

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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World Headquarters  
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**PRODUCTS:** Steel framing components and accessories for drywall, curtain wall, load bearing, plaster and stucco construction.

## 1. CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

**Trade Number:** Sheet Steel

**CAS Number:** Not applicable

**Synonyms:** Hot Band, Cold Rolled, P&O, Galvanized

**Use/Description:** Steel for thin gauge products

## 2. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Components	CAS No.	% Weight	Exposure Limits			
			ACGIH TLV (mg/m3)		OSHA PEL (mg/m3)	
<b>Base Metal:</b>						
Iron (Fe)	7439-89-6	Balance	5	Oxide Dust/Fume	10	Oxide Dust/Fume
<b>Alloying Elements</b>						
Aluminum (Al)	7429-90-5	0-0-01	10	Dust	15	Dust
			5	Fume	5	Respirable fraction
Antimony (Sb)	7440-36-0	<0.9	0.5	As Antimony	0.5	As Antimony
Arsenic (As)	7440-38-2	<0.09	0.01	As Arsenic (A1 Carcinogen)	0.01	As Arsenic
Beryllium (Be)	7440-41-7	<0.09	0.002	As Beryllium (A1 Carcinogen)	0.002	As Beryllium
			0.01	As Beryllium (STEL)	0.005	As Beryllium (Ceiling)
Boron (B)	7440-42-8	<0.9	10	Oxide Dust	15	Oxide Dust
Cadmium (Cd)	7440-43-9	<0.09	0.01	As Cadmium (A2 Carcinogen)	0.005	As Cadmium
			0.002	Respirable fraction	0.0025	As Cadmium (Action Level)
Calcium (Ca)	1305-78-8	<0.9	2	Oxide Dust	5	Oxide Dust
Carbon (C)	7440-44-0	0.04-0.95		Not Established		Not Established
Chromium (Cr)	7440-47-3	0.01-1.0	0.5	Metal	1	Metal
Cobalt (Co)	7440-48-4	<0.09	0.02	As Cobalt (A3 Carcinogen)	0.1	Metal/Dust/Fume
Copper (Cu)	7440-50-8	<0.9	1	Dust	1	Dust
			0.2	Fume	0.1	Fume
Lead (Pb)	7439-92-1	0.0-0.04	0.05	Dust / Fume (A3 Carcinogen)	0.05	Dust / Fume
Magnesium (Mg)	7439-95-4	<0.9		Not Established		Not Established
Manganese (Mn)	7439-96-5	0.2-2	0.2	Elemental Mn and Inorg Compounds	5	Fume (Ceiling)
Molybdenum (Mo)	7439-98-7	<0.9	10	Insoluble Compounds	15	Insoluble Compounds

Components		CAS No.	% Weight	Exposure Limits			
				ACGIH TLV (mg/m3)		OSHA PEL (mg/m3)	
Niobium (Nb)	7440-03-1	<0.9					
Nickel (Ni)	7440-02-0	0.01-0.1	1.5	Not Established	1	Metal and Insoluble Compounds	
Nitrogen (N)	7727-37-9	<0.9		Simple Asphyxiant		Simple Asphyxiant	
Phosphorus (P)	7723-14-0	<0.9	0.1	Phosphorus	0.1	Phosphorus	
Selenium (Se)	7782-49-2	<0.9	0.2	Selenium	0.2	Selenium	
Silicon (Si)	7440-21-3	<0.9	10	Dust	15	Dust	
Sulfur (S)	7446-09-05	<0.9	5.2	Sulfur Dioxide	13	Sulfur Dioxide	
			13	Sulfur Dioxide (STEL)			
Tin (Sn)	7440-31-5	<0.9	2	Metal, Oxide and Inorganic Compounds	2	Inorganic Compounds	
Titanium (Ti)	7440-32-6	<0.9		Not Established		Not Established	
Tungsten (W)	7440-33-7	<0.9	5	Insoluble Compounds as W		Not Established	
			10	Insoluble Compounds as W (STEL)			
Vanadium (V)	7440-62-2	<0.9	0.05	Oxide Dust/Fume	0.5	Oxide Dust (Ceiling)	
					0.1	Oxide Fume (Ceiling)	
Zinc (Zn)	7440-66-6	0.0-0.01	10	Oxide Dust	5	Oxide Fume	
			5	Oxide Fume	10	Oxide Dust	
			10	Oxide Fume (STEL)			
<b>Coatings and Finishing Treatments:</b>							
Hydrochloric Acid (HCl)	7647-01-0	<3					
Petroleum, Natural or Synthetic oils	Mixture	<0.1	5	Mist	5	Mist	
Anhydrous Potassium Hydroxide	1310-58-3	<0.01	2	Ceiling	2	Ceiling	
Glycine, nn-1,2-ethanediylbis	60-00-4	<0.01					
Polyalkylene glycol	Mixture	<0.01					
Sodium Nitrite	7632-00-2	<0.01					
Zinc (galvanized)	7440-66-6	0.4 - 10	10	Oxide Dust			
			5	Oxide Fume	5	Oxide Fume	
			10	Oxide Fume (STEL)	10	Oxide Dust	

NOTE: No permissible exposure limits (PEL) or threshold limit values (TLV) exist for steel. Various grades of steel will contain different combinations of these elements and/or trace materials. **Exact specifications for specific products may be available upon request.**

### **3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION**

#### **EMERGENCY OVERVIEW**

WARNING! WELDING, SAWING, BRAZING, GRINDING, AND MACHINING MAY CAUSE DUSTS AND/OR FUME TO BE RELEASED. MAY BE HARMFUL IF INHALED. MAY IRRITATE THE EYES, SKIN, AND RESPIRATORY TRACT. MOLTEN MATERIAL MAY CAUSE THERMAL BURNS

#### **Potential Health Effects**

Note: Steel products in their solid state under normal conditions, do not present an inhalation, ingestion or skin hazard. However, operations resulting in fume or particulate formation such as welding, sawing, brazing, grinding and machining may present health hazards. Molten steel also is hazardous.

#### **Eye Contact**

Dusts or particulates may cause mechanical irritation including pain, tearing, and redness. Scratching of the cornea can occur if eye is rubbed. Fumes may be irritating. Contact with the heated material may cause thermal burns.

#### **Skin Contact**

Dusts or particulates may cause mechanical irritation due to abrasion. Coated steel may cause skin irritation in sensitive individuals (see Section 16 for additional information.) Some components in this

product are capable of causing an allergic reaction, possibly resulting in burning, itching and skin eruptions. Contact with heated material may cause thermal burns.

#### **Inhalation**

Dusts may cause irritation of the nose, throat, and lungs. Excessive inhalation of metallic fumes and dusts may result in metal fume fever, an influenza-like illness. It is characterized by a sweet or metallic taste in the mouth, accompanied by dryness and irritation of the throat, cough, shortness of breath, pulmonary edema, general malaise, weakness, fatigue, muscle and joint pains, blurred vision, fever and chills. Typical symptoms last from 12 to 48 hours.

#### **Ingestion**

Not expected to be acutely toxic via ingestion based on the physical and chemical properties of the product. Swallowing of excessive amounts of the dust may cause irritation, nausea, and diarrhea.

#### **Chronic or Special Toxic Effects**

Repeated exposure to fine dusts may inflame the nasal mucosa and cause changes to the lung. In addition, a red-brown pigmentation of the eye and/or skin may occur.

Welding fumes have been associated with adverse health effects. Contains components that may cause cancer or reproductive effects. The following components are listed by NTP, OSHA, or IARC as carcinogens: Nickel, chromium (hexavalent), cobalt, lead, cadmium, antimony (trioxide), arsenic, beryllium.

See Section 11, for additional, specific information on effects noted above.

#### **Target Organs**

Overexposure to specific components of this product that are generated in dusts or fumes may cause adverse effects to the following organs or systems: eyes, skin, liver, kidney, central nervous system, cardiovascular system, respiratory system.

#### **Medical Conditions Aggravated by Exposure**

Diseases of the skin such as eczema may be aggravated by exposure. Also, disorders of the respiratory system including asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema. Long-term inhalation exposure to agents that cause pneumoconiosis (e.g. dust) may act synergistically with inhalation of oxide fumes or dusts of this product.

### **4. FIRST AID MEASURES**

**Eye Contact-** In case of overexposure to dusts or fumes, immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes occasionally lifting the eye lids. Get medical attention if irritation persists. Thermal burns should be treated as medical emergencies.

**Skin Contact** - In case of overexposure to dusts or particulates, wash with soap and plenty of water. Get medical attention if irritation develops or persists. If thermal burn occurs, flush area with cold water and get immediate medical attention.

**Inhalation** - In case of overexposure to dusts or fumes, remove to fresh air. Get immediate medical attention if symptoms described in this MSDS develop.

**Ingestion** - Not considered an ingestion hazard. However, if excessive amounts of dust or particulates are swallowed, treat symptomatically and supportively. Get medical attention.

**Notes to Physician** - Inhalation of metal fume or metal oxides may produce an acute febrile state, with cough, chills, weakness, and general malaise, nausea, vomiting, muscle cramps, and remarkable leukocytosis. Treatment is symptomatic, and condition is self limited in 24-48 hours. Chronic exposure to dusts may result in pneumoconiosis of mixed type.

### **5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES**

**Flash Point (Method)** - Not applicable

**Flammable Limits (% volume in air)** - Not applicable

**Autoignition Temperature** - Not applicable

**Extinguishing Media** - For molten metal, use dry powder or sand.

**Special Fire Fighting Procedures** - Do not use water on molten metal. Firefighters should not enter confined spaces without wearing NIOSH/MSHA approved positive pressure breathing apparatus (SCBA) with full face mask and full protective equipment.

**Unusual Fire or Explosion Hazards** - Steel products do not present fire or explosion hazards under normal conditions. Fine metal particles such as produced in grinding or sawing can burn. High concentrations of metallic fines in the air may present an explosion hazard.

## **6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

**Precautions if Material is Spilled or Released** - Emergency response is unlikely unless in the form of dust. Avoid inhalation, eye, or skin contact of dusts by using appropriate precautions outlined in this MSDS (see section 8). Fine turnings and small chips should be swept or vacuumed and placed into appropriate disposable containers. Keep fine dust or powder away from sources of ignition. Scrap should be reclaimed for recycling. Prevent materials from entering drains, sewers, or waterways.

**Environmental Precautions** - Some grades of steel may contain reportable quantities of alloying elements. See Section 15 for additional information.

**Waste Disposal Methods** - Dispose used or unused product in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and Local regulations.

## **7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**

**Storage Temperatures** - Stable under normal temperatures and pressures.

**Precautions to be Taken in Handling and Storing** - Store away from strong oxidizers. Dusts or powders may form explosive mixtures with air. Avoid breathing dusts or fumes.

## **8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION**

Operations with potential for generating high concentrations of airborne particulates or fumes should be evaluated and controlled as necessary.

**Eye Protection** - Use safety glasses. Dust resistant safety goggles are recommended under circumstances where particles could cause mechanical injury such as grinding or cutting. Face shield should be used when welding or cutting.

**Skin** - Appropriate protective gloves should be worn as necessary. Good personal hygiene practices should be followed including cleansing exposed skin several times daily with soap and water, and laundering or dry cleaning soiled work clothing.

**Respiratory Protection** - NIOSH/MSHA approved dust/fume/mist respirator should be used to avoid excessive exposure. See Section 2 for component material information exposure limits. If such concentrations are sufficiently high that this respirator is inadequate, or high enough to cause oxygen deficiency, use a positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Follow all applicable respirator use, fitting, and training standards and regulations.

**Ventilation** - Provide general and/or local exhaust ventilation to control airborne levels of dust or fumes below exposure limits.

**Exposure Guidelines** - No permissible exposure limits (PEL) or threshold limit values (TLV) exist for steel. See Section 2 for component materials. Various grades of steel will contain different combinations of these elements. Trace elements may also be present in minute amounts.

## **9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

**Appearance and Odor** - Red, Grey or other color steel panels, pulins, and built-up joists and trusses

**Boiling Point** - Not applicable

**Melting Point** - Approximately 2800° F

**pH** - Not applicable

**Specific Gravity (at 15.6° C)** - Not applicable

**Density (at 15.6° C)** - Not applicable

**Vapor Pressure** - Not applicable  
**Vapor Density (air = 1)** - Not applicable  
**% Volatile, by Volume** - Not applicable  
**Solubility in Water** - Insoluble.  
**Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate = 1)** - Not applicable  
**Other Physical and Chemical Data**  
None

## **10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

**Stability** - Stable

**Conditions to Avoid** - Steel at temperatures above the melting point may liberate fumes containing oxides of iron and alloying elements. Avoid generation of airborne fume.

**Hazardous Polymerization** - Will not occur.

**Incompatibility (Materials to Avoid)** - Reacts with strong acids to form hydrogen gas. Do not store near strong oxidizers.

**Hazardous Decomposition Products** - Metallic fumes may be produced during welding, burning, grinding, and possibly machining or any situation with the potential for thermal decomposition. Refer to ANSI Z49.1

## **11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

The primary component of this product is iron. Long-term exposure to iron dusts or fumes can result in a condition called siderosis, which is considered to be a benign pneumoconiosis. Symptoms may include chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and shortness of breath upon exertion. Penetration of iron particles in the skin or eye may cause an exogenous or ocular siderosis, which may be characterized by a red-brown pigmentation of the affected area. Ingestion overexposures to iron may affect the gastrointestinal, nervous, and hematopoietic system and the liver. Iron and steel founding, but not iron or iron oxide, has been listed as potentially carcinogenic by IARC.

When this product is welded, fumes are generated. Welding fumes may be different in composition from the original welding product, with the chief component being ordinary oxides of the metal being welded. Chronic health effects (including cancer) have been associated with the fumes and dusts of individual component metals (see above), and welding fumes as a general category have been listed by IARC as a carcinogen (Group 2B). There is also limited evidence that welding fumes may cause adverse reproductive and fetal effects. Evidence is stronger where welding materials contain known reproductive toxins, e.g., lead which may be present in the coating material of this product.

Breathing fumes or dusts of this product may result in metal fume fever, which is an illness produced by inhaling metal oxides. These oxides are produced by heating various metals including cadmium, zinc, magnesium, copper, antimony, nickel, cobalt, manganese, tin, lead, beryllium, silver, chromium, aluminum, selenium, iron, and arsenic. The most common agents involved are zinc and copper.

This product may contain small amounts of manganese. Prolonged exposure to manganese dusts or fumes is associated with "manganism", a Parkinson-like syndrome characterized by a variety of neurological symptoms including muscle spasms, gait disturbances, tremors, and psychoses.

This product may contain small amounts of cadmium. Primary target organs for cadmium overexposure are the lung and the kidney. Because of its cumulative nature, chronic cadmium poisoning can cause serious disease which takes many years to develop and may continue to progress despite cessation of exposure. Progression of the disease may not reflect current exposure conditions. It is also capable of causing a painful osteomalacia called "Itai-Itai" in postmenopausal women, and has caused developmental effects and/or reproductive effects in male and female animals. Cadmium is a listed carcinogen by NTP, OSHA, and IARC (Group 1).

This product may contain small amounts of chromium. Prolonged and repeated overexposure to chromium dusts or fumes may cause skin ulcers, nasal irritation and ulceration, kidney damage and cancer of the respiratory system. Chromium is skin sensitizer. Cancer is generally attributed to the hexavalent (+6) form of chromium, which is listed as a carcinogen by NTP and IARC (Group 1).

This product may contain small amounts of nickel. Prolonged and repeated contact with nickel may cause sensitization dermatitis. Inhalation of nickel compounds has caused lung damage as well as sinus, nasal and lung cancer in laboratory animals. Nickel is a listed carcinogen by NTP and IARC (Group 1).

This product may contain small amounts of vanadium. Adverse effects from dermal, inhalation or parenteral exposure to various vanadium compounds have been reported. The major target for vanadium pentoxide toxicity is the respiratory tract. Fumes or dust can cause severe eye and respiratory irritation, and systemic effects. Chronic bronchitis, green tongue, conjunctivitis, pharyngitis, rhinitis, rales, chronic productive cough, and tightness of the chest have been reported following overexposure. Allergic reactions resulting from skin and inhalation exposures have also been reported. A statistical association between vanadium air levels and lung cancer has been suggested, but vanadium currently is not regarded as a human carcinogen.

This product may contain small amounts of lead. Lead can accumulate in the body. Consequently, exposure to fumes or dust may produce signs of polyneuritis, diminished vision and peripheral neuropathy, such as tingling and loss of feeling in fingers, arms and legs. Lead is a known reproductive and developmental toxin. It is also associated with central nervous system disorders, anemia, kidney dysfunction and neurobehavioral abnormalities. The brain is a major target organ for lead exposure. Elemental lead is listed as an IARC 2B carcinogen.

The product may contain small amounts of copper. Copper dust and fume can irritate the eyes, nose and throat causing coughing, wheezing, nosebleeds, ulcers and metal fume fever. Other effects from repeated inhalation of copper fume include a metallic or sweet taste, and discoloration of skin, teeth or hair. Copper also may cause an allergic skin reaction. Overexposure to copper can affect the liver.

## **12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

**Aquatic Ecotoxicological Data** - No specific information available on this product.

**Environmental Fate Data** - No specific information available on this product.

## **13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Recovery and reuse, rather than disposal, should be the ultimate goal of handling efforts. Dispose in accordance with federal, state, and local health and environmental regulations. Prevent materials from entering drains, sewers, or waterways.

## **14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

**DOT Proper Shipping Name** - Not regulated

**DOT Hazard Classification** - Not regulated

**UN/NA Number** - Not applicable

**DOT Packing Group** - Not applicable

**Labeling Requirements** - Not applicable

**Placards** - Not applicable

**DOT Hazardous Substance** - Not applicable

**DOT Marine Pollutant** - Not applicable

## **15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**

This product is not hazardous under the criteria of the Federal OSHA Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200. However, dusts and fumes from this product may be hazardous.

**CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65**

This product contains chemicals (antimony [oxide], arsenic, beryllium, chromium [hexavalent], cobalt, cadmium, lead, nickel) known to the State of California to cause cancer and chemicals (cadmium, lead) known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

**Regulatory Lists**

Some components of this product may be specifically listed by individual states; other product-specific health and safety data in other sections of the MSDS may also be applicable for state requirements. For details on your regulatory requirements, you should contact the appropriate agency in your state.

**Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)**

Components of this product are listed on the TSCA Inventory.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)**

Steel is not reportable, however, it contains hazardous substances that may be reportable if released in pieces with diameters less than or equal to 0.004 inches (RQ marked with a “\*”).

Chemical Name	Reportable Quantity (in lb)
Antimony	5000*
Arsenic	1*
Beryllium	10*
Cadmium	10*
Chromium	5000*
Copper	5000*
Lead	10*
Nickel	100*
Phosphorus	1
Selenium	100*
Zinc	1000*

**Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), Title III**

SECTION 311/312 HAZARD CATEGORIES: Immediate Health Effect, Delayed Health Effect

This product contains the following EPCRA Section 313 chemicals subject to the reporting requirements of section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right – To – Know Act of 1986 (40 CFR 372):

SECTION 313 REPORTABLE INGREDIENTS:

Chemical Name	CAS Number	Concentration (% by weight)	Reportable
Aluminum	7429-90-5	<0.01	No – Less than 1%
Antimony	7440-36-0	<0.9	No – Less than 1%
Arsenic	7440-38-2	<0.09	No – Less than 0.1%
Beryllium	7440-41-7	<0.09	No – Less than 0.1%
Cadmium	7440-43-9	<0.09	No – Less than 0.1%
Chromium	7440-47-3	0.01-1.0	Yes – Greater than 0.1%
Cobalt	7440-48-4	<0.09	No – Less than 0.1%
Copper	7440-50-8	<0.9	No – Less than 1%
Lead	7439-92-1	0.0-0.04	No – Less than 0.1%
Manganese	7439-96-5	0.2-2	Yes – Greater than 1%
Nickel	7440-02-0	0.01-0.1	Yes – Greater than 0.1%
Phosphorus	7723-14-0	<0.9	No – Less than 1%
Selenium	7782-49-2	<0.9	No – Less than 1%
Vanadium	7440-62-2	<0.9	No – Less than 1%
Zinc	7440-66-6	<0.9	No – Less than 1%

Concentrations based on analytical data and process knowledge of typical products distributed by the facility.

## **16. OTHER INFORMATION**

This product may be coated with a variety of materials, including oils, paints, galvanization, etc. that are not included in this MSDS. During welding precautions should be taken for airborne contaminants that may originate from components of the welding rod. Arc or spark generated when welding or burning could be a source of ignition or combustible and flammable materials. The information in this Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) was obtained from sources which we believe are reliable; however, the information is provided without any representation of warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the accuracy or correctness. The conditions or methods of handling, storage, use and disposal of the product are beyond our control and may be beyond our knowledge. For this and other reasons, we do not assume responsibility and expressly disclaim liability for loss, damage, or expense arising out of or in any way connected with the handling, storage, use, or disposal of this product.