



Product Information Data Sheet  
**LATEX FOAM**

<b><u>Issue Date:</u></b>	First Draft, March 2003
<b><u>Product:</u></b>	Latex Foam
<b><u>Description of foam type:</u></b>	
<b><u>Manufacturer:</u></b>	
<b><u>Address:</u></b>	
<b><u>Tel/fax:</u></b>	
Latex foam should be considered as "Material" or "product". It is identified as industrial polymer. Latex Foam is not considered to be hazardous product nor as mixtures of dangerous substances.	

**A. Product Identification**

Product Name:	Latex Foam Rubber Foam Moulded Latex Foam or Moulded Rubber Foam.
Trade Names:	Various, depending on the manufacturers.
Composition:	Product Originating from vulkanisation of latex.
Chemical description:	Latex foam is a product originating from vulcanization of a liquid Latex-air mixture. As raw materials natural Latex (obtained from Rubber tree Hevea Brasiliensis) and synthetic latex (obtained From polymerization of styrene and butadiene) are used. Additive materials used are gelling agent and the standard Rubber compounding ingredients essential to give the foam its familiar properties like elasticity and resilience.
Appearance:	Flexible foam with open structure.

Regulatory Information: No labeling is currently required for this product by existing EU Directives on Classification, Packaging and Labeling of dangerous Substances.

## **B. Physical Properties**

Physical form/appearance: Flexible Foam with open structure.

Colour: White, when no pigment is used

Specific gravity: 30 – 150 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Solubility in water: Insoluble

Odour: Name or Mild odour.

Flash ignition point: Between 350°C and 450°C

Decomposition temperature: Above 180°C

Thermal Energy: 40.000 KL/kg

Stability and reactivity: The product is stable at temperatures between -40°C and +120°C

## **C. Fire Hazards identification**

Auto ignition point:  
(ASTM-D 1929) Between 400°C to 420°C

Fire Hazard: The product is a combustible material and causes, when burning intense heat and dense somke.

Melting Point: The product can, when heated also melt and flammable decomposition products can be generated. In a fire, decomposition products such as carbon black, carbon monoxide carbon dioxide, gaseous hydrocarbons and nitrogen containing products can be generated in various concentrations depending on the combustion conditions.

Suitable fire extinguishers: Water, CO<sub>2</sub>, dry powder, liquid foam.

Human Protection in large Fires: Fire fighters should use self-contained breathing Apparatus.

Further fire information: To avoid smouldering final soaking with water is recommended

Storage and processing: Local safety regulations applying to the storage of rubber goods and foam materials have to be considered. Smoking and open fire in storage and processing rooms should be forbidden. Local overheating of the material should be prevented.

#### D. Toxicological Data

Oral: There is no evidence that latex foam is toxic orally.  
LD50 (oral-rats) >5000 mg/kg

Inhalation: Chronic inhalation of Latex dust particles in processing could cause a developing of allergy.

Skin Contact: No adverse effects known following contact with latex foam.

Eye contact: Dust particles can cause mechanical irritation. Rinse with clean water to remove dust.

Microbiological: contamination: Latex Foam is sterile when manufactured.

**E. Protective Measures in handling, storage and processing:** Latex foam at normal temperature presents no risk to health. Special protective equipment and clothing is not necessary when handling foam, since it does not irritate the skin, eyes or respiratory system except in those processes where dust is produced.

Ventilation: Provided there is adequate general ventilation, no special precautions are necessary for most handling and cutting operations.

Ventilation during some Operations: Local exhaust ventilation is necessary for some operations i.e where dust is produced from cutting.

Storage: Store away from heat sources (match, cigarette, open fire, electrical heaters etc.)

Eye protection: Protective goggles should be worn for processes generating dust

Protective clothing: Not required

Other measures: No further specific measures are needed.

See also section C dealing with Fire Hazards.

#### **F. Ecological Information**

Biodegradability: Latex foam is not degradable or degrades slowly.

Additional ecological data: In case of a fire with latex foam, the particles that fall in the water are harmless. They are sieved out of the water and/or disintegrated in the water treatment plant. Living organisms in the water are not endangered.

#### **G. Transport information**

Labeling: Latex foam is not classified for conveyance or supply under the Carriage of Dangerous Goods (classification, packaging, and labeling) and use of Transportable Pressure Receptacles Regulations 1996. The product is not classified as hazardous for any mode of transportation under current EU/UN regulations by applying the appropriate test method.

Measures: No special steps need to be taken for the transportation of latex foam.

#### **H. Disposal considerations**

Production trim: Trim latex foam and production off-cuts can usually be recycled by several methods if uncontaminated by extraneous matter.

Post Consumer waste: A recycling option exists via rebonding if series of technical and economical conditions are met. If recycling is not possible, scrap or post consumer latex foam waste can be disposed of at licensed landfill sites or by incineration under controlled conditions. Advice on the preferred method should be sought from the Local Waste Regulation Authority.

Legislation: Under EU environmental Regulations and Directives, there are no special requirements for the disposal of standard latex foam

#### **I. Composition and chemical characterization**

Input for external Material Data Systems or Latex foam convertors.

Latex foams are polymers and defined in Data Systems, i.e. IMDS, as product, not as a chemical compound. For the manufacture of latex foam, a series of raw materials are used. These include natural latex, synthetic latex (major proportion); foaming, gelling and vulcanizing ingredients (small proportion). Most of these ingredients are reactive and chemically bonded to the structure of the polymer. At the end of the manufacturing process, latex foam is intensively washed and dried.

No detailed breakdown of the finished foam is any of the raw materials or additives can be expressed as final percentages.

In response to the demand from customers for assurance that latex foam is a healthy and environmental friendly product, euroLATEX have introduced the ECO Standard Certificate

This Standard sets very exacting limits – below those normally recommended for potentially harmful substances such as PCP, pesticides, butadiene, vinyl chloride and heavy metals. In addition the ECO Standard strictly limits the emissions of volatile compounds such as formaldehyde, nitrosamines, toluene, styrene, vinyl- and 4- phenylcyclohexene, 1.1.1. trichioethane, tetrachioethylene, trichloroethylene, and total volatile aromatic hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds.

**J. Disclaimer of Liability**

The local legislation is to be followed. This information is furnished without warranty, expressed or implied, except that it is accurate according to the best available knowledge of the latex foam manufacturer. The data on this sheet relate only to the specific material designated herein. The manufacturer assumes no legal responsibility for use of, or reliance upon these data. For information regarding specific applications of the product, the foam manufacturer should be contacted.

**Standard Latex Talatech Latex Foam Rubber.**

The results of the inspection made according to STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX, product class I have shown that the above mentioned goods meet the human-ecological requirements of the standard presently established for baby articles. The certified articles fulfill the requirements of Annex XVII of REACH (incl. the use of azo-dyes, Nickel, etc.) as well as the American requirement regarding total content of lead in children's articles (CPSIA; with the exception of accessories made from glass). The holder of the certificate who has issued a conformity declaration according to ISO 17050-1, is under an obligation to use the OEKO-TEX mark only in conjunction with products that conform with the sample initially tested. The conformity is verified by adults.

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