

Methanol Frequently Asked Questions

What is methanol?

- Methanol (CH₃OH) is a clear liquid chemical used in thousands of everyday products, including plastics, paints, cosmetics, and fuels.
- Methanol is water-soluble and readily biodegradable, comprising four parts hydrogen, one part oxygen, and one part carbon, and is the simplest member of a group of organic chemicals called alcohols.
- Methanol is a clear, colourless liquid that is water soluble.
- Methanol is a highly versatile chemical building block used to make thousands of everyday products.
- Increasingly, methanol's environmental and economic advantages make it an attractive alternative fuel for powering vehicles and ships, cooking food, and heating homes.

How is methanol made?

- Typically, methanol is produced with natural gas. However, with increasing interest in sustainability, methanol has proven versatile in its production pathways. More projects are utilizing renewable feedstocks such as agricultural waste, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), sewage, renewable electricity, and captured CO₂.
- Methanol production with renewable feedstocks significantly reduces greenhouse gas intensity and contributes to the energy transition in end-user markets. As a building block for many downstream chemicals, sustainably produced methanol facilitates the growth of the green chemicals sector.

What is methanol used for?

- More than 65 per cent of the world's methanol is used in various chemical applications, often to produce derivatives that are key ingredients in everyday products.
- From paints and plastics, furniture, and carpeting, to car parts and windshield wash fluid, methanol is a chemical building block used in making hundreds of products that are essential for everyday life.
- A cleaner-burning fuel, methanol, can help improve local air quality. As it can be made from renewable sources, methanol fuel can also facilitate the decarbonization goals of the marine industry and other transportation sectors.

What happens to methanol in the environment?

- Methanol evaporates when exposed to air. When released into the air, it is readily biodegradable and will break down into other relatively non-hazardous chemicals.
- Methanol dissolves quickly and completely when mixed with water. When released into water, it is diluted and dispersed or broken down by naturally occurring microorganisms. In an open

Methanex Corporation

1800 Waterfront Centre
200 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 3M1
Canada

T: +1 604 661 2600
T: +1 800 661 8851

www.methanex.com

ocean methanol spill, naturally occurring wind and wave action will quickly and completely dilute methanol to nontoxic levels.

- Methanol does not bind well to soil and will evaporate from soil when exposed to air. When it is released into soil, methanol can move through it and enter groundwater. In low concentrations, methanol can quickly biodegrade in moist soils and groundwaters. In some circumstances, high concentrations of spilled methanol can "pool" in impermeable depressions in the soil and resist biodegradation for much longer periods of time.
- Methanol does not accumulate in the cells of plants and animals.

How to manage methanol safely?

- Like other chemicals and fuels, appropriate safety precautions must be taken when using, handling, or working around methanol to keep people and the environment safe.
- As the world's largest producer and supplier of methanol, it is essential that we use our leadership position to promote methanol safety best practices and set high safety standards for our industry and stakeholders.
- At Methanex, we promote the safe use and handling of methanol. Our product stewardship programs cover the entire product value chain, starting with product safety programs for our team members and customers, and expanding into how we interact with others in our supply chain through safe product transportation. Through our product safety practices, we provide information about how to manage the risks of methanol and promote its proper use and safe handling. To learn more, please visit <https://www.methanex.com/about-methanol/safe-handling/>.

Who We Are

Methanex is a Vancouver-based, publicly traded company and is the world's largest producer and supplier of methanol to major international markets. Methanex shares are listed for trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange in Canada under the trading symbol "MX" and on the NASDAQ Global Market in the United States under the trading symbol "MEOH". Methanex can be visited online at www.methanex.com.

-30-

Media Inquiries

Nina Ng
Manager, Global Communications
Methanex Corporation
604-661-2600