

Imbiber Beads®

Information Bulletin

#180497

Reference: OXIDIZERS and IMBIBER BEADS®

OXIDIZING MATERIAL . A term used chiefly in shipping and storage-safety regulations to refer to any substance which tends to evolve oxygen when the environmental temperatures rises, since this may cause ignition of sensitive organic material in the same area. It also refers to oxidizing chemicals like chlorates, perchlorates, nitrates, peroxides, etc. which can react spontaneously and vigorously at ambient temperatures when in contact with most organic compounds or materials.

(from the Glossary of Chemical Terms 2nd Edition 1982 - Hampel, Clifford A.)

OXIDIZER . A substance that yields oxygen readily to stimulate the combustion of organic matter. (ASTM STP825 .A guide to the Safe Handling of Hazardous Material Accidents)

NOTE: The notice on all Imbiber Beads® products is to warn people that a potential hazard exists when Imbiber Beads® are mixed with oxidizers. **The warning applies also to any finely divided organic matter, which includes a myriad of sorbent products including polypropylene, polyethylene, peatmoss, corn cob, sawdust, wood chips, and a host of others. - NOT JUST Imbiber Beads®.** In fact, Imbiber Beads® will not even imbibe/absorb most oxidizers and aside from the hazard involved would not be recommended for use on an oxidizer as a sorbent.

* **All** sorbent manufacturers have a legal responsibility to ensure that customers are informed of any potential hazard which may exist as a result of using their products.*

A few oxidizers are shipped as bulk liquids, and most of the liquids will cause fire by contact with combustible material; Nitric acid, mixed acid, perchloric acid, or hydrogen peroxide may cause fire when brought into contact with combustible materials.

Ammonium nitrate, ammonium nitrate fertilizer, sodium nitrate and other nitrates usually will not burn alone, but when intimately mixed with organic matter they will burn strongly if ignited. The heat of burning melts the nitrate, which may then ignite any combustible material it touches. (ASTM STP825)

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