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## FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA

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Flash Point: NONE

Fire Point: NONE

As a solid material, high speed steel is not flammable or combustible. It is suspected that like many substances, a dust/air ratio with sufficient ignition could cause an explosive reaction. Dust mixed with magnesium will burn fiercely when a high temperature burning spark is added. Fire fighting should be directed at the surrounding materials using an ABC fire extinguisher.

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## HEALTH HAZARD DATA

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The potential toxic properties of the metals contained in these tools are only of concern when these materials enter the body. The metals can enter the body by inhalation, eye contact, skin contact, and/or the ingestion of dust or fume formed during heating, cutting, grinding, and/or polishing of the tools.

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## EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE:

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**Acute:** Short term overexposure to the dust, fumes, and/or oxides of certain components of steel products may cause irritation of the eyes, nose, or throat; or may result in metal fume fever characterized by a metallic or sweet taste, dryness and irritation of the throat, wheezing, discoloration of the tongue and flu-like symptoms.

**Chronic:** Excessive and prolonged overexposure to the dust fumes and/or oxides of certain components of steel products may result in chronic interstitial pneumonitis, discoloration of the skin and hair, allergic bronchitis, neoplasm or loss of coordination and balance.

Overexposure to chemical elements is displayed by a variety of symptoms specific to the type of element a worker is exposed to and the degree of exposure. Contact a doctor or qualified professional if experiencing symptoms that are otherwise unexplained.

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## EMERGENCY FIRST AID

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### Primary Route of Entry:

Inhalation.....  
Eye Contact.....  
Skin Contact.....  
Ingestion.....

### Emergency First Aid:

Remove to fresh air; if condition continues, consult Doctor.  
Flush well with running water to remove particulate; consult Doctor  
Brush off excess particulate/dust; wash area well with soap and water.  
Seek medical help if large quantities of material have been ingested.

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## SPILL OR LEAK PROCEDURES

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Steps to be taken in case of release or spill:

N/A

Waste disposal method:

Solids:  
Dust, etc.:

Sale as scrap  
Follow Federal, State, and  
Local regulations regarding  
disposal.

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## **SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION**

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**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Use an appropriate NIOSH approved respirator if airborne dust concentrations exceed the appropriate PEL or TLV. All appropriate requirements set forth in 29 CFR 1910.134 should be met.

**VENTILATION:** Use local exhaust ventilation which is adequate to limit personal exposure to airborne dust levels which do not exceed the PEL or TLV. If such equipment is not available use respirators as specified above.

**PROTECTIVE GLOVES:** Protective gloves or barrier cream are recommended when contact with powder, dust, or grinder mist is likely. Prior to applying the barrier cream or use of protective gloves, wash thoroughly.

**EYE PROTECTION:** Safety glasses with side shields or goggles are recommended. Use appropriate machine guards to decrease risk of exposure.

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## **SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS**

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**PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING AND STORAGE:** Avoid dispersion of powder and dust in air. Maintain good housekeeping procedures to prevent dust accumulation. Avoid dust inhalation and direct skin contact with dust.

**OTHER PRECAUTIONS:** Clean up using methods which avoid dust generation such as vacuum (with appropriate filter to prevent airborne dust levels which exceed the PEL or TLV), wet dust mop or wet clean-up. If airborne dust is created, use an appropriate NIOSH approved respirator.

Wash hands thoroughly after handling, before eating or smoking. Wash exposed skin at the end of the work shift. Do not shake clothing, rags, or other items to remove dust. Dust should be removed by washing or vacuuming (with appropriate filters) clothes, rags, or other items.

Periodic medical examinations are recommended for individuals regularly exposed to powder, dust, or grinder mist.

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