# Merck Vaccine Agent Summary Sheet (VASS)

# Health and Safety Summary Information for Employees Working with:

## Canine Influenza Vaccine H3N2, Killed Virus

#### SECTION I-HAZARD INFORMATION

**Organism**: Influenza A H3N2.

**Characteristics:** Killed virus vaccine containing canine influenza strain H3N2.

# **Company Information:**

Merck Animal Health

2 Giralda Farms, Madison, NJ 07940-1026

Customer Service: 800-521-5767 Order Desk: 800-648-2118

Technical Service (Companion Animal): 800-224-5318

Technical Service (Livestock: cows, pigs, poultry, aquaculture): 800-211-3573

Fax: 908-473-5560

**Emergency Telephone Number**: 1-908-423-6000 (24/7/365)

#### SECTION II-HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

**Vaccine protects against**: Disease caused by Canine influenza. This is a relatively new disease caused by a "flu" virus. It causes respiratory infection, spreads quickly and may cause serious illness, such as pneumonia<sup>(1)</sup>.

#### SECTION III-HEALTH HAZARDS

Workers handling live canine influenza during manufacturing: For more information and handling instructions, refer to your site biorisk assessment document.

**Workers handling inactivated canine influenza vaccine:** The killed virus is not infectious, and poses no risk to those handling the vaccine.

#### Canine Influenza Vaccine H3N2 Disclaimer

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#### SECTION IV-MEDICAL

Medical Surveillance: Not required.

## SECTION V-RECOMMENDED PRECAUTIONS

**Containment:** The virus in the vaccine is chemically inactivated; there is no live viral agent present.

## SECTION VI-HANDLING INFORMATION

**Spills:** Contain spilled material using a spill pillow or absorbent material and dispose of according to departmental procedures. Minimal personal protective equipment includes safety glasses, lab coat/work uniform, gloves and slip resistant shoe covers.

## References:

1. Canine Influenza Virus, http://www.merck-animal-health-usa.com/diseases/canineInfluenza/overview.aspx, accessed 11/09/2015.

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