Standard Operating Procedure

Colbalt Powder

*This is an SOP template and is not complete until: 1) lab specific information is entered into the box below 2) lab specific protocol/procedure is added to the protocol/procedure section and   
3) SOP has been signed and dated by the PI and relevant lab personnel.*

Print a copy and insert into your   
*Laboratory Safety Manual* and *Chemical Hygiene Plan*.   
Refer to instructions for assistance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Department:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Date SOP was written:** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Date SOP was approved by PI/lab supervisor:** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Principal Investigator:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Internal Lab Safety Coordinator/Lab Manager:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Lab Phone:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Office Phone:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Emergency Contact:** | Click here to enter text. |
| *(Name and Phone Number)* |
| **Location(s) covered by this SOP:** | Click here to enter text. |
| *(Building/Room Number)* |

**Type of SOP:** ☐ Process ☒Hazardous Chemical ☐ Hazardous Class

**Purpose**

Cobalt powder is a pyrophoric chemical and shown to be a possible carcinogen to humans. Cobalt is used in the preparation of magnetic, wear-resistant and high-strength alloys. Cobalt occurs naturally as only one stable isotope, cobalt-59. Cobalt-60 is a commercially important radioisotope, used as a radioactive tracer and in the production of gamma rays. Cobalt is the active center of coenzymes called cobalamins, the most common example of which is vitamin B12. As such it is an essential trace dietary mineral for all animals. Cobalt in inorganic form is also an active nutrient for bacteria, algae and fungi.

**Physical & Chemical Properties/Definition of Chemical Group**

CAS#: 7440-48-4

Class: Pyrophoric, carcinogen,

Molecular Formula: Co

Form (physical state): Powder

Color: Light gray

Boiling point: 2900°C

**Potential Hazards/Toxicity**

Fine powder may spontaneously ignite in contact with air. Possible carcinogen to humans. Can be explosive when exposed to heat or flames. Causes eye, skin, gastrointestinal, and respiratory tract irritation. Prolonged skin exposure and inhalation may cause skin and respiratory tract sensitization, respectively. Ingestion may cause nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Target organs include the lungs and skin. Finely divided cobalt decomposes acetylene on contact, becoming incandescent. Reacts violently or explosively with fused ammonium nitrate below 200OC.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Respirator Protection**

Cobalt powder must always be handled in a glove box filled with inert gas. For small quantities of cobalt, please use a P99 respirator. For potentially larger exposures to cobalt, please use a full-face respirator with a N100 filter.

Respirators should be used only under any of the following circumstances:

* As a last line of defense (i.e., after engineering and administrative controls have been exhausted).
* When Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) has exceeded or when there is a possibility that PEL will be exceeded.
* Regulations require the use of a respirator.
* An employer requires the use of a respirator.
* There is potential for harmful exposure due to an atmospheric contaminant (in the absence of PEL)
* As PPE in the event of a chemical spill clean-up process

Lab personnel intending to use/wear a respirator mask must be trained and fit-tested by ORS and should contact occhealt@uga.edu. This is a UGA requirement described in more detail in the [UGA Respiratory Protection Plan](https://esd.uga.edu/sites/default/files/respiratoryprotection.pdf) and supported by the [Office of Research Occupational Health and Safety Program](https://research.uga.edu/ohsp/).

**Hand Protection**

Wear latex or nitrile gloves to prevent skin exposure. Please use the glove box gloves and sleeves or if this chemical is handled in a closed system in a certified fume hood use appropriate chemical resistant gloves.

NOTE: Consult with your preferred glove manufacturer to ensure that the gloves you plan on using are compatible with cobalt powder.

Refer to glove selection chart from the links below:

<http://www.ansellpro.com/download/Ansell_8thEditionChemicalResistanceGuide.pdf>

OR

<http://www.allsafetyproducts.biz/page/74172>

OR

<http://www.showabestglove.com/site/default.aspx>

OR

<http://www.mapaglove.com/>

**Eye Protection**

Safety glasses (goggles and/or full face shield during activities which pose a splash hazard).

**Skin and Body Protection**

A flame resistant lab coat must be worn. Full length pants or equivalent as well as closed toe shoes must be worn.

**Hygiene Measures**

Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing. Wash hands before breaks and immediately after handling cobalt powder.

**Engineering Controls**

Cobalt powder should be used in a glove box filled with inert gas, or in a closed system in a certified fume hood.

**First Aid Procedures**

**If inhaled**

Move person into fresh air. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Do NOT use mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Get medical attention immediately.

**In case of skin contact**

Immediately flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Wash clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse. Get medical attention immediately.

**In case of eye contact**

Check for and remove any contact lenses. Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention immediately

**If swallowed**

Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed to do so by medical personnel. If victim is conscious and alert, rinse mouth with 2-4 cupfuls of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical attention immediately.

**Special Handling and Storage Requirements**

**Precautions for safe handling** Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid heat, shock, and ignition sources.

**Conditions for safe storage** Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place. Air sensitive. Handle and store under inert gas. Keep in a dry place. Avoid oxidizing agents, mineral acids, acetylene, hydrazinium nitrate, Strong oxidizing agents, Material readily reacts with acids generating flammable and/or explosive hydrogen gas.

**Spill and Accident Procedure**

**Chemical Spill Dial 911**

**24-7 On-Call Response to Research, Environment, Health or Safety Concerns Dial 2-5561 from a campus phone or 706-542-5561 from a non-campus line.**

**Spill** – Follow the procedures set out in the [UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.](http://research.uga.edu/docs/units/safety/manuals/Chemical-Laboratory-Safety-Manual.pdf)

[If there are any chemical-specific protocols for responding to a spill, insert them here or mark “none”:]

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# **Medical Emergency Dial 911**

**Life Threatening Emergency, After Hours, Weekends And Holidays** – Dial **911** or the emergency phone numbers listed at the beginning of the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual

*Note: All incidents that result in an injury or property damage must be reported to ORS / ESD using a University Incident/Accident Report.*

**Non-Life Threatening Emergency** – Follow the instructions in the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.

*Note: All incidents that result in an injury or property damage must be reported to ORS / ESD using a University Incident/Accident Report.*

**Decontamination/Waste Disposal Procedure**

**For general hazardous waste disposal procedures, see Appendix H of the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual. Chemical Specific Procedures: [to be inserted or marked as “none”]**Contaminated instruments and benches should be decontaminated with soap and water. All waste and contaminated disposables should be disposed of as hazardous waste.

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Location**

UGA personnel can access Online SDS through a link in the upper left corner of the ESD home page (<https://esd.uga.edu>) and logging in by using their UGA email user name and password.

**Protocol/Procedure (Add lab specific Protocol/Procedure here)**

Click here to enter text.

**NOTE**

Any deviation from this SOP requires approval from PI.

**Documentation of Training** (signature of all users is required)

* Prior to conducting any work with cobalt powder,. designated personnel must provide training to his/her laboratory personnel specific to the hazards involved in working with this substance, work area decontamination, and emergency procedures.
* The Principal Investigator must provide his/her laboratory personnel with a copy of this SOP and access to the SDS provided by the manufacturer.
* The Principal Investigator must ensure that his/her laboratory personnel have attended appropriate laboratory safety training or refresher training within the last 12 month.

**Principal Investigator SOP Approval**

Print name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approval Date:

I have read and understand the content of this SOP:

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| **Name** | **Signature** | **Date** |
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