Product Safety Assessment

VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent


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**Names**
- VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent
- CAS No. 67674-67-3
- P(EG), ether with 3-hydroxypropylheptamethyltrisiloxane
- Methyl (propylhydroxide, ethoxylated) bis(trimethylsiloxy) silane
- Polysiloxane surfactant

**Product Overview**
- VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is a polysiloxane resin. It is a water soluble, clear to hazy, amber liquid.¹ For further details, see [Product Description](#).
- VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent is used as a wetting and levelling agent to reduce the surface tension of water-based finishes during the application, avoiding defects on the surface like “fish eyes” or cracks. This product blends easily with polyurethane dispersions and acrylic emulsions.² For further details, see [Product Uses](#).
- Exposure to VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent may occur during the manufacture or use of this product. This product is not sold for direct consumer use, but it is used as an additive in leather and artificial leather finishing. Exposure to cured and/or dried product is not considered to present a risk to consumers.¹ For further details, see [Exposure Potential](#).
- Exposure to the uncured product may cause severe eye irritation with corneal injury that may result in permanent impairment of vision, even blindness. Chemical burns may occur. Skin contact may result in moderate skin irritation with local redness. Prolonged excessive exposure to mist may cause serious adverse effects, even death.¹ For further details, see [Health Information](#) and request the relevant Safety Data Sheet from the [Dow Customer Information Group](#).
- VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent is expected to be biodegradable and unlikely to accumulate in the food chain (bioconcentration potential is low). This product would not be expected to be toxic to fish or other aquatic organisms.¹ For further details, see [Environmental Information](#).
- VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent is stable under recommended storage and normal use conditions. Avoid contact with strong acids and oxidizing agents.¹ For further details, see [Physical Hazard Information](#).

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Manufacture of Product

- **Location** – This material is produced in locations and quantities necessary to meet market demand.
- **Process** – VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is produced using proprietary methods, chemistries, and formulations.

Product Description

VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is a polysiloxane resin. It is a water soluble, clear to hazy, amber liquid. This product contains 60 to 80% polysiloxane resin blended with a proprietary mixture of polyethylene oxide monoallyl ether and polyethylene glycol.

Product Uses

VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is used as a wetting and levelling agent to reduce the surface tension of water-based finishes during the application, avoiding defects on the surface like "fish eyes" or cracks. This product blends easily with polyurethane dispersions and acrylic emulsions.

Exposure Potential

VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is used in the production of industrial and consumer products. Based on the uses for these materials, individuals could be exposed through:

- **Workplace exposure** – Exposure can occur either in a facility that manufactures VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent or in the various industrial or manufacturing facilities that use this product. It is produced, distributed, stored, and consumed in closed systems. Those working with VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent in manufacturing operations could be exposed during maintenance, sampling, testing, application, or other procedures. Each manufacturing facility should have a thorough training program for employees and appropriate work processes, ventilation, and safety equipment in place to avoid exposure. See Health Information.

- **Consumer exposure to products containing VITHADERM AS 42 Wetting Agent** – This product is not sold for direct consumer use; however, it is used as an additive in leather and artificial leather finishing. Exposure to cured and/or dried product is not considered to present a risk to consumers. Always read the product information prior to use and carefully follow instructions. See Health Information.

- **Environmental releases** – In the event of a spill, the focus is on containing the spill to prevent contamination of soil, surface water, or groundwater. Small spills should be absorbed with a noncombustible absorbent material such as sand or earth. This product is water soluble. If released, this product will partition to water. Since this product is expected to be biodegradable, it would likely be removed in biological wastewater treatment facilities as well as other water and soil environments. See Environmental, Health, and Physical Hazard Information.

- **Large release** – Industrial spills or releases are infrequent and generally contained. If a large spill does occur, the product should be captured, collected, and reprocessed or disposed of according to applicable governmental regulations. Keep people away from and upwind of a spill, and ventilate the area. Prevent material from entering drains or water sources, and do not contaminate surface water. See Environmental, Health, and Physical Hazard Information.

- **In case of fire** – Deny any unnecessary entry into the area and consider the use of unmanned hose holders. Use water spray, carbon-dioxide or dry-chemical extinguishers, or foam to fight the fire. Firefighters should wear self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Harmful gases may be released during decomposition. Fire residues and contaminated fire extinguishing water must be disposed of in accordance with local regulations. Do not allow runoff from fire fighting to enter drains or water courses. Collect contaminated fire extinguishing water separately. During a fire, irritating and highly toxic gases and/or fumes may be generated during combustion and decomposition. Exposure to decomposition products may be a hazard to health. See Environmental, Health, and Physical Hazard Information.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet from the Dow Customer Information Group.
Health Information
Health information for VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is provided on the relevant Safety Data Sheet, which is the preferred source for specific health information. General health information for the products appears below and refers to the uncured material:

**Eye contact** – Contact with the uncured product may cause severe irritation with corneal injury that may result in permanent impairment of vision, even blindness. Chemical burns may occur.

**Skin contact** – Brief contact with the uncured product may result in moderate skin irritation with local redness.

**Inhalation** – Prolonged excessive exposure to mist may cause serious adverse effects, even death.

**Ingestion** – Harmful effects are not anticipated from swallowing small amounts.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet from the Dow Customer Information Group.

Environmental Information
VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is soluble in water and nonvolatile. If introduced to the environment, the product will have a tendency to remain in water with minimal tendency to bind to soil or sediment.

The product is unlikely to persist in the environment. The components in this product would be expected to be biodegradable, which suggests that it will likely be removed in biological wastewater-treatment facilities as well as other water and soil environments.

This product is not likely to accumulate in the food chain (bioconcentration potential is low) due to its water solubility and high molecular weight and it is not expected to be toxic to fish and other aquatic species.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet from the Dow Customer Information Group.

Physical Hazard Information
VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent is stable under recommended storage and normal use conditions. Avoid contact with strong acids and oxidizing agents.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet from the Dow Customer Information Group.

Regulatory Information
Regulations may exist that govern the manufacture, sale, transportation, use, and/or disposal of VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent. These regulations may vary by city, state, country, or geographic region. Information may be found by consulting the relevant Safety Data Sheet or Contact Us.

Additional Information
- Request the relevant Safety Data Sheet from the Dow Customer Information Group
- Contact Us (www.dow.com/assistance/dowcig.htm)

For more business information about VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent, contact the Dow Customer Information Group at www.dow.com/assistance/dowcig.htm.
**Product Safety Assessment:** VITHADERM™ AS 42 Wetting Agent

**References**

1. VITHADERM™ AS 42 Safety Data Sheet, The Dow Chemical Company
2. VITHADERM™ AS 42 Polysiloxane Surfactant Technical Data Sheet, The Dow Chemical Company

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