



**Substance name: Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate**  
**EC number: 235-541-3**  
**CAS number: 12267-73-1**

**MEMBER STATE COMMITTEE**  
**DRAFT SUPPORT DOCUMENT FOR IDENTIFICATION OF**  
**TETRABORON DISODIUM HEPTAOXIDE, HYDRATE**  
**AS A SUBSTANCE OF VERY HIGH CONCERN BECAUSE OF ITS**  
**CMR PROPERTIES**

**Adopted on 9 June 2010**

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PROPOSAL FOR IDENTIFICATION OF A SUBSTANCE AS A CMR CAT 1 OR 2, PBT, VPVB OR A  
SUBSTANCE OF AN EQUIVALENT LEVEL OF CONCERN

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**Substance name:** Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate

**EC number:** 235-541-3

**CAS number:** 12267-73-1

In addition, this support document covers the substance Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous, with EC number 215-540-4 and CAS number 1330-43-4, as well as substances / hydrates with the following CAS numbers which are covered by the EINECS entry of anhydrous form:

CAS number 12179-04-3: Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate, [CAS name: boron sodium oxide (B<sub>4</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>), pentahydrate]

CAS number 1303-96-4: Disodium tetraborate decahydrate, [CAS name: Borax (B<sub>4</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>·10H<sub>2</sub>O)]

- *Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate* is identified as a substance meeting the criteria of Article 57 (c) of Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 (REACH) owing to its classification as toxic for reproduction (category 2)<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Summary of how the substance meets the CMR<sup>2</sup> (Cat 1 or 2), PBT<sup>3</sup> or vPvB<sup>4</sup> criteria or is considered to be a substance giving rise to an equivalent level of concern**

This support document covers tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate (CAS 12267-73-1) and also disodium tetraborate anhydrous (CAS 1330-43-4) and the hydrates disodium tetraborate pentahydrate (CAS 12179-04-03), disodium tetraborate decahydrate (CAS 1303-96-4). In aqueous solution, the hydrates form the same substances as disodium tetraborate anhydrous and are therefore comparable in their toxicological properties.

Pursuant to Annex V of Commission Regulation (EC) No 790/2009<sup>5</sup> as of 1 December 2010 *tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate* will be listed in Table 3.2 (the list of harmonised classification and labelling of hazardous substances from Annex I to Directive 67/548/EEC) of Annex VI, part 3, of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008<sup>6</sup> as toxic for reproduction category 2<sup>7</sup>, R60-61 (May impair fertility. May cause harm to the unborn child).

Therefore, this classification of the substance in Commission Regulation (EC) No 790/2009 shows that the substance meets the criteria for classification as toxic for reproduction in accordance with Article 57 (c) of REACH.

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<sup>1</sup> Category in accordance with Annex I to Council Directive 67/548/EEC

<sup>2</sup> CMR means carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction

<sup>3</sup> PBT means persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic

<sup>4</sup> vPvB means very persistent and very bioaccumulative

<sup>5</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 790/2009 of 10 August 2009 amending, for the purposes of its adaptation to technical and scientific progress, Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (1<sup>st</sup> ATP)

<sup>6</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

<sup>7</sup> This corresponds to a classification Repr. 1B; H360-FD (May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child) in Annex VI, part 3, Table 3.1 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (list of harmonised classification and labelling of hazardous substances).

**Registration number(s) of the substance or of substances containing a given constituent/impurity or leading to the same transformation or degradation products:**

No registration dossiers for the substances were submitted to ECHA by the publication date of this dossier (*March 2010*).

## **JUSTIFICATION**

# **1 IDENTITY OF THE SUBSTANCE AND PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

## **1.1 Name and other identifiers of the substance**

Three disodium tetraborates are covered by the EINEC entry of the anhydrous form:

Disodium tetraborate anhydrous, CAS number 1330-43-4; EC number 215-540-4

Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate, CAS 12179-04-3

Disodium tetraborate decahydrate, CAS 1303-96-4.

This dossier covers also the substance with the EC number 235-541-3, Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate, CAS number 12267-73-1.

|   |  |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <b>EC number:</b>                                     | 215-540-4  | ---   | ---   | 235-541-3  |
| <b>CAS number:</b>                                    | 1330-43-4  | 12179-04-3  | 1303-96-4   | 12267-73-1   |
| <b>Chemical name:</b>                                 | Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous;<br>boric acid, disodium salt  | Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate;<br>borax pentahydrate  | Disodium tetraborate decahydrate;<br>borax decahydrate  | Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate  |
| <b>IUPAC name:</b>                                    | Disodium tetraborate anhydrous   | Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate   | Disodium tetraborate decahydrate  | Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate  |
| <b>Synonyms:</b>                                      | Anhydrous borax; Sodium tetraborate; Boron sodium oxide ( $B_4Na_2O_7$ ); Boric acid ( $H_2B_4O_7$ ), disodium salt; Sodium borate, Borax, fused | Borax 5-mol; Sodium borate ( $Na_2B_4O_5(OH)_4$ ) trihydrate; Sodium tetraborate pentahydrate; Boron sodium oxide ( $B_4Na_2O_7$ ), pentahydrate; Boric acid ( $H_2B_4O_7$ ), Disodium salt, pentahydrate | Borax; Sodium tetraborate decahydrate; Borax decahydrate; Sodium baborate decahydrate; Sodium pyroborate decahydrate; Boron sodium oxide ( $B_4Na_2O_7$ ), decahydrate; Boric acid ( $H_2B_4O_7$ ), Disodium salt decahydrate; Tetrasodium salts, decahydrate | $Na_2B_4O_7 \cdot xH_2O$<br>Boric acid ( $H_2B_4O_7$ ), disodium salt, hydrate; Boron sodium oxide ( $B_4Na_2O_7$ ), hydrate |
| <b>Index number in Annex VI of the CLP Regulation</b> | 005-011-00-4   | 005-011-02-9  | 005-011-01-1  | 005-011-00-4   |

## 1.2 Composition of the substance

|                                      |   |   |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| <b>EC number:</b>                    | 215-540-4   | ---   | ---  | 235-541-3   |
| <b>CAS number:</b>                   | 1330-43-4   | 12179-04-3  | 1303-96-4  | 12267-73-1  |
| <b>EC name:</b>                      | Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous;<br>boric acid, disodium salt | Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate;<br>borax pentahydrate    | Disodium tetraborate decahydrate;<br>borax decahydrate       | Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate                     |
| <b>IUPAC name:</b>                   | Disodium tetraborate anhydrous                                | Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate                           | Disodium tetraborate decahydrate                             | Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate                     |
| <b>Molecular formula:</b>            | $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7$                             | $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$ |
| <b>Molecular weight range:</b>       | 201.22  | 291.35  | 381.37   | $201.22 + x \cdot 18.02$                                    |
| <b>Typical concentration (% w/w)</b> | 100   | 100   | 100  | No information  |



### **1.3 Physico-chemical properties**

The physico-chemical properties for tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate are considered herein to be described by the physico-chemical properties for the pentahydrate (CAS 12179-04-3) and the decahydrate (CAS 1303-96-4) forms of disodium tetraborate.

| <b>Disodium tetraborate anhydrous</b> |                                      |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>REACH ref Annex, §</b>             | <b>Property</b>                      | <b>Value</b>   | <b>Comment/reference</b>  |
| VII, 7.1                              | Physical state at 20°C and 101.3 kPa | White, crystalline, odourless solid  |   |
| VII, 7.2                              | Melting/freezing point               | 737°C  | Cordia JA <i>et al.</i> (2003b) cited in Austria 2008   |
| VII, 7.3                              | Boiling point                        | Not required   | Melting point is >300°C   |
| VII, 7.5                              | Vapour pressure                      | Not required   | Melting point is >300°C   |
| VII, 7.7                              | Water solubility (mg/L)              | 27.0 ± 2.7 g/L at 20 ± 0.5°C<br>Derived from studies with the pentahydrate and decahydrate   | The water solubility for disodium tetraborate anhydrous as such cannot be determined because the substance is converted into boric acid/borate upon dissolution in water:<br>$\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 + 7 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2 \text{NaB}(\text{OH})_4 + 2 \text{B}(\text{OH})_3$ .<br>The water solubility found will be the water solubility for boric acid in the presence of sodium ions. The water solubility for disodium tetraborate anhydrous is equal to an equivalent amount of disodium tetraborate pentahydrate or disodium tetraborate decahydrate. Cordia JA <i>et al.</i> (2003b and c) cited in Austria, 2008.  |
| VII, 7.14                             | Granulometry                         | d <sub>50</sub> = 210 – 850 µm   | Disodium tetraborate anhydrous is sold in both granular and powder forms. The range given here describes both granular and powder products.   |
| VII, 7.16                             | Dissociation constant                | Boric acid is a Lewis acid (hydroxide ion acceptor) rather than a Brønsted acid (proton donator). For this purpose the formula for boric acid is best written as B(OH) <sub>3</sub> .<br>pKa = 9.0 at 25°C for boric acid in dilute solutions only (B ≤ 0.025 M). At higher boron concentrations, polynuclear complexes are formed and several dissociation/formation constants apply. | The dissociation constant for disodium tetraborate anhydrous as such cannot be determined because disodium tetraborate anhydrous is converted into boric acid/borate upon dissolution in water: $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 + 7\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2 \text{NaB}(\text{OH})_4 + 2 \text{B}(\text{OH})_3$ .<br>The dissociation constant found will be the dissociation constant for boric acid in the presence of sodium ions.<br>At low boron concentrations (B ≤ 0.025 M), the following equilibrium is found:<br>$\text{B}(\text{OH})_3 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \leftrightarrow [\text{B}(\text{OH})_4]^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+$<br>pKa = 9.0 at 25°C<br>At these concentrations, boric acid exists as undissociated boric acid B(OH) <sub>3</sub> at pH < 5, whereas at pH > 12.5, the metaborate ion -[B(OH) <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> becomes the main species in solution. Both species are present at pH 5-12.5 at concentrations B ≤ 0.025 M.<br><br>At higher boron concentrations (B > 0.025 M), an equilibrium is formed between B(OH) <sub>3</sub> , polynuclear complexes of B <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> , B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , B <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (OH) <sub>5</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , B <sub>5</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> and B(OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> . In short: B(OH) <sub>3</sub> ↔ polynuclear anions ↔ B(OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> .<br>Again at pH < 5, boron is mainly present as B(OH) <sub>3</sub> and in alkaline solution at pH > 12.5, boron is mainly present as B(OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> . At in between values (pH 5-12), polynuclear anions are found as well as B(OH) <sub>3</sub> and B(OH) <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> . The dissociation constant depends on temperature, ionic strength and presence of group I metal ions (Na, K, Cs).<br><br>In the presence of metal ions (e.g. Na, Mg, Ca), ion pair complexes are formed, which |

| Disodium tetraborate anhydrous |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                                |  |  | further reduce the undissociated boric acid concentration:<br>$M^{n+} + B(OH)_4^- \leftrightarrow MB(OH)_4^{(n-1)+}$<br>These ion pair complexes are expected to be present in solutions of disodium tetraborate, disodium octaborate and buffered solutions of boric acid and boric oxide. Ingrid N (1963) cited in Austria 2008. |

| Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate |                                      |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| REACH ref Annex, §                | Property                             | Value  | Comment/reference  |
| VII, 7.1                          | Physical state at 20°C and 101.3 kPa | White, crystalline, odourless solid  |  |
| VII, 7.2                          | Melting/freezing point               | No melting point can be defined because of decomposition of the substance  | When disodium tetraborate pentahydrate is heated, it gradually loses water of crystallisation, forming disodium tetraborate anhydrous, Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> . An endothermal peak is observed at 131°C due to the loss of water. Due to a phase transition, an exothermal peak is observed at 524/527°C. The crystal form of Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> melts at 737°C. Cordia JA <i>et al.</i> (2003b) cited in Austria 2008.   |
| VII, 7.3                          | Boiling point                        | Not required   | Melting point of disodium tetraborate anhydrous is >300°C  |
| VII, 7.5                          | Vapour pressure                      | Not required   | Melting point of disodium tetraborate anhydrous is >300°C  |
| VII, 7.7                          | Water solubility (mg/L)              | 40.06 ± 2.70 g/L at 20 ± 0.5°C<br>35.9 g/L at 20°C (literature value)  | The difference between the determined water solubility (Cordia JA <i>et al.</i> (2003b)) and the literature value (35.9 g/L, Mellor (1980)) could be explained by the fact that the two protocol methods used in each case were different.<br>Mellor's Comprehensive Treatise on Inorganic and Theoretical Chemistry, Volume V Boron, Part A: Boron-Oxygen Compounds, Longman London and New York, (1980), ISBN 0-582-46277-0, page 254.   |
| VII, 7.14                         | Granulometry                         | d <sub>50</sub> = 460 – 520µm  |  |
| VII, 7.16                         | Dissociation constant                | Boric acid is a Lewis acid (hydroxide ion acceptor) rather than a Brønsted acid (proton donor). For this purpose, the formula for boric acid is best written as B(OH) <sub>3</sub> .<br>pKa = 9.0 at 25°C for boric acid in dilute solutions only (B ≤ | The dissociation constant for disodium tetraborate pentahydrate as such cannot be determined because disodium tetraborate pentahydrate is converted into boric acid/borate upon dissolution in water:<br>$Na_2B_4O_7 \cdot 5H_2O + 2H_2O \rightarrow 2 NaB(OH)_4 + 2 B(OH)_3$ .<br>The dissociation constant found will be the dissociation constant for boric acid in the presence of sodium ions.<br><br>At low boron concentrations (B ≤ 0.025 M), the following equilibrium is found:<br>$B(OH)_3 + 2H_2O \leftrightarrow [B(OH)_4]^- + H_3O^+$<br>pKa = 9.0 at 25°C |

| Disodium tetraborate pentahydrate |  |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
|                                   |  | 0.025 M). At higher boron concentrations, polynuclear complexes are formed and several dissociation/formation constants apply. | <p>At these concentrations, boric acid exists as undissociated boric acid <math>B(OH)_3</math> at <math>pH &lt; 5</math>, whereas at <math>pH &gt; 12.5</math>, the metaborate ion <math>-[B(OH)_4]^-</math> becomes the main species in solution. Both species are present at <math>pH</math> 5-12.5 at concentrations <math>B \leq 0.025</math> M.</p> <p>At higher boron concentrations (<math>B &gt; 0.025</math> M), an equilibrium is formed between <math>B(OH)_3</math>, polynuclear complexes of <math>B_3O_3(OH)_4^-</math>, <math>B_4O_5(OH)_4^{2-}</math>, <math>B_3O_3(OH)_5^{2-}</math>, <math>B_5O_6(OH)_4^-</math> and <math>B(OH)_4^-</math>. In short: <math>B(OH)_3 \leftrightarrow</math> polynuclear anions <math>\leftrightarrow B(OH)_4^-</math>.</p> <p>Again at <math>pH &lt; 5</math>, boron is mainly present as <math>B(OH)_3</math> and in alkaline solution at <math>pH &gt; 12.5</math>, boron is mainly present as <math>B(OH)_4^-</math>. At in between values (<math>pH</math> 5-12), polynuclear anions are found as well as <math>B(OH)_3</math> and <math>B(OH)_4^-</math>. The dissociation constant depends on temperature, ionic strength and presence of group I metal ions (Na, K, Cs).</p> <p>In the presence of metal ions (e.g. Na, Mg, Ca), ion pair complexes are formed, which further reduce the undissociated boric acid concentration:<br/> <math>M^{n+} + B(OH)_4^- \leftrightarrow MB(OH)_4^{(n-1)+}</math></p> <p>These ion pair complexes are expected to be present in solutions of disodium tetraborate, disodium octaborate and buffered solutions of boric acid and boric oxide. Ingri N (1963) cited in Austria 2008.</p> |

| Disodium tetraborate decahydrate |   |   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| REACH ref Annex, §               | Property  | Value   | Comment/reference  |
| VII, 7.1                         | Physical state at 20°C and 101.3 kPa              | White, crystalline, odourless solid                                   |  |
| VII, 7.2                         | Melting/freezing point                            | No melting point detected below 1000°C                                | Cordia JA (2003c) cited in Austria 2008  |
| VII, 7.3                         | Boiling point                                     | Not required  | Melting point of disodium tetraborate anhydrous is $>300^\circ C$  |
| VII, 7.5                         | Vapour pressure                                   | Not required  | Melting point of disodium tetraborate anhydrous is $>300^\circ C$  |
| VII, 7.7                         | Water solubility (mg/L)                           | 49.74 ± 3.63 g/L at 20 ± 0.5°C<br>47.0 g/L at 20°C (literature value) | The difference between the determined water solubility (Cordia JA (2003c) cited in Austria, 2008) and the literature value (47.0 g/L, Mellor (1980) cited in Austria 2008) could be explained by the fact that the two protocol methods used in each case were different. Mellor's Comprehensive Treatise on Inorganic and Theoretical Chemistry, Volume V Boron, Part A: Boron-Oxygen Compounds, Longman London and New York, (1980), ISBN 0-582-46277-0, page 254. |
| VII, 7.8                         | Partition coefficient n-octanol/water (log value) | -1.53 ± 0.05 (22 ± 1°C)   | Although not required as this is an inorganic substance, an end point has been derived in Cordia JA (2003c) Cited in Austria 2008  |

| Disodium tetraborate decahydrate |                       |  |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| VII, 7.14                        | Granulometry          | $d_{50} = 90 - 400\mu\text{m}$   | Disodium tetraborate decahydrate is sold in both granular and powder forms. The range given here describes both granular and powder products.  |
| VII, 7.16                        | Dissociation constant | Boric acid is a Lewis acid (hydroxide ion acceptor) rather than a Brønsted acid (proton donor). For this purpose the formula for boric acid is best written as $\text{B}(\text{OH})_3$ . $\text{pK}_a = 9.0$ at $25^\circ\text{C}$ for boric acid in dilute solutions only ( $\text{B} \leq 0.025 \text{ M}$ ). At higher boron concentrations, polynuclear complexes are formed and several dissociation/formation constants apply. | <p>The dissociation constant for disodium tetraborate decahydrate as such cannot be determined because disodium tetraborate decahydrate is converted into boric acid/borate upon dissolution in water:<br/> <math>\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2 \text{NaB}(\text{OH})_4 + 2 \text{B}(\text{OH})_3 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}</math>.</p> <p>The dissociation constant found will be the dissociation constant for boric acid in the presence of sodium ions.</p> <p>At low boron concentrations (<math>\text{B} \leq 0.025 \text{ M}</math>), the following equilibrium is found:<br/> <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_3 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \leftrightarrow [\text{B}(\text{OH})_4]^- + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+</math><br/> <math>\text{pK}_a = 9.0</math> at <math>25^\circ\text{C}</math></p> <p>At these concentrations, boric acid exists as undissociated boric acid <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_3</math> at <math>\text{pH} &lt; 5</math>, whereas at <math>\text{pH} &gt; 12.5</math>, the metaborate ion <math>[\text{B}(\text{OH})_4]^-</math> becomes the main species in solution. Both species are present at <math>\text{pH} 5-12.5</math> at concentrations <math>\text{B} \leq 0.025 \text{ M}</math>.</p> <p>At higher boron concentrations (<math>\text{B} &gt; 0.025 \text{ M}</math>), an equilibrium is formed between <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_3</math>, polynuclear complexes of <math>\text{B}_3\text{O}_3(\text{OH})_4^-</math>, <math>\text{B}_4\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4^{2-}</math>, <math>\text{B}_3\text{O}_3(\text{OH})_5^{2-}</math>, <math>\text{B}_5\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_4^-</math> and <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-</math>. In short: <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_3 \leftrightarrow \text{polynuclear anions} \leftrightarrow \text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-</math>.</p> <p>Again at <math>\text{pH} &lt; 5</math>, boron is mainly present as <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_3</math> and in alkaline solution at <math>\text{pH} &gt; 12.5</math>, boron is mainly present as <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-</math>. At in between values (<math>\text{pH} 5-12</math>), polynuclear anions are found as well as <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_3</math> and <math>\text{B}(\text{OH})_4^-</math>. The dissociation constant depends on temperature, ionic strength and presence of group I metal ions (Na, K, Cs).</p> <p>In the presence of metal ions (e.g. Na, Mg, Ca), ion pair complexes are formed, which further reduce the undissociated boric acid concentration:<br/> <math>\text{M}^{n+} + \text{B}(\text{OH})_4^- \leftrightarrow \text{MB}(\text{OH})_4^{(n-1)+}</math></p> <p>These ion pair complexes are expected to be present in solutions of disodium tetraborate, disodium octaborate and buffered solutions of boric acid and boric oxide. Ingrid N (1963) cited in Austria 2008.</p> |

## 2 HARMONISED CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING

### 2.1 Classification in Annex VI of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

Disodium tetraborate anhydrous has index number 005-011-00-4 in Annex VI, part 3, Tables 3.1 and 3.2 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 amended by Regulation (EC) No 790/2009.

The classification of disodium tetraborate (anhydrous, pentahydrate and decahydrate forms) and tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate according to Annex VI, part 3, Table 3.2 (the list of harmonised classification and labelling of hazardous substances from Annex I to Directive 67/548/EEC) of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as amended by Regulation (EC) No 790/2009 is:

Toxic for reproduction, Repr. Cat 2, R60-61.

See Table 2.1 for further details and specific concentration limits.

**Table 2.1: Classification of disodium tetraborates according to Annex VI, part 3, Table 3.2 of Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 amended by Regulation (EC) No 790/2009**

| Substance   | CAS no     | Index no     | Classification      | Concentration limits                 |
|---|------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous   | 1330-43-4  | 005-011-00-4 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61<br>C $\geq$ 4.5% |
| Disodium tetraborate, pentahydrate  | 12179-04-3 | 005-011-02-9 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61<br>C $\geq$ 6.5% |
| Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate   | 1303-96-4  | 005-011-01-1 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61<br>C $\geq$ 8.5% |
| Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate   | 12267-73-1 | 005-011-00-4 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61 | Repr. Cat 2, R60-61<br>C $\geq$ 4.5% |
| Key:<br>Repr. Cat 2: Toxic for reproduction in category 2<br>R60-61: May impair fertility. May cause harm to the unborn child |            |              |                     |                                      |

The harmonised classification of disodium tetraborate (anhydrous, pentahydrate and decahydrate forms) and tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate according to Annex VI, part 3, Table 3.1 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 790/2009, is:

Toxic to reproduction, Repr.1B, H360FD.

See Table 2.2 for further details and specific concentration limits.

**Table 2.2: Classification of disodium tetraborates according to Annex VI, part 3, Table 3.1 of Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 amended by Regulation (EC) No 790/2009**

| Substance   | CAS no     | Classification                    |                          | Labelling                      |                          | Specific Conc. Limits<br>M-factors |
|---|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
|   |            | Hazard Class and Category Code(s) | Hazard statement Code(s) | Pictogram, Signal Word Code(S) | Hazard statement Code(s) |                                    |
| Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous   | 1330-43-4  | Repr. 1B                          | H360FD                   | GHS08<br>Dgr                   | H360FD                   | Repr. 1B; H360FD:<br>C $\geq$ 4.5% |
| Disodium tetraborate, pentahydrate  | 12179-04-3 | Repr. 1B                          | H360FD                   | GHS08<br>Dgr                   | H360FD                   | Repr. 1B; H360FD:<br>C $\geq$ 6.5% |
| Disodium tetraborate, decahydrate   | 1303-96-4  | Repr. 1B                          | H360FD                   | GHS08<br>Dgr                   | H360FD                   | Repr. 1B; H360FD:<br>C $\geq$ 8.5% |
| Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate   | 12267-73-1 | Repr. 1B                          | H360FD                   | GHS08<br>Dgr                   | H360FD                   | Repr. 1B; H360FD:<br>C $\geq$ 4.5% |
| Key:<br>Repr.1B: Toxic to reproduction<br>H360-FD: May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child<br>GHS08: Health hazard; Dgr: Danger |            |                                   |                          |                                |                          |                                    |

**3 ENVIRONMENTAL FATE PROPERTIES**

Not relevant for this dossier

**4 HUMAN HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT**

Information on hazard to human health relevant for the assessment as to whether disodium tetraborate (anhydrous, pentahydrate and decahydrate forms) and tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate meet criteria of Article 57 of the REACH-Regulation is provided in section 2 of this report (classification information).

**5 HUMAN HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT OF  
PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

Not relevant for this dossier

**6 ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD ASSESSMENT**

Not relevant for this dossier

**7 PBT, VPVB AND EQUIVALENT LEVEL OF CONCERN  
ASSESSMENT**

Not relevant for this dossier



## OTHER INFORMATION

A number of compounds related to boric acid, i.e. boric acid itself, boric oxide, sodium borate and sodium perborate are classified as toxic for reproduction in Category 2/ Repr. 1B.

It is clear from the available data and the known chemistry of borates that in aqueous solutions inorganic borate salts are likely to produce the borate ion,  $\text{B(OH)}_4^-$ , largely irrespective of the metal salt<sup>8</sup>. Thus, the toxicity of borates is largely independent of the identity of the solid state borate salts in question.

The borate ion,  $\text{B(OH)}_4^-$ , is the principal anion in solutions of 1:1 alkali borates. Mixtures of  $\text{B(OH)}_3$  and  $\text{B(OH)}_4^-$  appear to form classical buffer systems. When additional boric acid is added to borate solutions, polyborates are formed. These include the triborate ion,  $\text{B}_3\text{O}_3(\text{OH})_4^-$ , the tetraborate ion,  $[\text{B}_4\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4^{2-}]$  and the pentaborate ion,  $\text{B}_5\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_4^-$ . A rapid equilibrium exists among the various polyborate species in aqueous solution (Kirk Othmar).

This dossier covers disodium tetraborate anhydrous (CAS 1330-43-4). However, since disodium tetraborate pentahydrate (CAS 12179-04-03) and disodium tetraborate decahydrate (CAS 1303-96-4) are hydrates of disodium tetraborate anhydrous, they are also addressed in this report. In aqueous solution, the latter two substances form the same substances as disodium tetraborate anhydrous. Since the presented borates differ only in their amount of water of crystallisation and contain disodium tetraborate as a compound, they can equally well be used for many applications.

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<sup>8</sup> This anion can be produced from a number of different borate compounds, including triborates, tetraborates, pentaborates, octaborates, metaborates and perborates (Kirk Othmar)

## REFERENCES

- Austria (2008): Transitional Annex XV Dossier. Disodium tetraborate anhydrous (December 2008). Rapporteur: Austria. Documentation of the work done under the Existing Substance Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and submitted to the European Chemicals Agency according to Article 136(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. Published by the European Chemicals Agency at: [http://echa.europa.eu/doc/trd\\_substances/disodium\\_tetraborate\\_anhydrous/ann\\_xv\\_trd/trd\\_austria\\_trisodiumtetraborate.pdf](http://echa.europa.eu/doc/trd_substances/disodium_tetraborate_anhydrous/ann_xv_trd/trd_austria_trisodiumtetraborate.pdf)
- Kirk-Othmar (1994): Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology. 4th edition, New York: John Wiley & Sons.