



## CONSERVATION BY DESIGN LIMITED

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# TECHNICAL DATA SHEET VULPEX LIQUID SOAP (SR7)

## Composition

Potassium methyl cyclohexyl oleate.

## Description

A non corrosive, non-foaming, non hazardous, germicidal, non-acidic insecticidal formulation used throughout the

museum world as a versatile 'wet' or 'dry' (spirit) cleaner for practically any material from paper to stone.

Vulpex liquid soap attacks and emulsifies dirt and grease with great speed with entirely safe and controllable action.

Vulpex Liquid soap has been used with eminent success on historic and artistic objects ranging from feathers, costumery, leather, carpets and furniture to arms and armour, precious metals, shell, ivory, marble and stone since its instruction in 1970. Picture restorers \* regard Vulpex as an indispensable tool in the safe removal of hard, oxidised grime from the surface of oil paintings prior to restoration.

## Directions on use

Vulpex Spirit soap is a highly effective de-greasant, hands should therefore be protected against the loss of natural oils by wearing gloves or by the subsequent use of a lanolin based hand-cream. Eyes should also be protected from splashes.

Vulpex Spirit Soap is supplied as a dense concentrate form which needs to be diluted before use. To start with '1' part Vulpex soap to '6 - 7' parts water (by volume) is recommended. More water can be added if the soiling is light. as a spirit soap, '1' part Vulpex in '10 - 20' parts solvent will be found effective. Normally, only a few seconds of scrubbing or rubbing will be enough to break up and dissolve grime films. Adjust dilution accordingly. (A sign of poor dilution is that a greasy like residue will remain on the surface after application, being the solids content of Vulpex)

A final rinse or wipe-over with clean water completes the job, leaving nothing behind to create future conservation problems.

Dirty Vulpex solutions need not be discarded, the solution remains highly active *for* months even though highly charged with emulsified grime.

In cold weather separation may occur, shake container vigorously to eradicate and the efficiency of Vulpex is not diminished because it appears more or less viscous.

### **Cleaning Suggestions: Oil Paintings**

When cleaning oil paintings it is essential that Vulpex is diluted with white spirits (or a suitable petro-chemical solvent such as Stoddard solvent or mineral spirits) and **NOT** water. Water could penetrate through to the canvas and create mould/ fungus. The recommended dilution for cleaning oil paintings on canvas is 1 part Vulpex to 10-20 parts solvent.

### **Cleaning suggestions: Leather Products**

When cleaning leather (or any water - sensitive material) Vulpex can be used in white spirit as a non-aqueous cleaner - '1' part Vulpex in '20' parts spirit. Although Vulpex can be diluted in IMS , white spirit is recommended for its slower evaporation rate which enhances the cleaning action especially where heavy materials like solid leather are heavily soiled with grease etc.

### **Cleaning suggestions: Saddle cloth**

'1' part Vulpex in '15 - 20' parts white spirit, with a wipe-over from a rag dampened in clean white spirit to remove soap traces after cleaning. Saddle cloth will probably have to be totally immersed in the same solution and gently squeezed to loosen / remove the dirty grease. Immerse in clean white spirit afterwards, squeeze gently to remove excess white spirit and allow to dry in horizontal plane with good air-flow.

After the above treatment, the leather may well feel 'dry' and stiffer, which means the natural greases have been removed by the cleaning. A good quality leather dressing (ie Pliantine Leather Dressing) may be appropriate at this point

### **Cleaning suggestions: Stone & Walls**

Vulpex is particularly valued for cleaning murals and ornamented or hand-painted ceilings and demonstrates extraordinary powers to dissolve and emulsify fats, fatty oils, mineral oils, waxes, hydrocarbons and hydrogenates or chlorinated hydrocarbons. The resulting emulsions are remarkably stable, thus eliminating disposal problems.

Brush application of Vulpex on stone speeds and enhances cleaning. Brushing helps to break down oxidised dirt films and allows the solution better access to textured surfaces. Micro-fine cracks harbouring dirt are subjected to a deep-cleaning action rarely achieved with normal commercial cleaners. A final rinse or wipe with clean water neutralises the surface, leaving behind nothing to create future conservation problems.

Vulpex must be diluted properly prior to use, the dilution factor is influenced by various site features, including extent and hardness of surface soiling and method of application. As an initial trial a blend of '1' part soap to '6 - 7' parts cold tap water (by' volume) is suggested. More water

can be added if the soiling is light. For cleaning plaster-work we recommend '1' part Vulpex to '6 - 7' parts water. As a spirit soap, '1' part Vulpex in '10 - 20' parts solvent will be found effective. Dilution should be fixed so that scrubbing for only a few seconds produces satisfactory results after rinsing with clean water. Rinsing preferably by low-power spraying is essential to complete the process and to neutralise the surface.

### **Cleaning suggestions: Gilding**

Vulpex can be used with care to cleanse gilded items. Dilute with a suitable solvent to accommodate the composition of the gilding base gesso and then use a damp (as dry as possible) swab to locally cleanse the effected area. After application cleanse the treated surface with a similarly lightly damped swab of the chosen solvent. When dry a careful application of Renaissance Wax will help to brighten and protect the surface for the future.

### **Cleaning suggestions: Items made of Gold**

For removing layers of dirt/ grease hardened by age Vulpex is the preferred choice for trained conservators, and because Vulpex is alkaline (non acid) it will not harm gold. Ideally immerse the object in a plastic or stainless steel bath containing '1' part Vulpex to '10' parts white spirit (by volume) and very gently scrub the dirty surfaces with a nylon bristle brush. If white spirit is thought to be too 'strong' a solvent then it may be replaced with paraffin. Once the object is clean rinse it with plain paraffin to remove all traces of the Vulpex soap and thoroughly dry (ideally by natural means or by using a controllable hot air dryer).

As soon as the surface is both clean and dry, don a pair of lint-free cotton gloves to hold the piece and then apply a thin film of Renaissance Wax, allowing it to harden for a few minutes before very gently polishing it with a soft clean lint-free or microfibre cloth till it shines and is glass-clear. '2' or '3' thin applications of Renaissance Wax will deepen the lustre and the protection provided. If the wax is caught in finely carved areas polish out with a soft brush to prevent the wax drying in solid white deposits. The first waxing, which provides a 'key' for subsequent waxings, must be polished up with minimum pressure since it can easily be dragged off metals (which are generally not porous). During the final stages of cleaning / waxing it is even more important that one wears lint-free cotton gloves to prevent acidic fingerprints becoming apparent under the wax at a later time.

### **General tips**

As with all conservation applications it is important to ensure complete compatibility with the substrate being treated and any chemicals that may be applied as part of the ongoing preservation of the item. Any traces of the cleaning agent should be carefully removed from the surface of the treatment area before applying further chemicals thereby reducing the possibility of any adverse chemical reaction.

### **Storage**

Vulpex concentrate keeps perfectly for several years. Store at room temperature. In winter site conditions, if gelling or separation occurs, the concentrate in its container should be warmed in hot water or by a radiator until the soap re-liquifies , before diluting with water.

## General Health & Safety

Vulpex is a highly effective de-greasant, hands should therefore always be protected against the loss of natural oils by wearing gloves or the subsequent use of a lanolin hand-cream. Eyes should be protected from splashes.

Good ventilation in the area of use is a necessity especially when mixed with a solvent based solution.

Avoid naked flames and other ignition sources. Prior to use it is essential that all users are completely familiar with the MSDS sheet as outlined on pages 6-9 and the MSDS sheet pertinent to any solvent being used. ~

The specialist cleaning and restorative products and techniques referred to in this leaflet are designed to be a guide for practitioners, conservators and restorers with the appropriate knowledge to handle such products. If you are in any doubt about the application of this product or any of the items mentioned herein please contact our Technical department for further advise.

## Ordering

Order Code: **SUVULP 0100** (sampler) and **SUVULP 1000**

Supplied in new 100 ml sampler unit and standard 1 litre plastic bottles.

## Supplied By

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# HEALTH & SAFETY DATA SHEET VULPEX LIQUID SOAP (SR7)

## 1. PROVIDER

Conservation By Design Limited  
Timecare Works  
5 Singer Way  
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Tel: +44(0)1234 853555  
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## 2. COMPOSITION

			EC Symbols	Risk Phrase
Methyl cyclohexanol	Cas No: 583.59-5	<40%	Xn~harmful	20
Potassium hydroxide	1310-58-3	<3%	C (corrosive)	35
Water & other components		<100%	None	None

			EC Symbols	Risk Phrase

### 3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

May cause burns in contact with mucous membranes (eyes, throat, nose, respiratory system) and skin. May be harmful if inhaled. Avoid naked flames and other ignition sources.

### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Remove contaminated clothing and launder before re-use.

Inhalation:	Remove affected person to fresh air. Keep patient calm. Obtain medical advice.
Skin Contact:	Wash thoroughly with water.
Eye Contact:	Wash immediately with clean water for at least 10 minutes. If irritation persists obtain medical attention.
Ingestion:	Wash out mouth thoroughly with water. Do not induce vomiting. Symptomatic ~~~!It. Obtain medical attention.

### 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Suitable media:	Water spray or mist, foam, carbon dioxide or other dry agents.
Unsuitable media:	None.

If dried out, will burn and may give off noxious fumes (e.g. carbon oxides). Prevent release to water sources. Wear breathing apparatus and protective clothing.

### 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Contain any spilled material immediately with dry agent (e.g. sand, vermiculite etc.) and vacuum or shovel into labelled containers for disposal (See section 13). Prevent release to clean water sources.

### 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Handling:	Ensure good local ventilation/extraction. Wear plastic/rubber gloves to protect skin. Wash splashes as soon as possible. Use lanolin-based handcream if required.
Storage conditions:	Store in a cool dry place in the original containers. Keep sealed. Avoid sources of ignition or naked flames.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Ventilation:	Use in well ventilated area.
Hand protection:	Avoid contact with skin - use disposable gloves
Eye protection:	Avoid contact with eyes.
Skin protection:	Wash with water.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance:	Liquid
Colour:	Pale orange:
Odour:	Menthol like
pH:	12.0 - 14.0 (concentrate)
Flashpoint:	63 C (methyl cyclohexanol) Boiling point/range: > 100 C
Oxidising properties:	Not determined
Vapour pressure:	Not determined
Relative density:	1.02 approx.
Solubility:	100% soluble in water and dry-cleaning fluids

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Conditions to avoid:	Avoid naked flames and other sources of ignition
Materials to avoid:	Strong oxidising agents.
Hazardous decomposition	
Products:	Noxious fumes (e.g. carbon oxides) may be released if burned or heated to decomposition.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Chronic effects:	No known long-term effects provided handling guidelines are observed
Acute effects:	Since this product is mildly corrosive it may damage delicate mucous membranes (eyes, nose, throat etc.) and unprotected skin. May be harmful by inhalation

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

This preparation is unlikely to be acutely toxic to aquatic organisms and is largely biodegradable

## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Users should acquaint themselves with local regulations. European Hazard Code H8 (corrosive). Therefore waste is considered "hazardous" if it contains at least 5% of the concentrate.

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Proper shipping name:	Corrosive Liquid, Basic. Organic, N.D.S. (Contains potassium hydroxide)
UN No.	3267
hazard Class:	8
UN Packing Group:	m
ADR/RID:	56 C HI/UN No: 80
EAC:	2X
IATA/DGR Limits:	Passenger- 5litres (1 litre in non-UN packages) Cargo: - 60 litres
IMO/IMDG code:	8147-1
Ems:	8-15 MFAG: 760 :
UN Recommends:	Limited quantity not requiring label - 1 litre
CEFIC Tremcard:	80G20

## 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION

"Components listed as "dangerous" in Annex: I to directive 67/548/EEC

Methyl cyclohexanol	603-010-00-9
Potassium hydroxide	019-002..00-8

Classified according to Directives 67/548/EEC and 8&'379/EEC and their various amendments, :  
and labelled as follows: : **VULPEX**

(contains methyl cyclohexanol and potassium hydroxide EC Nos. 209-512-0 and 215-181-7)

Warning symbol	Corrosive(C)
Warning words	corrosive
Risk phases	R34 - causes burns, R20 - harmful] by inhalation
Safety phrases:	
S26	In case of contact with eyes rinse immediately with water and seek medical advice
S38/37/39	Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye / face protection
S45	In case of accident or illness seek medical advice immediately

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

mg/nlj

Occupational exposure levels	8h- TWA	Short-term	Reference
Methyl cyclohexanol	235	350(15minute)	UK,OES
	235	-	Denmark
	120	-	Norway
Potassimhydroxide	-	2 (15minute)	UK,OES
	2	-	Denmark, Finland Norway) US ACGIH

Inventories: all components are listed in EINECS and TSCA funded

**Use:** concentrated industrial cleaning fluid

The format of this Safety Data Sheet conforms to the requirements of EC Directive 91/155/EEC.

**Disclaimer:** Although reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this document to assess and summarise the hazard properties of the product, the user must satisfy himself that the information contained herein permits safe handling under local site conditions, since the supplier cannot foresee all conditions of use. The information in this document is not intended to be a product specification.