

# Halocarbon Products Corp

## Product Stewardship Summary: Trifluoroacetic Acid

*This Product Stewardship Summary is intended to provide a general overview of the chemical substance. The information on the Summary is basic information and is not intended to provide emergency response, medical, or treatment information. In-depth safety and health information can be found on the product's Safety Data Sheet (SDS).*

**Chemical Identity:** Trifluoroacetic Acid CAS# 76-05-1

**Other Names:** TFA, Trifluoroacetic Acid

**Product Overview:** Trifluoroacetic Acid is a solvent that is used in the production of pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals as well as in many other specialized applications.

**Physical and Chemical Properties:** TFA has a vinegar-like odor and is a strong acid, a good solvent and has excellent reactive properties. The specific gravity of liquid TFA is 1.48 and it boils at 72 °C.

### Health Information:

**Acute:** TFA is harmful by inhalation and extremely corrosive and destructive to skin.

**Chronic:** The chronic effects of TFA are not known.

### Environmental Information:

**Environmental Fate Information:** TFA is water soluble and may spread in water systems.

**Aquatic and/or Terrestrial Toxicity:** TFA is harmful to aquatic organisms and may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.

## **Exposure Potential:**

**Workplace:** Workers using TFA in the workplace should wear personal protective equipment to protect skin, eyes and lungs. Time weighted averages (TWA) set by Lithuania and Latvia are 2mg/cm<sup>3</sup>

**Consumer:** Halocarbon Products Corp does not sell TFA to the general public.

**Environmental Releases:** TFA spills present an acute danger mainly due to its corrosivity. Responders should have protection for skin, eyes, and lungs. TFA that is not spent in reactions with the environment will be absorbed into any water present. It is important that spilled TFA be recovered as soon as possible along with any soil or ground water the TFA may have contaminated. Excess TFA should be disposed of as a hazardous waste.

## **Risk Management:**

**Workplace:** Risk management of TFA in the workplace can be accomplished by storing and using TFA in areas away from personnel, heat, humidity, and sunlight as much as possible. TFA should be used only by a trained workforce for specific uses following appropriate industrial hygiene practices to keep exposures below 2gm/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Environmental:** TFA should never be released to the environment as it will readily combine with any water in the area. Drinking water contamination should be avoided. Excess TFA should be disposed of as a hazardous waste.

**Product Stewardship Programs:** Halocarbon Products Corp. is proud to have been a pioneer in the field of halogenated hydrocarbons since its inception in 1950. Halocarbon Products Corp. established a Customer Survey and Support program several years ago and continues to offer support to its customers.

**Conclusion Statement:** Trifluoroacetic Acid (TFA) is an important and useful acid and solvent for agricultural and pharmaceutical applications that can be and is routinely used safely under recommended industrial hygiene and spill prevention practices.

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**Date:** 07/17/2012  
Reviewed 02/16/2016