

# Safety Data Sheet

## Gatorfoam®



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### Section 1. Product Identification

Manufacturer: 3A Composites USA, Inc.  
3480 Taylorsville Highway  
Statesville, NC 28687-1839  
(800) 872-8974

Emergency Phone Number: 1-800-424-9300 Chemtrec  
To be used only in the event of chemical emergencies involving a spill, leak, fire, and exposure accidents involving chemicals.

Trade Name: Gatorfoam®

Synonym: None

### Section 2. Hazard Identification

**Physical Appearance:** Light weight foam panel laminated with paper

**Potential Health Effects:**

This product is classified as a non-hazardous component when polymerized. Avoid breathing dust if cut, sanded, or routed.

**Ingestion:** Swallowing is not anticipated. If swallowed, seek immediate medical advice.

**Label Elements - None**

**Signal Word: None**

**Pictogram: None**

**Hazard statements: None**

**Response** Specific treatment- see supplemental first aid information.

### Section 3. Chemical Composition

Ingredients (Common Name)	CAS Number	Percent (%) by Weight
Formaldehyde	50-00-0	< 0.01
Polystyrene	9003-53-6	31 to 33

### Section 4. First Aid Measures

**Eye Contact:** Dust may mechanically irritate the eyes, resulting in redness or watering. Treat dust in eye as foreign object. Flush with water to remove dust particles. Get medical help if irritation persists.

**Skin Contact:** Not anticipated for product in purchased form, wash with mild soap and water.

**Inhalation:** If inhalation causes adverse effects, respirator selection, use and maintenance should be in accordance with the requirements of OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1920.134. Remove to fresh air. Get medical help if persistent irritation, severe coughing or breathing difficulty occurs.

**Note to Physician:** No special advice, treat symptomatically

**Ingestion:** Not likely to occur for product in purchased form.

**Inhalation:** Excessive dust concentrations may cause unpleasant obstruction in the nasal passages.

**Skin Absorption:** Product is not absorbed through the skin.

## Section 5. Fire Fighting Measures

### Extinguishing Media:

For small fires, use water spray, foam, carbon dioxide or dry chemical extinguishers. Larger fires should be extinguished immediately by drenching with water spray from fire hose.

### Special Fire Fighting Procedures:

Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus and protective turnout clothing when involved in firefighting activities.

### Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards:

The fire hazards associated with this product are comparable to those known to exist for normally combustible paper products. The formaldehyde constituent of this product should not increase the fire or explosive hazard nor alter fire fighting procedures. Similar to precautions for all paper products, do not smoke or use open flames, space heaters or other ignition sources near fabrication operations.

### Hazardous Combustion Products:

During a fire, smoke may contain the original material in addition to combustion products of varying composition which may be toxic and/or irritating. In smoldering or flaming conditions, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and carbon are generated. Combustion products may include and are not limited to hydrogen chloride, hydrogen bromide and hydrogen fluoride. Studies have shown that the products of combustion of this material are not more acutely toxic than the products of common building materials such as wood.

## Section 6. Accidental Release

Sweep or vacuum up for recovery and disposal. Avoid creating dusty conditions whenever feasible. Maintain good housekeeping to avoid accumulation of cellulose dust on exposed surfaces. Use NIOSH approved filtering face piece respirator (“dust mask”) and goggles where ventilation is not possible and exposure limits may be exceeded or for additional worker comfort.

**Other Precautions:** Minimize compressed air blow down or other practices that generate high dust levels.

## Section 7. Handling and Storage

Store in well-ventilated areas. Handling and storage near open flames must be avoided.

Practice good personal hygiene when handling product. Avoid blowing dust with compressed air.

## Section 8. Exposure Controls

These products are not considered to be a health hazard in the form in which they are sold (sheet, panel). However, if these products are if cut, sanded, or routed dusts or fumes may be irritating.

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION** – Not required. However, use NIOSH-approved filtering face piece respirator (“dust mask”) and goggles where ventilation is limited. Use respiratory protection in accordance with regulatory requirements such as the OSHA respiratory protection standard 29 CFR 1910.134.

**PROTECTIVE GLOVES** – Not required. However, cloth, canvas, or leather gloves are recommended to minimize potential mechanical irritation or cuts from handling product.

**EYE PROTECTION** – Approved goggles or tight fitting safety glasses are recommended when exposures to dust may occur (e.g. during clean up) and when eye irritation may occur.

**OTHER PROTECTIVE CLOTHING OR EQUIPMENT** – Not applicable for product in purchased form. Outer garments may be desirable in extremely dusty areas.

**WORK/HYGIENE PRACTICES** – Follow good hygiene and housekeeping practices. Clean up areas where dust settles to avoid excessive accumulation. Minimize compressed air blow down or other practices that generate high airborne-dust concentrations.

### **Ventilation:**

**LOCAL EXHAUST** – Provide local exhaust as needed so that exposure limits are met. Use with adequate ventilation to ensure exposure levels are maintained below the limits provided above. Use local exhaust ventilation, and process enclosure if necessary, to control airborne dust. Ventilation to control dust should be considered where potential explosive concentrations and ignition sources are present. The design and operation of any exhaust system should consider the possibility of explosive concentrations of cellulose dust within the system. See “SPECIAL” section below.

MECHANICAL (GENERAL) – Provide general ventilation in processing and storage areas so that exposure limits are met.  
 SPECIAL – Ensure that exhaust ventilation and material transport systems involved in handling this product contain explosion relief vents or suppression systems designed and operated in accordance with applicable standards if the operating conditions justify their use.

Ingredient	OSHA Exposure Limit		ACGIH
	Total	Respirable	TLV
<b>Polystyrene (as nuisance dust)</b>	15mg/m <sup>3</sup>	5mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10mg/m <sup>3</sup> inhalable particulate 3mg/m <sup>3</sup> respirable particulate

Note: Nuisance dust may be generated during certain cutting operations. OSHA considers nuisance dust as Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR).

### Section 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Appearance:	Rigid cellular plastic panel faced with resin impregnated paper veneer
Odor:	None
Odor Threshold:	None
PH:	NA
Melting Point:	464°F.
Initial Boiling Point/Boiling Range:	None
Flash Point:	NA
Evaporation Rate:	None
Flammability:	NA
Upper/lower explosive limit:	NA
Vapor Pressure:	None
Vapor Density:	None
Specific Gravity:	Less than water
Solubility:	Insoluble in water
Partition coefficient:	NA
Auto-Ignition:	NA
Decomposition Temperature:	NA
Viscosity:	None

### Section 10. Stability and Reactivity

Stability: Stable.

Conditions To Avoid: Heat and moisture can result in increased rate of formaldehyde off-gassing from the product.

Incompatibility: None known.

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS: Decomposition products can be affected by temperature, air supply and the presence of other materials. Decomposition products can include and are not limited to aromatic compounds, aldehydes, ethyl benzene, hydrogen bromide, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride, polymer fragments and styrene. Under high heat, non-flaming conditions, small amounts of aromatic hydrocarbons such as styrene and ethyl benzene are generated.

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION: Hazardous polymerization is not expected to occur. Heat and moisture can result in increased rate of formaldehyde off-gassing from the product.

### Section 11. Toxicology Information

No information available at this time

### Section 12. Ecological Information

Material is not biodegradable.  
 Material is not bio accumulative

### Section 13. Disposal Information

Dispose of waste materials in accordance with Federal, State and local regulations

### Section 14. Transportation

DOT: Not regulated  
IMDG: Not regulated

### Section 15. Regulatory Information

#### **PROPOSITION 65: (California Only)**

Additional Requirements for the State of California: "Warning: This product contains chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer or birth defects or other reproductive harm."

*We realize that this warning sounds very alarming however; we want to reassure you based on the findings of reliable research. While there is research that supports health-related risks due to exposure to the listed chemical, this research also finds that the key factor in determining the health risk is the amount of exposure to the chemical vapors and not products made as a result of its use. These hazardous exposure limits are generally found in the workplace when chemicals in liquid form are being used, and are no longer in liquid forms in the products being shipped to our retailers and customers.*

**TSCA:** All ingredients of this product are either listed on the TSCA Inventory or are exempt from TSCA Inventory requirements under 40 CFR 720.30.

**CERCLA:** This product does not contain ingredients which are subject to the reporting requirements of CERCLA.

**REACH:** Pursuant to Title II article 7 of the regulation this product is exempt from registration and notification and is therefore compliant with the REACH regulation.

**RoHS:** The Gatorfoam® and Fome-Cor® family of products are compliant with the RoHS standard.

**OSHA:** This product, as shipped, is not regulated as an OSHA hazardous chemical, however, cellulose dust is a regulated hazard under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard [29 CFR 1910.1200] when it becomes mechanically processed and airborne.

**SARA 313 Information:** This product does not contain a chemical ingredient(s) with known CAS Number to exceed the *de minimis* reporting levels established by SARA Title III, section 313 and 40 CFR section 372 depending upon pulp inventory.

**SARA 311/312 Hazard Category:** This product has been reviewed according the EPA "Hazard Categories: promulgated under SARA Title III, Sections 311 and 312 and is considered, under applicable definitions, to meet the following categories:

An immediate acute) health hazard	No
A delayed (chronic) health hazard	No
A corrosive hazard	No
A fire hazard	No
A reactivity hazard	No
A sudden release hazard	No

### Section 16. Other Information

**IMPORTANT:** The information and data contained herein are believed to be accurate and have been compiled from sources believed to be accurate. All information contained herein is offered for your consideration, information, investigation, and verification. 3A COMPOSITES MAKES NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, CONCERNING THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE INFORMATION AND DATA HEREIN. THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED. 3A Composites will not be responsible for claims relating to any parties' use of or reliance on information and data contained herein regardless of whether it is claimed that the information are inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise misleading

#### **Definition of Common Terms:**

ACGIH = American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists  
CAS# = Chemical Abstracts System Number

CERCLA	=	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
DOT	=	U. S. Department of Transportation
DSL	=	Domestic Substance List
EPA	=	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
IARC	=	International Agency for Research on Cancer
IATA	=	International Air Transport Association
IMDG	=	International Maritime Dangerous Goods
NA	=	Not Applicable
NIOSH	=	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NTP	=	National Toxicology Program
OSHA	=	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL	=	Permissible Exposure Limit
REACH	=	Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals
RoHS	=	Restriction of Hazardous Substances used in electronic equipment
STEL	=	Short-Term Exposure Limit (15 minutes)
TDG	=	Canadian Transportation of Dangerous Goods
TLV	=	Threshold Limit Value
TSCA	=	Toxic Substance Control Act