

# SAFETY DATA SHEET

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

### 1.1 Product identifier

**Product name** COPPER SULPHATE

**Synonym(s)** BLUE COPPERAS • BLUE VITRIOL • BLUESTONE • COPPER SULPHATE PENTAHYDRATE • CUPRIC SULFATE PENTAHYDRATE

### 1.2 Uses and uses advised against

**Use(s)** GOLD PROCESSING REAGENT • LABORATORY REAGENT • MINERAL SURFACE AGENT

### 1.3 Details of the supplier of the product

**Supplier name** NYRSTAR HOBART

**Address** Risdon Road, Lutana, Tasmania, 7001, AUSTRALIA

**Telephone** (03) 6278 4444

**Fax** (03) 6278 4608

**Website** <http://www.nyrstar.com>

### 1.4 Emergency telephone number(s)

**Emergency** (03) 6278 4554

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### 2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS ACCORDING TO SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA CRITERIA

**GHS classification(s)** Acute Toxicity: Oral: Category 4  
Skin Corrosion/Irritation: Category 2  
Serious Eye Damage / Eye Irritation: Category 2A  
Acute Toxicity: Inhalation: Category 4  
Germ Cell Mutagenicity: Category 1B  
Carcinogenicity: Category 1B  
Toxic to Reproduction: Category 1B  
Aquatic Toxicity (Chronic): Category 1

### 2.2 Label elements

**Signal word** DANGER

**Pictogram(s)**



**Hazard statement(s)**

H302 Harmful if swallowed.  
H315 Causes skin irritation.  
H319 Causes serious eye irritation.  
H332 Harmful if inhaled.  
H340 May cause genetic defects.  
H350 May cause cancer.  
H360 May damage fertility or the unborn child.  
H410 Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

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### Prevention statement(s)

P202	Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
P261	Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.
P264	Wash thoroughly after handling.
P270	Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
P271	Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.
P273	Avoid release to the environment.
P280	Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.

### Response statement(s)

P302 + P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P304 + P340	IF INHALED: Remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.
P305 + P351 + P338	IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P308 + P313	IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/ attention.
P321	Specific treatment is advised - see first aid instructions.
P330	Rinse mouth.
P362	Take off contaminated clothing and wash before re-use.
P391	Collect spillage.

### Storage statement(s)

P405	Store locked up.
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### Disposal statement(s)

P501	Dispose of contents/container in accordance with relevant regulations.
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### 2.3 Other hazards

No information provided.

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## 3. COMPOSITION/ INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

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### 3.1 Substances / Mixtures

Ingredient	CAS Number	EC Number	Content
COPPER (II) SULPHATE PENTAHYDRATE	7758-99-8	231-847-6	>95 to 98%
ZINC SULPHATE	7733-02-0	231-793-3	0.4 to 3.4%
CADMIUM SULPHATE	10124-36-4	233-331-6	0.1 to 1%

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## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

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### 4.1 Description of first aid measures

<b>Eye</b>	If in eyes, hold eyelids apart and flush continuously with running water. Continue flushing until advised to stop by a Poisons Information Centre, a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes.
<b>Inhalation</b>	If inhaled, remove from contaminated area. Apply artificial respiration if not breathing.
<b>Skin</b>	If skin or hair contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing and flush skin and hair with running water. Continue flushing with water until advised to stop by a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.
<b>Ingestion</b>	For advice, contact a Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia Wide) or a doctor (at once).
<b>First aid facilities</b>	None allocated.

### 4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

See Section 11 for more detailed information on health effects and symptoms.

### 4.3 Immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Treat symptomatically.

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## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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### 5.1 Extinguishing media

Use an extinguishing agent suitable for the surrounding fire.

### 5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Non flammable. May evolve toxic gases (copper/ sulphur oxides) when heated to decomposition.

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### 5.3 Advice for firefighters

Evacuate area and contact emergency services. Toxic gases may be evolved in a fire situation. Remain upwind and notify those downwind of hazard. Wear full protective equipment including Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) when combating fire. Use waterfog to cool intact containers and nearby storage areas.

### 5.4 Hazchem code

None allocated.

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## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

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### 6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as detailed in section 8 of the SDS.

### 6.2 Environmental precautions

Prevent product from entering drains and waterways.

### 6.3 Methods of cleaning up

Contain spillage, then collect and place in suitable containers for disposal. Avoid generating dust.

### 6.4 Reference to other sections

See Sections 8 and 13 for exposure controls and disposal.

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## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

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### 7.1 Precautions for safe handling

Before use carefully read the product label. Use of safe work practices are recommended to avoid eye or skin contact and inhalation. Observe good personal hygiene, including washing hands before eating. Prohibit eating, drinking and smoking in contaminated areas.

### 7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Store in a cool, dry, well ventilated area, removed from incompatible substances and foodstuffs. Ensure containers are adequately labelled, protected from physical damage and sealed when not in use.

### 7.3 Specific end use(s)

No information provided.

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## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

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### 8.1 Control parameters

#### Exposure standards

Ingredient	Reference	TWA		STEL	
		ppm	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm	mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Cadmium and compounds (as Cd)	SWA (AUS)	--	0.01	--	--
Copper (fume)	SWA (AUS)	--	0.2	--	--
Copper, dusts & mists (as Cu)	SWA (AUS)	--	1	--	--

#### Biological limits

Ingredient	Determinant	Sampling Time	BEI
CADMIUM SULPHATE	Cadmium in urine	Not critical	5 µg/g creatinine
	Cadmium in blood	Not critical	5 µg/L

Reference: ACGIH Biological Exposure Indices

### 8.2 Exposure controls

#### Engineering controls

Avoid inhalation. Use in well ventilated areas. Where an inhalation risk exists, mechanical extraction ventilation is recommended. Maintain dust levels below the recommended exposure standard.

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**PPE**

<b>Eye / Face</b>	Wear dust-proof goggles.
<b>Hands</b>	Wear PVC or rubber gloves.
<b>Body</b>	Not required under normal conditions of use.
<b>Respiratory</b>	Where an inhalation risk exists, wear a Class P1 (Particulate) respirator.



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**9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

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**9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties**

<b>Appearance</b>	BLUE CRYSTALLINE SOLID OR POWDER
<b>Odour</b>	ODOURLESS
<b>Flammability</b>	NON FLAMMABLE
<b>Flash point</b>	NOT RELEVANT
<b>Boiling point</b>	150°C
<b>Melting point</b>	110°C
<b>Evaporation rate</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>pH</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Vapour density</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Specific gravity</b>	2.28
<b>Solubility (water)</b>	SOLUBLE
<b>Vapour pressure</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Upper explosion limit</b>	NOT RELEVANT
<b>Lower explosion limit</b>	NOT RELEVANT
<b>Partition coefficient</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Autoignition temperature</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Decomposition temperature</b>	> 200°C
<b>Viscosity</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Explosive properties</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Oxidising properties</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Odour threshold</b>	NOT AVAILABLE

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**10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

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**10.1 Reactivity**

Carefully review all information provided in sections 10.2 to 10.6.

**10.2 Chemical stability**

Stable under recommended conditions of storage.

**10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions**

Polymerization is not expected to occur.

**10.4 Conditions to avoid**

Avoid heat, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources.

**10.5 Incompatible materials**

Incompatible (violently) with oxidising agents (e.g. hypochlorites), acids (e.g. nitric acid) and hydroxylamine. Corrosive to some metals.

**10.6 Hazardous decomposition products**

May evolve toxic gases (copper/ sulphur oxides) when heated to decomposition.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### 11.1 Information on toxicological effects

**Acute toxicity** Harmful by inhalation and if swallowed.

**Information available for the ingredient(s):**

Ingredient	Oral Toxicity (LD50)	Dermal Toxicity (LD50)	Inhalation Toxicity (LC50)
COPPER (II) SULPHATE PENTAHYDRATE	960 mg/kg (rat)	> 2000 mg/kg (rat)	--
ZINC SULPHATE	245 mg/kg (mouse)	--	--
CADMIUM SULPHATE	88 mg/kg (mouse)	--	--

**Skin** Contact may result in irritation, redness, rash and dermatitis.

**Eye** Contact may result in irritation, lacrimation, pain and redness.

**Sensitisation** Not classified as causing skin or respiratory sensitisation.

**Mutagenicity** Cadmium is suspected of causing genetic defects.

**Carcinogenicity** Cadmium and cadmium compounds are classified as carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1).

**Reproductive** Cadmium is suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child.

**STOT – single exposure** Over exposure may result in irritation of the nose and throat, coughing, nausea and headache.

**STOT - repeated exposure** Not classified as causing organ damage from repeated exposure. However, repeated exposure to copper salts have been reported to result in liver, kidney and blood damage.

**Aspiration** Not classified as causing aspiration.

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### 12.1 Toxicity

Very toxic to aquatic species. LC50 (Rainbow trout, Harlequin fish, Goldfish): 0.1 - 2.5 mg/L/96hrs. Invertebrate toxicity: LC50 (Daphnia magna) = 24 µg/L/48hrs.

### 12.2 Persistence and degradability

No information provided.

### 12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

No information provided.

### 12.4 Mobility in soil

No information provided.

### 12.5 Other adverse effects

Copper sulphate is found as the mineral hydrocyanite. Copper accumulates in soils. The fate of copper in water is dependent on a number of variables, but particularly pH. Copper is an essential nutrient in all organisms. However low concentrations of copper sulphate are toxic to aquatic life (eg LC50 (prawn) is 0.14 ppm/48 hours). Copper is strongly bioaccumulated but not biomagnified.

## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

### 13.1 Waste treatment methods

**Waste disposal** Precipitate salts with lime or sodium carbonate, absorb with sand or similar and dispose of to an approved landfill site. Contact the manufacturer/supplier for additional information (if required).

**Legislation** Dispose of in accordance with relevant local legislation.

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

**CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD (IN ACCORDANCE WITH IMDG ONLY)**

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	LAND TRANSPORT (ADG)	SEA TRANSPORT (IMDG / IMO)	AIR TRANSPORT (IATA / ICAO)
<b>14.1 UN Number</b>	None allocated.	3077	None allocated.
<b>14.2 Proper Shipping Name</b>	None allocated.	ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE, SOLID, N.O.S. (Copper Sulphate Pentahydrate)	None allocated.
<b>14.3 Transport hazard class</b>	None allocated.	9	None allocated.
<b>14.4 Packing Group</b>	None allocated.	III	None allocated.

**14.5 Environmental hazards**

Marine Pollutant

**14.6 Special precautions for user**

<b>Hazchem code</b>	None allocated.
<b>EMS</b>	F-A, S-F

**15. REGULATORY INFORMATION****15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture**

<b>Poison schedule</b>	Classified as a Schedule 6 (S6) Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).	
<b>Classifications</b>	Safework Australia criteria is based on the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.  The classifications and phrases listed below are based on the Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances [NOHSC: 1008(2004)].	
<b>Hazard codes</b>	Carc.	Carcinogen
	Muta.	Mutagen
	N	Dangerous for the environment
	Repr.	Reproductive toxin
	Xi	Irritant
	Xn	Harmful
<b>Risk phrases</b>	R20/22	Harmful by inhalation and if swallowed.
	R36/38	Irritating to eyes and skin.
	R45	May cause cancer.
	R46	May cause heritable genetic damage.
	R50/53	Very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.
	R60	May impair fertility.
	R61	May cause harm to the unborn child.
<b>Safety phrases</b>	S2	Keep out of reach of children.
	S22	Do not breathe dust.
	S24/25	Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
	S45	In case of accident or if you feel unwell seek medical advice immediately (show the label where possible).
	S60	This material and its container must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
	S61	Avoid release to the environment. Refer to special instructions/safety data sheets.
<b>Inventory listing(s)</b>	<b>AUSTRALIA: AICS (Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances)</b> All components are listed on AICS, or are exempt.	

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

### Additional information

Copper sulphate is classified for shipping purposes as a hazardous substance or hazardous waste. It may pose unreasonable risk to health, safety, or property, when transported. Copper sulphate is highly corrosive to plain steel, iron and galvanized pipes. All metal in contact with solutions of this material should be 304 stainless steel, monel or plastic. It should not be stored in metal containers. Copper sulphate is also incompatible with acetylene gas and with magnesium metal. Containers of this material should be kept tightly sealed. It is indefinitely stable when kept dry and is stable to heat, cold, or light. However, there is slight decomposition of copper sulphate at temperatures above 200°C. Above 400°C, it decomposes, giving off sulphur dioxide gas. Burning copper sulphate may produce irritating or poisonous gases, and pollution may be caused by runoff from fire control or dilution water.

**RESPIRATORS:** In general the use of respirators should be limited and engineering controls employed to avoid exposure. If respiratory equipment must be worn ensure correct respirator selection and training is undertaken. Remember that some respirators may be extremely uncomfortable when used for long periods. The use of air powered or air supplied respirators should be considered where prolonged or repeated use is necessary.

**EXPOSURE STANDARDS - TIME WEIGHTED AVERAGE (TWA) or WES (WORKPLACE EXPOSURE STANDARD) (NZ):** Exposure standards are established on the premise of an 8 hour work period of normal intensity, under normal climatic conditions and where a 16 hour break between shifts exists to enable the body to eliminate absorbed contaminants. In the following circumstances, exposure standards must be reduced: Strenuous work conditions; hot, humid climates; high altitude conditions; extended shifts (which increase the exposure period and shorten the period of recuperation).

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES:

The recommendation for protective equipment contained within this report is provided as a guide only. Factors such as method of application, working environment, quantity used, product concentration and the availability of engineering controls should be considered before final selection of personal protective equipment is made.

### HEALTH EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE:

It should be noted that the effects from exposure to this product will depend on several factors including: frequency and duration of use; quantity used; effectiveness of control measures; protective equipment used and method of application. Given that it is impractical to prepare a report which would encompass all possible scenarios, it is anticipated that users will assess the risks and apply control methods where appropriate.

### Abbreviations

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
CAS #	Chemical Abstract Service number - used to uniquely identify chemical compounds
CNS	Central Nervous System
EC No.	EC No - European Community Number
EMS	Emergency Schedules (Emergency Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods)
GHS	Globally Harmonized System
GTEPG	Group Text Emergency Procedure Guide
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LC50	Lethal Concentration, 50% / Median Lethal Concentration
LD50	Lethal Dose, 50% / Median Lethal Dose
mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Milligrams per Cubic Metre
OEL	Occupational Exposure Limit
pH	relates to hydrogen ion concentration using a scale of 0 (high acidic) to 14 (highly alkaline).
ppm	Parts Per Million
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
STOT-RE	Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)
STOT-SE	Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)
SUSMP	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons
SWA	Safe Work Australia
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TWA	Time Weighted Average

**PRODUCT NAME COPPER SULPHATE**

This document has been compiled by RMT on behalf of the manufacturer, importer or supplier of the product and serves as their Safety Data Sheet ('SDS').

It is based on information concerning the product which has been provided to RMT by the manufacturer, importer or supplier or obtained from third party sources and is believed to represent the current state of knowledge as to the appropriate safety and handling precautions for the product at the time of issue. Further clarification regarding any aspect of the product should be obtained directly from the manufacturer, importer or supplier.

While RMT has taken all due care to include accurate and up-to-date information in this SDS, it does not provide any warranty as to accuracy or completeness. As far as lawfully possible, RMT accepts no liability for any loss, injury or damage (including consequential loss) which may be suffered or incurred by any person as a consequence of their reliance on the information contained in this SDS.

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