

## Silica Gel Desiccant

**Product numbers, 19960, 19961, 19950, 19952, 2240-3, 2244-3, 2246-3**

Silica Gel is packaged as bulk desiccant (#19960,19961), DriCan® (#19950), Dri-Box® (#19952) or Cartridge Desiccant (#2240-3, 2244-3, 2246-3).

Blue indicating silica gel contains Cobalt Chloride and should not be used in direct contact with food or pharmaceuticals.

Silica gel is a granular form of Silicon Dioxide made from Sodium Silicate to produce an amorphously structured porous matrix. Silica gel will remove moisture at temperatures as high as 150°F, but it is best used at room temperature (70-90°F) and high relative humidity. Silica gel can absorb upwards of 40% of its weight in water vapor at 100% humidity, and can reduce relative humidity (RH) in a closed container down to below 40% at any temperature in its range, until it is saturated.

As moisture is absorbed, blue granules will turn purple and then pink when they have absorbed 8% of their weight in moisture; when fully saturated at 40%, the gel will turn white and will no longer absorb moisture.

Saturated Silica Gel can be reactivated by placing in an oven at 150°C (300°F) for up to 3 ½ hours or until the blue color is restored, Note: heating above 162°C (325°F) can damage the gel and render it unable to absorb moisture.

Gel desiccant can also be reactivated using a microwave oven. Loose desiccant should be placed in a shallow microwave safe pan and heated at a medium power setting for 3 to 5 minutes. If the blue color has not returned, stir gel and heat for another 3 to 5 minutes. Repeat until all of the gel has returned to the original blue color. Reactivating one pound of gel will take 8 to 12 minutes. Avoid high power settings as overheating can damage the gel and render it unable to absorb moisture. Packaged desiccants such as DriCan®, Dri-Box® or Cartridge Desiccant should not be microwaved.