

# Safety Data Sheet

## Gatorplast®



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### Section 1. Product Identification

Product name: Gatorplast®

Company Identification

3A Composites USA, Inc.  
3480 Taylorsville Highway  
Statesville, NC 28687-1839  
(800) 872-8974

Customer Information Number: (800) 872-8974

Emergency Phone Number: 1-800-424-9300 Chemtrec  
To be used only in the event of chemical emergencies involving a spill, leak, fire, and exposure accidents involving chemicals.

### Section 2. Hazard Identification

**Physical Appearance:** Light weight polystyrene panels laminated with polyethylene sheets

**Potential Health Effects:** This product is classified as a non-hazardous component when polymerized. Avoid breathing dust if cut, sanded, or routed.

**Other hazards**  
No data available

### Section 3. Chemical Composition

Ingredients (Common Name)	CAS Number	Percent (%) by Weight
Polystyrene	9003-53-6	58-100
Adhesive		2 - 15
faces		1 - 40

### Section 4. First Aid Measures

**Eye Contact:** Dust may mechanically irritate the eyes, resulting in redness or watering. Treat dust in eye as foreign object. Flush with water to remove dust particles. Get medical help if irritation persists.

**Skin Contact:** Not anticipated for product in purchased form, wash with mild soap and water.

**Inhalation:** If inhalation causes adverse effects, respirator selection, use and maintenance should be in accordance with the requirements of OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1920.134. Remove to fresh air. Get medical help if persistent irritation, severe coughing or breathing difficulty occurs.

**Note to Physician:** No special advice, treat symptomatically

**Ingestion:** Not likely to occur for product in purchased form.

**Inhalation:** Excessive dust concentrations may cause unpleasant obstruction in the nasal passages.

**Skin Absorption:** Product is not absorbed through the skin.

### Section 5. Fire Fighting Measures

**FIRE EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:** For small fires, use water spray, foam, carbon dioxide or dry chemical extinguishers. Larger fires should be extinguished immediately by drenching with water spray from fire hose.

**SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:** Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus and protective turnout clothing when involved in firefighting activities.

**UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:** This polystyrene foam plastic product is combustible. The core material contains a flame retardant to inhibit accidental ignition from small fire sources. However, once ignited the core material will burn and emit a dense black smoke. Do not smoke or use open flames, space heaters or other ignition sources near shipping, storage or use of this product.

**HAZARDOUS COMBUSTION PRODUCTS:** Hazardous decomposition may release toxic/hazardous gases. The polystyrene component may release small amounts of hydrogen bromide, hydrogen chloride and hydrogen fluoride when burned or heated over 482 F. The polystyrene component may release small amounts of aromatic hydrocarbons such as styrene and ethyl benzene under high heat, non-flaming conditions.

### Section 6. Accidental Release

Sweep or vacuum up for recovery and disposal. Avoid creating dusty conditions whenever feasible. Maintain good housekeeping to avoid accumulation of cellulose dust on exposed surfaces. Use NIOSH approved filtering face piece respirator (“dust mask”) and goggles where ventilation is not possible and exposure limits may be exceeded or for additional worker comfort.

**Other Precautions:** Minimize compressed air blow down or other practices that generate high dust levels.

### Section 7. Handling and Storage

Store in well-ventilated areas. Handling and storage near open flames must be avoided.

Practice good personal hygiene when handling product. Avoid blowing dust with compressed air.

### Section 8. Exposure Controls

**EXPOSURE FROM ROUTINE USE:** Solid or dust can cause irritation to the eyes, nose, throat, lungs, and skin.

**SKIN AND EYE CONTACT:** Solid or dust may cause irritation or corneal injury due to mechanical action. Skin absorption is unlikely due to physical properties. Contact with heated face sheets can cause thermal burns.

**INGESTION:** Ingestion is unlikely due to physical state. **INHALATION:** Dust may cause irritation to the upper respiratory tract. Vapors from heating of the face material can be unpleasant and may produce nausea and irritation of the upper respiratory tract.

**PROBABLE ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:** Skin, eyes, inhalation

**WORK AND HYGIENE PRACTICES:** Practice good personal hygiene when handling product. After contact with product, wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking. Do not eat, drink or smoke in areas where the product is being cut or sawn. Avoid blowing dust with compressed air.

**PROTECTIVE PRACTICES DURING MAINTENANCE OF CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT:** Keep open ignition sources out of areas where dust is generated.

**VENTILATION AND ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** During certain fabrication operations such as cutting, blowing agents contained in the polystyrene foam and dust may be released. Accumulation of blowing agents or dust in air could present flammability and explosion concerns. Provide adequate ventilation, and appropriate dust handling systems where needed.

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Atmospheric levels should be maintained below the exposure guidelines. When respiratory protection is required for certain operations, use an approved air-purifying or supplied air respirator.

Ingredient	OSHA Exposure Limit		ACGIH
	Total	Respirable	TLV

<b>Polystyrene (as nuisance dust)</b>	15mg/m <sup>3</sup>	5mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10mg/m <sup>3</sup> inhalable particulate
			3mg/m <sup>3</sup> respirable particulate

Note: Nuisance dust may be generated during certain cutting operations. OSHA considers nuisance dust as Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR).

### Section 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Appearance:	Rigid cellular plastic panel faced with plastic veneer
Odor:	None
Odor Threshold:	None
PH:	None
Melting Point:	Polyethylene 110-130° C/ 230-266° F
Initial Boiling Point/Boiling Range:	None
Flash Point:	NA
Evaporation Rate:	None
Flammability:	NA
Upper/lower explosive limit:	NA
Vapor Pressure:	None
Vapor Density:	None
Specific Gravity:	Less than water
Solubility:	Insoluble in water
Partition coefficient:	NA
Auto-Ignition:	NA
Decomposition Temperature:	482 °F.
Viscosity:	None

### Section 10. Stability and Reactivity

STABILITY: Stable.

CONDITIONS TO AVOID: Product softening occurs in the range of 170 – 230°F. Temperatures above 482°F will release combustible gases from the polystyrene component.

INCOMPATIBILITY: Polystyrene component is incompatible with aromatic hydrocarbons, higher aliphatic hydrocarbons, esters, amines, higher aldehydes. Face sheets are incompatible with strong oxidizing agents such as chlorates, nitrates and peroxides.

### Section 11. Toxicology Information

CARCINOGENICITY: No tests have been conducted on the product, as a whole. Polystyrene foam dust has been shown to cause cancer in long-term animal studies.

MUTAGENICITY: No tests have been conducted on the product as a whole or in part to determine mutagenicity.

### Section 12. Ecological Information

Material is not biodegradable.  
Material is not bio accumulative

### Section 13. Disposal Information


Dispose of waste materials in accordance with Federal, State and local regulations

### Section 14. Transportation

DOT: Not regulated  
IMDG: Not regulated

## Section 15. Regulatory Information

### **PROPOSITION 65: (California Only)**

Additional Requirements for the State of California: “  **WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including styrene, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information, go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).”

*We realize that this warning sounds very alarming however; we want to reassure you based on the findings of reliable research. While there is research that supports health-related risks due to exposure to the listed chemical, this research also finds that the key factor in determining the health risk is the amount of exposure to the chemical vapors and not products made as a result of its use. These hazardous exposure limits are generally found in the workplace when chemicals in liquid form are being used, and are no longer in liquid forms in the products being shipped to our retailers and customers.*

**TSCA:** All ingredients of this product are either listed on the TSCA Inventory or are exempt from TSCA Inventory requirements under 40 CFR 720.30.

**CERCLA:** This product does not contain ingredients which are subject to the reporting requirements of CERCLA.

**REACH:** Pursuant to Title II article 7 of the regulation this product is exempt from registration and notification and is therefore compliant with the REACH regulation.

**RoHS:** The Gatorfoam® and Fome-Cor® family of products are compliant with the RoHS standard.

**OSHA:** This product, as shipped, is not regulated as an OSHA hazardous chemical, however, cellulose dust is a regulated hazard under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard [29 CFR 1910.1200] when it becomes mechanically processed and airborne.

**SARA 313 Information:** This product does not contain a chemical ingredient(s) with known CAS Number to exceed the *de minimis* reporting levels established by SARA Title III, section 313 and 40 CFR section 372 depending upon pulp inventory.

**SARA 311/312 Hazard Category:** This product has been reviewed according the EPA “Hazard Categories: promulgated under SARA Title III, Sections 311 and 312 and is considered, under applicable definitions, to meet the following categories:

An immediate acute) health hazard	No
A delayed (chronic) health hazard	No
A corrosive hazard	No
A fire hazard	No
A reactivity hazard	No
A sudden release hazard	No

## Section 16. Other Information

**IMPORTANT:** The information and data contained herein are believed to be accurate and have been compiled from sources believed to be accurate. All information contained herein is offered for your consideration, information, investigation, and verification. 3A COMPOSITES MAKES NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, CONCERNING THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE INFORMATION AND DATA HEREIN. THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED. 3A Composites will not be responsible for claims relating to any parties' use of or reliance on information and data contained herein regardless of whether it is claimed that the information are inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise misleading

### **Definition of Common Terms:**

ACGIH	=	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
CAS#	=	Chemical Abstracts System Number
CERCLA	=	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
DOT	=	U. S. Department of Transportation
DSL	=	Domestic Substance List
EPA	=	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

IARC	=	International Agency for Research on Cancer
IATA	=	International Air Transport Association
IMDG	=	International Maritime Dangerous Goods
NA	=	Not Applicable
NIOSH	=	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NTP	=	National Toxicology Program
OSHA	=	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL	=	Permissible Exposure Limit
REACH	=	Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals
RoHS	=	Restriction of Hazardous Substances used in electronic equipment
STEL	=	Short-Term Exposure Limit (15 minutes)
TDG	=	Canadian Transportation of Dangerous Goods
TLV	=	Threshold Limit Value
TSCA	=	Toxic Substance Control Act