



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

PESTICIDES AND

OFFICE OF  
PREVENTION,  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

DOD/USAMRIID  
1425 Porter Street  
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5011

Attn.: George W. Korch, Jr.  
Colonel, MS  
Commanding

**Date Issued: SEP 29, 2005**  
**Expiration Date: SEP 29, 2008**  
**Final Report Due: MAR 29, 2009**  
**File Symbol: 05-DD-03**

The Environmental Protection Agency hereby grants a quarantine exemption under the provisions of Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, to the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, U.S. Department of Defense for the use of paraformaldehyde to decontaminate biological containment areas, biological safety cabinets and equipment, and high efficiency particulate air filters in the ventilation system to prevent the release of infectious microorganisms from containment areas at USAMRIID facilities at Fort Detrick in Frederick, MD. This quarantine exemption is subject to the conditions set forth in the request of June 22, 2005, as well as the following conditions and restrictions:

1. DOD/USAMRIID is responsible for ensuring that all provisions of this quarantine exemption are met. It is also responsible for providing usage reports to EPA in accordance with 40 CFR 166.32 (b). These reports must be submitted to EPA headquarters and the EPA regional office within 6 months of the above expiration date. Interim reports must be submitted annually. In accordance with 40 CFR, 166.32(a) these offices shall also be immediately informed of any adverse incidents which result from the use of

use of paraformaldehyde in connection with this exemption.

2. Any future correspondence in connection with this exemption should refer to file symbol: 05-DD-03.
3. Unregistered paraformaldehyde products, containing  $\leq 97\%$  paraformaldehyde (CAS #30525-89-4) may be applied. All of the directions, restrictions, and precautions described in the quarantine exemption request, dated June 22, 2005, must be followed. Please ensure that personnel and applicators receive a copy of these use directions.
4. Applications may be made at a rate of 10.6 grams of product per cubic meter, or 0.3 grams of product per cubic foot.
5. Decontamination requires a contact time of 2 -4 hours. Applicators will ensure that treatments have been fully effective through the use of spore strips, incubated for 72 hours.
6. Approximately 375 pounds of product can be used within the three year period at the USAMRIID laboratory facilities at Fort Detrick. This will average 125 pounds of product used per year.
7. Although OSHA has set the Permissible Exposure Level (PEL) for formaldehyde at 0.75 ppm, adverse health effects, including respiratory irritation and impaired mucociliary function, have been observed at levels of 0.3 ppm. In addition, gas detector tubes used to monitor postapplication levels of paraformaldehyde are subject to a 25% margin of error. Therefore, Draeger detector tubes or other appropriate measurement devices such as the Formaldimeter must be used in conjunction with a formaldehyde activation tube to extend the measurement range to 0.04 ppm. Laboratory workers must not be allowed to re-enter treated areas until air concentrations of formaldehyde are below 0.04 ppm. Reentry to a treated room is only permissible with an organic vapor respirator. The respirator can be removed once the formaldehyde concentration is less than 0.016 ppm (which can be calculated based on air exchange rates).
8. This quarantine exemption expires three years from the date of authorization.

/signed/

James J. Jones, Director  
Office of Pesticide Programs

Date: 9/29/05

cc: EPA Region III

William.Schultz@DET.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL