



# ST-504

## VARI-GEL INJECTION RESIN



### INTRODUCTION

Stratathane ST-504 Vari-Gel Injection Resin is a solvent-free, MDI-based water control and soil stabilization system. ST-504 is hydrophilic and reacts with water to form either a flexible gel or an elastomeric foam depending on the amount of reaction water added to the mix.

Stratathane ST-504 contains no measurable amount of TDI as performed by the Modified Analysis for Diisocyanates. ST-504 is non-flammable, non-carcinogenic, and non-corrosive as defined by 40 CFR and as described in the *NIOSH Pocket Guide for Hazardous Materials*.

**ST-504 has NSF 61 approval for potable water contact and carries the Underwriters Laboratories UL seal.**

Stratathane ST-504 is mixed with water at the work site to form a single injection material. The inert end product forms a water barrier which is essentially unaffected by acids, gasses, and organisms usually found in soil. A minimum of water (around 5% by volume) is needed for a reaction to occur, but large amounts can be accommodated through reaction or displacement.

Stratathane ST-504 is useful for a wide range of water control and soil stabilization applications, including grout curtains, stabilizing water-bearing soils, and sealing cracks or joints in concrete walls, buildings, dams and utility vaults.

Stratathane ST-504 may be placed by hand pumps or multi-ratio power pumps. Stainless steel fittings are recommended but not strictly required because ST-504 is no more corrosive than water. Cleanup of solidified material in the system, however, is often accomplished with caustic cleaning compounds, making stainless steel advisable.

The low viscosity of ST-504 makes it easy to inject. Once cured, its impermeability makes it an effective water shut-off system. The permeability of soil grouted with ST-504 depends on how well its voids are filled with grout. Values in the 10<sup>-7</sup> cm/sec range should be obtained using *ASTM Constant Head Permeability Test Method D-2434*.

A three stage reaction takes place when ST-504 mixes with

an equal volume of water and foams. The mixture first thickens and becomes creamy. Then, carbon dioxide gas evolves rapidly and the mixture expands as it cures. The expanded ST-504 volume then sets into a strong impermeable water barrier. Unrestrained ST-504 foam may expand up to 10 times its starting volume depending upon the degree of confinement applied to the expanding mass.

When ST-504 mixes with a large volume of water (i.e. 10:1 or greater), the three stages of the foam reaction cycle are not visible in the reacting mass. Instead, a marked viscosity increase will be seen just before the mass solidifies.

The reaction sequence with water takes place continuously during injection as product exits the packer. Initial penetration of the ST-504 grout mixture is facilitated by its low viscosity. After setting (in the case of the foam sequence), the expansive mixture pressure induces further filling of the grout zone. An ST-504 seal will tolerate freeze-thaw, wet-dry cycling, extrusion, and compression to a substantial degree.

### DESCRIPTION

Uncured ST-504 is a dark brown liquid with a viscosity of about 700 cps at 25 C (77 F). This low viscosity is reduced even further after water is added. ST-504 contains non-volatile materials making up almost 100% of its total weight. Cured ST-504 is very firm and flexible. Its solid is a three dimensional cross-linked molecular structure which is insoluble in water.

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Color	Dark brown	
Viscosity	700 cps at 25 C	ASTM D1838
Specific Gravity	1.1 g/cc	9.25 lbs/gal
Flash Point	>220 F	ASTM D-93
Solids Content	>85%	ASTM D2832
Tensile Strength	>250 psi	ASTM 3574
Elongation	>400%	ASTM 3574
Shrinkage	<11%	ASTM D-1042
Vapor Pressure	0.0000002 psi	
Vapor Density	8.5 (Air = 1.0)	
Solubility	Insoluble; Reacts with water	



Set time is the period from first contact of ST-504 with water to the point where the mix becomes too thick for gravity flow. The set time (sometimes called foam time) is influenced primarily by the mix temperature and the ratio of ST-504 to water. Set times are longest at low temperatures and ST-504 ratios, and vary a little with the age of the resin and mineral content of the water. The viscosity of mixed ST-504 is lowest for the first 40% to 50% of the set time and increases rapidly as the mix approaches set.

WATER : RESIN	SET TIME Seconds at 20 Degrees C		
	GEL	RISE	TACK FREE
9:1	150	-	-
4:1	95		110
2:1	85	95	100
1:1	95	110	160
1:2	100	120	170
1:3	100	120	180

## CLEANUP

ST-504 should not stand in equipment more than 12 hours without precautions because the possibility of moisture contamination is high. Flush equipment with ST-590 purging fluid and ST-522 Cleaner soon after use. The most common solvent for removal of liquid ST-504 is methylene chloride. Check solvents for water content prior to use.

When using solvents during cleanup, extinguish all ignition sources and observe proper precautions for handling such materials. For cleanup of cured ST-504, soak in a 100% solution of ST-522 Veri-Kleen Grout Cleaner using a covered polyethylene container. Grout spills on clothing are permanent, so disposable coveralls are recommended.

## HANDLING AND STORAGE

Use reasonable care in handling and storing ST-504. The material is moderately sensitive to high storage temperatures. Under optimum storage of 40 - 60 F in dry conditions, the material should have a useful shelf life of one year. Storage temperature should not exceed 80 F. Once a container has been opened, the life of the material is reduced. Let container stand and adjust to ambient temperature before opening to prevent contamination by condensation. Test a resealed container to assure that

moisture contamination has not occurred. Before handling this product, read and understand the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Instruction in sound safety practices is beyond the scope of this publication.

Direct contact of ST-504 liquid may cause skin and eye irritation. If ST-504 comes in contact with skin, wash with soap and water. For eye contact, flush immediately with water and consult a physician. ST-504 must not be ingested. Before eating, smoking or drinking, remove protective clothing, wash with soap and water, and stand away from the immediate work site. Do not smoke while working with ST-504. If respiratory difficulties occur, seek medical attention. Avoid exposure to vapors created from this product when it is heated. Gloves, goggles, respirator and protective clothing are recommended. Ventilate the work area as a matter of good practice, although hazardous levels of toxic vapors are not generally given off of the bulk product below 90 degrees F. Small amounts of MDI may be present and some users may be sensitive to MDI.

### Summary of Handling Precautions:

1. Wear goggles and rubber gloves.
2. Wash any body contact area thoroughly with water.
3. In case of eye contact, wash immediately with water and seek medical attention.
4. Keep material away from heat and flame.
5. Ventilate and use respirator in hot or closed spaces.

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## STATEMENT

Strata Tech believes that the information herein is an accurate description of the general properties and characteristics of the product(s), but the user is responsible for obtaining current information because the body of knowledge on these subjects is constantly enlarged. Information herein is subject to change without notice. Field conditions also vary widely, so users must undertake sufficient verification and testing of the product or process herein to determine performance, safety, usefulness, and suitability for their own particular use.

Strata Tech warrants only that the product will meet Strata Tech's then-current specification. NO WARRANTY OF SUITABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS MADE. Users should not assume that all safety requirements for their particular application(s) have been indicated herein and that other or additional actions and precautions are not necessary. Users are responsible for always reading and understanding the Material Safety Data Sheet, the product technical literature, and the product label before using any product or process mentioned herein and for following the instructions contained therein.

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