

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET  
**MSDS**

## Vale Inco Nickel Powder Type 110

\*\* THIS DATA SHEET IS PREPARED IN COMPLIANCE WITH EU DIRECTIVE 2001/58/EC\*\*

### 1. Substance and Company Identification

**Vale Inco Nickel Powder Type 110**

Used in the production of batteries and electronic equipment and in powder metallurgy applications.

C.A.S. Number 7440-02-0

EINECS Number 231-111-4

**Imported by:**

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### 2. Hazards Identification

**Xn – Harmful - Category 3 Carcinogen**

R40 - Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.

R43 - May cause sensitisation by skin contact.

**If user operations change the substance to other physical or chemical forms, whether as end products, intermediates or fugitive emissions, the user must determine the health hazards of such forms.**

### 3. Composition

Hazardous Ingredients	Typical Composition
Nickel	99%

### 4. First Aid Measures

*Ingestion:* Seek medical attention.

*Inhalation:* Seek medical attention.

*Skin:* Wash thoroughly with water. For rashes seek medical advice. Show label or data sheet if possible.

*Eyes:* Irrigate eyeball thoroughly with water for at least 10 minutes. If discomfort persists seek medical attention.

*Wounds:* Cleanse thoroughly to remove any nickel particles.

### 5. Fire Fighting Measures

*Special risks:* Not classified as flammable for transport purposes. May oxidize to nickel oxide if exposed to high temperatures within a fire. Keep containers cool with water spray.

*Suitable extinguishing* Package intact – Any type to be selected according to materials stored in immediate vicinity.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET  
**MSDS**

*media:* **Spilled Powder** – Use water mist or fine spray or eliminate oxygen by returning to and sealing the container. Beware of pressurized extinguishers (fire extinguishers) which may disperse the powder and spread the fire.

*Protective fire fighting equipment* None needed. Wear protective equipment if required for other materials in immediate vicinity.

**6. Accidental Release Measures**

*Person related precautionary measures:* Avoid generation of dusty atmospheres. Do not inhale dusts.

*Environmental protection measures:* No specific measures needed

*Procedures for cleaning/absorption:* Collect spills by wet sweeping or vacuuming with the vacuum exhaust passing through a high efficiency particulate arresting (HEPA) filter if exhaust is discharged into the work place. Wear appropriate nationally approved respirators if collection and disposal of spills is likely to cause the concentration limits of airborne nickel to exceed the locally prescribed exposure limits. Nickel containing material is normally collected to recover nickel values.

**7. Handling and Storage**

*Handling:* Prevent generation of inhalable dusts e.g. by the use of suitable ventilation. Do not inhale dusts. Wear appropriate nationally approved respirators if handling is likely to cause the concentration limits of airborne nickel to exceed the locally prescribed exposure limits. Wear suitable protective clothing and gloves. As packed nickel product may constitute a manual handling risk.

*Storage:* When not in use keep original container, in dry conditions with the lid close. Store containers under cover in a clean, dry environment. Follow local regulations for the storage of this material.

**8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection**

*Exposure limit values:* Occupational exposure limits expressed as Ni in inhalable particle size fraction:

	TLV <sup>13</sup> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	WEL <sup>23</sup> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Nickel	1.5	0.5

Maintain airborne nickel levels as low as possible.

*Occupational exposure controls:* Ventilation is normally required when handling or using this product to keep airborne nickel below the nationally authorized limits. If ventilation alone cannot control exposure, respiratory protection must be used.

*a) Respiratory protection:* Do not inhale dust. If ventilation alone cannot control exposure, respiratory protection (selected specifically for the working place, depending on concentration and quantity of the hazardous material) must be used.

*b) Eye protection:* Avoid contact with eyes. Wear goggles or face shield or approved safety glasses.

*c) Hand & skin protection:* Avoid skin contact. Wear suitable protective clothing and gloves, which should be selected specifically for the working place, dependant on the concentration and quantity of the hazardous material being handled. Wash skin thoroughly after handling and before eating, drinking or smoking. Launder clothing and gloves as needed. Use of skin protective barrier cream advised.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET  
**MSDS**

## 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Silver grey, odourless metallic cylindroids.

Molecular weight	58.71
pH	N/A
Boiling point/ boiling range (°C)	2732
Melting point/ melting range (°C)	1453
Flash point	N/A
Auto flammability	N/A
Explosive properties	Not explosive
Dust explosivity classification group	B
S <sub>t</sub> classification	0
K <sub>ST</sub> (bar ms <sup>-1</sup> )	N/A
P <sub>max</sub> (bar g)	N/A
Dust cloud minimum explosion concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	N/A
Dust cloud minimum ignition temperature (°C)	7,800
Dust cloud minimum ignition energy (mJ)	>500,000
Self Heating	yes
Oxidising properties	Not oxidizing
Vapour pressure	N/A
Solubility - cold water	Insoluble
Solubility - hot water	Insoluble
Partition coefficient	N/A
Viscosity	N/A
Specific gravity of nickel (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	8.9
Bulk density (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.9 – 2.3
Particle size (microns)	0.8 - 1.5
Magnetic properties	Ferromagnetic

## 10. Stability and Reactivity

*Conditions to be avoided:* Hazardous exothermic reaction improbable. Not classified as flammable.

*Substances to be avoided:* This product can react vigorously with acids to liberate hydrogen, which can form explosive mixtures with air. Under special conditions nickel can react with carbon monoxide in reducing atmospheres to form Nickel Carbonyl, Ni(CO)<sub>4</sub>, a toxic gas. Metal powders when heated in reducing atmospheres may become pyrophoric.

*Hazardous decomposition products:* None

## 11. Toxicological Information <sup>4</sup>

### Nickel

*Acute Toxicity:*

- a) *Oral:* Non toxic - LD50 ORAL RAT >9000 mg/kg  
 b) *Inhalation:* No information available  
 c) *Dermal:* No information available.

*Corrosivity/Irritation:*

- a) *Respiratory Tract:* None  
 b) *Skin:* See sensitization section.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET  
**MSDS**

- c) Eyes:* Mechanical irritation may be expected.
- Sensitization:*
- a) Respiratory tract:* Nickel metal induced asthma is very rare. 3 case reports are available; the data is not sufficient to conclude that nickel metal is classified as a respiratory sensitizer.
- b) Skin:* Nickel metal is a well-known skin sensitizer. Direct and prolonged skin contact with metallic nickel may induce nickel allergy and elicit nickel allergic skin reactions in those people already sensitized to nickel, so called nickel allergic contact dermatitis.
- c) Pre-existing conditions:* Individuals known to be allergic to nickel should avoid contact with nickel whenever possible to reduce the likelihood of nickel allergic contact dermatitis reactions (skin rashes). Repeated contact may result in persistent chronic palmar/hand dermatitis in a smaller number of individuals, despite efforts to reduce or avoid nickel exposure.
- Chronic toxicity:*
- a) Oral:* No information available
- b) Inhalation:* Animal studies (rats) show that repeated dose inhalation of nickel damages the lung. Chronic inflammation, lung fibrosis and accumulation of nickel particles were observed.
- c) Dermal:* Direct and prolonged skin contact with nickel metal may cause nickel sensitization resulting in nickel allergic contact dermatitis /skin rash.
- Mutagenicity / Reproductive toxicity:* No data.
- Carcinogenicity:*
- a) Ingestion:* The U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) concluded that there is no evidence that nickel metal is carcinogenic when ingested.
- b) Inhalation:* There is limited information available from inhalation and intratracheal studies in animals. The U.S. National Toxicology Program has listed metallic nickel as reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen. To date, there is no evidence that nickel metal causes cancer in humans based on epidemiology data from workers in the nickel producing and nickel consuming industries.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)(Vol 49) found there was inadequate evidence that metallic nickel is carcinogenic to humans but since there was sufficient evidence that it is carcinogenic to animals, IARC concluded that metallic nickel is possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B). In 1997, the ACGIH categorized elemental nickel as: A5 "Not Suspected as a Human Carcinogen". Epidemiological studies of workers exposed to nickel powder and to dust and fume generated in the production of nickel alloys and of stainless steel have not indicated the presence of a significant respiratory cancer hazard

## 12. Ecological Information

- Biologic degradation:* Methods for the determination of biodegradability are not applicable to inorganic substances.
- Ecotoxic effects:* Non toxic
- Biological data:* Fish toxicity Br. rerio LC50>100mg/1/96h;  
 Daphnia Toxicity: Daphnia magna EC50:>100mg/1/48h;  
 Algeal Toxicity: Selenastrum capricornatum IC50: 100mg/1/72 (suspension);  
 Bacterial toxicity: Pseudomonas fluorescens EC50: 250mg/1/48h
- Further Ecological Data:* Due to poor solubility of the product, no harmful effects on aquatic organisms are to be expected when handled and used with due care and attention.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET  
**MSDS**

### 13. Disposal Considerations

Nickel containing material is normally collected to recover nickel values. Should disposal be deemed necessary follow local regulations.

### 14. Transport Information

International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code	Not Regulated
International Civil Aviation Organization Technical Instructions for the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Air	Not Regulated
U.S. Dept. of Transportation Regulations	Apply to Ni. powders if they are >100 micron in particle size & if they are packaged in quantities <100 pounds.
Canadian Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act	Not Regulated
European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road	Not Regulated

### 15. Regulatory Information

Nickel metal is classified as a Category 3 carcinogen "a substance which causes concern for man owing to the possible carcinogenic effect but in respect of which the available information is not adequate for making a satisfactory assessment", by the EU in Directive 67/548/EEC (Classification, Packaging and Labeling Directive) and in the UK in the Chemicals Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply Regulations 2002.

As such the following risk and safety phrases are applicable.

**Xn - Harmful - Category 3 Carcinogen;**

- R40 - Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.
- R43 - May cause sensitisation by skin contact.
- S22 - Do not breathe dust.
- S36/37 - Wear suitable protective clothing and gloves.

### 16. Preparation Information

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**Note:**

**Vale Inco believes that the information in this Material Safety Data Sheet is accurate. However, Vale Inco makes no express or implied warranty as to the accuracy of such information and expressly disclaims any liability resulting from reliance on such information.**

**Footnotes:**

1. *Threshold Limit Values of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. 2008.*
2. *Maximum Exposure Limit of the Health and Safety Executive in the U.K. in EH40/00.*
3. *Exposure Limits for user operations will depend on the relevant governmental regulations.*
4. *Describes possible health hazards of the product supplied. If user operations change it to other chemical forms, whether as end products, intermediates or fugitive emissions, the possible health hazards of such forms must be determined by the user.*