



BARITE

DESCRIPTION

Ground barium sulphate (BaSO₄) with a minimum specific gravity of 4.2 and conforming to the following API specifications:

Wet Screen Analysis:

3% residue (max) on US Sieve #200 (74 microns)

5% residue (min) on US Sieve #325 (44 microns)

Soluble Alkaline Earths as Calcium: 250 mg/L (max).

PROPERTIES

Physical		Chemical	
Appearance:	Grey-white powder	Type:	Inorganic Barium Salt
Specific Gravity:	4.2-4.4	Solubility:	Insoluble (water, oil)
Melting Point:	1580° C	pH:	7.0-9.5
Flash Point:	Not applicable	Microtox:	Not applicable

APPLICATION

In its pure form barite is chemically inert in fresh water and oil-based drilling fluids and can be used to increase mud densities to as high as 2400 kg/m³.

To calculate the amount of barite required to raise the weight use the following formula:

$$\text{Barite kg/m}^3 = \frac{4200 (W_2 - W_1)}{4200 - W_2}$$

where W₁ = present mud weight in kg/m³
where W₂ = desired mud weight in kg/m³

Every 100 sacks of barite added will increase the volume of the system by one cubic metre.

MIXING AND HANDLING

Barite can be mixed through the mud hopper as rapidly as needed. When large quantities are added to a mud system it may be necessary to add water to prevent mud dehydration.

WHMIS: Not controlled	TDG: Not regulated	PACKAGING: 40 kg sack
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