

## Questions about Calcium Chloride as a Dust Suppressant

Calcium Chloride is a safe, extremely effective, dust suppressant. It is a natural, inorganic salt that is classified as non-hazardous. It is used in many food grade applications including beer, pickles, dairy cheese, etc. The bigger threat facing the health and welfare of children and pets is fugitive dust emissions from an untreated gravel road – especially in the era of Covid 19, a pulmonary disease, dust is the enemy and treating it is imperative.

### **Q1: Is Calcium Chloride a carcinogen?**

A1: No calcium chloride is not a carcinogen. It is a natural, inorganic salt that is classified as non-hazardous.

### **Q2: Is it harmful to plant life?**

A2: Calcium Chloride is hygroscopic and deliquescent which means it attracts and holds moisture which is what makes it an effective dust suppressant. Calcium Chloride is used in agriculture as a fertilizer supplement for cherries, apples and tomatoes, etc. Concentrated Calcium Chloride should not be sprayed directly onto plant life, as it could pull moisture away from the plant.

### **Q3: Can it be transmitted by animal feet?**

A3: This is an unlikely scenario. Once calcium chloride soaks into the road, the likelihood of transmission is low. If an animal or a sneaker stepped in a puddle of calcium chloride, some could be transmitted and can simply be washed off with water.

### **Q4: Is there a risk to animals?**

A4: Calcium Chloride is hygroscopic and deliquescent, it could pull moisture from skin / paws. It can cause irritation or rash to skin if not washed off. Irritation does not occur immediately, and calcium chloride should be washed off with water to avoid irritation.

### **Q5: Can the product's mist travel and cause issues / how far does the spray travel during application?**

A5: The spray from the nozzles is being propelled downward in a controlled, professional manner at approximately 100 gallons per minute, there is an overspray of approximately 4' off the end of the spray bar – applicators are aware of this and it typically hits the road shoulders. It doesn't have the opportunity to mist and travel vast distances. Calcium Chloride is a super saturated solution that attracts and holds moisture, once it hits a properly prepared / graded / watered gravel roadbed, it activates quickly, and does not migrate.

### **Q6: Does this pose a risk to bare feet?**

A6: Another unlikely scenario, applications occur on freshly graded / prepared gravel roads meant for vehicle traffic and cures relatively quickly, it is unlikely bare feet would be anywhere near this application. Calcium Chloride is hygroscopic and deliquescent and could pull moisture from skin, if it comes in contact with bare feet, if not washed off, could cause skin irritation and rash. Irritation does not occur immediately, it is detectable (like salt drying out lips) and should be washed off with water.

### **Q7: Is it transferrable from dog to floor to children?**

A7: Highly unlikely. As with anything a dog steps in outside (mud, dirt, etc.), paws should be checked and cleaned off prior to letting them roam the home.