## Technical Information

# Stepan

Stepan Company

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# ECOTOXICOLOGY OF ALCOHOL ETHOXYLATES

## **Applicable to these current Stepan products:**

| BIO-SOFT® 35-7   | BIO-SOFT® AE-3   | BIO-SOFT® E-670   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| BIO-SOFT® E-678  | BIO-SOFT® E-840  | BIO-SOFT® E-847   |
| BIO-SOFT® EC-600 | BIO-SOFT® EC-639 | BIO-SOFT® EC-690  |
| BIO-SOFT® EN-600 | BIO-SOFT® EN-695 | BIO-SOFT® EN8-90  |
| BIO-SOFT® ET-650 | BIO-SOFT® FF-400 | BIO-SOFT® FF-600  |
| BIO-SOFT® GSB-9  | BIO-SOFT® N-1200 | BIO-SOFT® N-400   |
| BIO-SOFT® N-600  | BIO-SOFT® N-900  | BIO-SOFT® N-901   |
| BIO-SOFT® N-905  | BIO-SOFT® N1-3   | BIO-SOFT® N1-5    |
| BIO-SOFT® N1-7   | BIO-SOFT® N1-73B | BIO-SOFT® N1-9    |
| BIO-SOFT® N23-3  | BIO-SOFT® N23-5  | BIO-SOFT® N23-6.5 |
| BIO-SOFT® N25-12 | BIO-SOFT® N25-3  | BIO-SOFT® N25-7   |
| BIO-SOFT® N25-9  | BIO-SOFT® N45-7  | BIO-SOFT® N91-2.5 |
| BIO-SOFT® N91-6  | BIO-SOFT® N91-8  | BIO-SOFT® TD-630  |
| MAKON® 30        | MAKON® 50        | MAKON® DA-6       |
| MAKON® NF-12     | MAKON® TD-12     | MAKON® TD-18      |
| MAKON® TD-3      | MAKON® TD-30     | MAKON® TD-50      |
| MAKON® TD-6      | MAKON® TD-8      | MAKON® TD-9       |
| p4mX® 1-5        | p4mX® 1-7        | p4mX® 25-7        |
| p4mX® 25-79      | p4mX® 400        | p4mX® 900         |
| p4mX® 91-6       | p4mX® 91-8       | POLYSTEP® TD-129  |
| POLYSTEP® TD-189 | POLYSTEP® TD-3   | POLYSTEP® TD-507  |
|                  |                  | POLYSTEP® TD-6    |
|                  |                  | STEPANTEX® DA-6   |
|                  |                  | STEPANTEX® TD-560 |
|                  |                  | STEPANTEX® TD-630 |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 1-9         |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 23-6.5      |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 24-23       |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 24-24       |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 24-5        |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 24-7        |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 24-9        |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 25-9        |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 91-2.5      |
|                  |                  | p4mX® 25-3        |
| L                |                  |                   |

#### Applicable to these inactive Stepan products:

| BIO-SOFT® AE-1 | BIO-SOFT® AE-2   | BIO-SOFT® EA-10 |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| BIO-SOFT® EA-8 | POLYSTEP® AE-120 |                 |

### **Toxicological Information:**

| Test/Conditions                    | Results/Classification                     | <u>References</u> * |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Acute Aquatic Toxicity to Fish (96 | LC50 <u>&lt;</u> 1 to <u>&gt;</u> 10 mg/l  | HERA & EHSMS        |
| hr.)                               |  |                     |
| Acute Aquatic Toxicity to          | EC50 <u>&lt;</u> 1 to <u>&gt;</u> 10 mg/l  | HERA & EHSMS        |
| Invertebrates                      |  |                     |
| (D. magna) (48 hr.)                |  |                     |
| Acute Aquatic Toxicity             | ErC50 <u>&lt;</u> 1 to <u>&gt;</u> 10 mg/l | HERA & EHSMS        |
| (alga) (96 hr.)                    |  |                     |
| Chronic Aquatic Toxicity to Fish   | NOEC <u>&gt;</u> 0.1 - 10 mg/L             | HERA & EHSMS        |
| Chronic Aquatic Toxicity to        | ErC10 (NOEC) <u>&lt;</u> 0.1 to 10 mg/L    | HERA & EHSMS        |
| Invertebrates                      |  |                     |
| (D. magna)                         |  |                     |
| Chronic Aquatic Toxicity           | ErC10 (NOEC) <u>&lt;</u> 0.1 to 10         | HERA & EHSMS        |
| (alga) (72-hour survival/growth)   | mg/L                                       |                     |
| Discussion:                        |  |                     |

Discussion:

Toxicity of Alcohol Ethoxylates (AE) generally decreases with increasing ethylene oxide (EO) and decreasing chain length (decreasing liposolubility). Branched alkyl chains are less toxic than linear alkyl chains; secondary attachment of the alcohols reduces toxicity compared to primary alcohols. Surfactants containing EO/PO (propylene oxide) block copolymers are less toxic than those containing only EO.

LC50 = lethal concentration to 50% of organisms

EC50 = effective concentration to 50% of organisms

ErC50 = effective concentration (growth rate) to 50% of organisms

NOEC = No Observed Effect Concentration

#### **References:**

\*Human and Environmental Risk Assessment (HERA) on ingredients of European household cleaning products, 2009.

\*Talmage, S.S., "Environmental and Human Safety of Major Surfactants (EHSMS)" 1994.

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