

HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION

July 2008

This issue supersedes all previous issues and correspondence on health and safety.

DATA SHEET

1. INTRODUCTION

This data sheet provides guidance on the storage, handling and processing of all Durafoam, Duraflex, and Bondaflex products produced by MONMOUTH RUBBER AND PLASTICS CORP. Durafoam Duraflex,, and Bondaflex are cellular products, both open cell and closed cell, made from a variety of hydrocarbon polymers such as --- Neoprene --- SBR --- EPDM --- Polyethylene --- EVA --- Nitrile --- and PVC.

For the purposes of this data sheet there is no essential difference in the hazards associated with any of the above listed materials.

2. POTENTIAL HAZARDS

A. Toxicity

Durafoam Duraflex,, and Bondaflex are chemically unreactive. They are considered articles under the definition of the OSHA hazardous communication standard (29CFR 1910, 1200) and therefore are exempt from the requirements of the material safety data sheets and labeling.

The following information is supplied notwithstanding the above.

B. Inhalation - (Fume Evolution)

There is no release of any noxious fumes from Durafoam, Duraflex, and Bondaflex at ambient temperature.

C. Ingestion

Ingestion of Durafoam, Duraflex, and Bondaflex should be avoided even though the material is inert and can be regarded as toxicologically harmless except for some flame retardant grades containing additives which could be harmful if swallowed.

D. Physical Contact

Durafoam, Duraflex, and Bondaflex are considered not to be skin irritants but under some circumstances foams can have a minor abrasive effect on skin. Particles of foam may cause physical irritation if they get into eyes.

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E. Fire, Ignition and Burning Characteristics

Decomposition of Durafoam, Duraflex, and Bondaflex will occur at about 300° C. Above this temperature Durafoam, Duraflex, and Bondaflex will pyrolyse oxidatively to produce carbon monoxide and water plus small amounts of various hydrocarbons and aldehydes. The evolved gases may ignite, and if they do they will provide heat of combustion pyrolysing more foam and any other material in the vicinity. Under flaming conditions the main combustion products are carbon dioxide and water(2), although if insufficient oxygen is present, or when the flame is extinguished, the smoke may contain appreciable quantities of carbon monoxide, acrolein and other aldehydes. Burning can be accompanied by the release of flaming molten droplets of polymer which could ignite adjacent flammable materials.

Some flame retardant grades contain toxic additives designed to reduce the ignitability and flame spread from small heat sources. In a full-scale fire these materials can burn to give dense black smoke and acrid fumes. These comments can only be of a general nature since the conditions of a real fire cannot be fully predicted.

3. Thermoforming

Most grades of Durafoam can be thermoformed to some degree. This is accomplished by time, temperature, and pressure. Process 1 would be hot foam from an oven to a cold mold with pressure. Process 2 would be cold foam into a hot mold with pressure. Either process involves temperatures between 250°F and 300°F. At this temperature range the foam may emit trace amounts of vaporized hydrocarbons.

The following precautions should be taken:

- A. Wear gloves to guard against the heat of the foam and molds.
- B. Adequately ventilate the thermoforming area to exhaust any fumes that may be emitted from the thermoforming process.
- C. Under some conditions, it may be advisable to wear a breathing apparatus.

4. Waste Disposal

Should be done in accordance with any applicable federal, state, or local ordinances with regard to polymeric waste.

Monmouth Rubber & Plastics Corp. makes no representation or warranty with respect to the information in this Material Safety Data Sheet. The information is however, as of this date provided, true and accurate to the best of Monmouth's knowledge. This list of information is not intended to be all inclusive. Actual conditions of use and handling may require considerations of information other than, or in addition to, that which is provided herein.

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