Product Safety Assessment

BETAFOAM™ AFI Acoustical Foam Products

Product Safety Assessment documents are available at: www.dow.com/productsafety/finder/.

Select a Topic:

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Names
• BETAFOAM™ acoustical foam products
• BETAFOAM AFI technology
• NVH dampening foams
• BETAFOAM AFI products
• BETAFOAM automotive foam systems

Product Overview
• BETAFOAM™ AFI products (foam sheets and pellets) are based on technology developed by Dow Automotive, a business unit of The Dow Chemical Company. These materials are high-expansion pellets and foams based on a unique polymer foaming technology. They are referred to as "NVH" materials because they are intended to reduce vehicle noise, vibration, and/or harshness.¹ For further details, see Product Description.
• AFI materials produced using Dow BETAFOAM AFI technology demonstrate foam expansions of up to 3000% when heated during manufacturing. BETAFOAM AFI products are capable of completely filling and sealing the entire three-dimensional space of a cavity, minimizing airborne noise that enters the passenger compartment.² For further details, see Product Uses.
• BETAFOAM AFI products are intended for industrial use only. Worker exposure is possible in a manufacturing facility or at facilities using these foams. Exposure is minimized through engineering controls and the use of personal protective equipment.³ For further details, see Exposure Potential.
• Eye contact with these solid materials may cause irritation or corneal injuries due to mechanical action (scratch or poke the eye). Skin contact may cause irritation due to mechanical abrasion.³ For further details, see Health Information.
• BETAFOAM AFI products are chemically stable with no known physical hazards. They are incompatible with strong oxidizers.³ For further details, see Physical Hazard Information.

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**Manufacture of Product**

- **Locations** – Dow Automotive manufactures BETAFOAM™ AFI acoustical foam inserts at facilities in the United States and People’s Republic of China.

- **Process** – BETAFOAM AFI products are formulated using proprietary materials and technology. These foam parts are fabricated to fit any shape according to manufacturer specifications.

**Product Description**

Acoustical foam inserts produced using BETAFOAM™ AFI products and technology are fabricated foam parts designed to fill automobile body cavities. These materials are high-expansion pellets and foams based on a unique polymer foaming technology. When heated, these inserts expand up to 3000%. The resulting three-dimensional fill provided by the foam robustly seals vehicle cavities and small seams.

BETAFOAM AFI products are referred to as “NVH” materials because they are intended to reduce or dampen vehicle noise, vibration, and/or harshness.

**Product Uses**

Acoustical foam inserts (AFIs) produced using BETAFOAM™ AFI products and technology are installed into vehicle cavities during assembly to minimize airborne noise entering the passenger compartment. They are used in lower and upper pillar sections, dogleg or wheelhouse sections, rocker sections, and sail sections.

AFI materials produced using Dow BETAFOAM AFI technology demonstrate foam expansions of up to 3000% when heated during manufacturing. BETAFOAM AFI products are capable of completely filling and sealing the entire three-dimensional space of a cavity, minimizing airborne noise that enters the passenger compartment.

**Exposure Potential**

BETAFOAM™ AFI products are used in automotive manufacturing processes. Based on the uses for these products, the public could be exposed through:

- **Workplace exposure** – BETAFOAM AFI products are manufactured in closed systems using engineering controls that prevent the escape of liquid or vapors and minimize release to the environment. The chance of exposure is further reduced by proper use of personal protective equipment. Workers who produce these products and those using them during part manufacture and vehicle assembly may be exposed during maintenance, sampling, testing, or vehicle application. Facilities that manufacture or use these products should have a thorough training program for employees and appropriate work processes and safety equipment in place to limit unnecessary exposure. See Health Information.

- **Consumer exposure to BETAFOAM AFIs** – These products are intended for industrial use only. Consumers may operate a vehicle containing these inserts. Final parts are not expected to present a health risk. See Health Information.

- **Environmental releases** – If these materials are spilled, prevent them from entering soil, ditches, sewers, waterways or groundwater. Sweep up and collect in suitable and properly labeled containers. See Environmental, Health, and Physical Hazard Information.

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In case of fire – Keep people away and deny unnecessary entry. Use water fog or fine spray, dry-chemical or carbon-dioxide fire extinguishers, or foam extinguishers. Do not use a direct water stream as it may spread the fire. Wear positive-pressure, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and protective fire-fighting clothing. Follow emergency procedures carefully. See Health and Physical Hazard Information.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet by using Contact Us.

Health Information

Eye contact – Eye contact with these solid materials may cause irritation or corneal injury due to mechanical action.

Skin contact – May cause skin irritation due to mechanical abrasion (scratching the skin). Absorption of these solid foams through the skin is unlikely.

Inhalation – Inhalation of pellets or foam sheet stock is unlikely. These solid materials contain mineral and/or organic fillers. There is essentially no potential for inhalation exposure to these fillers incidental to industrial handling due to the physical state.

Ingestion – Swallowing these materials is unlikely because of the physical state.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet by using Contact Us.

Environmental Information

BETAFOAM™ AFI products are not expected to be biodegradable. They are not expected to be acutely toxic to fish or wildlife, but may present a choking hazard.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet by using Contact Us.

Physical Hazard Information

BETAFOAM™ AFI products are chemically stable with no known physical hazards. They are incompatible with strong oxidizers.

For more information, request the relevant Safety Data Sheet by using Contact Us.

Regulatory Information

Regulations may exist that govern the manufacture, sale, transportation, use, and/or disposal of BETAFOAM™ AFI acoustical foam inserts. These regulations may vary by city, state, country, or geographic region. Information may be found by consulting Contact Us.
Additional Information

- Contact Us (http://automotive.dow.com/automotive/after/contact/index.htm)
- Dow Customer Information Group (http://www.dow.com/assistance/dowcig.htm) or 1 989-636-1000 (Toll Free: +1 800-331-6451) (U.S.)
- BETAFOAM™ Acoustical Foams, Dow Automotive, (http://www.dowautomotive.com/support/)
- BETAFOAM™ AFI NVH Cavity Sealing Part Solution, Technical Data Sheet, Dow Automotive
- BETAFOAM™ AFI Acoustical Foam Insert, Product Information Sheet, Dow Automotive

For more business information about BETAFOAM AFI acoustical foam inserts, visit the Dow Automotive web site at http://automotive.dow.com/.

References

1 BETAFOAM™ AFI NVH Cavity Sealing Part Solution, Technical Data Sheet, Dow Automotive.
2 BETAFOAM AFI Acoustical Foam Insert, Product Information Sheet, Dow Automotive.
3 BETAFOAM AFI-G2 Material Safety Data Sheet, The Dow Chemical Company.

NOTICES:

As part of its 2015 Sustainability Goals, Dow has committed to make publicly available safety assessments for its products globally. This product safety assessment is intended to give general information about the chemical (or categories of chemicals) addressed. It is not intended to provide an in-depth discussion of health and safety information. Additional information is available through the relevant Safety Data Sheet, which should be consulted before use of the chemical. This product safety assessment does not replace required communication documents such as the Safety Data Sheet.

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