

## Global Product Strategy (GPS) Safety Summary

### Glycol Ether TM

This GPS Safety Summary is a high-level summary intended to provide the general public with an overview of product safety information on this chemical substance. It is not intended to provide emergency response, medical or treatment information, nor to provide an overview of all safety and health information. This summary is not intended to replace the Safety Data Sheet. For detailed guidance on the use or regulatory status of this substance, please consult the Safety Data Sheet.

#### Chemical Identity

**Name:** Triethylene Glycol Monomethyl Ether

**Brand names:** Glycol Ether TM

**Chemical name (IUPAC):** 2-[2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethoxy]-ethanol

**CAS number:** 112-35-6

**EC number:** 203-962-1

**Molecular formula:** C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

#### Uses and Applications

Glycol Ether TM is widely used as a solvent or intermediate in industrial and consumer products, especially in the dye and cleaning industries. Glycol Ether TM is found in products such as floor and hard surface cleaners, floor finish strippers and automotive brake fluids.

#### Physical / Chemical Properties

At ambient temperature Glycol Ether TM is a colorless liquid with a mild odor. It is completely soluble in water and has low volatility. The flash point for Glycol Ether TM is >124°C (>255°F). The boiling point range of glycol ether TM is 249 to 250°C (480 to 482°F). The freezing point range is ≤ -44°C (≤ -47°F).

#### Health Effects

Glycol Ether TM has been classified as hazardous under the Globally Harmonized System on classification and labeling (GHS) for its potential to damage the unborn child. Glycol Ether TM contains a substance (diethylene glycol monomethyl ether) which is a presumed human reproductive toxicant.

The table below gives an overview of the health effects assessment results for Glycol ether TM.

Effect Assessment	Result
Acute Toxicity Oral / inhalation / dermal	Low acute toxicity by the oral, inhalation and dermal routes of exposure.
Irritation / corrosion Skin / eye/ respiratory tract	Not irritating to skin but may cause mild eye irritation.
Sensitization	Not known to be a sensitizer.
Toxicity after repeated exposure Oral / inhalation / dermal	Low concern for repeated exposure systemic toxicity.
Genotoxicity / Mutagenicity	Low concern for genotoxicity/mutagenicity.
Carcinogenicity	Low concern for cancer.
Toxicity for reproduction	Suspected of damaging the unborn child. Contains a substance that is a presumed human reproductive toxicant.

### **Environmental Effects**

Glycol Ether TM has very low toxicity to aquatic life and has therefore not been classified under GHS as hazardous.

The table below gives an overview of the environmental assessment results for Glycol Ether TM.

Effect Assessment	Result
Aquatic Toxicity	Very low toxicity to aquatic life

Fate and behaviour	Result
Biodegradation	Rapidly biodegradable
Bioaccumulation potential	Not expected to bioaccumulate
PBT / vPvB conclusion	Not considered to be either PBT nor vPvB.

PBT = Persistent, Bio-accumulative and Toxic in the environment.

vPvB = very Persistent and very Bio-accumulative in the environment.

### **Exposure**

#### **Human health**

Glycol Ether TM may be present in consumer products such as floor cleaners and hydraulic brake fluids. When using a Glycol Ether TM containing consumer product at home, all instructions and precautions should be read, understood and followed.

Personnel exposure to Glycol Ether TM in manufacturing facilities is considered very low because the process, storage and handling operations are enclosed. However, worker exposure can potentially occur during operations such as product transfer, product sampling, or maintenance / repair activities on product-containing systems. The risk of accidental exposure should be controlled by selecting and applying the appropriate Risk Management Measures.

### Environment

Glycol Ether TM is manufactured in a closed and automated process. Also, transfer (loading and transport) of the product is conducted in closed containers to prevent release from the system. Due to its use as a solvent in formulations such as cleaners, Glycol Ether TM has indoor and outdoor environmental release possibilities.

### Risk Management Measures

For detailed guidance on the use of Glycol Ether TM, the [Safety Data Sheet](#) should be consulted.

Glycol Ether TM should be handled only by knowledgeable and trained personnel.

### Human health

When using chemicals make sure that there is adequate ventilation. Always use appropriate chemical-resistant gloves to protect your hands and skin, always wear eye protection such as chemical goggles and always wear flame-retardant clothing. Do not eat, drink, or smoke where chemicals are handled, processed, or stored. Wash hands and skin following contact. If the substance gets into your eyes, rinse eyes thoroughly for at least 15 minutes with tap water and seek medical attention.

In the case of transfer or maintenance operations, always clear transfer lines prior to decoupling, and flush/drain to a closed system for recycle prior to opening equipment.

In cases where engineering controls cannot maintain airborne substance concentrations below exposure limits, or in cases with a risk of accidental exposure, additional risk management measures may be necessary for safe use, such as the use of a complete suit protecting against chemicals and supplied air, a self-contained breathing apparatus or respirator.

### Environmental

In case of accidental release or spill, do not allow the product to enter sewers, surface or ground water.

### Regulatory Information / Classification and Labeling

Under GHS (Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labeling) substances are classified according to their physical, health and environmental hazards. The hazards are communicated via specific labels on the product packaging and the Safety Data Sheet. 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.

For a detailed overview of the classification and labeling of this substance, please refer to the regional [Safety Data Sheet](#), which can be found on the LyondellBasell corporate website.

## **Conclusion Statements**

- Glycol ether TM is used in the formulation of a variety of consumer products such as floor cleaners and automotive hydraulic brake fluids.
- Glycol ether TM is suspected of damaging the unborn child and has therefore been classified as hazardous.
- Glycol Ether TM has very low toxicity to aquatic organisms, is rapidly biodegradable and not expected to bioaccumulate.

## **Contact Information within Company**

For further information on this product in general, please consult the [LyondellBasell corporate website](#).

## **Date of issue**

Date of issue: 30 September 2015.

## **Disclaimer**

Before using a product sold by a company of the LyondellBasell family of companies, users should make their own independent determination that the product is suitable for the intended use and can be used safely and legally. SELLER MAKES NO WARRANTY; EXPRESS OR IMPLIED (INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ANY WARRANTY) OTHER THAN AS SEPARATELY AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES IN A CONTRACT.

LyondellBasell prohibits or restricts the use of its products in certain applications. For further information on restrictions or prohibitions of use, please contact a LyondellBasell representative.

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

Glycol ether TM is a product of Equistar Chemicals, LP.