Material Safety Data Sheet
Sodium carbonate

Section 1 - Hazards Identification

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

Appearance: white powder.
Warning! Harmful if inhaled. May cause eye and skin irritation with possible burns. May cause respiratory tract irritation. Hygroscopic (absorbs moisture from the air).
Target Organs: Eyes, skin.

Potential Health Effects
Eye: May result in corneal injury. Contact with eyes may cause severe irritation, and possible eye burns.
Skin: Contact with skin causes irritation and possible burns, especially if the skin is wet or moist.
Ingestion: May cause irritation of the digestive tract.
Inhalation: Harmful if inhaled. May cause irritation of the respiratory tract with burning pain in the nose and throat, coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath and pulmonary edema.
Chronic: Prolonged or repeated inhalation may cause nosebleeds, nasal congestion, erosion of the teeth, perforation of the nasal septum, chest pain and bronchitis.

Section 2 - First Aid Measures

Eyes: Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, occasionally lifting the upper and lower eyelids. Get medical aid immediately.
Skin: Get medical aid. Flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Wash clothing before reuse.
Ingestion: Do not induce vomiting. If victim is conscious and alert, give 2-4 cupfuls of milk or water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical aid immediately.
Inhalation: Remove from exposure and move to fresh air immediately. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical aid if cough or other symptoms appear.
Notes to Physician: Treat symptomatically and supportively.

Section 3 - Personal Protection

Personal Protective Equipment
Eyes: Wear appropriate protective eyeglasses or chemical safety goggles as described by OSHA's eye and face protection regulations in 29 CFR 1910.133 or European Standard EN166.
Skin: Wear appropriate protective gloves and clothing to prevent skin exposure. 
Clothing: Wear appropriate protective clothing to minimize contact with skin. 
Respirators: Follow the OSHA respirator regulations found in 29 CFR 1910.134 or 
European Standard EN 149. Use a NIOSH/MSHA or European Standard EN 149 approved 
respirator if exposure limits are exceeded or if irritation or other symptoms are experienced.

Section 4 - Physical and Chemical Properties

Physical State: Powder
Appearance: white
Odor: odorless
pH: 11.6 (solution)
Boiling Point: 1600 deg C
Freezing/Melting Point: 851 deg C
Decomposition Temperature: 400 deg C
Solubility: Soluble.

Section 5 - Stability and Reactivity

Chemical Stability: Stable at room temperature in closed containers under normal storage 
and handling conditions. Decomposed by acids with effervescence, evolution of carbon 
dioxide.
Conditions to Avoid: Dust generation, excess heat, moist air.
Incompatibilities with Other Materials: Reacts explosively with red-hot aluminum metal.
Incompatible with ammonia + silver nitrate, 2,4-dinitrotoluene, 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene,
sulfuric acid, sodium sulfide + water, lithium, phosphorus pentoxide, fluorine, and hydrogen 
peroxide. Hot concentrated solutions of sodium carbonate are mildly corrosive to steel.
Hazardous Decomposition Products: Carbon dioxide, toxic fumes of sodium oxide.
Hazardous Polymerization: Has not been reported.