Common Name: ASPHALT

CAS Number: 8052-42-4
DOT Number: NA 1999 (Asphalt)
           UN 1999 (Tars, Liquid)
DOT Hazard Class: 3 (Flammable)

HAZARD SUMMARY
* Asphalt can affect you when breathed in.
* Extracts of certain Asphalts have been shown to cause cancer in animals.
* Asphalt fumes can irritate the eyes on contact.
* Breathing Asphalt fumes can irritate the nose, throat and lungs causing coughing, wheezing and/or shortness of breath.
* Contact can irritate and cause severe burns of the skin and may cause dermatitis and acne-like lesions.
* Exposure to Asphalt fumes can cause headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting.
* Long-term contact can cause skin pigment change which is made worse by sunlight exposure.
* Cutback and Rapid Curing Asphalt are FLAMMABLE and FIRE HAZARDS.
* Asphalt is derived from Petroleum. Asphalt and Coal Tar Pitch are different. If you are actually working with Coal Tar chemicals, CONSULT THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE FACT SHEETS ON COAL TAR PITCH AND COAL TARS.
* Asphalt, Oxidized (CAS # 64762-93-4) is a carcinogen.

IDENTIFICATION
Asphalt is a blackish-brown solid, semi-solid or liquid, depending on the formulation or mixture of Asphalt used. Asphalt fumes are produced during the manufacture and heating of Asphalt, which is used for road building and roofing, and in rubber and adhesives.

REASON FOR CITATION
* Asphalt is on the Hazardous Substance List because it is cited by ACGIH, DOT, NIOSH, IARC and NFPA.
* Definitions are provided on page 5.

HOW TO DETERMINE IF YOU ARE BEING EXPOSED
The New Jersey Right to Know Act requires most employers to label chemicals in the workplace and requires public employers to provide their employees with information and training concerning chemical hazards and controls. The federal OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) requires private employers to provide similar training and information to their employees.

* Exposure to hazardous substances should be routinely evaluated. This may include collecting personal and area air samples. You can obtain copies of sampling results from your employer. You have a legal right to this information under the OSHA Access to Employee Exposure and Medical Records Standard (29 CFR 1910.1020).
* If you think you are experiencing any work-related health problems, see a doctor trained to recognize occupational diseases. Take this Fact Sheet with you.

WORKPLACE EXPOSURE LIMITS
NIOSH: The recommended airborne exposure limit is $5 \text{ mg/m}^3$, which should not be exceeded during any 15-minute period.

ACGIH: The recommended airborne exposure limit is $0.5 \text{ mg/m}^3$ (for the inhalable fraction of the Benzene-soluble aerosol), averaged over an 8-hour workshift.

WAYS OF REDUCING EXPOSURE
* Where possible, enclose operations and use local exhaust ventilation at the site of chemical release. If local exhaust ventilation or enclosure is not used, respirators should be worn.
* Wear protective work clothing.
* Wash thoroughly immediately after exposure to Asphalt and at the end of the workshift.
* Post hazard and warning information in the work area. In addition, as part of an ongoing education and training effort, communicate all information on the health and safety hazards of Asphalt to potentially exposed workers.
This Fact Sheet is a summary source of information of all potential and most severe health hazards that may result from exposure. Duration of exposure, concentration of the substance and other factors will affect your susceptibility to any of the potential effects described below.

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

Acute Health Effects
The following acute (short-term) health effects may occur immediately or shortly after exposure to Asphalt:

* Asphalt fumes can irritate the eyes on contact.
* Breathing Asphalt fumes can irritate the nose, throat and lungs causing coughing, wheezing and/or shortness of breath.
* Contact can irritate and cause severe burns of the skin and may cause dermatitis and acne-like lesions.
* Exposure to Asphalt fumes can cause headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting.

Chronic Health Effects
The following chronic (long-term) health effects can occur at some time after exposure to Asphalt and can last for months or years:

Cancer Hazard
* While Asphalt has not been identified as a carcinogen, it should be HANDLED WITH CAUTION since extracts of certain Asphalts have been shown to cause cancer in animals.

Reproductive Hazard
* According to the information presently available to the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Asphalt has not been tested for its ability to affect reproduction.

Other Long-Term Effects
* Long-term contact can cause skin pigment change which is made worse by sunlight exposure.
* Asphalt fumes can irritate the lungs. Repeated exposure may cause bronchitis to develop with cough, phlegm, and/or shortness of breath.

MEDICAL

Medical Testing
Before beginning employment and at regular times after that, for those with frequent or potentially high exposures, the following are recommended:

* Lung function tests

Any evaluation should include a careful history of past and present symptoms with an exam. Medical tests that look for damage already done are not a substitute for controlling exposure.

Request copies of your medical testing. You have a legal right to this information under the OSHA Access to Employee Exposure and Medical Records Standard (29 CFR 1910.1020).

Mixed Exposures
* Because smoking can cause heart disease, as well as lung cancer, emphysema, and other respiratory problems, it may worsen respiratory conditions caused by chemical exposure. Even if you have smoked for a long time, stopping now will reduce your risk of developing health problems.

Conditions Made Worse By Exposure
* Exposure to sunlight may make skin effects of Asphalt worse.

WORKPLACE CONTROLS AND PRACTICES

Unless a less toxic chemical can be substituted for a hazardous substance, ENGINEERING CONTROLS are the most effective way of reducing exposure. The best protection is to enclose operations and/or provide local exhaust ventilation at the site of chemical release. Isolating operations can also reduce exposure. Using respirators or protective equipment is less effective than the controls mentioned above, but is sometimes necessary.

In evaluating the controls present in your workplace, consider: (1) how hazardous the substance is, (2) how much of the substance is released into the workplace and (3) whether harmful skin or eye contact could occur. Special controls should be in place for highly toxic chemicals or when significant skin, eye, or breathing exposures are possible.

In addition, the following controls are recommended:

* Where possible, automatically pump liquid Asphalt from drums or other storage containers to process containers.
* Before entering a confined space where Asphalt may be present, check to make sure that an explosive concentration does not exist.

In addition, the following controls are recommended:

* Workers whose clothing has been contaminated by Asphalt should change into clean clothing promptly.
* Contaminated work clothes should be laundered by individuals who have been informed of the hazards of exposure to Asphalt.
* Eye wash fountains should be provided in the immediate work area for emergency use.
* If there is the possibility of skin exposure, emergency shower facilities should be provided.
* On skin contact with Asphalt, immediately wash or shower to remove the chemical. At the end of the workshift, wash any areas of the body that may have contacted Asphalt, whether or not known skin contact has occurred.
* Do not eat, smoke, or drink where Asphalt is handled, processed, or stored, since the chemical can be swallowed. Wash hands carefully before eating, drinking, applying cosmetics, smoking, or using the toilet.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

WORKPLACE CONTROLS ARE BETTER THAN PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT. However, for some jobs (such as outside work, confined space entry, jobs done only once in a while, or jobs done while workplace controls are being installed), personal protective equipment may be appropriate.

The OSHA Personal Protective Equipment Standard (29 CFR 1910.132) requires employers to determine the appropriate personal protective equipment for each hazard and to train employees on how and when to use protective equipment.

The following recommendations are only guidelines and may not apply to every situation.

**Clothing**
* Avoid skin contact with Asphalt. Wear protective gloves and clothing. Safety equipment suppliers/manufacturers can provide recommendations on the most protective glove/clothing material for your operation.
* All protective clothing (suits, gloves, footwear, headgear) should be clean, available each day, and put on before work.

**Eye Protection**
* Wear indirect-vent, impact and splash resistant goggles when working with liquids.
* Wear a face shield along with goggles when working with corrosive, highly irritating or toxic substances.
* Contact lenses should not be worn when working with this substance.

**Respiratory Protection**

**IMPROPER USE OF RESPIRATORS IS DANGEROUS.** Such equipment should only be used if the employer has a written program that takes into account workplace conditions, requirements for worker training, respirator fit testing, and medical exams, as described in the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134).

* Where the potential exists for exposure over 0.5 mg/m³, use a NIOSH approved full facepiece respirator with an organic vapor cartridge and particulate prefilters. Increased protection is obtained from full facepiece powered-air purifying respirators.
* If while wearing a filter or cartridge respirator you can smell, taste, or otherwise detect Asphalt, or if while wearing particulate filters abnormal resistance to breathing is experienced, or eye irritation occurs while wearing a full facepiece respirator, leave the area immediately. Check to make sure the respirator-to-face seal is still good. If it is, replace the filter or cartridge. If the seal is no longer good, you may need a new respirator.

* Be sure to consider all potential exposures in your workplace. You may need a combination of filters, prefilters or cartridges to protect against different forms of a chemical (such as vapor and mist) or against a mixture of chemicals.

* Where the potential exists for exposure over 5 mg/m³, use a NIOSH approved supplied-air respirator with a full facepiece operated in a pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode. For increased protection use in combination with an auxiliary self-contained breathing apparatus operated in a pressure-demand or other positive-pressure mode.

**HANDLING AND STORAGE**

* Prior to working with Asphalt you should be trained on its proper handling and storage.
* Asphalt, when HEATED, can give off toxic Hydrogen Sulfide gases.
* Asphalt may ignite or explode when mixed with NAPHTHA, other VOLATILE SOLVENTS, and LIQUID OXYGEN.
* Asphalt is not compatible with OXIDIZING AGENTS (such as PERCHLORATES, PEROXIDES, PERMANGANATES, CHLORATES, NITRATES, CHLORINE, BROMINE and FLUORINE).
* Store in tightly closed containers in a cool, well-ventilated area.
* Sources of ignition, such as smoking and open flames, are prohibited where Cutback and Rapid Curing Asphalt are used, handled, or stored.
* Metal containers involving the transfer of Cutback and Rapid Curing Asphalt should be grounded and bonded.
* Use only non-sparking tools and equipment, especially when opening and closing containers of Cutback and Rapid Curing Asphalt.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Q: If I have acute health effects, will I later get chronic health effects?
A: Not always. Most chronic (long-term) effects result from repeated exposures to a chemical.

Q: Can I get long-term effects without ever having short-term effects?
A: Yes, because long-term effects can occur from repeated exposures to a chemical at levels not high enough to make you immediately sick.

Q: What are my chances of getting sick when I have been exposed to chemicals?
A: The likelihood of becoming sick from chemicals is increased as the amount of exposure increases. This is determined by the length of time and the amount of material to which someone is exposed.
Q: When are higher exposures more likely?
A: Conditions which increase risk of exposure include physical and mechanical processes (heating, pouring, spraying, spills and evaporation from large surface areas such as open containers), and "confined space" exposures (working inside vats, reactors, boilers, small rooms, etc.).

Q: Is the risk of getting sick higher for workers than for community residents?
A: Yes. Exposures in the community, except possibly in cases of fires or spills, are usually much lower than those found in the workplace. However, people in the community may be exposed to contaminated water as well as to chemicals in the air over long periods. This may be a problem for children or people who are already ill.

Q: Don't all chemicals cause cancer?
A: No. Most chemicals tested by scientists are not cancer-causing.

Q: Should I be concerned if a chemical causes cancer in animals?
A: Yes. Most scientists agree that a chemical that causes cancer in animals should be treated as a suspected human carcinogen unless proven otherwise.

Q: But don't they test animals using much higher levels of a chemical than people usually are exposed to?
A: Yes. That's so effects can be seen more clearly using fewer animals. But high doses alone don't cause cancer unless it's a cancer agent. In fact, a chemical that causes cancer in animals at high doses could cause cancer in humans exposed to low doses.

The following information is available from:
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Occupational Health Service
PO Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360
(609) 984-1863
(609) 984-7407 (fax)

Web address: http://www.state.nj.us/health/eh/oidisweb/

Industrial Hygiene Information
Industrial hygienists are available to answer your questions regarding the control of chemical exposures using exhaust ventilation, special work practices, good housekeeping, good hygiene practices, and personal protective equipment including respirators. In addition, they can help to interpret the results of industrial hygiene survey data.

Medical Evaluation
If you think you are becoming sick because of exposure to chemicals at your workplace, you may call personnel at the Department of Health and Senior Services, Occupational Health Service, who can help you find the information you need.

Public Presentations
Presentations and educational programs on occupational health or the Right to Know Act can be organized for labor unions, trade associations and other groups.

Right to Know Information Resources
The Right to Know Infoline (609) 984-2202 can answer questions about the identity and potential health effects of chemicals, list of educational materials in occupational health, references used to prepare the Fact Sheets, preparation of the Right to Know Survey, education and training programs, labeling requirements, and general information regarding the Right to Know Act. Violations of the law should be reported to (609) 984-2202.
DEFINITIONS

ACGIH is the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. It recommends upper limits (called TLVs) for exposure to workplace chemicals.

A carcinogen is a substance that causes cancer.

The CAS number is assigned by the Chemical Abstracts Service to identify a specific chemical.

CFR is the Code of Federal Regulations, which consists of the regulations of the United States government.

A combustible substance is a solid, liquid or gas that will burn.

A corrosive substance is a gas, liquid or solid that causes irreversible damage to human tissue or containers.

DEP is the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

DOT is the Department of Transportation, the federal agency that regulates the transportation of chemicals.

EPA is the Environmental Protection Agency, the federal agency responsible for regulating environmental hazards.

A fetus is an unborn human or animal.

A flammable substance is a solid, liquid, vapor or gas that will ignite easily and burn rapidly.

The flash point is the temperature at which a liquid or solid gives off vapor that can form a flammable mixture with air.

IARC is the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a scientific group that classifies chemicals according to their cancer-causing potential.

IRIS is the Integrated Risk Information System database of the federal EPA.

A miscible substance is a liquid or gas that will evenly dissolve in another.

mg/m³ means milligrams of a chemical in a cubic meter of air. It is a measure of concentration (weight/volume).

A mutagen is a substance that causes mutations. A mutation is a change in the genetic material in a body cell. Mutations can lead to birth defects, miscarriages, or cancer.

NAERG is the North American Emergency Response Guidebook. It was jointly developed by Transport Canada, the United States Department of Transportation and the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation of Mexico. It is a guide for first responders to quickly identify the specific or generic hazards of material involved in a transportation incident, and to protect themselves and the general public during the initial response phase of the incident.

NFPA is the National Fire Protection Association. It classifies substances according to their fire and explosion hazard.

NIOSH is the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. It tests equipment, evaluates and approves respirators, conducts studies of workplace hazards, and proposes standards to OSHA.

NTP is the National Toxicology Program which tests chemicals and reviews evidence for cancer.

OSHA is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which adopts and enforces health and safety standards.

PEL is the Permissible Exposure Limit which is enforceable by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

PIH is a DOT designation for chemicals which are Poison Inhalation Hazards.

ppm means parts of a substance per million parts of air. It is a measure of concentration by volume in air.

A reactive substance is a solid, liquid or gas that releases energy under certain conditions.

STEL is a Short Term Exposure Limit which is usually a 15-minute exposure that should not be exceeded at any time during a work day.

A teratogen is a substance that causes birth defects by damaging the fetus.

TLV is the Threshold Limit Value, the workplace exposure limit recommended by ACGIH.

The vapor pressure is a measure of how readily a liquid or a solid mixes with air at its surface. A higher vapor pressure indicates a higher concentration of the substance in air and therefore increases the likelihood of breathing it in.
Emergency Information

Common Name: Asphalt
DOT Number: NA 1999 (Asphalt)
DOT Hazard Class: 3 (Flammable)
NAERG Code: 130
CAS Number: 8052-42-4

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hazard rating</th>
<th>NJDHSS</th>
<th>NFPA</th>
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<tr>
<td>FLAMMABILITY</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1, 2 or 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REACTIVITY</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
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Flammable or combustible depending on formulation.
Poisonous gases are produced in fire.
Containers may explode in fire.

Hazard Rating Key: 0=minimal; 1=slight; 2=moderate; 3=serious; 4=severe

Fire Hazards

* Cutback and Rapid Curing Asphalt are flammable.
* Typical or Medium to Slow Curing Asphalt is combustible.
* Use dry chemical, CO₂, water spray, or a foaming agent.
* Water may cause frothing so do not apply solid streams of water directly on Asphalt.
* Poisonous gases are produced in fire including Sulfer Oxides and Hydrogen Sulfide.
* Containers may explode in fire.
* Use water spray to keep fire-exposed containers cool.
* Vapors may travel to a source of ignition and flash back.
* Vapor is heavier than air and may travel a distance to cause a fire or explosion far from the source.
* If employees are expected to fight fires, they must be trained and equipped as stated in the OSHA Fire Brigades Standard (29 CFR 1910.156).

Spills and Emergencies

If Asphalt is spilled or leaked, take the following steps:

* Evacuate personnel and secure and control entrance to the area.
* Eliminate all ignition sources.
* Absorb liquids in vermiculite, dry sand, earth, or a similar material and deposit in sealed containers.
* Ventilate and wash area after clean-up is complete.
* Keep Asphalt out of a confined space, such as a sewer, because of the possibility of an explosion.
* It may be necessary to contain and dispose of Asphalt as a hazardous waste. Contact your state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) or your regional office of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for specific recommendations.
* If employees are required to clean-up spills, they must be properly trained and equipped. The OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard (29 CFR 1910.120) may apply.

For large spills and fires immediately call your fire department. You can request emergency information from the following:

CHEMTREC: (800) 424-9300
NJDEP HOTLINE: 1-877-WARN-DEP

Handling and Storage (See page 3)

First Aid

For Poison Information call 1-800-222-1222

Eye Contact
* Immediately flush with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes, occasionally lifting upper and lower lids.

Skin Contact
* Quickly remove contaminated clothing. Immediately wash contaminated skin with large amounts of soap and water.

Breathing
* Remove the person from exposure.
* Begin rescue breathing (using universal precautions) if breathing has stopped and CPR if heart action has stopped.
* Transfer promptly to a medical facility.

Physical Data

Flash Point:
Cutback Asphalt: less than 50°F (10°C)
Slow to Rapid Curing Asphalt: 80°F (27°C) to 225°F (107°C)
Typical Asphalt: greater than 400°F (204°C)

Water Solubility: Insoluble

Other Commonly Used Names

This Fact Sheet can also be used for:
Alphalt (Cutback) RTK # 3172

Chemical Name:
Asphalt

Other Names:
Road Tar; Mineral Pitch; Petroleum Pitch; Bitumen

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New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Right to Know Program
PO Box 368, Trenton, NJ 08625-0368
(609) 984-2202

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