Standard Operating Procedure

**Methyl ethyl ketone peroxide (MEK Peroxide)**

*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**

Methyl ethyl ketone peroxide (MEK peroxide) is a highly explosive material. Diluted [solutions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution) of 30-60% MEK peroxide are used as a [catalyst](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catalyst) which initiates the [polymerization](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polymerization) of [polyester resins](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polyester_resin) used in [glass-reinforced plastic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glass-reinforced_plastic)s and casting.

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

CAS#: 1338-23-4

Class: Explosive

Molecular Formula: C8H16O4

Form (physical state): liquid

Color: Clear water-white

Boiling point: N/A

**Potential Hazards/Toxicity**

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW: Extremely destructive to tissue of the mucous membranes, upper respiratory tract, eyes, and skin. MEK peroxide is a strong oxidizing agent. May be ignited by heat, sparks or flame and undergoes self-accelerating decomposition. Explosive decomposition occurs at 230° F or 110° C. Sensitive to sunlight. Ignition and/or explosion may occur if mixed with readily oxidizable materials. Reacts with combustible materials such as wood, cloth or organic materials, with chlorine, and with metals (iron, copper and their alloys and aluminum and its alloys). Incompatible strong reducing agents, natural rubbers, synthetic rubbers and chemical accelerators. Incompatible with heavy metals, acids and bases.

Target Organs: Mucous membranes, upper respiratory tract, eyes, and skin

Potential Health Effects:

Eye: May cause blindness.

Skin: May cause skin irritation. If absorbed, causes symptoms similar to those of ingestion. May cause sensitization by skin contact.

Ingestion: May cause irritation of the digestive tract. May cause liver and kidney damage. May cause headache. May cause tremors and convulsions. May cause unconsciousness.

Inhalation: May cause respiratory tract irritation. May cause burning sensation, coughing, wheezing, laryngitis, shortness of breath, headache, nausea, and vomiting

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Respiratory Protection**

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**

Viton, butyl, or neoprene gloves are recommended when handling MEK peroxide

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

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**

ANSI approved safety goggles and a face shield.

**Skin and Body Protection**

Lab coats should be worn. These laboratory coats must be appropriately sized for the individual and be buttoned to their full length. Laboratory coat sleeves must be of a sufficient length to prevent skin exposure while wearing gloves. Full length pants and close-toed shoes must be worn at all times by all individuals that are occupying the laboratory area. The area of skin between the shoe and ankle should not be exposed.

**Hygiene Measures**

Wash thoroughly after handling. Wash hands before eating. Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.

**Engineering Controls**

Use in a certified chemical fume hood.

**First Aid Procedures**

**If inhaled**

Immediately leave the contaminated area; take deep breaths of fresh air. Immediately call a physician and be prepared to transport the victim to a hospital even if no symptoms (such as wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, or burning in the mouth, throat, or chest) develop.

**In case of skin contact**

Immediately flood affected skin with water while removing and isolating all contaminated clothing. Gently wash all affected skin areas thoroughly with soap and water. If symptoms such as redness or irritation develop, immediately call a physician and be prepared to transport the victim to a hospital for treatment.

**In case of eye contact**

First check the victim for contact lenses and remove if present. Flush victim's eyes with water or normal saline solution for at least 15 minutes while simultaneously calling a hospital or poison control center. Do not put any ointments, oils, or medication in the victim's eyes without specific instructions from a physician. Immediately transport the victim after flushing eyes to a hospital even if no symptoms (such as redness or irritation) develop.

**If swallowed**

Do not induce vomiting. Corrosive chemicals will destroy the membranes of the mouth, throat, and esophagus and, in addition, have a high risk of being aspirated into the victim's lungs during vomiting which increases the medical problems. If the victim is conscious and not convulsing, give 1 or 2 glasses of water to dilute the chemical and immediately call a hospital or poison control center. Immediately transport the victim to a hospital. If the victim is convulsing or unconscious, do not give anything by mouth, ensure that the victim's airway is open and lay the victim on his/her side with the head lower than the body. Do not induce vomiting. Transport the victim immediately to a hospital.

**Special Handling and Storage Requirements**

**Handling:** Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid formation of dust and aerosols. Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where dust is formed. Avoid shock and friction. Keep away from sources of ignition.

**Storage:** Store in a tightly closed container. Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from incompatible substances, heat, sparks, flames or other ignition sources.

**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”]**

**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 MEK Peroxide, 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 months.

**Principal Investigator SOP Approval**

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

Approval Date:

I have read and understand the content of this SOP:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
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