



Butyraldehyde

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CAS number 123-72-8

Butyraldehyde is a highly flammable, colorless liquid with a characteristic pungent odor. Butyraldehyde is soluble in water. It has a relative high vapor pressure and is present as vapor in air [TSEQ].

Usage and exposure

Butyraldehyde is used as an intermediate in the production of synthetic resins, rubber accelerators, solvents, plasticizers, and high molecular weight polymers. It is also used as a synthetic flavoring agent in foods such as alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, ice cream, candy and baked goods.

Butyraldehyde is an intermediate for the chemical industry, for example for the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, crop protection products, pesticides, synthetic resins, antioxidants, vulcanization accelerators, tanning auxiliaries, perfumes [Solvents.BASF].

Butyraldehyde can be released into the air from industrial sources and main stream cigarette smoke. Butyraldehyde released to the environment is then oxidized to form butyric acid (TSEQ).

Routs of exposure:

Upper respiratory tract, skin, eyes.

Target organs:

Upper respiratory tract, skin, eyes.

Health hazards

Acute exposure to high ambient concentration can cause irritation of the eyes and nose; dizziness and lightheaded [NJ.Gov]..

High exposures can cause pulmonary edema, severe shortness of breath.

Butyraldehyde has not been tested for chronic (long term) health effects [NJ.Gov].

References:

- NJ.Gov. <https://nj.gov/health/eoh/rtkweb/documents/fs/0299.pdf>
- Solvents.BASF.com <http://www.solvents.basf.com/portal/streamer?fid=294090>
- TSEQ. Texas. Gov.
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/implementation/tox/dsd/facts/butyraldehyde.pdf>