



# SAFETY DATA SHEET

**PRODUCT NAME:** XYLENE

Issue Date: August 22

## IDENTIFICATION

**Product Name:** Xylene  
**Other Names:** Dimethyl benzene, Xylol, Mixed Isomers  
**Product Code:** CX206, CX20, CX5  
**Uses:** Solvent for use only in industrial manufacturing processes.  
**Supplier:** HamChem Hamilton Chemicals Ltd, 75 Ruffell Rd, Hamilton  
Phone: 079744971 Web: [www.hamchem.co.nz](http://www.hamchem.co.nz) Email: [sales@hamchem.nz](mailto:sales@hamchem.nz)

- In emergency dial 111, and then ask for Fire, Ambulance or Police as necessary.
- In case of poisoning phone National Poisons Centre – 0800 764 766

## HAZARD IDENTIFICATION



### GHS Classifications

Flammable Liquid – Category 3  
Acute Toxicity (Oral) – Category 4  
Acute Toxicity (Dermal) – Category 4  
Skin Irritation – Category 2  
Eye Irritation – Category 2  
Reproductive Toxicity – Category 2  
Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Repeated Exposure) – Category 2

**Signal Word:** DANGER

### Hazard Statements

H226 Flammable liquid and vapour.  
H302 Harmful if swallowed.  
H312 Harmful in contact with skin.  
H315 Causes skin irritation.  
H319 Causes serious eye irritation.  
H361 Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child.  
H373 May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.

### Prevention

P201 Obtain special instructions before use.  
P202 Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.  
P210 Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. No smoking.  
P233 Keep container tightly closed.  
P240 Ground/bond container and receiving equipment.  
P241 Use explosion-proof electrical/ventilating/lighting equipment.  
P242 Use only non-sparking tools.  
P243 Take action to prevent static discharges.

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P260	Do not breathe fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.
P264	Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
P270	Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
P280	Wear protective gloves/clothing and eye/face protection

**Response**

P101	If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand.
P301 + P310	IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTRE or Doctor.
P330	Rinse mouth.
P303 + P361 + P353	IF ON SKIN (or hair): Remove immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with soap and water (or shower).
P362	Take off contaminated clothing and wash before re-use.
P332 + P313	If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P304 + P340	IF INHALED: Remove to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.
P312	Immediately call a POISON CENTRE or Doctor.
P305 + P351 + P338	IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313	If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P308 + P313	If exposed or concerned: Get medical advice.
P370 + P378	In case of fire: Use water fog or mist or alcohol-resistant foam to extinguish.

**Storage**

P403 + P235	Store in well-ventilated place. Keep cool.
P405	Store locked up.

**Disposal**

P501	Dispose of contents/container to approved landfill in accordance with any local regulations.
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<b>COMPOSITION &amp; INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS</b>
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Chemical Entity	CAS No.	Proportion (% w/w)
Xylene	1330-20-7	100
*contains ethyl benzene (10-30%)	100-41-4	

<b>FIRST AID MEASURES</b>
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Consult the National Poisons Centre, telephone 0800 764 766 [0800 POISON] or a doctor in every case of suspected poisoning. If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand.

**INGESTION:** Rinse mouth with water. Do NOT induce vomiting. Get immediate medical assistance. If vomiting occurs spontaneously, keep head below hips to prevent aspiration.

**INHALATION:** Move person to fresh air and keep warm and at rest. Get immediate medical assistance. Do NOT delay. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen.

**SKIN:** Remove immediately all contaminated clothing and footwear. Wash affected area with plenty of water followed by soap and water. Get medical advice if redness, swelling or blisters occur. Wash contaminated clothing/footwear before re-use.

**EYES:** Hold eyes open and rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do after the first 5 minutes. Continue rinsing for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation persists.

**NOTES TO PHYSICIAN:** Treat symptomatically. Risk of aspiration into lungs resulting in chemical pneumonitis which may be fatal. Consider gastric gavage with protected airway and administration of

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activated charcoal. Potential for cardiac sensitization particular in abuse situations. Hypoxia or negative inotropes may enhance these effects; consider oxygen therapy.

### **FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES**

**FLASH POINT:** 21 - 27 °C

**FLAMMABLE LIMITS:** LFL: 1.0% v/v UFL: 7.1 % v/v

**EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:** Use water fog or mist or alcohol-resistant foam. Use dry chemical powder, carbon dioxide, sand or earth for small fires only. Do NOT use water in a jet.

**FIRE & EXPLOSION HAZARDS:** The vapour is heavier than air and can spread across ground and distant ignition is possible. Above flash point, vapour-air mixtures are explosive within the flammable limits given above. Avoid breathing smoke. Prevent extinguishing water from getting into the aquatic environment.

**SPECIFIC HAZARDS:** Cool fire exposed containers with large quantities of water.

**FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT:** Wear self-contained breathing apparatus and personal protection clothing.

### **ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

**SPILLS:** Flammable liquid. Vapour forms explosive mixture with air. Isolate hazard area and keep unnecessary and unprotected people away from area. Stay upwind and keep out of low lying areas. Wear personal protective equipment. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Shut off leak if safe to do so. Remove or isolate ignition sources. Contain spill. Avoid run off into drains or sewers. Do not contaminate watercourses or the ground. Take precautions against static discharge. Bond or ground (earth) all equipment. Ventilate contaminated area. The vapour is heavier than air and can spread across ground and accumulate in low-lying areas; distant ignition is possible. For large spills (more than a drum), recover liquid and transfer by mechanical means to labelled salvage tank that can be sealed for recovery or disposal of product. Allow residues to evaporate. Water can be used to disperse vapours and to clean spill area although prevent water from entering sewers or drains. Remove any contaminated soil and dispose of safely by waste management company. For small spills, absorb with an appropriate material, e.g. vermiculite, and dispose of waste safely in a labelled sealed container for recovery or disposal. If contamination of drains, sewers or waterways occurs immediately notify Emergency Services (111).

**DISPOSAL:** Dispose of contaminated waste or product to an approved landfill in accordance with local regulations.

### **HANDLING & STORAGE**

**HANDLING:** Read label before use. Use only in well-ventilated areas. Avoid breathing vapours or direct contact with product. Wear personal protective equipment. Remove ignition sources. Avoid sparks. Electrostatic charge may be generated during pumping with risk of fire. Restrict line viscosity to avoid generation of electrostatic discharge. Take precautions to use bonded or grounded (earthed) equipment. No Smoking. Do not use compressed air for filling, discharging or handling. Use only in well-ventilated area. Keep container closed when not in use. Wear personal protective equipment to prevent breathing of and contact with product. Wear gloves and protect eyes from splashes. Wash hands and exposed skin after handling.

**STORAGE:** Ensure all storage areas have adequate fire-fighting equipment. Store in closed original container in a secure cool dry well-ventilated place, away from sunlight, ignition sources, heat, incompatible substances, aerosols, other flammables, oxidizing agents, and corrosives, out of reach of children, and away from food, drink and animal foodstuffs. Take precautions to avoid accumulation of vapours in pits and

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confined spaces. For containers or container linings, use mild steel or stainless steel. Avoid contact with natural, butyl, neoprene or nitrile rubbers.

## EXPOSURE CONTROLS & PERSONAL PROTECTION

**EXPOSURE GUIDELINES:** NZ Workplace Exposure Standard (WES) have been set for this substance.

	WES-TWA	WES-STEL
Xylene	50 ppm (217 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	-
Ethyl benzene	100 ppm (434 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	125 ppm (543 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

**ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** Use only in a well-ventilated area. A half-face filter mask suitable for organic gases and vapours (boiling point > 65°C) is recommended for low concentration level exposures. Otherwise, a full-piece organic vapour respiratory protective equipment is required. Where air-filtering respirators are unsuitable (e.g., air-borne concentrations are high, risk of oxygen deficiency, confined space) use positive pressure breathing apparatus.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):** Wear impervious protective clothing including safety shoes or boots. Wear appropriate chemical resistant gloves, e.g. Viton. For incidental/splash contact, nitrile rubbers gloves are suitable. Avoid contact with eyes. Wear chemical goggles if splash or aerosol/mist exposure risk. Refer to the relevant AS/NZ standards for appropriate personal protective equipment.

## PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

<b>Form:</b>	Liquid
<b>Colour:</b>	Clear, colourless
<b>Odour:</b>	Aromatic
<b>Odour threshold:</b>	0.27 ppm
<b>Boiling point (°C):</b>	136 – 145 (typical)
<b>Flash point (°C):</b>	21 – 27 (typical)
<b>Flammability limits in air (%v/v):</b>	1.0 to 7.1
<b>Auto ignition temperature (°C):</b>	432 - 530
<b>Vapour pressure (kPa at 20°C):</b>	0.8 – 1.2
<b>Density at 15°C, g/cc:</b>	0.87
<b>Solubility in water:</b>	Miscible
<b>pH:</b>	Not available
<b>Vapour density (air =1):</b>	3.7
<b>Evaporation rate (nBuAc =1):</b>	0.76 (ASTM D 3539)

## STABILITY & REACTIVITY

**STABILITY (CONDITIONS TO AVOID):** Stable under normal storage and use conditions. Avoid heat, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. Reacts violently with strong oxidizing agents. Prevent vapour accumulation.

**INCOMPATIBILITY (MATERIALS TO AVOID):** Strong oxidizing agents.

**HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:** Dependent on conditions under which decomposition occurs; gases will be complex mixture and include carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.

**HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:** Not known to occur.

## TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS:** This section includes possible adverse effects, which might occur if this product is not handled in the recommended manner.

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**INGESTION:** Harmful if swallowed. Symptoms of exposure arise from central nervous system depressions, e.g., fatigue, confusion, headache, dizziness and drowsiness. Aspiration into the lungs can cause chemical pneumonitis which can be fatal.

**INHALATION:** May be harmful if inhaled. May cause irritation of upper respiratory tract. Symptoms of overexposure include central nervous system depression including headache, dizziness and nausea. If this material enters the lungs, symptoms may be coughing, choking, wheezing and difficulty in breathing. Note that the onset of respiratory symptoms may be delayed for several hours after exposure. Exposure to high concentration may cause unconsciousness and death.

**SKIN CONTACT:** Irritating to skin. Symptoms may include burning sensation, redness, swelling and /or blisters. Harmful by skin contact. May be absorbed through skin.

**EYE CONTACT:** Irritating to eyes. Symptoms can include redness, swelling, and/or blurred vision.

**SYSTEMIC (OTHER TARGET ORGAN) EFFECTS:** If ingested or inhaled may cause adverse effects through prolonged or repeated exposure. Affects central nervous system with possible adverse effects such as impairing short term memory, balance and reaction time. Possible effects on auditory systems, i.e. hearing loss.

**CANCER INFORMATION:** Ethylbenzene which may be present in this product as a component at between 10 and 30% is identified as suspected of causing cancer.

**TERATOLOGY (BIRTH DEFECTS) AND REPRODUCTIVE DEFECTS:** Identified as suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child.

**MUTAGENICITY (EFFECTS ON GENETIC MATERIAL):** Not a mutagen.

**Toxicity data:**

Oral, mouse LD<sub>50</sub> 1590 mg/kg b.w.  
Inhalation, LC<sub>50</sub> (4hr) rat 27.6 mg/L

**Additional information:** Pre-existing medical conditions of central nervous system, skin and auditory system, may be aggravated by exposure to this product. Exposure to very high concentrations of similar materials have been associated with irregular heart rhythms and cardiac arrest.

<b>ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION</b>
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**ENVIRONMENTAL FATE:** This product has been classified as being ecotoxic; harmful in the aquatic environment and to terrestrial vertebrates.

**MOVEMENT AND PARTITIONING:** Product is miscible in water.

**DEGRADATION AND PERSISTENCE:** Not expected to bio accumulate significantly and is readily biodegradable. Product is mobile in soil and may contaminate groundwater. Avoid contamination of drains and waterways. Oxidises by photo-chemical reactions in air.

**ECOTOXICOLOGY:** No EEL has been set for this substance.

**Ecotoxicity data:**

Xylene	<i>Oncrohynchus mykiss</i>	EC <sub>50</sub> (96 hr)	3.3 mg/L
	<i>Palaemonetes pugio</i>	EC <sub>50</sub> (48 hr)	8.5 mg/L
	<i>Skeleonema costatum</i>	EC <sub>50</sub> (72 hr)	12.5 mg/L

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### DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Recover and recycle product whenever possible. Dispose of waste in accordance with Regional Authority or local council bylaws. Ensure empty containers are vented and dry. Residues may cause an explosion hazard. Do not puncture, cut or weld uncleaned drums. Send clean dry drums to recycler or metal scrap reclaimer. Do not use empty drums for storing other products.

### TRANSPORT INFORMATION

**UN Number:** 1307  
**Proper Shipping name:** Xylenes  
**Dangerous Goods Class:** 3  
**Subsidiary Risk:** N/A  
**Packing group:** III  
**Hazchem Code:** 3[Y]  
**Marine Pollutant:** No

### REGULATORY INFORMATION

**EPA New Zealand Approval Code:** HSR000983  
**HSNO Classifications:** 3.1C, 6.1D, 6.3A, 6.4A, 6.8B, 6.9B

### OTHER INFORMATION

#### Key to abbreviations:

CAS No. Chemical Abstracts Service Number  
EPA Environmental Risk Management Authority  
HSNO Hazardous Substances & New Organisms  
STEL Short Term Exposure Limit  
TWA Time Weighted Average  
WES Workplace Exposure Standard

#### References

Chemical Classification and Information database; [www.epa.govt.nz](http://www.epa.govt.nz)  
Supplier Safety Data Sheet

**End of SDS.**