



## Section 1 - Identification of Chemical Product and Company

Canberra Discount Chemicals  
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**Substance:** Water solution of potassium hydroxide and other minor ingredients.  
**Trade Name:** Glass Wash  
**Product Use:** Cleaning agent for use in glass wash machines.  
**Creation Date:** August, 2009  
**This version issued:** August, 2009 and is valid for 5 years from this date.

Colour Code

## Section 2 - Hazards Identification

### Statement of Hazardous Nature

This product is classified as: C, Corrosive. Hazardous according to the criteria of SWA.  
Dangerous according to the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code.

**Risk Phrases:** R35, R37. Causes severe burns. Irritating to respiratory system.

**Safety Phrases:** S20, S23, S26, S28, S38, S46, S24/25, S37/39. When using, do not eat or drink. Do not breathe vapours or mists. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of water. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear suitable respiratory equipment. If swallowed, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre immediately and show this MSDS or label. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection.

**SUSDP Classification:** S6

**ADG Classification:** Class 8: Corrosive Substances.

**UN Number:** 1814, POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE SOLUTION

### Emergency Overview

**Physical Description & colour:** Clear, colourless liquid.

**Odour:** No odour.

**Major Health Hazards:** causes severe burns, respiratory tract irritant.

### Potential Health Effects

#### Inhalation:

**Short term exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is corrosive to the respiratory tract. Symptoms will include extreme pain in nose and throat and copious secretion of mucous in the nose and throat. Other symptoms such as pulmonary oedema may also become evident, and may be life threatening if exposure is other than brief.

**Long Term exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term inhalation.

#### Skin Contact:

**Short term exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is very corrosive to the skin. Capable of causing severe burns with deep ulceration, and can penetrate to deeper layers of skin resulting in third degree burns. Corrosion will continue until product is removed or neutralised. Severity depends on concentration and duration of exposure. Burns may not be immediately painful; the onset of pain may be minutes to hours.

**Long Term exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term skin exposure.

#### Eye Contact:

**Short term exposure:** This product is very corrosive to eyes. It will quickly cause severe pain, and corrosion of the eye and surrounding facial tissues. Unless exposure is immediately treated, permanent blindness and facial scarring will occur.

**Long Term exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term eye exposure.

### Ingestion:

**Short term exposure:** Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. However, this product is very corrosive to the gastrointestinal tract. Capable of causing severe burns with deep ulceration, and can penetrate to deeper layers of skin resulting in third degree burns. Corrosion will continue until product is removed or neutralised. Severity depends on concentration and duration of exposure.

**Long Term exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term ingestion.

### Carcinogen Status:

**SWA:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by SWA.

**NTP:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

**IARC:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by IARC.

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## Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients

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Ingredients	CAS No	Conc,%	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Potassium hydroxide	1310-58-3	5-10	2	Peak
Other non hazardous ingredients	secret	5-15	not set	not set
Water	7732-18-5	to 100	not set	not set

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary slightly. Minor quantities of other non hazardous ingredients are also possible.

The SWA TWA exposure value is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that may be equalled (but should not be exceeded) for no longer than 15 minutes and should not be repeated more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The term "peak" is used when the TWA limit, because of the rapid action of the substance, should never be exceeded, even briefly.

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## Section 4 - First Aid Measures

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### General Information:

You should call The Poisons Information Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia (0800 764 766 in New Zealand) and is available at all times. Have this MSDS with you when you call.

**Inhalation:** If inhalation occurs, contact a Poisons Information Centre, or call a doctor at once. Remove source of contamination or move victim to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, oxygen may be beneficial if administered by trained personnel, preferably on a doctor's advice. DO NOT allow victim to move about unnecessarily. Symptoms of pulmonary oedema can be delayed up to 48 hours after exposure.

**Skin Contact:** Seek urgent medical attention. Flush contaminated area with lukewarm, gently flowing water for at least 60 minutes, by the clock. DO NOT INTERRUPT FLUSHING. If necessary, keep emergency vehicle waiting (show paramedics this MSDS and take their advice). Under running water, remove contaminated clothing, shoes and leather goods (e.g. watchbands, belts). Strongly basic ingredients tend to penetrate the skin and so need longer rinsing than other substances.

**Eye Contact:** Immediately flush the contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for at least 60 minutes, by the clock, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Neutral saline solution may be used as soon as it is available. DO NOT INTERRUPT FLUSHING. If necessary, keep emergency vehicle waiting (show paramedics this MSDS and take their advice). Take care not to rinse contaminated water into the unaffected eye or onto face. Call a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor urgently. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

**Ingestion:** If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting; rinse mouth thoroughly with water and contact a Poisons Information Centre. Urgent hospital treatment is likely to be needed. Give activated charcoal if instructed.

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## Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

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**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** There is little risk of an explosion from this product if commercial quantities are involved in a fire.

Only small quantities of decomposition products are expected from this products at temperatures normally achieved in a fire. This will only occur after heating to dryness.

Fire decomposition products from this product are likely to be irritating if inhaled.

**Extinguishing Media:** Not Combustible. Use extinguishing media suited to burning materials. Water fog or fine spray is the preferred medium for large fires. Aim to dilute the material with large quantities of water. If practical, contain diluted material and prevent from entering drains and water courses.

**Fire Fighting:** If a significant quantity of this product is involved in a fire, call the fire brigade. There is little danger of a violent reaction or explosion if significant quantities of this product are involved in a fire. Recommended personal protective equipment is liquid-tight chemical protective clothing and breathing apparatus.

### MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

**Flash point:** Does not burn.  
**Upper Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.  
**Lower Flammability Limit:** Does not burn.  
**Autoignition temperature:** Not applicable - does not burn.  
**Flammability Class:** Does not burn.

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## Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

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**Accidental release:** In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses. Evacuate the spill area and deny entry to unnecessary and unprotected personnel. Wear full protective chemically resistant clothing including eye/face protection, gauntlets and self contained breathing apparatus. See below under Personal Protection regarding Australian Standards relating to personal protective equipment. Suitable materials for protective clothing include rubber, Viton, Nitrile, butyl rubber, Barricade, neoprene, Teflon, polyethylene, PE/EVAL, Saranex, Responder. Eye/face protective equipment should comprise as a minimum, protective goggles. If there is a significant chance that vapours or mists are likely to build up in the cleanup area, we recommend that you use a respirator. Usually, no respirator is necessary when using this product. However, if you have any doubts consult the Australian Standard mentioned below (section 8).

Stop leak if safe to do so, and contain spill. Absorb onto sand, vermiculite or other suitable absorbent material. If spill is too large or if absorbent material is not available, try to create a dike to stop material spreading or going into drains or waterways. Because of the corrosiveness of this product, special personal care should be taken in any cleanup operation. Sweep up and shovel or collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage, and dispose of promptly. Recycle containers wherever possible after careful cleaning. After spills, wash area preventing runoff from entering drains. If a significant quantity of material enters drains, advise emergency services.

Contaminated area may be neutralised by washing with weak or dilute acid. Vinegar, citrus juice and most soft drinks may be suitable. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Ensure legality of disposal by consulting regulations prior to disposal. Thoroughly launder protective clothing before storage or re-use. Advise laundry of nature of contamination when sending contaminated clothing to laundry.

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## Section 7 - Handling and Storage

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**Handling:** Keep exposure to this product to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Check Section 8 of this MSDS for details of personal protective measures, and make sure that those measures are followed. The measures detailed below under "Storage" should be followed during handling in order to minimise risks to persons using the product in the workplace. Also, avoid contact or contamination of product with incompatible materials listed in Section 10.

**Storage:** This product is a Scheduled Poison. Observe all relevant regulations regarding sale, transport and storage of this schedule of poison. Store in a cool, well ventilated area. Check containers periodically for corrosion and leaks. Containers should be kept closed in order to minimise contamination. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with substances listed under "Incompatibilities" in Section 10. If you keep more than 2500kg or L of Dangerous Goods of Packaging Group II, you may be required to license the premises or notify your Dangerous Goods authority. If you have any doubts, we suggest you contact your Dangerous Goods authority in order to clarify your obligations. Check packaging - there may be further storage instructions on the label.

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## Section 8 - Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

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The following Australian Standards will provide general advice regarding safety clothing and equipment:

Respiratory equipment: **AS/NZS 1715**, Protective Gloves: **AS 2161**, Industrial Clothing: **AS2919**, Industrial Eye Protection: **AS1336** and **AS/NZS 1337**, Occupational Protective Footwear: **AS/NZS2210**.

<b>SWA Exposure Limits</b>	<b>TWA (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>STEL (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
Potassium hydroxide	2	Peak

No special equipment is usually needed when occasionally handling small quantities. The following instructions are for bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs without proper containment systems.

**Ventilation:** This product should only be used in a well ventilated area. If natural ventilation is inadequate, use of a fan is suggested.

**Eye Protection:** Your eyes must be completely protected from this product by splash resistant goggles with face shield. All surrounding skin areas must be covered. Emergency eye wash facilities must also be available in an area close to where this product is being used.

**Skin Protection:** Because of the dangerous nature of this product, make sure that all skin areas are completely covered by impermeable gloves, overalls, hair covering, apron and face shield. See below for suitable material types.

**Protective Material Types:** We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: rubber, Viton, nitrile, butyl rubber, Barricade, neoprene, Teflon, polyethylene, PE/EVAL, Saranex, Responder.

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**Respirator:** Usually, no respirator is necessary when using this product. However, if you have any doubts consult the Australian Standard mentioned above.

Safety deluge showers should, if practical, be provided near to where this product is being used.

## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

<b>Physical Description &amp; colour:</b>	Clear, colourless liquid.
<b>Odour:</b>	No odour.
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	Approximately 100°C at 100kPa.
<b>Freezing/Melting Point:</b>	Below 0°C.
<b>Volatiles:</b>	Water component.
<b>Vapour Pressure:</b>	2.37 kPa at 20°C (water vapour pressure).
<b>Vapour Density:</b>	No data.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	No data.
<b>Water Solubility:</b>	Completely soluble in water.
<b>pH:</b>	Approx 12
<b>Volatility:</b>	No data.
<b>Odour Threshold:</b>	No data.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	No data.
<b>Coeff Oil/water distribution:</b>	No data
<b>Autoignition temp:</b>	Not applicable - does not burn.

## Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

**Reactivity:** Most strong alkalis and bases react with inorganic and organic acids to form salts. They can also react with some metals liberating hydrogen gas. These reactions may be rapid and sometimes liberate much heat. They can also decompose many organic materials such as esters, in a reaction called hydrolysis.

**Conditions to Avoid:** This product should be kept in a cool place, preferably below 30°C. Keep containers tightly closed.

**Incompatibilities:** acids, zinc, tin, aluminium and their alloys, other substances which react with strongly alkaline liquids.

**Fire Decomposition:** Only small quantities of decomposition products are expected from this products at temperatures normally achieved in a fire. This will only occur after heating to dryness. Carbon dioxide, and if combustion is incomplete, carbon monoxide. Nitrogen and its compounds, and under some circumstances, oxides of nitrogen. Occasionally hydrogen cyanide gas in reducing atmospheres. Water, potassium compounds. Carbon monoxide poisoning produces headache, weakness, nausea, dizziness, confusion, dimness of vision, disturbance of judgment, and unconsciousness followed by coma and death.

**Polymerisation:** This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

## Section 11 - Toxicological Information

**Local Effects:**

**Target Organs:** There is no data to hand indicating any particular target organs.

### Classification of Hazardous Ingredients

Ingredient	Risk Phrases
Potassium Hydroxide	>=5%Conc<25%: C; R35

## Section 12 - Ecological Information

This product is unlikely to adversely effect the environment in the long term. However, until diluted or neutralised, this product will kill any organism it touches due to extreme pH. Salts, acids and bases are typically diluted and neutralised when released to the environment in small quantities.

## Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

**Disposal:** This product may be recycled if unused, or if it has not been contaminated so as to make it unsuitable for its intended use. If it has been contaminated, it may be possible to separate the contamination in some way. Only if neither of these options is suitable, consider landfill, but we recommend that it be neutralised in a controlled manner before disposal.

### MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

## Section 14 - Transport Information

**ADG Code:** 1814, POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE SOLUTION

**Hazchem Code:** 2R

**Special Provisions:** None allocated

**Limited quantities:** ADG 7 specifies a Limited Quantity value of 1 L for this class of product.

**Dangerous Goods Class:** Class 8: Corrosive Substances.

**Packaging Group:** II

**Packaging Method:** P001, IBC02

Class 8 Corrosive Substances shall not be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 1 (Explosives), 4.3 (Dangerous When Wet Substances), 5.1 (Oxidising Agents), 5.2 (Organic Peroxides), 6 (Toxic Substances where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids), 7 (Radioactive Substances), Foodstuffs and foodstuff empties. They may however be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 2.1 (Flammable Gases), 2.2 (Non-Flammable, Non-Toxic Gases), 2.3 (Poisonous Gases), 3 (Flammable liquids), 4.1 (Flammable Solids), 4.2 (Spontaneously Combustible Substances), 6 (Toxic Substances except where the Toxic Substances are cyanides and the Corrosives are acids) and 9 (Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods).

## Section 15 - Regulatory Information

**AICS:** All of the significant ingredients in this formulation are compliant with NICNAS regulations. The following ingredient: Potassium hydroxide, is mentioned in the SUSDP.

## Section 16 - Other Information

**This MSDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.**

### Acronyms:

<b>ADG Code</b>	Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (7 <sup>th</sup> edition)
<b>AICS</b>	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances
<b>SWA</b>	Safe Work Australia, formerly ASCC and NOHSC
<b>CAS number</b>	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
<b>Hazchem Code</b>	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
<b>IARC</b>	International Agency for Research on Cancer
<b>NOS</b>	Not otherwise specified
<b>NTP</b>	National Toxicology Program (USA)
<b>R-Phrase</b>	Risk Phrase
<b>SUSDP</b>	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs & Poisons
<b>UN Number</b>	United Nations Number

THIS MSDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER MUST REVIEW THIS MSDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE.

IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

This MSDS is prepared in accord with the SWA document "National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets" 2nd Edition [NOHSC:2001(2003)]

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### MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET