

# BASIC ACRYLIC MONOMER MANUFACTURERS, INC.

## GLOBAL PRODUCT SUMMARY: METHYL ACRYLATE

Last Updated: 8/5/14

[Disclaimer](#)

### SUBSTANCE NAME

Methyl acrylate

### GENERAL STATEMENT

Methyl acrylate (MA) is a colorless liquid with an acrid odor. It is used in the production of coatings, elastomers, adhesives, thickeners, surfactants, fibers, plastics, textiles and inks.

### CHEMICAL IDENTITY

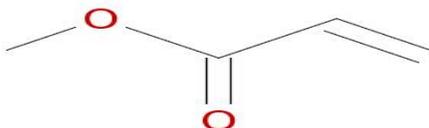
**Name:** Methyl acrylate

**Chemical name (IUPAC):** methyl acrylate

**Synonym:** 2-Propenoic acid, methyl ester

**CAS number(s):** 96-33-3

**Molecular formula:** C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



**Structure:**

### USES AND APPLICATIONS

Acrylate esters, the family of chemicals to which MA belongs, are used primarily as reactive building blocks to produce coatings and inks, adhesives, sealants, textiles, plastics and elastomers. The acrylate esters typically are present only in trace amounts (as residual monomer) in the finished product. Specifically, MA is used in the following applications:

- **Adhesives:** for use in construction and pressure-sensitive adhesives as a co-monomer
- **Chemical intermediates:** for a variety of chemical products. The most prominent use as an intermediate is to produce dimethylaminoethylacrylate (DMAEA), which is used as a monomer to make flocculants for water treatment.
- **Coatings:** monomers used to produce polymers for architectural, decorative, industrial, paper and roof coatings
- **Leather:** to produce different polymer finishes, particularly nubuck and suede
- **Plastics:** for the manufacture of a variety of plastics
- **Fibers:** in the manufacture of fibers of both woven and non-woven textiles as a copolymer. The fibers are in turn used for e.g. the manufacture of textiles.

Methyl acrylate is not sold for direct consumer use, but is used as a raw material to make a variety of goods used by consumers or construction personnel, including those listed above. MA can be present in trace amounts as residual monomer in consumer products, including paints.

## PHYSICAL/CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

*The following table includes information which refers to testing performed with the concentrated substance. It is not intended to be comprehensive or to replace information found in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS). A Safety Data Sheet may be obtained from one of the manufacturers.*

Property	Value
Physical state	Liquid
Color	Colorless
Odor	Acrid
Density	0.95 g/cm <sup>3</sup> @ 20°C
Melting / boiling point	-76.5°C / 80.1°C @ 1013.25 hPa
Flammability	Highly flammable liquid and vapor The substance has no pyrophoric properties and does not liberate flammable gases on contact with water.
Explosive properties	Non explosive
Self-ignition temperature	468°C
Vapor pressure	90 hPa @ 20°C
Molecular weight	86.0892
Water solubility	60 g/L @ 20°C
Flash point	-2.8°C
Octanol-water partition coefficient (Log Pow)	0.739 @ 25°C

## HUMAN HEALTH SAFETY ASSESSMENT

*Information for the general population and consumers handling products made with methyl acrylate.*

Acrylate esters, including MA, have a very strong, unpleasant odor that may be bothersome. However, the smell of acrylates does not necessarily indicate a health hazard.

Like any reactive chemical, MA can create hazards if not handled properly. It is toxic if inhaled or harmful with skin contact. It causes irritation to skin, eyes and the respiratory tract. Repeated skin contact may cause allergic reactions. It has a moderate toxicity if swallowed. Animal studies have not indicated that it causes cancer or reproductive toxicity.

*The following table includes information for someone handling the concentrated substance. The data, while verifiable, are not intended to be comprehensive nor replace the information found in the SDS.*

<b>Effect Assessment</b>	<b>Result</b>
Acute Toxicity Oral / inhalation / dermal	Moderately toxic if swallowed. Swallowing may result in burns of the mouth and throat. Prolonged or widespread skin contact may result in absorption of harmful amounts.  High vapor concentrations could cause serious adverse effects to the lungs which may result in death.
Irritation / corrosion Skin / eye/ respiratory tract	Contact may cause skin irritation.  May cause eye irritation and damage. Signs of irritation may include pain, excessive tearing, and corneal changes.  Excessive exposure to vapor may cause irritation to upper respiratory tract (nose and throat) and lungs.
Sensitization	May cause an allergic skin reaction.
Toxicity after repeated exposure Oral / inhalation / dermal	Does not cause toxicity to internal organs after repeated exposure in animal studies. The predominant effect is local irritation.
Genotoxicity / Mutagenicity	Based on the available test data, not expected to cause genetic effects.
Carcinogenicity	Did not cause cancer in long term animal studies
Toxicity for reproduction	Did not cause birth defects in laboratory animals. No adverse effects were seen in the fetus at doses that were not toxic to the mother.

## **ENVIRONMENT SAFETY ASSESSMENT**

Methyl acrylate is a liquid which evaporates easily and is unlikely to persist in the environment. It is not expected to bind to soil or sediment. If released to air, it will undergo degradation within days. It is not expected to accumulate in the food chain, i.e., the bioconcentration potential is low. It biodegrades rapidly in the environment. MA is toxic to aquatic organisms (fish, algae, invertebrates).

*The following tables include information for testing performed with the concentrated substance. Additional information may be obtained from a manufacturer's SDS.*

<b>Effect Assessment</b>	<b>Result</b>
Aquatic Toxicity	Toxic to aquatic organisms Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects

<b>Fate and behavior</b>	<b>Result</b>
Biodegradation	Readily biodegradable
Bioaccumulation potential	Not expected to bioaccumulate
PBT / vPvB* conclusion	Not considered to be either PBT nor vPvB

\* Persistent/Bioaccumulative/Toxic (PBT) very Persistent-very Bioaccumulative (vPvB)

## **EXPOSURE**

### **Human health**

Methyl acrylate is used in the production of industrial and consumer products.

- **Workplace exposure** – Exposure can occur either in a MA manufacturing facility or in the various industrial or manufacturing facilities that use MA. It is produced, distributed, stored and reacted in closed systems. Those working with MA in manufacturing operations could be exposed during maintenance, sampling, testing, manual transfer, or other procedures. Workplace exposure is controlled by the use of proper industrial handling procedures and safety equipment.
- **Consumer exposure to products containing methyl acrylate** – MA is not sold for direct consumer use, but it is used as a raw material to make a variety of goods used by consumers or construction personnel and could be present in trace amounts as residual monomer in consumer products, including paints.

### **Environment**

Potential releases into the environment are limited and for the most part occur only during production and processing, typically via wastewater and exhaust gases. If accidentally released to surface water, it rapidly biodegrades and will not persist in the environment and will not accumulate in the food chain.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Industrial Manufacturing and Processing**

In industrial manufacturing and processing applications, it is always important to obtain a current Safety Data Sheet from your supplier, follow the guidance provided and comply with applicable regulations.

Acrylates and products containing them should always be handled in well ventilated areas. Each manufacturing facility should have a thorough training program for employees, appropriate work processes, and safety equipment in place to limit unnecessary exposure.

In the event of a spill, the focus is on containing the spill to prevent contamination of soil, ditches, sewers, or surface or ground water. Only trained and properly protected personnel should be involved in clean-up operations.

### **Professional Applications**

Before using any chemical product, the user should be properly trained in safe handling procedures for that product. This means that they should always contact the supplier of the product being used to obtain the most current safe handling advice and follow all instructions and warnings.

### **Consumer Applications**

It is important to read and follow all warnings and instructions on the product label or packaging.

## **REGULATORY INFORMATION**

This substance is subject to a number of federal and international statutes and regulations. Selected U.S. regulatory information is available on the [BAMM website](#). Other federal, state and local regulations may apply.

This substance has been registered under EU chemical control law known as REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical substances), and is listed on various chemical inventories. It has been reviewed under the OECD SIDS (Screening Information Data Set) program.

While the toxicological data are not specific to a particular region, the regulatory frameworks differ between countries and regions. The Global Harmonized System (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.

Under the GHS, substances are classified according to their physical, health, and environmental hazards.

*Note: The hazard statements and symbols presented here refer to the hazard properties of the concentrated substance and are meant to provide a brief overview of the substance's labelling. It is not intended to be comprehensive or to replace information found in the SDS.*

Signal word: Danger

Hazard pictogram:

GHS02: flame



GHS06: skull and crossbones



Hazard statements:

H225: Highly flammable liquid and vapour.

H302: Harmful if swallowed.

H312: Harmful in contact with skin.

H315: Causes skin irritation.

H317: May cause an allergic skin reaction.

H319: Causes serious eye irritation.

H331: Toxic if inhaled.

H335: May cause respiratory irritation.

H401: Toxic to aquatic life.

H412: Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Information on registered substance (ECHA)

<http://apps.echa.europa.eu/registered/registered-sub.aspx>

### IFA GESTIS-database on hazardous substances

<http://www.dguv.de/ifa/en/gestis/stoffdb/index.jsp>

### International Chemical Safety Card

<http://www.inchem.org/documents/icsc/icsc/eics0625.htm>

### OECD SIDS

[http://webnet.oecd.org/Hpv/UI/SIDS\\_Details.aspx?id=78f22557-d144-466b-b753-993f1dd6a982](http://webnet.oecd.org/Hpv/UI/SIDS_Details.aspx?id=78f22557-d144-466b-b753-993f1dd6a982)

## CONTACT

For further information on this substance or product safety summaries in general, please contact BMM. Click on a logo below to go to the company's website.



## Glossary

**Acute toxicity** - harmful effects after a single exposure  
**Bioaccumulation** - accumulation of substance in an organism  
**Biodegradation**- chemical breakdown of substances by a physiological environment  
**Carcinogenicity** - effects causing cancer  
**Chronic toxicity** - harmful effects after repeated exposures  
**Clastogen** - a substance that causes breaks in chromosomes  
**Embryotoxicity** - harmful effects on fetal health  
**EU** - European Union  
**eSDS** -Extended Safety Data Sheet  
**GHS** -Global Harmonized System  
**Hazard** - situation bearing a threat to health and environment  
**HPV**-High Production Volume  
**ICCA**-International Council of Chemical Associations  
**Mutagenicity** - effects that change genes  
**OECD**-Organisation for Economic co-operation and Development  
**Concentrated** - Non-formulated undiluted substance  
**REACH**-Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical substances  
**Reprotoxicity** - combining teratogenicity, embryotoxicity and harmful effects on fertility  
**SIDS** - Screening Inventory Data set  
**SDS**-Safety Data Sheet  
**Sensitizing** - causes allergies  
**Teratogenic** - effects on fetal morphology  
**PBT / vPvB**-Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic/ Very Persistent and Very Bioaccumulative

### Disclaimer

This document is not intended to be comprehensive. It is provided solely as background information and should not substitute for an up-to-date Safety Data Sheet or research should specific regulatory or other legal questions arise. It is not intended to be a statement of legal requirements when using or handling acrylates. Although the information is believed to be accurate as of the last update, new information may become available and regulations frequently change, and no warranty, expressed or implied, is made concerning the contents. In addition, many states and localities adopt their own regulations, which are not covered by this summary or on the [BAMM website](#). In all events, the user should consult applicable laws and regulations, as well as their supplier's Safety Data Sheet, for current information and requirements. **NO WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY, OR ANY OTHER WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, IS MADE CONCERNING THE INFORMATION PROVIDED HEREIN.**