

Peroxygens Sector Group

To whom it may concern

Change in Sodium Percarbonate Classification and Labelling

Sodium percarbonate has recently been subject to a risk assessment undertaken under HERA (Human and Environmental Risk Assessment on ingredients of household cleaning products) and under the ICCA/HPV initiative (International Council of Chemical Associations, High Production Volume) sponsored by OECD countries.

When evaluating all available data and also the corresponding data for hydrogen peroxide and sodium carbonate the Members of the CEFIC Peroxygens Sector group Sodium Percarbonate Sub-Group came to the conclusion that the compound, based on the animal data, may cause serious damage to eyes.

Although the risk assessments have not identified any concern with regard damage to eyes when the substances are handled properly, the Cefic Members of the Peroxygens Sector Group Sodium Percarbonate Sub-Group have decided to classify sodium percarbonate based on the hazard data with Xi R41 with regard to eye irritation. The data seem to be consistent with the content of hydrogen peroxide and sodium carbonate being the constituents of sodium percarbonate. Therefore it was decided to derive specific concentrations limits based on hydrogen peroxide and sodium carbonate.

The complete classification of the material is outlined in the table below:

Substance	CAS No.	Current classification	Revised classification
Sodium percarbonate	15630-89-4	O, R8 (oxidising; contact with combustible material may cause fire) Xn R22 (harmful if swallowed) Xi R36/38 (irritating to skin and eyes)	O, R8 (oxidising; contact with combustible material may cause fire) Xn, R22(harmful if swallowed) Xi R41 (irritating, risk of serious damage to eyes)
			Concentration limits: c >= 25% Xn: R22-41 10% <= c < 25% Xi: R36

The change will be effective as of November 1st, 2005.

