



## PRODUCT TECHNICAL BULLETIN

# MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR ACCIDENTAL RETARDANT SPILLS INVOLVING PORTABLE OPERATIONS

### OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Perimeter Solutions is globally engaged in supporting and practicing world-class industry standardized and company established environmental, health and safety initiatives. Through our stewardship programs, Perimeter Solutions strives to design, develop, manufacture and market our products in a manner which meets societal needs while posing no undue risk to human health or the environment during all stages of the product's life cycle. In addition, Perimeter Solutions continuously works with customers to ensure that these principles are followed during the products use and ultimate disposal.

These principles are of particular importance when dealing with wildland fire retardants which, during their expected use, come into contact with people, wildlife and the environment. Perimeter Solutions encourages the practice of good industrial hygiene during handling of PHOS-CHEK® fire retardant concentrates and solutions and good commonsense in their end use in fire prevention, prescribed burning and control.

### DRY-POWDER CONCENTRATES

PHOS-CHEK fire retardant dry-powder concentrates contain a mixture of powdered and crystalline components. That portion of the product which is present in fine powder form is subject to being picked up and entrained in the air under high wind conditions. Like dust of all types, retardant dust is considered a respiratory irritant and a potential hazard according to most regulatory criteria. Hazard classifications may, however, differ in various jurisdictions

and the SDS should be consulted for the detailed information. The potential effect of generated dust is the only identified hazard which has been associated with the dry-powder PHOS-CHEK retardants.

Acute (single exposure) toxicity test data have been obtained by an independent laboratory on the dry-powder concentrates using protocols established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service (USFS). This data shows that the retardants are not toxic by ingestion or dermal application and are not significantly irritating to the eyes or skin.

*If the dry-powdered retardant concentrate should be accidentally spilled, it can be swept or scooped into a container, screened to remove foreign matter and used in the normal manner. (Dust masks should be used during the recovery of dry-powdered spills to prevent dust inhalation.) The area can then be flushed with water if necessary or disposed of in an industrial waste landfill which complies with local, state and federal regulations. This product is not a hazardous waste as that term is defined at 40CFR Part 260.*

### MIXED RETARDANT SOLUTIONS

Site selection for portable operations should be mutually agreed upon by the appropriate representatives of the responsible agencies, i.e., air operations supervisor, fixed-wing and helicopter support personnel, etc., and the authorized representative of Perimeter Solutions. When site selection is made, the following issues should be considered: drainage patterns, closeness to the waterways, mixing, storage and dip tank location and both dry-powder and solution cleanup operations. Appropriate precautions should be taken to minimize run-off into

water sources. The need for containment may vary from site to site and should be determined mutually on a case by case basis.

*Wildland fire retardants are generally quite water soluble and will readily wash off with water. Retardant residues are mostly removed while still wet and, consequently, should be removed as soon as possible after the spill occurs. Retardant salts are generally fixed into the soil near the point of the spill and subsequently consumed as plant nutrients (fertilizers) by wildland vegetation.*

### SAFETY DATA SHEETS

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) should always be consulted as the primary source of health and safety information. This document provides additional guidance on the handling and use of all PHOS-CHEK wildland fire retardants. SDS are available at [www.phoschek.com](http://www.phoschek.com) or on request from Perimeter Solutions 10667 Jersey Blvd. Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 Tel: (909) 983-0772.

### ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

If the SDS does not fully answer your health, safety, environmental or spill concerns additional assistance is available at (909) 983-0772.



For more information, contact any of our worldwide Perimeter Solutions Fire Safety offices, see back page for locations, or visit

[www.Phos-Chek.com](http://www.Phos-Chek.com) or [www.Perimeter-Solutions.com](http://www.Perimeter-Solutions.com)

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