

# SAFETY DATA SHEET

**Safety Data Sheet for  
Health Protection Agency Food EQA Samples – Freeze-dried**

**Effective date:** 01 April 2010

**Review date:** 31 March 2011

**Issued to:** Scheme participants:  
*Standard, Extended, Non-Pathogen, Pathogenic Vibrio and  
Staphylococcus aureus Enterotoxin Schemes*

**SAFETY DATA SHEET FOR FREEZE-DRIED FOOD EXTERNAL****QUALITY ASSESSMENT SAMPLES****1. Identification of the product and the establishment**

Product: Simulated food samples for general microbiological examinations

Establishment: Health Protection Agency  
Centre for Infections  
Food & Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit  
61 Colindale Avenue  
London NW9 5EQ

Telephone (9.00 – 17.00 hours) +44 (0) 20 8327 7119

Telephone (Out of working hours) +44 (0) 20 8200 4400

**2. Composition/information on ingredients**

Glass vials of freeze-dried material containing a mixture of bacteria of Hazard Group 2 as defined by the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens 2004 Approved List of Biological Agents <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/misc208>). A Hazard Group 2 organism may cause human disease and may be a hazard to laboratory workers, but is unlikely to spread to the community.

**3. Hazards identification**

Physico-chemical hazard: Not applicable

Health hazard: Minimal risk of infection provided good laboratory practice is observed

Environmental hazard: Not applicable

**4. First aid measures**

If accidental contact with material occurs laboratory staff must follow local first aid procedures that are normally applied following exposure to an equivalent food sample. Following exposure to the material medical advice must be sought.

**5. Fire fighting measures**

Not applicable

**6. Accidental release measures**

Cover the area with absorbent material and flood with a suitable disinfectant. The area must be left undisturbed for 30 minutes before the spill is mopped up with an excess of absorbent material. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.



## 16. Other information

In the event of an accident involving exposure of staff to the material contained in the samples, contact The Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit (+44 (0) 20 8327 7119) during normal UK working hours. The Colindale Duty Officer (+44 (0) 20 8200 4400) should be contacted out of hours.

For further safety information concerning this product, participants are advised to read the instruction sheets available from the web-site: [www.hpa.org.uk/eqa](http://www.hpa.org.uk/eqa)