

Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

First edition: 1/Apr/2021
Revised Date: 1/Jul/2025

1. Identification of the Substance and of the Company

Product Identifier: Cermet (including coated or surface-treated Cermet)

Supplier Information:

Company Name : MITSUBISHI MATERIALS HARDMETAL CORPORATION
Address : 1528 Yokoi Nakashinden, Godo-cho, Anpachi-gun,
Gifu 503-2301 Japan
Phone Number : +81-584-27-1211
FAX Number : +81-584-27-1213
Number : 8:00am to 4:00pm(Japan Time), except Sundays, Saturdays,
National holidays and Company holidays.

Recommended Use of the Cermet

Cutting and drilling tools for metallic materials

Restrictions on Use of the Cermet

Do not use for other than the specified purpose

Attention to the Phase/State of the Cermet

- Cermet as a solid state is chemically stable and safe from explosives, flammable, combustible, pyrophoric, water reactive and oxidizable in a normal environment.
- Cermet is safe for use as cutting tools (grinding, machining, rolling for metals) under normal conditions.
- This SDS informs about the dust, fumes or vapors which occur from Cermet producing process such as raw material powder handling and grinding.

2. Hazard Statements

The GHS Classification

Some data (such as the burning rate test data, etc.) for the dust, fumes or vapors which occur from Cermet producing process are unavailable. Therefore, they are not classified by GHS.

The hazards of the individual metal ingredients (cobalt, nickel, and chromium) that make up the Cermet are classified as follows. In addition, other hazards and harmful effects (health, environmental, physical and chemical) that are not listed are not classifiable or applicable under GHS.

- GHS classification for the hazards of cobalt alone is below.
(When cobalt is included as a metal ingredient of Cermet)

Health Hazard:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acute toxicity (oral)• Acute toxicity (inhalation: dust, mist)• Serious eye damage/Eye irritation• Respiratory sensitization• Skin sensitization• Carcinogenicity• Reproductive toxicity• Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)• Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)	Category 4 Category 1 Category 2B Category 1A Category 1A Category 2 Category 1B Category 1 (respiratory system) Category 1 (respiratory system, heart, thyroid, blood system, reproductive system (male))
Environmental Hazard:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hazardous to the aquatic environment – short-term (acute)• Hazardous to the aquatic environment – long-term (chronic)	Category 1 Category 1

- GHS classification for the hazards of nickel alone is below.
(When nickel is included as a metal ingredient of Cermet)





Health Hazard:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respiratory sensitization Skin sensitization Carcinogenicity Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure) Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure) 	Category 1 Category 1 Category 2 Category 1 (respiratory system, kidney) Category 1 (respiratory system)
Environmental Hazard:	Hazardous to the aquatic environment – long-term (chronic)	Category 4

- GHS classification for the hazards of chromium alone is below.
(When chromium is included as a metal ingredient of Cermet)

Health Hazard:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serious eye damage/Eye irritation Respiratory sensitization Skin sensitization Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure) 	Category 2 Category 1A Category 1A Category 3 (respiratory tract irritation)
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GHS Label Elements

GHS label elements for the individual metal ingredients (cobalt, nickel, and chromium) that make up the Cermet are as follows.

	Cobalt	Nickel	Chromium	
Hazard Pictograms:				
Signal Words:	Danger			
Hazard Statements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harmful if swallowed• Life threatening if inhaled• Eye irritation• Risk of causing allergies, asthma or breathing difficulties if inhaled• Risk of causing an allergic skin reaction• May cause cancer• May cause adverse effects on fertility or the unborn child• Organ disorder (respiratory system)• Organ disorder due to long-term or repeated exposure (respiratory system, heart, thyroid, blood system, reproductive system (male))• Very toxic to aquatic life due to long-lasting effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk of causing allergies, asthma or breathing difficulties if inhaled• Risk of causing an allergic skin reaction• May cause cancer.• Respiratory and kidney disorders• Respiratory disorder due to long-term or repeated exposure• May be harmful to aquatic life due to long-lasting effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Severe eye irritation• Risk of causing allergies, asthma or breathing difficulties if inhaled• Risk of causing an allergic skin reaction• Risk of respiratory irritation (respiratory tract irritation)	

Precautionary Statements:	<p>【Prevention】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain safety instructions* before use • Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood • Use appropriate personal protection and ventilation system keeping away from exposure • Wear suitable protective gloves • If ventilation is inadequate, wear a suitable respirator • Do not breathe dust, fumes or vapors • Do not eat, drink or smoke in handling area • Wash skin thoroughly after handling • Do not release into the environment <p>【Responses】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If inhaled, move to fresh air and take a rest with posture easy to breathe • If respiratory symptoms occur, contact a doctor • When feeling ill, get medical advice/attention • Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse • If on skin, rinse away immediately with a large amount of water and soap • If skin irritation occurs, contact a doctor and get medical advice/attention • If exposed or concerned, get medical advice/attention • If dust is in eyes, immediately wash away with clean water (remove the contact lenses if possible) • If irritation persists, get medical advice/attention • If a large amount of dust is swallowed, get medical advice/attention after ingesting plenty of water to dilute <p>【Storage】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid sudden changes of temperature and high humidity for storage <p>【Disposal】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact a specialized waste disposal company licensed by the governor
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*For safety instructions, refer to the Japan Cutting & Wear-resistant Tool Association website (<http://www.jta-tool.jp/>).

3. Composition/Information on Ingredient

- Distinction between substance and mixture: Mixture (alloy)
- Chemical name or general name: Cermet

Cermet may be coated or surface treated with the following substances.

AlN, Al₂O₃, (Al,Ti)N, B₄C, Cr₃C₂, CrN, MoS₂, Ti(B,C,N), TiC, TiN, (Ti,Zr)N, (Ti,Al)N, (Al,Ti,M)N, WC, etc.

- Ingredients and concentration or concentration range (composition) of Cermet

Ingredient	Chemical Formula	CAS No	PRTR Law No	Official Number of Industrial Safety and Health Law	Composition mass%
Tungsten carbide	WC	12070-12-1	N/A	N/A	0-30
Tantalum carbide	TaC	12070-06-3	N/A	N/A	0-20
Niobium carbide	NbC	12069-94-2	N/A	N/A	0-35
Titanium carbide	TiC	12070-08-5	N/A	N/A	5-85
Titanium nitride	TiN	25583-20-4	N/A	N/A	0-80
Molybdenum carbide	Mo ₂ C	12069-89-5	453	*1	0-20
Zirconium carbide	ZrC	12070-14-3	N/A	1-(3)-298	0-5
Cobalt	Co	7440-48-4	132	*1	0-20
Nickel	Ni	7440-02-0	308	*1	0-20
Chromium	Cr	7440-47-3	87	*1	0-10

*1 Although it is a substance subject to the Industrial Safety and Health Law, it has not been given an Official Gazette Publication Number.

- ※ For the details regarding the content of the designated chemical material (effective digit: 2), please contact the responsible department.
- ※ Even if the Cermet does not contain cobalt, nickel, and chromium as an active ingredient, it may contain cobalt, nickel, and chromium as an impurity.

4. First-Aid Measures

If Inhaled

- If the high concentration of dust is inhaled or respiratory symptoms (coughs, gasping, shortness of breath, etc.) are experienced, move to fresh air and take a rest with posture easy to breathe. If breathing difficulties occur, administer oxygen inhalation. If breathing has stopped, immediately administer artificial respiration and get medical advice/attention.
- If irritation or rash persists, get medical advice/attention.

If on Skin

- If dust is contacted with skin, take off contaminated clothing and rinse the affected area with soapy water thoroughly. If irritation or rash persists, get medical advice/attention.

If in Eyes

- If dust is in eyes, immediately wash away with clean water (remove the contact lenses if possible). If irritation persists, get medical advice/attention.

If Swallowed

- If a large amount of dust is swallowed, get medical advice/attention after ingesting plenty of water to dilute.

5. Fire-Fighting Measures

Suitable Extinguishing Media and Unsuitable Extinguishing Media

- To extinguish dust fire, use dry sand, expanded vermiculite, dilatable perlite, ABC type (general, oil, electric fire) powder extinguishers or water (no water allowed for the dust containing cut powders of light metal such as magnesium and aluminum).

Special Protective Equipment and Emergency Procedures for Fire-Fighters

- In fighting a fire, wear a protective clothing, dust-proof respirator or respiratory protective equipment.

6. Accidental Release Measures

Personal Precautions, Protective Equipment, and Emergency Procedures

- It is recommended that someone who cleans dust should wear clothing and respiratory protective equipment to minimize exposure.

Environmental Precautions

- Dispose of dust as industrial waste and prevent release in water systems.

Containment and Cleanup Methods and Equipment

- If there is dust which occurs from Cermet producing process, isolate the area and remove the dust with a cleaner equipped with a filter which can take up fine particles very efficiently. If appropriate removing methods are not available, wet with water mist or wet floor mop to remove dust.

7. Handling and Storage

Handling

■ **Technical Measures**

- If the disperse of dust containing cobalt or nickel is concerned, provide local exhaust ventilation and use personal protective equipment to minimize exposure to human body.

■ **Precautions for Safe Handling**

- Obtain safety instructions before use.
- Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.

■ **Contact Avoidance**

- Take measures described in "Exposure Controls/Personal Protection."
- Do not breathe dust, fumes or vapors.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke in handling area.

■ **Hygiene Measures**

- Wash skin thoroughly after handling.
- Do not release into the environment.

Storage■ **Conditions for Safe Storage**

- Avoid sudden changes of temperature and high humidity for storage.
- If storing fine powder, dust, and swarf generated by cutting or polishing, cover them with a cover to prevent dispersal

■ **Materials for Safe Container**

- Use materials meeting the specific gravity of Cermet

8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection**Exposure Prevention**

- Permissible concentration in working environment (reference value)

Ingredient	Chemical Formula	OSHA* PEL* mg/m ³	ACGIH* TLV* mg/m ³	Japan Society for Occupational Health Exposure Limit* mg/m ³
Tungsten carbide	WC	N/A	5 (as W)	N/A
Tantalum carbide	TaC	5 (as Ta)	5 (as Ta)	N/A
Niobium carbide	NbC	N/A	N/A	N/A
Titanium carbide	TiC	N/A	N/A	N/A
Titanium nitride	TiN	N/A	N/A	N/A
Molybdenum carbide	Mo ₂ C	15 (as Mo)	10 (as Mo)	N/A
Zirconium carbide	ZrC	5 (as Zr)	5 (as Zr)	N/A
Cobalt	Co	0.1	0.02	0.05
Nickel	Ni	1.0	1.5	1.0
Chromium	Cr	1.0	0.5	0.5

*OSHA: Occupational Safety & Health Administration U.S. Department

*PEL: Permissible Exposure Limit

*ACGIH: American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists Inc.

*TLV: Threshold Limit Value

*Exposure Limit: If processing such as polishing and cutting that generates dust, for ingredients with no indicated value, refer to the exposure limit of the Japan Society for Occupational Health

*N/A: Not Applicable

- Facility measures

Provide local exhaust ventilation so that dust in the air may not exceed the exposure limits in the above table.

It is to be noted that the management concentration of cobalt (and its inorganic compounds) is to be 0.02 mg/m³ in accordance with the working environment assessment standard by the Japanese Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare under paragraph (2), Article 65-2 of the Industrial Safety and Health Act in Japan.

In addition, for cobalt (and its inorganic compounds) in storage or handling, take the necessary action conforming to the Ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Specified Chemical Substances.

Protection Measures

- Respiratory Protection: Dust-proof respirators and respiratory protective equipment are recommended.
- Hand Protection: Protective gloves for dust are recommended.
- Eye/Face Protection: Eye/Face protections for dust are recommended.
- Skin/Body Protection: Avoid direct skin contact.
Clean up deposited dust on clothing, rags, etc. by washing or absorbing it with suitable filters, but not by whisking it off. Clothing exposed to dust should be replaced with new clothing.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Physical State:	Solid state
Color:	Dark gray color (In case of the coated or surface treated Cermet, the appearance color is often different)
Odor:	Odorless
Melting/Freezing Point:	No data available
Boiling or Initial Boiling Point and Boiling Range:	No data available
Flammability, Explosion Limits, Flammability Limit, Flash Point, Spontaneous Ignition Temperature, Resolution Temperature:	No data available
pH:	No data available
Kinematic Viscosity:	No data available
Solubility:	Insoluble
Vapor Pressure:	No data available
Density and/or Relative Density:	5.5 to 9.0
Relative Gas Density:	No data available
Particle Properties:	No data available

10. Stability and Reactivity

A grain of dust which occurs from Cermet producing process is very fine and under the specific conditions in which the dust is mixed with grinding oil with low flash point, it is possible to become pyrophoric. If dust under very flammable conditions is dispersed in the air, it is possible to explode.

The individual metal ingredients (cobalt, nickel, and chromium) for composing the Cermet have the following information about stability and reactivity under specific conditions.

- Stability and reactivity of cobalt alone is below.

(When cobalt is included as a metal ingredient of Cermet)

Reactivity, chemical stability:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable to heat and contact with water.
Hazardous reactions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ignites spontaneously in air. Reacts with strong oxidizing agents. Reacts violently with oxygen, posing a risk of fire or explosion. Reacts violently with acid to generate hydrogen.
Conditions to avoid:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact with incompatible materials.
Incompatible materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong oxidizing agents, acid.
Hazardous decomposition products:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By combustion, cobalt oxide and fumes of cobalt oxide may occur.

- Stability and reactivity of nickel alone is below.

(When nickel is included as a metal ingredient of Cermet)

Reactivity, chemical stability:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is considered stable in storage and handling in accordance with the laws and regulations.
Hazardous reactions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although metal nickel is usually stabilized against oxidation by the oxide film, fresh metal surfaces without oxide film is rapidly oxidized by air. Therefore, there is a risk of ignition in the air for fresh metal nickel powder.
Conditions to avoid:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No data available
Hazardous decomposition products:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No data available

- Stability and reactivity of chromium alone is below.
(When chromium is included as a metal ingredient of Cermet)

Reactivity, chemical stability:	• Stable under normal handling conditions.
Hazardous reactions:	• Reacts violently with strong oxidizing agents such as hydrogen peroxide, posing a risk of fire or explosion.
Conditions to avoid:	• Reacts with dilute hydrochloric acid and dilute sulfuric acid.
Incompatible materials:	• Incompatible with alkalis and alkaline carbonates.
Hazardous decomposition products:	• When mixed with air in powder or granular form, there is a possibility of dust explosion.
	• Strong oxidizing agents, dilute hydrochloric acid, dilute sulfuric acid, alkali, alkali carbonate.
	• During combustion, there can be irritating or toxic fumes and gases.

11. Toxicological Information

Acute Toxicity:	No data available on Cermet
Skin Corrosion/Irritation:	No data available on Cermet
Serious eye damage/Eye irritation:	No data available on Cermet
Respiratory or Skin Sensitization:	No data available on Cermet
Germ Cell Mutagenicity:	No data available on Cermet
Carcinogenicity:	Cobalt powder coexisting with tungsten carbide is IARC Group 2A. Suspected to be a human carcinogen. (Ref.1)
Reproductive Toxicity:	No data available on Cermet
Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Single Exposure):	No data available on Cermet
Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Repeated Exposure):	No data available on Cermet
Aspiration Hazard:	No data available on Cermet

12. Ecological Information

Ecotoxicity, Persistence/Degradability, Bioaccumulation, Mobility in soil, Hazardous to the ozone layer

- No data available on Cermet

13. Disposal Considerations

Safe and environmentally desirable disposal or recycle method

- The main ingredients such as tungsten carbide, cobalt, nickel are rare metal, so it is desirable to collect and recycle them.
- For disposal, comply with the applicable laws and regulations regarding industrial waste.

14. Transport Information

International Regulations

UN Number:	Not applicable
Proper Shipping Name:	Not applicable
UN Hazard Class:	Not applicable
Packing Group:	Not applicable
Marine Pollutant:	Not applicable

- ※ When transporting a powder of metal ingredients (cobalt, nickel) for composing the Cermet, there is a possibility that it is necessary to take appropriate action in accordance with the relevant provisions established by IMO (International Maritime Organization), ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), IATA (International Air Transport Association).

Domestic Regulations

Land Regulatory Information:	In accordance with the Fire Service Act/ the Road Act
Marine Transportation Information:	In accordance with the Ship Safety Act/ the Act on Port Regulations
Marine Pollutant:	Not applicable
Aviation Transportation Information :	In accordance with the Civil Aeronautics Act

- ※ When transporting a powder of metal ingredients (cobalt, nickel) for composing the Cermet, there is a possibility that it is necessary to take appropriate action in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Ship Safety Act and the Civil Aeronautics Act.

Special Safety Measures for Transportation and Transportation Method

When transporting the dust which occurs from Cermet producing process, make sure that there is no damage or corrosion or leakage of the container, to ensure implementation of the prevention of collapse of cargo.

15. Regulatory Information**Name and Information of Applicable Regulatory**

- Law for Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR)
 - Molybdenum and its compounds
 - Cobalt and its compounds
 - Nickel
 - Chromium and trivalent chromium compounds
- Industrial Safety and Health Law:
 - Dangerous or Harmful Substances to be notified of their names
 - Molybdenum and its compounds
 - Zirconium compounds
 - Cobalt and its compounds
 - Nickel
 - Chromium and its compounds
- Ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Specified Chemical Substances:
 - Controlled Class 2 Substances
 - Cobalt and its inorganic compounds

16. Other Information**Other Hazardous Information**

- If a large amount of dust containing cobalt is inhaled, blood, heart, thyroid gland, and spleen disorders may result. (Ref.2)
- It is reported that repeated or long-term contact with cobalt, nickel, or chromium may affect skin, respiratory organs, heart, etc. (Ref.3 to 6)
- The carcinogenicity of the metal ingredients is as follows.

Cobalt metal	ACGIH	A3: Confirmed to be carcinogenic to animals, but relevance to humans is unknown
	IARC	2B: Possibly carcinogenic to humans
	Japan Society for Occupational Health	2B: The substance has been determined to be possibly carcinogenic to humans (with relatively insufficient evidence)
Nickel metal	ACGIH	A5: Not suspected as a human carcinogen
	IARC	2B: Possibly carcinogenic to humans
	Japan Society for Occupational Health	2B: The substance has been determined to be possibly carcinogenic to humans (with relatively insufficient evidence)

Chromium metal IARC 3: Not classifiable as to its carcinogenicity to humans

*ACGIH: American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists Inc.

*IARC: International Agency for Research on Cancer

Disclaimer

The contents of this SDS are based on material and information available as of today and may be revised due to knowledge newly obtained. The values of concentration, physical/chemical properties are not guaranteed. In addition, the precautions described herein apply only to normal uses, and thus safety cannot be guaranteed.

Reference URL

- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry: <http://www.meti.go.jp/>
- Ministry of the Environment: <http://www.env.go.jp/>
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare: <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/>
- Japan Industrial Safety and Health Association: <http://www.jaish.gr.jp/>
- International Agency for Research on Cancer: <http://monographs.iarc.fr/>
- International Chemical Safety Cards: <http://www.nihs.go.jp/ICSC/>
- National Institute of Technology and Evaluation: <http://www.safe.nite.go.jp/ghs/list.html>

Reference Documents

- (1) IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans, vol.86 (2006).
- (2) Food & Drug Research Laboratories, study No.8005B (4.11.84).
- (3) T. Shirakawa et al., Chest. 95, 29 (1989).
- (4) International Chemical Safety Cards (cobalt, chromium, nickel).
- (5) The Guide to Chemical Hazards (edited by Japan Industrial Safety & Health Association)
- (6) A. O. Bech et al., Brit. J. Ind., 19, 239 (1962).
- (7) Data Book for Safety Management of Chemicals (The Chemical Daily Co., Ltd.)

Revision History

First edition	1/Apr/2021
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