



MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET  
Hydrofluoric acid, 47-51%

**Section 1 - Chemical Product and Company Identification**

**MSDS Name:** Hydrofluoric acid, 47-51%

**Catalog Numbers:** H/1350/08, H/1350/15, H/1350/17, H/1350/21, H/1400/08, H/1400/15, H/1400/17, H/1400/21, H/1420/08, H/1420/15, H/1420/17, H/1420/21, H/1422/15, H/1425/17, H/1425NC, H/1427/07, SP/0473

**Synonyms:** Fluohydric acid; Fluoric acid; Hydrofluoric acid solution; HFA; Etching acid; Fluorohydric acid; Hydrogen fluoride in aqueous solution.

**Company Identification:** Fisher Scientific UK  
Bishop Meadow Road, Loughborough  
Leics. LE11 5RG

**For information in Europe, call:** (01509) 231166

**Emergency Number, Europe:** 01509 231166

**Section 2 - Composition, Information on Ingredients**

CAS#	Chemical Name:	%	EINECS#	Hazard Symbols:	Risk Phrases:
7664-39-3	Hydrofluoric acid	47-51	231-634-8	T+ C	26/27/28 35
7732-18-5	Water	49-53	231-791-2		

Text for R-phrases: see Section 16

**Hazard Symbols:** T+ C



**Risk Phrases:** 26/27/28 35

**Section 3 - Hazards Identification**

**EMERGENCY OVERVIEW**

*Very toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed. Causes severe burns.*

**Potential Health Effects**

- Eye:** Contact with liquid or vapor causes severe burns and possible irreversible eye damage. Solutions as dilute as 2% or lower may cause burns.
- Skin:** May be fatal if absorbed through the skin. Causes severe burns with delayed tissue destruction. Substance is rapidly absorbed through the skin. Penetration may continue for several days. Causes severe tissue necrosis and bone destruction. Both liquid and vapor can cause severe burns, which may not be immediately painful or visible. Solutions as dilute as 2% or lower may cause burns. Systemic fluoride toxicity from exposure to hydrofluoric acid may result in severe hypocalcemia, hypomagnesemia, hyperkalemia, metabolic acidosis, cardiac dysrhythmias, and death. Burns caused by weak hydrofluoric acid may go unnoticed for several hours. Therefore, first aid procedures must be followed if any contact is suspected.
- Ingestion:** Causes severe digestive tract burns with abdominal pain, vomiting, and possible death. Human fatalities have been reported from acute poisoning. Systemic fluoride toxicity from exposure to hydrofluoric acid may result in severe hypocalcemia (depletion of calcium in the

blood), hypomagnesemia, hyperkalemia, metabolic acidosis, cardiac dysrhythmias, and death.

**Inhalation:** May be fatal if inhaled. May cause severe irritation of the upper respiratory tract with pain, burns, and inflammation. May cause pulmonary edema and severe respiratory disturbances. Depletes calcium levels in the body which can lead to hypocalcemia and death. Concentrations of hydrofluoric acid above 40% fume in air.

**Chronic:** Chronic inhalation and ingestion may cause chronic fluoride poisoning (fluorosis) characterized by weight loss, weakness, anemia, brittle bones, and stiff joints. Repeated inhalation may cause chronic bronchitis. Chronic exposure to fluoride compounds may cause systemic toxicity. Skeletal effects may include bone brittleness, joint stiffness, teeth discoloration, tendon calcification, and osteosclerosis. Chronic ingestion or inhalation may cause weight loss, malaise, anemia, leukopenia (reduction in the number of white blood cells in the blood), discoloration of the teeth and osteosclerosis (the hardening or abnormal density of bone). Repeated inhalation may cause osteofluorosis and permanent respiratory damage.

#### Section 4 - First Aid Measures

**Eyes:** Do NOT allow victim to rub eyes or keep eyes closed. Spills of HF should be flushed until medical attention arrives. **SPEEDY ACTION IS CRITICAL! GET MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY!** If a physician is not immediately available, apply one or two drops of 0.5% tetracaine hydrochloride solution followed by a second irrigation until medical attention arrives. Tetracaine hydrochloride will provide ocular anesthesia for 20 min. to an hour

**Skin:** Discard contaminated clothing in a manner which limits further exposure. Destroy contaminated shoes. Spills of HF should be flushed until medical attention arrives. **SPEEDY ACTION IS CRITICAL! GET MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.** If available, after thorough washing (PREFERRED METHOD), a 2.5% calcium gluconate gel should be continuously massaged into the burned area, or the burned area should be immersed in a solution of 0.2% iced aqueous benzethonium chloride. Immersion may also be done with 0.13% iced aqueous Benzalkonium chloride. If immersion is not practical, towels should be soaked with one of the aforementioned solutions and used as compresses for the burned area. Ideally compresses should be changed every two minutes. It is suggested that a certain quantity of either prepared solution or the calcium gluconate be kept on hand at all times. These should be replaced annually if not previously used. Before using HF, make sure the solutions, gels and first aid attendant are available in case of exposure.

**Ingestion:** Do not induce vomiting. If victim is conscious and alert, give 2-4 cupfuls of milk or water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical aid immediately. **SPEED IS ESSENTIAL. A DOCTOR MUST BE NOTIFIED AT ONCE.**

**Inhalation:** **SPEED IS ESSENTIAL, OBTAIN MEDICAL AID IMMEDIATELY. POISON material.** If inhaled, get medical aid immediately. Remove victim to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Calcium gluconate, 2.5% in normal saline may be given by nebulizer with oxygen.

**Notes to Physician:** Due to delayed and persistent symptoms, observe patient closely for 48 hours. Prompt action is essential in all cases of contact. Irrigate eyes with 1% calcium gluconate in normal saline for 1 to 2 hours to prevent or lessen corneal damage. For burns of large skin areas, for ingestion & inhalation exposure, severe systemic effects may occur. Monitor & correct for hypocalcemia, cardiac arrhythmias, hypomagnesemia & hyperkalemia. For inhalation exposures, treat as chemical pneumonia.

**Antidote:** Always have calcium gluconate gel on hand. The use of infiltration therapy and intraarterial therapy for hydrofluoric acid burns resulting from concentrations greater than 20% should be made by qualified medical personnel. Calcium gluconate may be administered intravenously slowly to bind to the fluoride ion. This administration needs to be monitored under the supervision of a physician.

#### Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

**General Information:** As in any fire, wear a self-contained breathing apparatus in pressure-demand, MSHA/NIOSH (approved or equivalent), and full protective gear. Use water spray to keep fire-exposed containers cool. Reacts with most metals to form highly flammable hydrogen gas which can form explosive mixtures with air. Containers may explode in the heat of a fire. Vapors may be heavier than air. They can spread along the ground and collect in low or confined areas. Approach fire from upwind to avoid hazardous vapors

and toxic decomposition products.

**Extinguishing Media:**

Substance is noncombustible; use agent most appropriate to extinguish surrounding fire.

### Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

**General Information:**

Use proper personal protective equipment as indicated in Section 8.

**Spills/Leaks:**

Absorb spill with inert material (e.g. vermiculite, sand or earth), then place in suitable container. Avoid runoff into storm sewers and ditches which lead to waterways. Wear a self contained breathing apparatus and appropriate personal protection. (See Exposure Controls, Personal Protection section). Provide ventilation. Evacuate unnecessary personnel. Approach spill from upwind. Remove ignition sources since flammable hydrogen gas may be generated by reactions with metals. Spills may produce white fumes of HF gas. Rapid dilution of the spill with water will reduce the amount of fumes given off. Carefully neutralize the dilute spill with lime slurry, soda ash, limestone, caustic soda or other alkaline material.

### Section 7 - Handling and Storage

**Handling:**

Wash thoroughly after handling. Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse. Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. Keep container tightly closed. Discard contaminated shoes. Use caution when opening. Do not breathe vapor or mist. Use only with adequate ventilation or respiratory protection. Do not put even dilute solutions of hydrofluoric acid in glass containers. Always add the acid to water, never the reverse. Never work alone with this chemical.

**Storage:**

Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from incompatible substances. Corrosives area. Do not store in metal or glass containers. Inspect periodically for damage or evidence of leaks or corrosion. Store in approved containers only. Diking of storage containers is recommended.

### Section 8 - Exposure Controls, Personal Protection

**Engineering Controls:**

Use process enclosure, local exhaust ventilation, or other engineering controls to control airborne levels below recommended exposure limits. Facilities storing or utilizing this material should be equipped with an eyewash facility and a safety shower. Use a corrosion-resistant ventilation system. If closed handling systems are not feasible, use local exhaust ventilation such as a fumehood (sash should not be glass). Keep the fumehood sash as low as possible.

**Exposure Limits**

CAS# 7664-39-3:

United Kingdom, WEL - TWA: 1.8 ppm TWA (as F); 1.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA (as F) United Kingdom, WEL - STEL: 3 ppm STEL (as F); 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> STEL (as F)

United States OSHA: 3 ppm TWA

Belgium - TWA: 1.8 ppm VLE; 1.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> VLE Belgium - STEL: 3 ppm VLE; 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> VLE

France - VME: 1.8 ppm VME; 1.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> VME France - VLE: 3 ppm VLCT; 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> VLCT

Japan: 3 ppm Ceiling; 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> Ceiling

Malaysia: 3 ppm Ceiling (as F); 2.3 mg/m<sup>3</sup> Ceiling (as F)

Netherlands: 3.3 ppm STEL; 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> STEL (as F)

Russia: 0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA (vapor) Russia: 0.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> STEL (vapor)

Spain: 1.8 ppm VLA-ED; 1.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> VLA-ED Spain: 3 ppm VLA-EC; 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> VLA-EC

CAS# 7732-18-5:

**Personal Protective Equipment**

- Eyes:** Wear chemical splash goggles and face shield.
- Skin:** Wear butyl rubber gloves, apron, and/or clothing.
- Clothing:** Wear appropriate protective clothing to prevent skin exposure.
- Respirators:** Wear a NIOSH/MSHA or European Standard EN 149 approved full-facepiece airline respirator in the positive pressure mode with emergency escape provisions. Follow the OSHA respirator regulations found in 29 CFR 1910.134 or European Standard EN 149. Use a NIOSH/MSHA or European Standard EN 149 approved respirator if exposure limits are exceeded or if irritation or other symptoms are experienced.

## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties

- Physical State:** Liquid
- Color:** colorless - fuming
- Odor:** strong, pungent - irritating odor - penetrating odor
- pH:** < 2.0
- Vapor Pressure:** 27 mm Hg @ 21 deg C (49%)
- Viscosity:** Not available
- Boiling Point:** 105 deg C ( 221.00°F)
- Freezing/Melting Point:** -35 deg C ( -31.00°F)
- Autoignition Temperature:** Not available.
- Flash Point:** Not applicable.
- Explosion Limits: Lower:** Not available
- Explosion Limits: Upper:** Not available
- Decomposition Temperature:** Not available
- Solubility in water:** Soluble
- Specific Gravity/Density:** 1.175 @ 15.5°C
- Molecular Formula:** HF
- Molecular Weight:** 20.01

## Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

- Chemical Stability:** Stable at room temperature in closed containers under normal storage and handling conditions. Hydrogen fluoride tends to associate by means of hydrogen bonds to form polymers in both the liquid and gaseous states, but this polymerization is not hazardous.
- Conditions to Avoid:** Excess heat, confined spaces.
- Incompatibilities with Other Materials** Metals, strong oxidizing agents, strong bases, acetic anhydride, alcohols, amines, Glass, concrete and other silicon-bearing materials will yield silicon tetrafluoride gas in contact with HFA. Pressure build up from this process has been known to blow up glass containers., Carbonates, sulfides, and cyanides will yield toxic gases such as carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, and hydrogen cyanide., Carbonates, sulfides, and cyanides will yield toxic gases such as carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, and hydrogen cyanide..
- Hazardous Decomposition Products** Hydrogen fluoride gas.
- Hazardous Polymerization** Has not been reported.

## Section 11 - Toxicological Information

- RTECS#:** CAS# 7664-39-3: MW7875000  
CAS# 7732-18-5: ZC0110000

**LD50/LC50:** RTECS:  
**CAS# 7664-39-3:** Inhalation, mouse: LC50 = 342 ppm/1H;  
 Inhalation, mouse: LC50 = 5000 mg/m<sup>3</sup>/5M;  
 Inhalation, mouse: LC50 = 270 mg/m<sup>3</sup>/60M;  
 Inhalation, rat: LC50 = 1276 ppm/1H;  
 Inhalation, rat: LC50 = 1100 mg/m<sup>3</sup>/60M;  
 .  
 RTECS:  
**CAS# 7732-18-5:** Oral, rat: LD50 = >90 mL/kg;  
 .  
 Other: Human LCLo inhalation: 50 ppm/30M. Inhalation LC50 (mouse): 170 ppm/4H.

**Carcinogenicity:** Hydrofluoric acid - IARC: Group 3 (not classifiable) (Fluorides, inorganic).  
 Water - Not listed as a carcinogen by ACGIH, IARC, NTP, or CA Prop 65.

**Other:** See actual entry in RTECS for complete information.

### Section 12 - Ecological Information

**Ecotoxicity:** Not available

### Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

Products considered hazardous for supply are classified as Special Waste and the disposal of such chemicals is covered by regulations which may vary according to location. Contact a specialist disposal company or the local authority or advice. Empty containers must be decontaminated before returning for recycling.

### Section 14 - Transport Information

	<b>IATA</b>	<b>IMO</b>	<b>RID/ADR</b>
<b>Shipping Name:</b>	HYDROFLUORIC ACID	HYDROFLUORIC ACID	HYDROFLUORIC ACID SOLUTION
<b>Hazard Class:</b>	8 (6.1)	8 (6.1)	8
<b>UN Number:</b>	1790	1790	1790
<b>Packing Group:</b>	II	II	II

USA RQ: CAS# 7664-39-3: 100 lb final RQ; 45.4 kg final RQ

### Section 15 - Regulatory Information

#### European/International Regulations

European Labeling in Accordance with EC Directives

Hazard Symbols: T+ C

Risk Phrases:

R 26/27/28 Very toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed.

R 35 Causes severe burns.

Safety Phrases:

S 7/9 Keep container tightly closed and in a well-ventilated place.

S 26 In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice.

S 36/37 Wear suitable protective clothing and gloves.

S 45 In case of accident or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately (show the label where possible).

WGK (Water Danger/Protection)

CAS# 7664-39-3: 1

CAS# 7732-18-5: Not available

Canada

CAS# 7664-39-3 is listed on Canada's DSL List

CAS# 7732-18-5 is listed on Canada's DSL List

## US Federal

### TSCA

CAS# 7664-39-3 is listed on the TSCA Inventory.

CAS# 7732-18-5 is listed on the TSCA Inventory.

## Section 16 - Other Information

### Text for R-phrases from Section 2

R 26/27/28 Very toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed.

R 35 Causes severe burns.

**MSDS Creation Date:** 2/12/1999

**Revision #14 Date** 2/23/2007

**Revisions were made in Sections:** 11

*The information above is believed to be accurate and represents the best information currently available to us. However, we make no warranty of merchantability or any other warranty, express or implied, with respect to such information, and we assume no liability resulting from its use. Users should make their own investigations to determine the suitability of the information for their particular purposes. In no event shall the company be liable for any claims, losses, or damages of any third party or for lost profits or any special, indirect, incidental, consequential, or exemplary damages howsoever arising, even if the company has been advised of the possibility of such damages.*

-----