

Octadecan-1-ol

This Product Safety Summary is intended to provide a general overview of the chemical substance in the context of ICCA Global Product Strategy. The information in the Summary is basic information and is not intended to provide emergency response, medical or treatment information.

1. Chemical Identity

Chemical Name: Octadecan-1-ol

CAS Number: 112-92-5

Molecular formula: C₁₈H₃₈O

Structure:



2. Use and Applications

Octadecan-1-ol is a long chain aliphatic alcohol which has the following uses:

- Synthetic intermediate
- Coatings
- Metalworking fluids/rolling oils
- Mining chemical
- Process chemical in paper and textile industries
- Personal care
- Use in cleaning agents
- Pharmaceutical uses
- Plaster/cement – binder / release agent, also road and construction applications
- Plastic/rubber processing
- Agrochemicals
- Solvents

In an industrial setting the main use of octadecan-1-ol is in use as a synthetic intermediate, which is the single biggest use accounting for more than 50% of total manufactured volume. Octadecan-1-ol is used as an intermediate used in the manufacture of fine chemicals and also laundry detergent products and various industrial and consumer end products (octadecan-1-ol is consumed in this process and so is not present in these end products). Octadecan-1-ol is used in different processes such as cold rolling of metals, formulation of mining/offshore chemicals and it is also incorporated



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into paints. It is used as an anti-foaming agent in industrial processes used in the paper and textile industry. Octadecan-1-ol is also used in various construction and building preparations such as cement, plaster and concrete with various different applications within these preparations.

Consumer uses of octadecan-1-ol include personal care and household care products. These uses generally relate to its solubilising and/or emulsifying properties. For this reason, it is well suited for liquid shampoos and bubble bath preparations, skin lotions, creams, cleansers, or in face/eye cosmetics and hair care products.

3. Physical/Chemical Properties

The substance has no identified physicochemical hazards.

Property	Value
Mol weight	270.5 g/mol
Form	Waxy
Physical state	Solid
Colour	Colourless
Odour	Characteristic (alcohol)
Density	0.9 at 20°C
Melting point	57°C
Boiling point	335°C
Flash point	195°C
Flammability	Not flammable
Explosive properties	Not explosive
Self – ignition temperature	Ca. 269°C
Vapour pressure	0.1 Pa at 38°C
Water solubility	<1 mg/l at 23°C
Octanol-water partition coefficient (log Kow)	7.4



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4. Human Health Safety Assessment

Consumer: Consumers should not come into contact with harmful levels of octadecan-1-ol.

Worker: The overall toxicity of octadecan-1-ol arising from repeated exposure is considered to be low.

Effect assessment	Result
Acute toxicity Oral / inhalation / dermal	Virtually not toxic after oral, inhalation or dermal exposure. Not identified to have specific target organ toxicity after single exposure.
Irritation / corrosion Skin / eye / respiratory tract	Not known to have irritant effects.
Sensitisation	Not considered to be sensitising.
Toxicity after repeated exposure Oral / inhalation / dermal	Virtually not toxic after oral, inhalation or dermal exposure. Not identified to have specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure.
Genotoxicity / Mutagenicity	Not mutagenic.
Carcinogenicity	Not considered carcinogenic based on data derived from studies on repeated exposure.
Toxicity for reproduction	Based on available data no developmental or reprotoxicity is anticipated.

5. Environmental Safety Assessment

Based on the available data, octadecan-1-ol does not have any known toxic effects on the environment. In addition, the amount of substance released into the aquatic environment is low and it is also found to occur naturally in the environment. Furthermore, biodegradation by micro-organisms in municipal waste-water treatment plants, and in the wider environment is demonstrated to be extremely rapid and efficient. An environmental exposure assessment sets limits to safe release of the substance during all steps of manufacture and industrial use, and defines appropriate risk management measures. Furthermore, octadecan-1-ol does not bioaccumulate, is rapidly biodegradable and will not persist in the environment.

Effect assessment	Result
Environment	No toxic effects to the environment are known.
Biodegradation	Readily biodegradable.



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Bioaccumulation potential	Not bioaccumulative.
PBT /vPvB	Not considered to be PBT or vPvB.

6. Exposure

Consumer

The exposure of consumers to octadecan-1-ol in end products is at safe levels. However, workers who may come into contact with the undiluted substance should follow the safety measures recommended in the Extended Safety Data Sheet. It is expected that facilities using formulations containing octadecan-1-ol would have standard engineering controls and procedures in place, to ensure safe handling and use of a wide variety of chemicals, whether process aids or reagents. In addition, standard personal protective equipment must be worn to prevent direct skin and eye contact with chemicals handled during routine operations, such as goggles or safety glasses, gloves, safety boots and helmets. There is evidence that a number of types of chemical-resistant gloves offer good protection against octadecan-1-ol and related substances. Indirect exposure of humans via the environment is dominated by regional background, however due to the widespread use of the substance in consumer products this background exposure is less relevant.

Environment

Losses to air of octadecan-1-ol in aqueous-based products are expected to be minimal. Releases to waste water may be assumed to be up to 100% since in many personal care and household products, as well as some of the industrial processes the substance is discharged to waste water. However, details of treatment of aqueous waste vary at different sites and processes and in general aqueous waste streams would be subjected to secondary biological treatment either on- or off-site. Solid waste disposal is typically disposed via landfill or incineration.

7. Risk management recommendations

For detailed risk management recommendations, please refer to the Extended Safety Data Sheet.

When using chemicals, make sure that there is adequate ventilation. Always use appropriate chemical resistant gloves to protect your hands and skin and always wear eye protection such as chemical goggles. Do not eat, drink, or smoke where chemicals are handled, processed, or stored. Wash hands and skin following contact. If the substance gets to your eyes, rinse thoroughly for at least 15 minutes with tap water and seek medical attention.

All effluent releases that may include the substance must be directed to a waste water treatment plant that removes the substance from the final releases to the receiving water. Releases to air are not expected and therefore no specific recommendations are required.

8. EU REACH Status

This substance has been registered under the European REACH Regulation EC/1907/2006.



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This substance (as part of a Category of similar alcohols) was assessed by the ICCA / OECD HPV programme (SIAM 22, April 2006).

9. Classification and Labeling

Under GHS (as implemented within EU through Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 and its amendments ("CLP regulation")), substances are classified according to their physical, health, and environmental hazards. The hazards are communicated via specific labels and the Extended Safety Data Sheet. GHS attempts to standardize hazard communication so that the intended audience (workers, consumers, transport workers and emergency responders) can better understand the hazards of the chemicals in use.

Octadecan-1-ol classification and labelling:

The substance is not classified for any harmful effects to man or the environment.

10. Conclusion

Octadecan-1-ol is used under controlled conditions at industrial sites and found in various consumer and household products at low concentrations. The manufacturing and use of octadecan-1-ol does not pose a risk to humans or the environment if instructions in the Extended Safety Data Sheet are followed.

11. Contact Information

For further information on this substance or product safety summaries in general, please contact us via email at reachpgc.im@pg.com or visit our website at

<http://www.pgproductsafety.com/productsafety/icca-gps.shtml>

Additional information on the ICCA global product strategy can be found here: <http://www.icca-chem.org/en/Home/ICCA-initiatives/global-product-strategy/>

12. Glossary

Acute toxicity	Harmful effects after single exposure
Biodegradable	Breakdown of materials by a physiological environment
Bioaccumulation	Accumulation of substances in the environment
Carcinogenicity	Effects causing cancer
Chronic toxicity	Harmful effects after repeated exposures
GHS	Global Harmonized System
Hazard	Situation bearing a threat to health or environment
Mutagenicity	Effect that changes genes
Reprotoxicity	Combining teratogenicity, embryotoxicity and harmful effects on fertility
Sensitising	Allergenic



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13. Date of Issue

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14. Disclaimer

The information contained in this Safety Summary is provided in utmost good faith and has been based on the best information currently available (i.e. the EU REACH Registration dossier). All endpoint data presented in this paper refer to the active ingredient (i.e. concentrated/undiluted substance), unless otherwise noted. This document is NOT intended to be comprehensive or to replace information found in the corresponding Material Safety Data Sheet (SDS). When handling the material in plants, SDS should be used and not this summary. This document may be subject to additional legal terms and conditions set out in the internet disclaimer, http://www.pg.com/en_US/terms_conditions/index.shtml