



**TECHNICAL DATA SHEET**  
**April 1, 2011**

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**CAUSTIC SODA**  
**pH Control**

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***Description:***

**CAUSTIC SODA** is the common name for Sodium Hydroxide, (NaOH), a strong alkaline compound used to control the pH in water-based fluids or sodium-based brines. Drilling muds or sodium-based brines can be adjusted to basic pH values with **CAUSTIC SODA**.

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***Application:***

**CAUSTIC SODA** additions are influenced by such factors as dilution, type and amount of mud materials added to the mud, type and amount of formation drilled and contaminants encountered.

**CAUSTIC SODA** may cause an increase in viscosity in lightly treated muds; therefore, for best results, **CAUSTIC SODA** should be added to water in a drum and allowed to run into the mud at a slow rate.

The amount of **CAUSTIC SODA** needed for pH and alkalinity control and the following treatments are set forth as a broad guide.

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***Handling and Storage :***

**CAUSTIC SODA**, being highly alkaline, can cause loss of vision due to eye contact and will cause severe burns if skin contact occurs. For skin and eyes, immediately flush with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse or discard. Chemical workers goggles should be worn for the eyes and a full face shield should be worn to protect the face. Rubber gloves and boots should be worn under sleeves and pant legs. Store **CAUSTIC SODA** indoors taking special care to keep the material as dry as possible.