Chloroform Applications

Fluorocarbon Grade: This grade is the highest purity chloroform manufactured by OxyChem. It is used as a precursor for hydrochlorofluorocarbon-22 (HCFC-22). HCFC-22 is used primarily as a refrigerant for residential air conditioners and commercial refrigeration. Approximately 95% of the chloroform produced goes into the manufacture of this product. However, as the Montreal Protocol takes effect, this use can be expected to decline as HCFC-22 is replaced by refrigerants that are less harmful to the ozone layer.

Alcohol Stabilized Grade: This grade is mainly used as a solvent in the extraction and purification of products in the pharmaceutical industry that are not considered to be food related. It is also used in the purification of some antibiotics, alkaloids, and vitamins. A small percentage is also sold as a laboratory reagent solvent for use as a reaction medium in the preparation of organic nitrogen compounds, acids, aromatic hydrocarbons, ketones, ethers, and other fine chemicals. The Alcohol Stabilized Grade is the former NF Grade, which meets the test requirements for the National Formulary XVII (1990) and also the test requirements for General Use Chloroform according to ACS Specifications for Reagent Chemicals, 10th Edition, 2006.

Technical Grade: This grade is sold, in large part, into general distribution where it is used as a chemical intermediate in the preparation of dyes, plastics, resins and pesticides. It can also be involved as an industrial solvent in photography and as a heat transfer medium in fire extinguishers. This grade meets the requirements of Federal Specification O-C-291B and for General Use Chloroform in ACS Specifications for Reagent Chemicals, 10th Edition, 2006.

Further Information
More detailed information on chlorinated solvent regulatory issues is available upon request through the OxyChem Technical Services Department. Call or write to:
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