



## Plastic Extruders Limited

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# Polypropylene Strapping/Tape: Safety Data Sheet

6 April 2017

## 1/ Composition

Polypropylene Homopolymer	(approx 97%)
Chalk (Ca CO <sup>3</sup> )	(approx 2%)
Colour Pigments	(approx 1-2%)

## 2/ Toxicity and Reactiveness

Polypropylene is chemically un-reactive and is generally regarded as being biologically inert.

Polypropylene is frequently used in food packaging applications including blow moulded bottles and microwave trays.

However some colour pigments can be harmful so ingestion is not recommended.

## 3/ Physical Contact

Polypropylene strapping is not considered a skin irritant but, being fairly hard can have an abrasive effect on the skin.

## 4/ Fume Evolution

There is no evolution of fumes at ambient temperatures.

## 5/ Storage

Materials should be stored indoors in normal warehouse conditions, i.e. dry and at a temperature between 0 and 35°.

Both the plastic and cardboard packaging materials are flammable, but no other exceptional health and safety hazards are applicable in normal storage conditions. It should be stored in a no smoking area, away from naked flames or sources of extreme heat.

Unboxed coils should be stored away from windows or doorways where sunshine may enter. Pallets of these materials are supplied with the following pallet label



Storage at elevated temperatures will increase the amount of edgebow (curvature) that develops in the tape and the speed with which it develops.

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### 6/ Handling and Usage

Polypropylene strap does not present any unusual hazard in handling and is stable under normal handling conditions

P.P strapping is particularly susceptible to U.V degradation. Do not expose the PP strapping to sunlight/daylight during storage or use unless it is correctly specified for U.V resistance. For outdoor applications black has superior U.V. resistance to coloured strap. Coloured straps can be supplied with additional U.V. inhibitor.

### 7/ PP Strapping in Food Contact Applications

Polypropylene strapping manufactured by Plastic Extruders is made to approximately the following composition (varies slightly according to colour);

Although no certification exists for strapping itself, all grades of virgin polypropylene used comply with current food contact legislation and in particular with EC Directive 90/128 and subsequent amendments 92/39, 93/9, 95/3, 96/11. Also to USFDA title 21 Part 177, 1520.

Please note that our black PP strapping includes a recycled content of unknown origin. Although unlikely to be harmful these grades are not covered by the above food contact certification.

Calcium carbonate is harmless when in contact with food and even if ingested.

### 8/ Flammability

When Polypropylene is heated in air, melting will occur at 165 - 170°C and decomposition will commence at about 300°C with the release of volatile low molecular weight hydrocarbons.

Self ignition occurs at about 380°C. Once alight, burning will continue with a flame even when the ignition source is removed. The main decomposition products are H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub>. When burnt with reduced oxygen, carbon monoxide is also produced which is toxic.

Like many organic materials wood, paper and other oil by-products, Polypropylene can also produce a considerable number of decomposition products normally in very low concentrations. These can include certain aldehydes and acrolein. The decomposition trace elements are irritant and lachrymatory. The irritation is a good warning of excessive exposure.

In small quantities such as those developed in a strapping machine sealing head, the fumes should be extracted or dispersed into a large volume of air.

### 9/ Disposal

Controlled Thermo-destruction is recommended.

**Important Note:** Loops of strapping made by the end user, can be a dangerous trip hazard. Loops should always be cut or peeled at the weld, when removed from a package. Waste should be disposed of properly and not left on the floor.

The information provided is for guidance purpose only and no responsibility is accepted for the results obtained therefrom.