

ORIGINAL

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Room 6428
Attention: 8(e) Coordinator
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, ICC Building
1201 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004



Dear 8(e) Coordinator:

Methacrylonitrile
126-98-7

This letter is to inform you of the results of a pre-1977 (1968) acute dermal toxicity study which we recently became aware of with the test substance referenced above.

Undiluted test substance was applied to the shaved skin and trunk of male albino rabbits and wrapped with polyvinylidene chloride film, gauze and elastic adhesive tape. A plastic collar was then fitted around the neck of the animal to prevent ingestion. Dose levels were 1000, 300, 200, 130, 90, 60, and 45 mg/kg of body weight. After 24 hours the wrappings were removed and the skin washed with water. The survivors were observed for 15 days before being sacrificed. Autopsies were not performed.

Death occurred at 90 mg/kg and above on the day of treatment. The 2 remaining animals, dosed at 45 and 60 mg/kg were sacrificed on day 15. The approximate lethal dose was 90 mg/kg. At lethal doses, clinical signs included eyes partially closed, initial rapid breathing then slow labored breathing, pupil dilated, cyanosis, weakness, lacrimation, convulsions, and puffy face. At non-lethal doses, similar but less severe (no convulsions) clinical signs, and polyuria were observed.

This information is submitted in accordance with current guidance issued by EPA indicating EPA's interpretation of Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act or, where it is not clear that reporting criteria have been met, it is submitted as a precautionary measure and because it is information in which EPA may have an interest.

Sincerely,

A. Michael Kaplan, Ph.D.
Director - Regulatory Affairs



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