



**PERFORMANCE  
SEALING  
SOLUTIONS**

## **Safety Information for TFCO Inc. PTFE Products**

**Applicability:** This safety information applies to the following TFCO Inc. PTFE products:

Expanded PTFE Joint Sealant	PTFE Thread Sealant Tape (all grades)
Expanded PTFE Sheet	PTFE Valve Stem Packing
Expanded PTFE Gasket Tape	Custom Products made of 100% PTFE

### **Requirement for Hazard Communication:**

OSHA Regulation 29 CFR 1910.1200 requires that hazards associated with particular chemicals be communicated for safety purposes. Hazards are communicated by way of a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and labeling of product packaging.

### **Why is a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or Safety Data Sheet (SDS) not required for the particular TFCO, Inc products listed?**

OSHA differentiates between a chemical and an article. An article is defined as follows:

*Article* means a manufactured item other than a fluid or particle: (i) which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture; (ii) which has end use function(s) dependent in whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and (iii) which under normal conditions of use does not release more than very small quantities, *e.g.*, minute or trace amounts of a hazardous chemical (as determined under paragraph (d) of this section), and does not pose a physical hazard or health risk to employees. 29 CFR 1910.1200(c)

All of the products listed above meet the requirements of an article when used within the operating limits established by TFCO, Inc. As a result, they are considered non-hazardous under normal conditions of use and do not require a MSDS or SDS. See OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200(b)(6)(v).

### **Are there any risks associated with PTFE products when used outside of the recommended limits?**

Yes. If heated above 600°F (315°C), these products may cause decomposition byproducts such as hydrogen fluoride, carbonyl fluoride and perfluoroolefins. Particulate matter evolved from overheating may cause polymer fume fever, a “flu-like” illness. This can result when continuous service temperatures exceed 600°F, when burning, grinding or melting the product, or if the products are involved in a fire.

Therefore,

- Do not heat above 600°F (315°C)
- Do not grind, cut, burn or melt the products without effective ventilation and/or personal protective equipment
- In case of a fire, wear self-contained breathing apparatus, full protective equipment, and neoprene gloves when handling refuse from a fire involving PTFE.