



Certified to
ANSI/NSF 60

MAX GEL™

MAX GEL viscosifier is a premium Wyoming bentonite blended with special extenders producing a viscosifier that will yield more than twice as much viscosity as regular Wyoming bentonite. MAX GEL is a high-yielding, easily mixed, superior mud making bentonite in fresh water.

APPLICATIONS

MAX GEL is used in the following applications to rapidly build mud viscosity and provide superior hole cleaning, as well as to help control lost circulation, formation sloughing and promote hole stability in unconsolidated formations.

- Potable water wells
- Mineral exploration (coring and rotary drilling)
- Horizontal directional drilling
- Blast holes
- Shaft drilling
- Monitor / observation wells
- Gel-foam air drilling applications

ADVANTAGES

- Yields more quickly than API-standard bentonite
- Non-toxic and proven suitable for use in drilling potable water wells
- Increased penetration rates are exhibited due to lower solids content than regular bentonite systems
- Transportation and storage costs are reduced due to lower treatment requirements as compared to bentonite

TYPICAL AMOUNTS OF MAX GEL ADDITIONS ADDED TO FRESH WATER

Drilling Application/Desired Results	lb/100gal	lb/bbl	kg/m3
Normal drilling	15 - 25	6 - 11	15 - 30
In gravel or other poorly consolidated formation	25 - 40	12 - 18	35 - 50
Lost circulation control	35 - 45	15 - 20	40 - 45
Added to freshwater mud to improve hole cleaning properties, increase hole stability and develop filter cakes	5 - 10	2 - 5	6 - 14

LIMITATIONS

- Loses effectiveness in water containing >7500 mg/l sodium chloride / 240 mg/l calcium
- If dispersants or thinners are to be used, they should be added sparingly, using 50% or less of the normal treatment

PROPERTIES

Physical appearance..... Light tan / gray – green powder
Specific gravity2.3 - 2.5
Approximate yield..... 220 bbl/ton

HANDLING

Bioassay information available upon request. No special requirements are necessary for handling and storage. Avoid inhalation of dust. A dust respirator and goggles are recommended if mixing in an enclosed area.

STORAGE

MAX GEL is packaged in 50 lb. (22.7-kg), multi-wall, paper sacks and is available in bulk. Store in a dry location (slip hazard when wet) and minimize dust (use dust-less systems for handling, storage and cleanup).

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

MAX GEL

1. CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

TRADE NAME: MAX GEL

OTHER NAME: Bentonite

CHEMICAL CLASS: Naturally occurring mineral.

APPLICATIONS: Oil well drilling fluid additive. Viscosifier.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE: 281-561-1600

SUPPLIER: Supplied by a Business Unit of
M-I L.L.C.
P.O. Box 42842, Houston, Texas 77242-2842
See cover sheet for local supplier.

TELEPHONE: 281-561-1509

FAX: 281-561-7240

CONTACT PERSON: Sam Hoskin - Manager, Occupational Health

2. COMPOSITION, INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

INGREDIENT NAME:	CAS No.:	CONTENTS :	EPA RQ:	TPQ:
Silica, crystalline, quartz	14808-60-7	2-15 %		
Bentonite	1302-78-9	70-95 %		
Silica, crystalline, Cristobalite	14464-46-1	2-12 %		
Silica, crystalline, Tridymite	15468-32-3	1-5 %		
Gypsum	13397-24-5	0-1 %		

3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW:

CAUTION! MAY CAUSE EYE, SKIN AND RESPIRATORY TRACT IRRITATION. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Avoid breathing airborne product. Keep container closed. Use with adequate ventilation. Wash thoroughly after handling.

This product is a/an gray to tan powder. Slippery when wet. No significant immediate hazards for emergency response personnel are known.

ACUTE EFFECTS:

HEALTH HAZARDS, GENERAL:

Particulates may cause mechanical irritation to the eyes, nose, throat and lungs. Particulate inhalation may lead to pulmonary fibrosis, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and bronchial asthma. Dermatitis and asthma may result from short contact periods.

INHALATION: May be irritating to the respiratory tract if inhaled.

INGESTION: May cause gastric distress, nausea and vomiting if ingested.

SKIN: May be irritating to the skin.

EYES: May be irritating to the eyes.

**CHRONIC EFFECTS:
CARCINOGENICITY:**

IARC: Not listed. NTP: Not listed. OSHA: Not regulated.

ATTENTION! CANCER HAZARD. CONTAINS CRYSTALLINE SILICA WHICH CAN CAUSE CANCER. Risk of cancer depends on duration and level of exposure.

IARC Monographs, Vol. 68, 1997, concludes that there is sufficient evidence that inhaled crystalline silica in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources causes cancer in humans. IARC classification Group 1.

ROUTE OF ENTRY:

Inhalation. Skin and/or eye contact.

TARGET ORGANS:

Respiratory system, lungs. Skin. Eyes.

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

GENERAL: Persons seeking medical attention should carry a copy of this MSDS with them.

INHALATION: Move the exposed person to fresh air at once. Perform artificial respiration if breathing has stopped. Get medical attention.

INGESTION: Drink a couple of glasses water or milk. Do not give victim anything to drink of he is unconscious. Get medical attention.

SKIN: Wash skin thoroughly with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing. Get medical attention if any discomfort continues.

EYES: Promptly wash eyes with lots of water while lifting the eye lids. Continue to rinse for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention if any discomfort continues.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

AUTO IGNITION TEMP. (?F): N/D

FLAMMABILITY LIMIT - LOWER(%): N/D

FLAMMABILITY LIMIT - UPPER(%): N/D

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:

This material is not combustible. Use extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.

SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:

No specific fire fighting procedure given.

UNUSUAL FIRE & EXPLOSION HAZARDS:

No unusual fire or explosion hazards noted.

HAZARDOUS COMBUSTION PRODUCTS:

Not relevant.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

PERSONAL PRECAUTIONS:

Wear proper personal protective equipment (see MSDS Section 8).

SPILL CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES:

Avoid generating and spreading of dust. Shovel into dry containers. Cover and move the containers. Flush the area with water. Do not contaminate drainage or waterways. Repackage or recycle if possible.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**HANDLING PRECAUTIONS:**

Avoid handling causing generation of dust. Wear full protective clothing for prolonged exposure and/or high concentrations. Eye wash and emergency shower must be available at the work place. Wash hands often and change clothing when needed. Provide good ventilation. Mechanical ventilation or local exhaust ventilation is required.

STORAGE PRECAUTIONS:

Store at moderate temperatures in dry, well ventilated area. Keep in original container.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS, PERSONAL PROTECTION

INGREDIENT NAME:	CAS No.:	OSHA PEL:		ACGIH TLV:		OTHER:		UNITS:
		TWA:	STEL:	TWA:	STEL:	TWA:	STEL:	
Silica, crystalline, quartz	14808-60-7	*		0.1				mg/m3 resp.dust
Bentonite	1302-78-9	5		3				mg/m3 resp.dust
Silica, crystalline, Cristobalite	14464-46-1	*		0.05				mg/m3 resp.dust
Silica, crystalline, Tridymite	15468-32-3	*		0.05				mg/m3 resp.dust
Gypsum	13397-24-5	15						mg/m3 total dust

INGREDIENT COMMENTS:

* OSHA PELs for Mineral Dusts containing crystalline silica are 10 mg/m3 / (%SiO₂+2) for quartz and 1/2 the calculated quartz value for cristobalite and tridymite.

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:**ENGINEERING CONTROLS:**

Use appropriate engineering controls such as, exhaust ventilation and process enclosure, to reduce air contamination and keep worker exposure below the applicable limits.

VENTILATION:

Supply natural or mechanical ventilation adequate to exhaust airborne product and keep exposures below the applicable limits.

RESPIRATORS:

Use at least a NIOSH-approved N95 half-mask disposable or reuseable particulate respirator. In work environments containing oil mist/aerosol use at least a NIOSH-approved P95 half-mask disposable or reuseable particulate respirator. For exposures exceeding 10 x PEL use a NIOSH-approved N100 Particulate Respirator.

PROTECTIVE GLOVES:

Use suitable protective gloves if risk of skin contact.

EYE PROTECTION:

Wear dust resistant safety goggles where there is danger of eye contact.

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING:

Wear appropriate clothing to prevent repeated or prolonged skin contact.

HYGIENIC WORK PRACTICES:

Wash promptly with soap and water if skin becomes contaminated. Change work clothing daily if there is any possibility of contamination.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

APPEARANCE/PHYSICAL STATE:	Powder, dust.	
COLOR:	Grey. to Tan.	
ODOR:	Odorless or no characteristic odor.	
SOLUBILITY DESCRIPTION:	Insoluble in water.	
DENSITY/SPECIFIC GRAVITY (g/ml):	2.3-2.6	TEMPERATURE (?F): 68
BULK DENSITY:	67 lb/ft ³ ; 1068 kg/m ³	
VAPOR DENSITY (air=1):	N/A	
VAPOR PRESSURE:	N/A	TEMPERATURE (?F):

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

STABILITY: Normally stable.

CONDITIONS TO AVOID:
N/A.

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:
Will not polymerize.

POLYMERIZATION DESCRIPTION:
Not relevant.

MATERIALS TO AVOID:
N/A

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:
No specific hazardous decomposition products noted.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION:
No toxicological data is available for this product.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION:
Contact M-I Environmental Affairs for ecological information.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

WASTE MANAGEMENT:
This product does not meet the criteria of a hazardous waste if discarded in its purchased form. Under RCRA, it is the responsibility of the user of the product to determine at the time of disposal, whether the product meets RCRA criteria for hazardous waste. This is because product uses, transformations, mixtures, processes, etc, may render the resulting materials hazardous. Empty containers retain residues. All labeled precautions must be observed.

DISPOSAL METHODS:

Recover and reclaim or recycle, if practical. Should this product become a waste, dispose of in a permitted industrial landfill. Ensure that containers are empty by RCRA criteria prior to disposal in a permitted industrial landfill.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

PRODUCT RQ: N/A

U.S. DOT:
U.S. DOT CLASS: Not regulated.

CANADIAN TRANSPORT:
TDGR CLASS: Not regulated.

SEA TRANSPORT:
IMDG CLASS: Not regulated.

AIR TRANSPORT:
ICAO CLASS: Not regulated.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**REGULATORY STATUS OF INGREDIENTS:**

NAME:	CAS No:	TSCA:	CERCLA:	SARA 302:	SARA 313:	DSL(CAN):
Silica, crystalline, quartz	14808-60-7	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Bentonite	1302-78-9	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Silica, crystalline, Cristobalite	14464-46-1	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Silica, crystalline, Tridymite	15468-32-3	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Gypsum	13397-24-5	Yes	No	No	No	Yes

US FEDERAL REGULATIONS:

WASTE CLASSIFICATION: Not a hazardous waste by U.S. RCRA criteria. See Section 13.

REGULATORY STATUS:

This Product or its components, if a mixture, is subject to following regulations (Not meant to be all inclusive - selected regulations represented):

SECTION 313: This product does not contain toxic chemical subject to the reporting requirements of Section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986 and 40 CFR Part 372.

SARA 311 Categories:

- 1: Immediate (Acute) Health Effects.
- 2: Delayed (Chronic) Health Effects.

The components of this product are listed on or are exempt from the following international chemical registries:

TSCA (U.S.)
DSL (Canada)
EINECS (Europe)

STATE REGULATIONS:

STATE REGULATORY STATUS:

This product or its components, if a mixture, is subject to following regulations (Not meant to be all inclusive - selected regulations represented):.

None.

PROPOSITION 65: This product contains the following chemical(s) considered by the State of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity, and for which warnings are now required: Silica, crystalline

**CANADIAN REGULATIONS:
LABELS FOR SUPPLY:**



REGULATORY STATUS:

This Material Safety Data Sheet has been prepared in compliance with the Controlled Product Regulations.

Canadian WHMIS Classification: D2A - Other Toxic Effects: Very Toxic Material

16. OTHER INFORMATION

NPCA HMIS HAZARD INDEX:

* 1 Slight Hazard

FLAMMABILITY:

0 Minimal Hazard

REACTIVITY:

0 Minimal Hazard

NPCA HMIS PERS. PROTECT. INDEX:

E - Safety Glasses, Gloves, Dust Respirator

USER NOTES:

N/A = Not applicable N/D = Not determined

INFORMATION SOURCES:

OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits, 29 CFR 1910, Subpart Z, Section 1910.1000, Air Contaminants.

ACGIH Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents (latest edition).

Sax's Dangerous Properties of Industrial Materials, 9th ed., Lewis, R.J. Sr., (ed.), VNR, New York, New York, (1997).

IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Humans, Silica, Some Silicates, Coal Dust, and para-Aramid Fibrils, Vol. 68, World Health Organization, Lyon, France, 1997.

Product information provided by the commercial vendor(s).

PREPARED BY:

Sam Hoskin/bb

REVISION No.:

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MSDS STATUS:

Approved.

DATE:

June 1, 1999

DISCLAIMER:

MSDS furnished independent of product sale. While every effort has been made to accurately describe this product, some of the data are obtained from sources beyond our direct supervision. We cannot make any assertions as to its reliability or completeness; therefore, user may rely on it only at user's risk. We have made no effort to censor or conceal deleterious aspects of this product. Since we cannot anticipate or control the conditions under which this information and product may be used, we make no guarantee that the precautions we have suggested will be adequate for all individuals and/or situations. It is the obligation of each user of this product to comply with the requirements of all applicable laws regarding use and disposal of this product. Additional information will be furnished upon request to assist the user; however, no warranty, either expressed or implied, nor liability of any nature with respect to this product or to the data herein is made or incurred hereunder.