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MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

PRODUCT NAME: DFM-050-C V-23 90-D/F-PFW

I. IDENTIFICATION

Manufacturer's Name: FLEXcon COMPANY, INC.
Address: FLEXcon Industrial Park
City, State, and Zip: Spencer, MA 01562
Emergency Telephone Number: (508) 885-3973
Other Information Calls: (508) 885-3973
Date Prepared: September 22, 1994

II. HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS/IDENTITY

Hazardous Component(s) ACGIH CAS NO
(chemical & common name(s)) TLV
None

\* SARA/TITLE III . . . This product contains no substances at or above the reporting threshold under Section 313, based on available data.

III. PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Boiling Point: N/A
Specific Gravity (H 0 = 1): N/A
Vapor Pressure (mm Hg): N/A
Vapor Density (air = 1): N/A
Solubility in water: N/A
Reactivity of water: N/A
Appearance and Odor: N/A
Melting Point: N/A

IV. FIRE & EXPLOSION DATA

Flash Point: N/A
Method Used: N/A
Auto-Ignition Temperature: N/A
Flammable Limits in Air % by Volume:
LEL Lower: N/A
LEL Upper: N/A
Extinguishing Media: Use multi-rated ABC extinguisher or water
Special Fire Fighting Procedures: In case of fire, use self-contained breathing apparatus and full protective equipment - all fires liberate toxic gases.
Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: None

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## V. PHYSICAL HAZARDS (REACTIVITY DATA)

Stability: N/A  
Conditions to Avoid: Fire or excessive heat  
Incompatibility:  
(Materials to Avoid) None  
Hazardous Decomposition Products: None  
Hazardous Polymerization: Will not occur

## VI. HEALTH HAZARDS

Acute: No significant toxic hazard. When burned, produces toxic fumes.

Signs and Symptoms of Exposure: N/A

## Emergency and First Aid Procedures:

## ROUTES OF ENTRY

1. Inhalation: N/A  
2. Eyes: N/A  
3. Skin: N/A  
4. Ingestion: N/A

Carcinogen Status ... NTP: NONE ... IARC: NONE ... OSHA: NONE

## VII. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS AND SPILL/LEAK PROCEDURES

Precautions to be taken in handling and storage: N/A

Other precautions: N/A

Steps to be taken in case material is released or spilled: N/A

Waste disposal methods: N/A

## VIII. SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION/CONTROL MEASURES

Respiratory Protection required: N/A  
Ventilation: N/A  
Protective Gloves: N/A  
Eye Protection: N/A

The information contained herein is based on the data available to FLEXcon COMPANY, INC. and is believed to be correct. However, the FLEXcon COMPANY, INC. makes no warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the accuracy of these data or the results to be obtained from the use thereof. FLEXcon COMPANY, INC. assumes no responsibility for injury from the use of the product described herein.

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS, CONTINUED**

Styrene is readily absorbed by fatty tissue. Given its presence in so many foods, it is not surprising that styrene is found in human fat tissue. Once in the body, it travels through the fatty tissue in a metabolism process that culminates in excretion of the substance from the body. Because it is metabolized and excreted, styrene does not build up in the fatty tissue or any organs.

**Q** Is polystyrene safe for consumers?

**A** Yes. Polystyrene meets stringent FDA standards for use in food contact packaging. It has been shown in several studies to be more sanitary than reusable ware. Many health organizations, in fact, encourage use of polystyrene because it does not support the growth of bacteria as reusable ware does. Polystyrene's light weight plus excellent level of thermal insulation and sturdiness make it easy and safe to use by persons of all ages.

**Q** Since benzene is one of the building blocks of styrene, does it migrate from polystyrene containers into food?

**A** No. Extremely sensitive tests conducted under federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) procedures detect no migration of benzene from polystyrene into food.

**Q** Does the manufacture of polystyrene create any special hazardous waste problems?

**A** No. Like most manufacturing processes, the production of polystyrene requires the use of cleaning materials, degreasing fluids and lubricating oils which manufacturers either recycle or dispose of in licensed and regulated hazardous waste facilities. They similarly handle any waste remaining from the actual production of polystyrene. This waste is small due to an efficient production process. Of every pound of polystyrene created, 99.95 percent goes into a final product.

**Q** Are workers in polystyrene and styrene plants exposed to harmful amounts of chemicals during manufacturing?

**A** No. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is the key federal agency which establishes worker safety standards for chemicals in the workplace. OSHA regulates styrene for its narcosis effects, which are similar to excessive alcohol intake. Routine monitoring in styrene plants shows typical styrene levels 20 to 50 times lower than what OSHA allows. Similarly in polystyrene plants, workers generally are exposed to 50 times less styrene than the allowable limit.

**Q** How does worker health in this industry compare with the health of the general public?

**A** Eight scientific studies, involving nearly 50,000 workers over a 40-year period in industries where exposure to styrene may occur, collectively show no ill health effects or increase in diseases related to occupational exposure.

**For more information contact: Jerry Johnson, Executive Director, Polystyrene Packaging Council, Inc.  
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