing, redness, swelling, corneal damage and irreversible eye damage. Splashes in the eyes will cause severe burns. Contact lenses should not be worn when working with this chemical.

**Effects of Overexposure:** May cause severe irritation and burns of the mouth, nose, throat, respiratory and digestive tract, coughing, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, chest pain, pneumonitis (inflammation of the fluid in the lungs), pulmonary edema (accumulation of the fluid in the lungs), and perforation of the stomach. Overexposure to acid mists has been reported to cause erosion to tooth enamel.

**Medical Conditions Generally Aggravated by Exposure:** Persons with pre-existing skin disorders and/or respiratory disorders (e.g. Asthma-like conditions) may be more susceptible to the effects of this material, and may be aggravated by exposure to this material.

**Note to Physicians:** Sulfuric acid is reported to cause pulmonary function impairment. Periodic surveillance is indicated. Sulfuric acid may cause acute lung damage. Surveillance of the lungs is indicated. Ingestion may cause gastroesophageal perforation. Perforation may occur within 72 hours, but along with abscess formation, can occur weeks later. Long term complications may include esophageal, gastric or pyloric strictures or stenosis.

#### Section IV - First Aid Measures

**Ingestion:** If liquid sulfuric acid or solutions containing sulfuric acid have been swallowed and the person is conscious, give him one glass of water (1/2 glass of water to children under 5), immediately to dilute the sulfuric acid. Do NOT induce vomiting. Do not attempt to make the exposed person vomit. Do not leave victim unattended. GET MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.

**Inhalation:** If a person breathes in large amounts of sulfuric acid, move the exposed person to fresh air at once. If breathing has stopped, perform artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Keep the affected person warm and at rest. GET MEDICAL ATTENTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**Skin:** If liquid sulfuric acid or solutions containing sulfuric acid get on the skin, immediately flush the contaminated skin with water for at least 15 minutes. If skin surface is damaged, apply a clean dressing. If liquid sulfuric acid or solutions containing sulfuric acid penetrate through the clothing, immediately remove the clothing, shoes and constrictive jewelry under a safety shower and continue to wash the skin for at least 15 minutes. GET MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.

**Eyes:** If liquid sulfuric acid or solutions containing sulfuric acid get into the eyes, flush eyes immediately with a directed stream of water for at least 30 minutes while forcibly holding eyelids apart to ensure complete irrigation of all eye and lid tissue. GET MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY. Contact lenses should not be worn when working with this chemical.

#### Section V - Fire Fighting Measures

**Flash Point:** Non-flammable

**Autoignition Temperature:** N/A

**Lower Explosive Limit:** N/A

**Upper Explosive Limit:** N/A

**Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards:** Not flammable but highly reactive and capable of igniting finely divided combustible materials on contact. Reacts violently with water and organic materials with evolution of heat. If involved in fire, may release hazardous oxides of sulfur. Vapors are heavier than air and may accumulate in low areas. Containers exposed to extreme heat may rupture due to pressure buildup. Contact with common metals may generate hydrogen, which can form flammable mixture with air. Fire may produce irritating, corrosive, and/or toxic gases.

**Extinguishing Media:** Fires involving small amount of combustibles may be smothered with suitable dry chemical, soda ash, lime, sand or CO<sub>2</sub>. Use water on combustibles burning in vicinity of this material but use care as water applied directly to this acid result in evolution of heat and causes splattering.

**Special Firefighting Procedures:** Causes severe, deep burns to tissue; very corrosive effect. Sulfuric Acid is extremely slippery. Emergency responders in the danger area should wear bunker gear and self contained breathing apparatus for fires beyond the incipient stage (29CFR 1910.156). In addition, wear other

appropriate protective equipment as conditions warrant (see Section 8). Water reactive. Contact with water may generate heat. Isolate damage area, keep unauthorized personnel out. If tank, railcar, or tank truck is involved in a fire, isolate for ½ mile in all directions. Consider initial evacuation for ½ mile in all directions. Stop spill/release if it can be done with minimal risk. Move undamaged containers from danger area if it can be done with minimal risk. Fires involving small amounts of combustibles may be smothered with suitable dry chemicals. Use water on combustibles burning but avoid using water directly on acid as it results in evolution of heat and causes splattering.

#### **Section VI - Accidental Release Measures**

If sulfuric acid is spilled or leaked, ventilate area. Wear appropriate protective equipment including respiratory protection as conditions warrant (see Section 8). Collect spilled or leaked material in the most convenient and safe manner for reclamation or for disposal in a secured sanitary landfill. Sulfuric acid should be absorbed in vermiculite, dry sand, earth, or a similar material. It may also be diluted and neutralized. Add slowly to solution of soda ash and slaked lime with stirring. Use Caution around spill area, Sulfuric Acid is extremely slippery. Stay upwind and away from spill release. Avoid discharge into drains, water courses or onto the ground.

#### **Section VII - Handling and Storage**

Protect against physical damage and water. Keep containers closed. Sulfuric Acid is extremely slippery. Do not enter confined spaces such as tanks or pits without following proper entry procedures such as ASTM D-4276. To prevent ignition of hydrogen gas generated in metal containers (from metal contact) smoking, open flames and sparks must not be permitted in storage areas. This product has a great affinity for water, abstracting it from the air and also from many organic substances; hence it will char wood, etc. When diluting, the acid should be added to the diluent. Separate from carbides, chlorates, fulminates, nitrates, picrates, powdered metals, and combustible materials. Keep away from strong oxidizing agents including oxygen and chlorine.

**Other Precautions:** Persons not wearing protective equipment and clothing should be restricted from areas of spills or leaks until cleanup has been completed.

#### **Section VIII - Exposure Controls/Personal Protection**

**Respiratory Protection:** Good industrial hygiene practices recommend that engineering controls be used to reduce environmental concentrations to the permissible exposure level. However, there are some exceptions where respirators may be used to control exposure. Respirators may be used when engineering and work practice controls are not technically feasible, when such controls are in the process of being installed, or when they fail and need to be supplemented. If the use of respirators is necessary, a NIOSH/MSHA approved air purifying respirator with N95 filter may be used under conditions where airborne concentrations are expected to exceed exposure limits (see Section II). Protection provided by air purifying respirators is limited (see manufacturers respirator selection guide). Use a positive pressure air supplied respirator if there is potential for an uncontrolled release, exposure levels are not known, or any other circumstances where air purifying respirators may not provide adequate protection. A respiratory protection program that meets OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.134 and ANSI Z88.2 requirements must be followed whenever workplace conditions warrant a respirator's use.

**Ventilation:** General mechanical ventilation (typically 10 air changes per hour) may be sufficient to keep sulfuric acid vapor concentrations within specified time-weighted TLV range. If general ventilation proves inadequate to maintain safe vapor



**Hazardous Decomposition Products:** Toxic gases and vapors (such as sulfuric acid fume, sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide) may be released when sulfuric acid decomposes. Decomposes to water and sulfur trioxide above 644°F.

### Section XI - Toxicological Information

(Sulfuric acid) mist severely irritates the eyes, respiratory tract, and skin. Concentrated sulfuric acid destroys tissue due to its severe dehydrating action, whereas the dilute form acts as a mild irritant due to acid properties. The LC50 of mist of 1-micron particle size for an 8 hour exposure was 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for adult guinea pigs and 18 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for young animals. Continuous exposure of guinea pigs to 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for 5 days caused pulmonary edema and thickening of the alveolar walls; exposure of guinea pigs to 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for 1 hour caused an increase in pulmonary airway resistance from reflex bronchoconstriction. A worker sprayed in the face with liquid fuming sulfuric acid suffered skin burns of the face and body, as well as pulmonary edema from inhalation. Sequelae were pulmonary fibrosis, residual bronchitis, and pulmonary emphysema; in addition, necrosis of the skin resulted in marked scarring. In human subjects, concentrations of about 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> were objectionable, usually causing cough, an increase in respiratory rate, and impairment of ventilatory capacity. Workers exposed to concentrations of 12.6 to 35 mg/m<sup>3</sup> had a markedly higher incidence of erosion and discoloration of teeth than was noted in unexposed individuals. Splashed in the eye, the concentrated acid causes extremely severe damage, often leading to blindness, whereas dilute acid produces more transient effects from which recovery may be complete. Repeated exposure of workers to the mist causes chronic conjunctivitis, tracheobronchitis, stomatitis, and dermatitis, as well as dental erosion. While ingestion of the liquid is unlikely in ordinary industrial use, the highly corrosive nature of the substance may be expected to produce serious mucous membrane burns of the mouth and esophagus. **Epidemiology:** Workers exposed to industrial sulfuric acid mist showed a statistical increase in laryngeal cancer. This suggests a possible relationship between carcinogenesis and inhalation of sulfuric acid mist.

### Section XII - Ecological Information

**Ecotoxicity:** Fish: Bluegill/Sunfish: 49 mg/L; 48 Hr; TLm (tap water @ 20°C)

Fish: Bluegill/Sunfish: 24.5 ppm; 48 Hr; TLm (fresh water)

### Section XIII - Disposal Considerations

Sulfuric acid may be placed in sealed containers or absorbed in vermiculite, dry sand, earth, or a similar material and disposed of in a secured sanitary landfill. It may also be diluted and neutralized. Check with your Federal, State, and Local authorities as neutralized sulfuric acid may be allowed to be flushed down the drain. Empty containers must be handled with care due to material residue.

### Section XIV - Transport Information

DOT Proper Shipping Name: Sulfuric Acid

DOT Hazard Class/ I.D. No.:

8, UN2796, II (with not more than 51% acid)

8, UN1830, II (with more than 51% acid)

## Section XV - Regulatory Information

### **Sulfuric Acid**

**Section 302 Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS):** CAS # 7664-93-9  
1000 Lbs. (454 Kilograms) (85 Gals.) Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ)

**Section 304 Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS):** CAS # 7664-93-9  
1000 Lbs. (454 Kilograms) (85 Gals.) Reportable Quantity (RQ)

**CERCLA Hazardous Substance:** CAS #7664-93-9  
1000 Lbs. (454 Kilograms) (85 Gals.) Reportable Quantity (RQ)

**SARA 313:** This material contains 20-99% Sulfuric Acid (CAS# 7664-93-9), which is subject to the reporting requirements of Section 313 of SARA Title III and 40 CFR Part 373. Sulfuric Acid (acid aerosols including mists, vapors, gas, fog, and other airborne forms of any particle size).

### **Sulfur Dioxide**

**Section 302 Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS):** CAS # 7446-09-5  
500 Lbs. (227 Kilograms) (42.5 Gals.) Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ)

**Section 304 Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS):** CAS # 7446-09-5  
500 Lbs. (227 Kilograms) (42.5 Gals.) Reportable Quantity (RQ)

### **Warning**

This product contains Sulfuric Acid, listed as 'Strong inorganic acid mists contain', a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer.

**NFPA Rating:** Health - 3; Flammability - 0; Instability - 2; Special Hazard: -W-0=Insignificant 1=Slight 2=Moderate 3=High 4=Extreme

### **Carcinogenicity Lists:**

**ACGIH:** A2 - Suspected Human Carcinogen (Sulfuric Acid contained in strong inorganic acid mists)

**National Toxicology Program (NTP):** Known carcinogen (listed as 'Strong inorganic acid mists containing Sulfuric Acid').

**International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monograph:** Group 1 carcinogen (Sulfuric Acid)

**Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) Regulated:** Yes

## Section XVI - Other Information

**Synonyms/Common Names:** H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>; Oil of Vitriol; Spirit of Sulfur; Hydrogen Sulfate; Oleum

**Chemical Family/Type:** Inorganic Acid

**Section changed since last revision:** III, V, VI, VIII

**IMPORTANT!** Read this MSDS before use or disposal of this product. Pass along the information to employees and any other persons who could be exposed to the product to be sure that they are aware of the information before use or other exposure. This MSDS has been prepared according to the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard [29 CFR 1910.1200]. The MSDS information is based on sources believed to be reliable. However, since data, safety standards, and government regulations are subject to change and the conditions of handling and use, or misuse are beyond our control, **Hill Brothers Chemical Company** makes no warranty, either expressed or implied, with respect to the completeness or continuing accuracy of the information contained herein and disclaims all liability for reliance thereon. Also, additional information may be necessary or helpful for specific conditions and circumstances of use. It is the user's responsibility to determine the suitability of this product and to evaluate risks prior to use, and then to exercise appropriate precautions for protection of employees and others.