

**TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILE FOR  
HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Public Health Service  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

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**UPDATE STATEMENT**

Toxicological profiles are revised and republished as necessary, but no less than once every three years. For information regarding the update status of previously released profiles, contact ATSDR at:

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## FOREWORD

The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986 (Public Law 99-499) extended and amended the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA or Superfund). This public law directed the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to prepare toxicological profiles for hazardous substances most commonly found at facilities on the CERCLA National Priorities List and that pose the most significant potential threat to human health, as determined by ATSDR and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The revised list of the 275 most hazardous substances was published in the Federal Register on October 28, 1992 (57 FR 48801). For prior versions of the list of substances, see Federal Register notices dated April 17, 1987 (52 FR 12866); October 20, 1988 (53 FR 41280); October 26, 1989 (54 FR 43619); October 17, 1990 (55 FR 42067); and October 17, 1991 (56 FR 52166).

Section 104(i)(3) of CERCLA, as amended, directs the Administrator of ATSDR to prepare a toxicological profile for each substance on the list. Each profile must include the following:

- (A) The examination, summary, and interpretation of available toxicological information and epidemiological evaluations on a hazardous substance in order to ascertain the levels of significant human exposure for the substance and the associated acute, subacute, and chronic health effects.
- (B) A determination of whether adequate information on the health effects of each substance is available or in the process of development to determine levels of exposure that present a significant risk to human health of acute, subacute, and chronic health effects.
- (C) Where appropriate, identification of toxicological testing needed to identify the types or levels of exposure that may present significant risk of adverse health effects in humans.

This toxicological profile is prepared in accordance with guidelines developed by ATSDR and EPA. The original guidelines were published in the Federal Register on April 17, 1987. Each profile will be revised and republished as necessary.

The ATSDR toxicological profile is intended to succinctly characterize the toxicological and adverse health effects information for the hazardous substance being described. Each profile identifies and reviews the key literature (that has been peer-reviewed) that describes a hazardous substance's toxicological properties. Other pertinent literature is also presented, but described in less detail than the key studies. The profile is not intended to be an exhaustive document; however, more comprehensive sources of specialty information are referenced.

Each toxicological profile begins with a public health statement, that describes in nontechnical language, a substance's relevant toxicological properties. Following the public health statement is information concerning levels of significant human exposure and, where known, significant health effects. The adequacy of information to determine a substance's health effects is described in a health effects summary. Data needs that are of significance to protect public health will be identified by ATSDR and EPA. The focus of the profiles is on health and toxicological information; therefore, we have included this information in the beginning of the document.

**Foreword**

The principal audiences for the toxicological profiles are health professionals at the federal, state, and local levels, interested private sector organizations and groups, and members of the public.

This profile reflects our assessment of all relevant toxicological testing and information that has been peer reviewed. It has been reviewed by scientists from ATSDR, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other federal agencies. It has also been reviewed by a panel of nongovernment peer reviewers and was made available for public review. Final responsibility for the contents and views expressed in this toxicological profile resides with ATSDR.



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### THE PROFILE HAS UNDERGONE THE FOLLOWING ATSDR INTERNAL REVIEWS:

1. Green Border Review. Green Border review assures the consistency with ATSDR policy.
2. Health Effects Review. The Health Effects Review Committee examines the health effects chapter of each profile for consistency and accuracy in interpreting health effects and classifying endpoints.
3. Minimal Risk Level Review. The Minimal Risk Level Workgroup considers issues relevant to substance-specific minimal risk levels (MRLs), reviews the health effects database of each profile, and makes recommendations for derivation of MRLs.
4. Quality Assurance Review. The Quality Assurance Branch assures that consistency across profiles is maintained, identifies any significant problems in format or content, and establishes that Guidance has been followed.





## PEER REVIEW

A peer review panel was assembled for hexachlorobutadiene. The panel consisted of the following members:

1. Dr. Arthur Gregory, Private Consultant, Sterling Virginia.
2. Dr. Shane Que Hee, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, UCLA School of Public Health, Los Angeles, California.
3. Dr. Renate Reimschuessel, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland.

These experts collectively have knowledge of hexachlorobutadiene's physical and chemical properties, toxicokinetics, key health end points, mechanisms of action, human and animal exposure, and quantification of risk to humans. All reviewers were selected in conformity with the conditions for peer review specified in Section 104(i)(13) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended.

Scientists from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) have reviewed the peer reviewers' comments and determined which comments will be included in the profile. A listing of the peer reviewers' comments not incorporated in the profile, with a brief explanation of the rationale for their exclusion, exists as part of the administrative record for this compound. A list of databases reviewed and a list of unpublished documents cited are also included in the administrative record.

The citation of the peer review panel should not be understood to imply its approval of the profile's final content. The responsibility for the content of this profile lies with the ATSDR.



## CONTENTS

FOREWORD . . . . .	v
CONTRIBUTORS . . . . .	viii
PEER REVIEW . . . . .	ix
LIST OF FIGURES . . . . .	xv
LIST OF TABLES . . . . .	xvii
<b>1. PUBLIC HEALTH STATEMENT . . . . .</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 WHAT IS HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE? . . . . .	2
1.2 WHAT HAPPENS TO HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE WHEN IT ENTERS THE ENVIRONMENT? . . . . .	2
1.3 HOW MIGHT I BE EXPOSED TO HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE? . . . . .	3
1.4 HOW CAN HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE ENTER AND LEAVE MY BODY? . . . . .	4
1.5 HOW CAN HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE AFFECT MY HEALTH? . . . . .	5
1.6 IS THERE A MEDICAL TEST TO DETERMINE WHETHER I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO HEXACHLOROBUTADIENE? . . . . .	6
1.7 WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS HAS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MADE TO PROTECT HUMAN HEALTH? . . . . .	6
1.8 WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION? . . . . .	7
<b>2. HEALTH EFFECTS . . . . .</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 INTRODUCTION . . . . .	9
2.2 DISCUSSION OF HEALTH EFFECTS BY ROUTE OF EXPOSURE . . . . .	9
2.2.1 Inhalation Exposure . . . . .	11
2.2.1.1 Death . . . . .	11
2.2.1.2 Systemic Effects . . . . .	11
2.2.1.3 Immunological Effects . . . . .	14
2.2.1.4 Neurological Effects . . . . .	14
2.2.1.5 Reproductive Effects . . . . .	14
2.2.1.6 Developmental Effects . . . . .	15
2.2.1.7 Genotoxic Effects . . . . .	16
2.2.1.8 Cancer . . . . .	16
2.2.2 Oral Exposure . . . . .	16
2.2.2.1 Death . . . . .	16
2.2.2.2 Systemic Effects . . . . .	17
2.2.2.3 Immunological Effects . . . . .	29
2.2.2.4 Neurological Effects . . . . .	29
2.2.2.5 Reproductive Effects . . . . .	30
2.2.2.6 Developmental Effects . . . . .	30
2.2.2.7 Genotoxic Effects . . . . .	31
2.2.2.8 Cancer . . . . .	31
2.2.3 Dermal Exposure . . . . .	32
2.2.3.1 Death . . . . .	32
2.2.3.2 Systemic Effects . . . . .	32
2.2.3.3 Immunological Effects . . . . .	34
2.2.3.4 Neurological Effects . . . . .	34
2.2.3.5 Developmental Effects . . . . .	34

2.2.3.6	Reproductive Effects	34
2.2.3.7	Genotoxic Effects	34
2.2.3.8	Cancer	35
2.3	TOXICOKINETICS	35
2.3.1	Absorption	35
2.3.1.1	Inhalation Exposure	35
2.3.1.2	Oral Exposure	36
2.3.1.3	Dermal Exposure	36
2.3.2	Distribution	37
2.3.2.1	Inhalation Exposure	37
2.3.2.2	Oral Exposure	37
2.3.2.3	Dermal Exposure	38
2.3.2.4	Other Exposure Routes	38
2.3.3	Metabolism	38
2.3.3.1	Inhalation Exposure	38
2.3.3.2	Oral Exposure	38
2.3.3.3	Dermal Exposure	41
2.3.4	Excretion	41
2.3.4.1	Inhalation Exposure	41
2.3.4.2	Oral Exposure	41
2.3.4.3	Dermal Exposure	43
2.3.4.4	Other Exposure Routes	43
2.3.5	Mechanism of Toxicity	43
2.4	RELEVANCE TO PUBLIC HEALTH	44
2.5	BIOMARKERS OF EXPOSURE AND EFFECT	57
2.5.1	Biomarkers Used to Identify or Quantify Exposure to Hexachlorobutadiene	58
2.5.2	Biomarkers Used to Characterize Effects Caused by Hexachlorobutadiene	59
2.6	INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER CHEMICALS	59
2.7	POPULATIONS THAT ARE UNUSUALLY SUSCEPTIBLE	60
2.8	METHODS FOR REDUCING TOXIC EFFECTS	61
2.8.1	Reducing Peak Absorption Following Exposure	61
2.8.2	Reducing Body Burden	62
2.8.3	Interfering with the Mechanism of Action for Toxic Effects	62
2.9	ADEQUACY OF THE DATABASE	63
2.9.1	Existing Information on Health Effects of Hexachlorobutadiene	63
2.9.2	Identification of Data Needs	65
2.9.3	On-going Studies	70
3.	CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION	71
3.1	CHEMICAL IDENTITY	71
3.2	PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES	71
4.	PRODUCTION, IMPORT/EXPORT, USE, AND DISPOSAL	75
4.1	PRODUCTION	75
4.2	IMPORT/EXPORT	75
4.3	USE	75
4.4	DISPOSAL	77
5.	POTENTIAL FOR HUMAN EXPOSURE	79
5.1	OVERVIEW	79
5.2	RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT	80
5.2.1	Air	80
5.2.2	Water	83

5.2.3	Soil	83
5.3	ENVIRONMENTAL FATE	83
5.3.1	Transport and Partitioning	83
5.3.2	Transformation and Degradation	85
5.3.2.1	Air	85
5.3.2.2	Water	85
5.3.2.3	Sediment and Soil	85
5.4	LEVELS MONITORED OR ESTIMATED IN THE ENVIRONMENT	86
5.4.1	Air	86
5.4.2	Water	86
5.4.3	Sediment and Soil	87
5.4.4	Other Environmental Media	87
5.5	GENERAL POPULATION AND OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE	87
5.6	POPULATIONS WITH POTENTIALLY HIGH EXPOSURES	88
5.7	ADEQUACY OF THE DATABASE	88
5.7.1	Identification of Data Needs	89
5.7.2	On-going Studies	91
6.	ANALYTICAL METHODS	93
6.1	BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS	93
6.2	ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES	94
6.3	ADEQUACY OF THE DATABASE	96
6.3.1	Identification of Data Needs	96
6.3.2	On-going Studies	100
7.	REGULATIONS AND ADVISORIES	101
8.	REFERENCES	105
9.	GLOSSARY	129
APPENDICES		
A.	USER'S GUIDE	A-1
B.	ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND SYMBOLS	B-1



**LIST OF FIGURES**

2-1 Levels of Significant Exposure to Hexachlorobutadiene - Inhalation . . . . . 13

2-2 Levels of Significant Exposure to Hexachlorobutadiene - Oral . . . . . 23

2-3 Proposed Pathways for Hexachlorobutadiene Metabolism . . . . . 39

2-4 Existing Information on Health Effects of Hexachlorobutadiene . . . . . 64

5-1 Frequency of NPL Sites with Hexachlorobutadiene Contamination . . . . . 81





**LIST OF TABLES**

2-1	Levels of Significant Exposure to Hexachlorobutadiene - Inhalation . . . . .	12
2-2	Levels of Significant Exposure to Hexachlorobutadiene - Oral . . . . .	18
2-3	Levels of Significant Exposure to Hexachlorobutadiene - Dermal . . . . .	33
2-4	Genotoxicity of Hexachlorobutadiene <i>In Vitro</i> . . . . .	54
2-5	Genotoxicity of Hexachlorobutadiene <i>In Vivo</i> . . . . .	56
3-1	Chemical Identity of Hexachlorobutadiene . . . . .	72
3-2	Physical and Chemical Properties of Hexachlorobutadiene . . . . .	73
4-1	Facilities that Manufacture or Process Hexachlorobutadiene . . . . .	76
5-1	Releases to the Environment from Facilities that Manufacture or Process Hexachlorobutadiene . . . . .	82
6-1	Analytical Methods for Determining Hexachlorobutadiene in Biological Materials . . . . .	95
6-2	Analytical Methods for Determining Hexachlorobutadiene in Environmental Samples . . . . .	97
7-1	Regulations and Guidelines Applicable to Hexachlorobutadiene . . . . .	102

