

# PHASE

PROJECT ON HEALTH AND SAFETY IN ELECTRONICS  
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Technical Report: ETHYLENE GLYCOL MONOETHYL ETHER ACETATE (also known as  
EG MONOETHYLETHER ACETATE and CELLOSOLVE ACETATE  
and 2-ETHOXYETHYL ACETATE)

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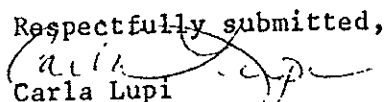
There are very few reports of any effects on humans resulting from exposure to CELLOSOLVE ACETATE. At concentrations below the OSHA limit (100 PPM), the only expected effects might be eye, nose, and throat irritation as well as skin irritations. As with all solvents however, any amount of CELLOSOLVE ACETATE could aggravate any problems the worker may already have in these areas of the body (dry skin, skin cuts, nasal problems, etc.) At higher concentrations, central nervous system depression (headaches, dizziness, fatigue) and/or kidney damage may result.

There is no information available on the effects of long-term exposure to small amounts of CELLOSOLVE ACETATE. This does not mean that such effects do not exist.

As the AIHA Hygienic Guide literature states, CELLOSOLVE ACETATE is broken down in the body and becomes ETHYLENE GLYCOL MONOETHYL ETHER, also known as CELLOSOLVE. NIOSH, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, has recently put out a report on glycol ethers which includes CELLOSOLVE. As pages 6-8 of this report discuss, there is evidence that CELLOSOLVE causes reproductive problems in animals. (See the attached Reproductive Hazards Factsheet for an explanation of the meaning of animal studies.) Possible effects include: defects in the bone structure of the developing offspring, (whose mother was exposed during pregnancy), changes in the chemical substances in the brain of the developing child, toxic effects (not specified) on the exposed pregnant woman, and death of the developing child early in pregnancy.\*

So CELOOSOLVE ACETATE may be suspected of causing these problems when they body breaks it down into CELLOSOLVE. NIOSH also plans to study the reproductive effects of CELLOSOLVE ACETATE itself.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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\*These studies were done by exposing animals to comparatively large amounts of the substance (larger than would be expected in the working environment.) They are not used to predict exactly what will happen in exposed humans, but simply to give some general ideas about whether the substance is capable of causing adverse effects.