

IV. FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA (CONTINUED)

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards:

In operation, batteries generate and release flammable hydrogen gas. They must always be assumed to contain this gas which, if ignited by burning cigarette, naked flame or spark, may cause battery explosion with dispersion of casing fragments and corrosive liquid electrolyte. Carefully follow manufacturer's instructions for installation and service. Keep away all sources of gas ignition and do not allow metallic articles to simultaneously contact the negative and positive terminals of a battery.

V. REACTIVITY DATA

Stability: Stable X
Unstable

Conditions to Avoid: Prolonged overcharge at high current; sources of ignition.

Incompatibility: (materials to avoid)

Electrolyte: Contact with combustibles and organic materials may cause fire and explosion. Also reacts violently with strong reducing agents, metals, sulfur trioxide gas, strong oxidizers, and water. Contact with metals may produce toxic sulfur dioxide fumes and may release flammable hydrogen gas.

Lead compounds: Avoid contact with strong acids, bases, halides, halogenates, potassium nitrate, permanganate, peroxides, nascent hydrogen, and reducing agents.

Hazardous Decomposition Products:

Electrolyte: Sulfur trioxide, carbon monoxide, sulfuric acid mist, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulfide.

Lead compounds: Temperatures above the melting point are likely to produce toxic metal fume, vapor, or dust; contact with strong acid or base or presence of nascent hydrogen may generate highly toxic arsine gas.

VI. HEALTH HAZARD DATA

Routes of Entry:

Electrolyte: Harmful by all routes of entry.

Lead compounds: Hazardous exposure can occur only when product is heated above the melting point, oxidized or otherwise processed or damaged to create dust, vapor, or fume.

Inhalation:

Electrolyte: Breathing of sulfuric acid vapors or mists may cause severe respiratory irritation.

Lead compounds: Inhalation of lead dust or fumes may cause irritation of upper respiratory tract and lungs.

Ingestion:

Electrolyte: May cause severe irritation of mouth, throat, esophagus, and stomach.

Lead compounds: Acute ingestion may cause abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and severe cramping. This may lead rapidly to systemic toxicity.

Skin Contact:

Electrolyte: Severe irritation, burns, and ulceration.

Lead compounds: Not absorbed through the skin.

Eye Contact:

Electrolyte: Severe irritation, burns, cornea damage, blindness.

Lead compounds: May cause eye irritation.

Effects of Overexposure - Acute:

Electrolyte: Severe skin irritation, damage to cornea may cause blindness, upper respiratory irritation.

Lead compounds: Symptoms of toxicity include headache, fatigue, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, muscular aches and weakness, sleep disturbances, and irritability.

Effects of Overexposure - Chronic:

Electrolyte: Possible erosion of tooth enamel; inflammation of nose, throat, and bronchial tubes.

VI. HEALTH HAZARD DATA (CONTINUED)

Lead compounds: Anemia; neuropathy, particularly of the motor nerves, with wrist drop; kidney damage; reproductive changes in both males and females.

Carcinogenicity:

Electrolyte: The National Toxicology Program (NTP) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) have classified "strong inorganic acid mist containing sulfuric acid" as a Category I carcinogen, a substance that is carcinogenic to humans. This classification does not apply to sulfuric acid solutions in static liquid state or to electrolyte in batteries. Batteries subjected to abusive charging at excessively high currents for prolonged periods of time without vent caps in place may create a surrounding atmosphere of the offensive strong inorganic acid mist containing sulfuric acid.

Lead compounds: Listed as a 2B carcinogen, likely in animals at extreme doses. Proof of carcinogenicity in humans is lacking at present.

Medical Conditions Generally Aggravated by Exposure:

Overexposure to sulfuric acid mist may cause lung damage and aggravate pulmonary conditions. Contact of electrolyte (water and sulfuric acid solution) with skin may aggravate skin diseases such as eczema and contact dermatitis. Contact of electrolyte (water and sulfuric acid solution) with eyes may damage cornea and/or cause blindness. Lead and its compounds can aggravate some forms of kidney, liver, and neurologic diseases.

Emergency and First Aid Procedures:

Inhalation: Electrolyte: Remove to fresh air immediately. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen.

Lead compounds: Remove from exposure, gargle, wash nose and lips; consult physician.

Ingestion: Electrolyte: Give large quantities of water; **do not** induce vomiting; consult physician.

Lead compounds: Consult physician immediately.

Skin: Electrolyte: Flush with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes; remove contaminated clothing completely, including shoes.

Lead compounds: Wash immediately with soap and water.

Eyes: Electrolyte and Lead compounds: Flush immediately with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes; consult physician immediately.

VII. PRECAUTIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING AND USE

Handling and Storage: (No hazards under normal usage as the sulfuric acid is immobilized in a gel structure)

Store batteries under roof in cool, dry, well-ventilated areas that are separated from incompatible materials and from activities that may create flames, spark, or heat. Keep away from metallic objects that could bridge the terminals on a battery and create a dangerous short-circuit. Single batteries pose no risk of electric shock but there may be increasing risk of electric shock from strings of connected batteries exceeding three 12-volt units.

Charging:

There is a possible risk of electric shock from charging equipment and from strings of series connected batteries, whether or not being charged. Shut-off power to chargers whenever not in use and before detachment of any circuit connections. Batteries being charged will generate and release flammable hydrogen gas. Charging space should be ventilated. Keep battery vent caps in position. Prohibit smoking and avoid creation of flames and sparks nearby. Wear face and eye protection when near batteries being charged.

Spill or Leak Procedures:

Stop flow of material, contain/absorb small spills with dry sand, earth, and vermiculite. Do not use combustible materials. If possible, carefully neutralize spilled electrolyte with soda ash, sodium bicarbonate, lime, etc. Wear acid-resistant clothing, boots, gloves, and face shield. **Do not allow discharge of un-neutralized acid to sewer.** Neutralized acid must be managed in accordance with approved local, state, and federal requirements. Consult state environmental agency and/or federal EPA

Waste Disposal Methods:

Spent batteries: Send to secondary lead smelter for recycling.

Electrolyte:

Place neutralized slurry into sealed acid resistant containers and dispose of as hazardous waste, as applicable. Large water diluted spills, after neutralization and testing, should be managed in accordance with approved local, state, and federal requirements. Consult state environmental agency and/or federal EPA.

IX. OTHER REGULATORY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

(e) **Supplier Notification:** This product contains toxic chemicals that may be reportable under EPCRA Section 313 Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (Form R) requirements. For a manufacturing facility under SIC codes 20 through 39, the following information is provided to enable you to complete the required reports:

<u>Toxic Chemical</u>	<u>CAS Number</u>	<u>Approximate % by Weight</u>
Lead	7439-92-1	60-68
Sulfuric Acid/Water Solution	7664-93-9	17-22

If you distribute this product to other manufacturers in SIC Codes 20 through 39, this information must be provided with the first shipment of each calendar year.

Note: The Section 313 supplier notification requirement does not apply to batteries that are "consumer products".

CAA:

Exide Technologies supports preventative actions concerning ozone depletion in the atmosphere due to emissions of CFC's and other ozone depleting chemicals (ODC's), defined by the USEPA as Class I substances. Pursuant to Section 611 of the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990, finalized on January 19, 1993, Exide established a policy to eliminate the use of Class I ODC's prior to the May 15, 1993 deadline.

TSCA:

Ingredients in Exide's batteries are listed in the TSCA Registry as follows:

	<u>CAS NO.</u>	<u>TSCA Status</u>
Electrolyte		
Sulfuric acid (H ₂ SO ₄)	7664-93-9	Listed
Inorganic Lead Compound		
Lead (Pb)	7439-92-1	Listed
Lead Oxide (PbO)	1317-36-8	Listed
Lead Sulfate (PbSO ₄)	7446-14-2	Listed
Calcium (Ca)	7440-70-2	Listed
Tin (Sn)	7440-31-5	Listed
Silver (Ag)	7440-22-4	Listed
Aluminum (Al)	7429-90-5	Listed

CANADIAN REGULATIONS:

All chemical substances in this product are listed on the CEPA DSL/NDSL or are exempt from list requirements.

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65:

"WARNING: This product contains lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm."

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