

Safe Handling Checklist

UN 1823 class 8 · personal protection, storage, make up and spill response

Classification

Solid sodium hydroxide is UN 1823, class 8, corrosive. It is strongly alkaline and highly corrosive.

Personal Protective Equipment

- Chemical splash goggles, plus a face shield when charging or making up solution
- Chemical resistant gloves with a cuff covering the wrist
- Long sleeved chemical resistant apron or suit
- Closed chemical resistant footwear
- Respiratory protection where dust cannot be controlled at source

Making Up A Solution

- Always add caustic soda to water, never water to caustic soda
- Start with cold water and confirm the agitator is running
- Add solid in small portions and let each disperse before the next
- Watch the temperature and stop adding if it climbs faster than expected
- Stir until clear with no solid remaining on the bottom
- Allow the solution to cool before transferring or dosing

Storage and Segregation

- Dry, covered, well ventilated store
- Containers kept closed and opened bags resealed immediately
- Segregate from acids
- Segregate from aluminium and zinc
- Segregate from organic materials

Spill Response

Keep a dry spill dry. Sweep or scoop the solid into a labelled container without raising dust and do not wash it into a drain that may carry an acid stream. Contain a solution spill and neutralise only under a procedure planned in advance with the correct protective equipment. Ventilate the area and exclude anyone without protection.

First Aid Basics

Skin or eye contact requires immediate and prolonged flushing with running water, and eye contact requires medical attention. Alkali burns penetrate progressively and can look mild while damage continues underneath, so treat every contact seriously.

Specifications reflect our normal production. The binding specification for an order is the one confirmed in writing before production begins. Handling notes are general guidance and do not replace the safety data sheet or your own risk assessment.