Propylene Carbonate



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Description

Propylene carbonate (PC) is a VOC-exempt* clear polar solvent having high boiling and flash points, a low order of toxicity and a mild ether-like odor. It is stable under most conditions and is not hydroscopic or corrosive. is particularly well suited for applications requiring a water white product or high purity. Examples would be cosmetics, electronics or where recycling of spent material will occur.

Product Identification

Chemical Name Dioxolanone

Chemical Family Organic Carbonate

Other Names 4-methyl-1

3-dioxolan-2-one

Chemical Formula C4H6O3

Propylene carbonate is a cyclic carbonate that reacts with amines to form carbamates, undergoes hydroxy alkylation and transesterification. It can be used as an isocyanate and unsaturated polyester resin cleanup solvent, viscosity reducer in coatings, CO2 extraction solvent, electrolyte in lithium batteries, polar additive for clay gellants, foundry binder catalyst, and textile dye carrier and cleaner.

Typical Properties

Autoignition Temperature (°F)	851
Density (pounds per gallon) at 20°C (68°F)	10.0
Dielectric Constant, csu @ 25°C	64
Distillation @ 760mm, Hg IBP, min. DP, min.	195°C 253°C
Evaporation Rate (BuA=1)	<0.005
Flammability Limits (Lower/Upper Vol. %)	1.7/32.5
Flash Point GT (SETA) °F	275°
Refractive Index @ 25°C (77°F)	1.419
Residue on Ignition, wt. %, max.	0.01
Solubility @ 25°C (% by wt.) PC in water Water in PC	21 8
Specific Gravity @20/20°C	1.203-1.210
Total Hansen Parameter (CGS)	13.3
Vapor Pressure @ 25°C (77°F) (mmHg)	0.03
Viscosity (CPS) @ 25°C (77°F)	2.4

^{*}The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published a rule excluding propylene carbonate from the Federal definition of a VOC (40 C.F.R. § 51.100(s). State and local definitions may vary.

Safety and Handling

Undue exposure or spillage should be strictly avoided as a matter of good practice. Hazard ratings are summarized as follows:

	NPCA HMIS	<u>NFPA</u>
Health	1	1
Flammability	1	1
Reactivity	0	0
Personal Protection	Χ	

Propylene carbonate is stable under normal storage conditions. However, in the presence of an acid, base, metal oxide or salt, propylene carbonate may decompose liberating CO2. These materials will also decrease thermal stability. In an aqueous solution, the decomposition products would be propylene glycol and CO2. Either situation could potentially lead to pressure buildup in closed containers, which may result in the container rupturing. It is therefore suggested that all such mixtures be tested for shelf life stability.

Material Compatibility Guidelines

Carbon steel or stainless steel transfer lines and pumps may be used. Preferred gasket material is Teflon®, but EPR, neoprene, plyethylend, cork and natural rubber are satisfactory, Buna N, Hypalon® and Viton® are not suitable gasket materials. Information from material suppliers and specific conditions of contact should be considered in the selection of suitable materials.

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Users should review the applicable Safety Data Sheet before handling the product.

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