

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Prepared to U.S. OSHA, CMA, ANSI and Canadian WHMIS Standards

1. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

CHEMICAL NAME; CLASS: METHANE/CARBON DIOXIDE/NITROGEN
GAS MIXTURE

CHEMICAL FAMILY: Organic Hydrocarbon Mixture

PRODUCT USE: Research Gas

MANUFACTURER

MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC.

959 ROUTE 46 EAST
PARSIPPANY, NJ 07054-0624
USA

Phone: 973/257-1100

EMERGENCY PHONE: CHEMTREC (U.S. DOMESTIC): 1-800-424-9300
CHEMTREC INTERNATIONAL: 1-703-527-3887
CANUTEC (CANADA): 1-613-996-6666

2. COMPOSITION and INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

(10,000 ppm = 1%)

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS #	mole %	EXPOSURE LIMITS IN AIR					
			ACGIH-TLV		OSHA-STEL		NIOSH IDLH ppm	OTHER ppm
			TWA ppm	STEL ppm	TWA ppm	STEL ppm		
Methane	74-82-8	1-< 14.3	There are no specific exposure limits for Methane. Methane is a simple asphyxiant (SA). Oxygen levels should be maintained above 19.5%.					
Carbon Dioxide	124-38-9	1-50	5000	30,000	5000 10,000 (Vacated 1989 PEL)	30,000 (Vacated 1989 PEL)	40,000	NIOSH RELs TWA = 5000 STEL = 30000 DFG MAKs: TWA = 5000 PEAK = 2•MAK 60 min., momentary value
Nitrogen	7727-37-9	Balance	There are no specific exposure limits for Nitrogen. Oxygen levels should be maintained above 19.5%.					

NOTE: All WHMIS required information is included. It is located in appropriate sections based on the ANSI Z400.1-1998 format. This product has been classified in accordance with the hazard criteria of the CPR and the MSDS contains all the information required by the CPR.

See Section 16 for Definitions of Terms Used.

3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW: This gas mixture is a colorless, non-flammable gas which is odorless or which has a sharp odor (due to the presence of Carbon Dioxide). Inhalation of this gas mixture can cause nausea, dizziness, headache, mental confusion, increased blood pressure and respiratory rate. Severe inhalation exposures may be fatal, due to Carbon Dioxide overexposure or asphyxiation. Moisture in the air could lead to the formation of carbonic acid which can be irritating to the eyes. A cylinder rupture hazard exists when this gas mixture, which is under pressure, is subject to heat or flames.

SYMPTOMS OF OVER-EXPOSURE BY ROUTE OF EXPOSURE: The most significant route of over-exposure for this product is by inhalation.

INHALATION: Inhalation exposures may produce adverse health effects, due to the presence of Carbon Dioxide. Carbon Dioxide is an asphyxiant and a powerful cerebral vasodilator. If the concentration of Carbon Dioxide reaches 10% or more, suffocation can occur rapidly. Inhalation of concentrations between 2 and 10% can cause nausea, dizziness, headache, mental confusion, increased blood pressure and respiratory rate. Carbon Dioxide initially stimulates respiration and then causes respiratory depression. Inhalation of low concentrations (3-5%) have no known permanent harmful effects. Symptoms in humans at various levels of concentration are as follows:

**CARBON DIOXIDE
CONCENTRATION**

SYMPTOMS OF EXPOSURE

1%:	Slight increase in breathing rate.
2%:	Breathing rate increases to 50% above normal; headache; tiredness.
3%:	Breathing increases to twice normal rate, becoming labored; weak narcotic effect; impaired hearing; headache; increase in blood pressure and pulse rate.
4-5%:	Breathing increases to four times normal rate; symptoms of intoxication become evident and slight choking may be felt.
5-10%:	Characteristic sharp odor noticeable. Very labored breathing, headache, visual impairment and ringing in the ears. Judgment may be impaired, followed by loss of consciousness.
>10%:	Unconsciousness occurs more rapidly above 10% level. Prolonged exposure to high concentrations may eventually result in death from asphyxiation.

In addition, high concentrations of this gas mixture can cause an oxygen-deficient environment, especially if released in a poorly-ventilated area (e.g., an enclosed or confined space). Individuals breathing such an atmosphere may experience symptoms which include headaches, ringing in ears, dizziness, drowsiness, unconsciousness, nausea, vomiting, and depression of all the senses. Under some circumstances of overexposure, death may occur. The effects associated with various levels of oxygen are as follows:

CONCENTRATION OF OXYGEN

OBSERVED EFFECT

12-16% Oxygen:	Breathing and pulse rate increase, muscular coordination slightly disturbed.
10-14% Oxygen:	Emotional upset, abnormal fatigue, disturbed respiration.
6-10% Oxygen:	Nausea, vomiting, collapse, or loss of consciousness.
Below 6%:	Convulsive movements, possible respiratory collapse, and death.

CONTACT WITH SKIN or EYES: Moisture in the air could lead to the formation of carbonic acid, which can be irritating to the eyes. Contact with the eyes can cause damage to the retinal ganglion cells.

SKIN ABSORPTION: No component of this gas mixture presents a hazard of skin absorption.

3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION (Continued)

HEALTH EFFECTS OR RISKS FROM EXPOSURE: Over-exposure to this gas mixture may cause the following health effects:

ACUTE: This gas mixture can produce adverse health effects due to Carbon Dioxide overexposure or oxygen deficiency. Inhalation of this gas mixture also cause visual disturbances, shaking, mental confusion, sweating, increased heartbeat, and elevated blood pressure and respiratory rate (due to the presence of Carbon Dioxide). Severe inhalation overexposures areas can be fatal. This gas mixture can be irritating to the eyes.

CHRONIC: Reversible effects on the acid-base balance in the blood, blood pressure, and circulatory system may occur after prolonged exposure to elevated Carbon Dioxide levels. Refer to Section 11 (Toxicological Information) of this MSDS for further information.

TARGET ORGANS: ACUTE: Respiratory system, cardiovascular system, eyes. CHRONIC: Cardiovascular system.

HMIS RATING: HEALTH = 1 FLAMMABILITY = 0 REACTIVITY = 0 PPE LEVEL = B

Hazard Scale: 0 = Minimal 1 = Slight 2 = Moderate 3 = Serious 4 = Severe PPE LEVEL B = Goggles, gloves (leather for handling cylinders)

4. FIRST-AID MEASURES

GENERAL INFORMATION: Remove to fresh air, as quickly as possible. Only trained personnel should administer supplemental oxygen and/or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, if necessary. **Seek medical attention immediately.**

SKIN EXPOSURE: If release of this gas mixture has resulted in frostbite, warm affected area slowly. Seek immediate medical attention.

EYE EXPOSURE: If release of this gas mixture has affected the eyes, seek immediate medical attention.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE: Pre-existing respiratory conditions may be aggravated by overexposure to this gas mixture.

5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

FLASH POINT: Not applicable; non-flammable gas.

AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE: Not applicable.

FLAMMABLE LIMITS (in air by volume, %): Not applicable.

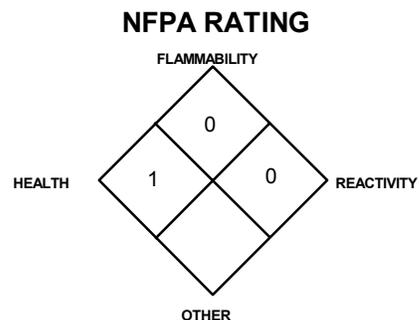
FIRE EXTINGUISHING MATERIALS: Use fire-extinguishing material appropriate for surrounding materials. Use water spray to cool fire-exposed structures, cylinders and equipment.

UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD: None; this gas is non-flammable.

EXPLOSION SENSITIVITY TO MECHANICAL IMPACT: Not sensitive.

EXPLOSION SENSITIVITY TO STATIC DISCHARGE: Not sensitive.

SPECIAL FIRE-FIGHTING PROCEDURES: Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Immediately cool cylinders with water spray from maximum distance, to avoid danger of cylinder rupture. Incipient fire responders should wear eye protection. Structural fire fighters must wear Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and full protective equipment. When cool, move cylinders from fire area if this can be done without risk to firefighters. Other information for pre-planning can be found in the North American Emergency Response Guidebook (Guide Number 126).



See Section 16 for Definition of Ratings

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

LEAK RESPONSE: Evacuate immediate area. Uncontrolled releases should be responded to by trained personnel using pre-planned procedures. Proper protective equipment, should be used in the event of a significant release from a single cylinder. Use only non-sparking tools. Call CHEMTREC (1-800-424-9300) for emergency assistance. Or if in Canada, call CANUTEC (613-996-6666).

Attempt to close the main source valve prior to entering the area. If this does not stop the release (or if it is not possible to reach the valve), allow the gas to release in-place or remove it to a safe area and allow the gas to be released there. Protect personnel attempting to shut-off with water spray. Monitor the surrounding area for the level of Carbon Dioxide and Oxygen. The atmosphere must have at least 19.5 percent Oxygen before non-emergency personnel can be allowed in the area without Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.

7. HANDLING and USE

WORK PRACTICES AND HYGIENE PRACTICES

Do not eat or drink while handling chemicals.

Be aware of all potential exposure symptoms; exposures to a fatal oxygen-deficient atmosphere could occur without any significant warning symptoms.

All work operations should be monitored in such a way that emergency personnel can be immediately contacted in the event of a release.

Workers who handle this gas mixture should wear protective clothing, as listed in Section 8 (Exposure Controls and Personal Protection).

If ventilation controls are not adequate to provide sufficient oxygen content, proper respiratory protection equipment should be provided and workers using such equipment should be carefully trained in its operation and limitations.

Precautions must always be taken to prevent suck-back of foreign materials into the cylinder by using a check-valve, or vacuum break, since suck-back may cause dangerous pressure changes within the cylinder.

STORAGE AND HANDLING PRACTICES:

Cylinders should be stored upright and be firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked-over. Cylinders can be stored in the open, but in such cases, should be protected against extremes of weather and from the dampness of the ground to prevent rusting. Cylinders should be stored in dry, well-ventilated areas away from sources of heat or ignition. Do not allow the area where cylinders are stored to exceed 52°C (125°F).

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING GAS CYLINDERS: Compressed gases can present significant safety hazards. The following rules are applicable to work situations in which cylinders are being used.

Before Use: Move cylinders with a suitable hand-truck. Do not drag, slide or roll cylinders. Do not drop cylinders or permit them to strike each other. Secure cylinders firmly. Leave the valve protection cap (where provided) in-place until cylinder is ready for use.

During Use: Use designated CGA fittings and other support equipment. Do not use adapters. Do not use oils or grease on gas-handling fittings or equipment. Immediately contact the supplier if there are any difficulties associated with operating the cylinder valve. Never insert an object (e.g wrench, screwdriver, pry bar, etc.) into valve cap openings. Doing so may damage the valve, causing a leak to occur. Use an adjustable strap wrench to remove over-tight or rusted caps. Never strike an arc, on a compressed gas cylinder or make a cylinder part of an electric circuit.

After Use: Close main cylinder valve. Replace valve protection cap. Close valve after each use and when empty. Mark empty cylinders "EMPTY".

PROTECTIVE PRACTICES DURING MAINTENANCE OF CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT: Refer to current CGA Guidelines for information on protective practices during maintenance of contaminated equipment.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS - PERSONAL PROTECTION

VENTILATION AND ENGINEERING CONTROLS: Use with adequate, explosion-proof ventilation to ensure compliance with exposure limits described in Section 2 (Composition and Information on Ingredients). Local exhaust ventilation is preferred, because it prevents dispersion of this gas mixture into the work place by eliminating it at its source. If appropriate, install automatic monitoring equipment to detect the level of Oxygen.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION: Maintain the Oxygen level above 19.5% in the workplace. If necessary, use only respiratory protection authorized in the U.S. Federal OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134), or equivalent U.S. State standards and Canadian CSA Standard Z94.4-93. Oxygen levels below 19.5% are considered IDLH by OSHA. In such atmospheres, use of a full-facepiece pressure/demand SCBA or a full facepiece, supplied air respirator with auxiliary self-contained air supply is required under OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard (1910.134-1998). The following NIOSH respiratory protection recommendations for Carbon Dioxide concentrations in air are provided for additional guidance in respirator selection:

CARBON DIOXIDE
CONCENTRATION

Up to 40,000 ppm:

Emergency or Planned Entry Into Unknown Concentrations or IDLH Conditions: Positive pressure, full-facepiece SCBA; or positive pressure, full-facepiece SAR with an auxiliary positive pressure SCBA.

Escape: Escape-type SCBA.

RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT

Supplied Air Respirator (SAR); or full-facepiece Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

EYE PROTECTION: Splash goggles or safety glasses. If necessary, refer to U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.133, or appropriate Canadian Standards.

HAND PROTECTION: Wear mechanically-resistant gloves when handling cylinders containing this gas mixture. If necessary, refer to U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.138, or appropriate Standards of Canada.

BODY PROTECTION: Use body protection appropriate for task. Transfer of large quantities under pressure may require protective equipment appropriate to the task. If a hazard of injury to the feet exists due to falling objects, rolling objects, where objects may pierce the soles of the feet or where employee's feet may be exposed to electrical hazards, foot protection should be used, as described in U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.136.

9. PHYSICAL and CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

The following information is for Carbon Dioxide, a main component of this gas mixture:

GAS DENSITY: 0.1144 lb/ft³ (1.833 kg/m³)

EVAPORATION RATE (nBuAc = 1): Not applicable.

SPECIFIC GRAVITY (air = 1): 0.90

FREEZING POINT: Not applicable.

SOLUBILITY IN WATER: 0.0491

BOILING POINT (@ 1 atmos.): Sublimes.

EXPANSION RATIO: Not applicable.

SPECIFIC VOLUME (ft³/lb): 8.741

ODOR THRESHOLD: Not applicable.

MOLECULAR WEIGHT: 28.01

VAPOR PRESSURE (psia): Not applicable.

COEFFICIENT WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION: Not applicable.

9. PHYSICAL and CHEMICAL PROPERTIES (Continued)

The following information is for Nitrogen, a main component of this gas mixture:

GAS DENSITY: 0.072 lb/cu ft (1.153 kg/m ³)	EVAPORATION RATE (nBuAc = 1): Not applicable.
SPECIFIC GRAVITY (air = 1): 0.967	FREEZING POINT: -209.9°C (-345.8°F)
SOLUBILITY IN WATER: 0.023	BOILING POINT (@ 1 atmos.): -195.8°C (-320.4°F)
EXPANSION RATIO: Not applicable.	SPECIFIC VOLUME (ft³/lb): 13.89
ODOR THRESHOLD: Not applicable.	MOLECULAR WEIGHT: 28.01
VAPOR PRESSURE (psia): Not applicable.	
COEFFICIENT WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION: Not applicable.	

The following information is pertinent to this product:

APPEARANCE, ODOR AND COLOR: This gas mixture is colorless and odorless, or may have a sharp odor (depending on the level of Carbon Dioxide).

HOW TO DETECT THIS SUBSTANCE (warning properties): There are no distinct warning properties of this gas mixture, unless the Carbon Dioxide is at a high concentration, when the odor may be a warning property. In terms of leak detection, fittings and joints can be painted with a soap solution to detect leaks, which will be indicated by a bubble formation.

10. STABILITY and REACTIVITY

STABILITY: Stable at standard temperatures and pressures.

DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS: The Carbon Dioxide component will produce Carbon Monoxide and Oxygen when heated to temperatures above 3000°F (1648°C). The Methane component will decompose to form carbon oxides. The Nitrogen component does not decompose per se, but may react with other compounds in the heat of a fire.

MATERIALS WITH WHICH SUBSTANCE IS INCOMPATIBLE: Due to the presence of Carbon Dioxide, this gas mixture may be incompatible with a variety of metals, alloys, and metal acetylides (e.g., aluminum, chromium, and zirconium). Carbon Dioxide will react with alkaline materials to form carbonates and bicarbonates. The Methane component of this gas mixture is incompatible with strong oxidizers (i.e. chlorine, bromine, pentafluoride, oxygen difluoride, and nitrogen trifluoride). The Nitrogen component is inert.

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION: Will not occur.

CONDITIONS TO AVOID: Contact with incompatible materials. Cylinders exposed to high temperatures or direct flame can rupture or burst.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

TOXICITY DATA: Nitrogen and Methane are simple asphyxiants (SA), which act to displace oxygen in the environment. No toxicity data are available. The following data are available for the Carbon Dioxide component of this gas mixture.

CARBON DIOXIDE:

LCLo (inhalation, human) = 9 pph/5 minutes.

LCLo (inhalation, mammal) = 90000 ppm/5 minutes.

TCLo (inhalation, rat) = 6 pph/24 hours; reproductive and teratogenic effects.

SUSPECTED CANCER AGENT: The components of this gas mixture are not found on the following lists: FEDERAL OSHA Z LIST, IARC, NTP, CAL/OSHA, and therefore is not considered to be, nor suspected to be a cancer-causing agent by these agencies.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION (Continued)

IRRITANCY OF PRODUCT: Due to the formation of carbonic acid, this gas mixture can be slightly irritating to contaminated eyes.

SENSITIZATION TO THE PRODUCT: The components of this product are not known to be skin or respiratory sensitizers.

REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY INFORMATION: Listed below is information concerning the effects of the components of this gas mixture on the human reproductive system.

Mutagenicity: This gas mixture is not expected to cause mutagenic effects in humans. Animal mutagenic data are available for the Carbon Dioxide component of this gas mixture; these data were obtained during clinical studies on specific animal tissues exposed to relatively high doses of this gas.

Embryotoxicity: This gas mixture has not been reported to cause embryotoxic effects in humans.

Teratogenicity: This gas mixture has not been reported to cause teratogenic effects in humans. Clinical studies involving test animals exposed to high concentrations of Carbon Dioxide indicate teratogenic effects (e.g., cardiac and skeletal malformations, stillbirths).

Reproductive Toxicity: This gas mixture is not expected to cause adverse reproductive effects in humans. Studies involving test animals exposed to high concentrations of Carbon Dioxide show effects (e.g. changes in testes).

BIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE INDICES (BEIs): Currently, there are no Biological Exposure Indices (BEIs) determined for the components of this gas mixture.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ENVIRONMENTAL STABILITY: This gas mixture will be dissipated rapidly in well-ventilated areas.

EFFECT OF MATERIAL ON PLANTS or ANIMALS: Any adverse effect on animals would be related to oxygen deficient environments.

EFFECT OF CHEMICAL ON AQUATIC LIFE: No an adverse effect from this gas mixture on aquatic life is expected.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

PREPARING WASTES FOR DISPOSAL: Waste disposal must be in accordance with appropriate Federal, State, and local regulations. Return cylinders with any residual product to Matheson Tri-Gas. Do not dispose of locally.

14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

THIS MATERIAL IS HAZARDOUS AS DEFINED BY 49 CFR 172.101 BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Compressed gases, n.o.s.
(Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrogen)

HAZARD CLASS NUMBER and DESCRIPTION: 2.2 (Non-Flammable Gas)

UN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: UN 1956

PACKING GROUP: Not Applicable

D.O.T HAZARD LABEL: Non-Flammable Gas

NORTH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK NUMBER (2000): 126

MARINE POLLUTANT: The components of this gas mixture are not classified by the DOT as a Marine Pollutants (as defined by 49 CFR 172.101, Appendix B).

14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION (Continued)

SPECIAL SHIPPING INFORMATION: Cylinders should be transported in a secure position, in a well-ventilated vehicle. The transportation of compressed gas cylinders in automobiles or in closed-body vehicles present serious safety hazards and should be discouraged.

NOTE: Shipment of compressed gas cylinders which have not been filled with the owner's consent is a violation of Federal law (49 CFR, Part 173.301 (b)).

TRANSPORT CANADA TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS REGULATIONS: This gas mixture is considered as dangerous goods, per regulations of Transport Canada.

PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Compressed gases, n.o.s.
(Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrogen)

HAZARD CLASS NUMBER and DESCRIPTION: 2.2 (Non-Flammable Gas)

UN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: UN 1956

PACKING GROUP: Not Applicable

HAZARD LABEL: Non-Flammable Gas

NORTH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK NUMBER (2000): 126

NOTE: Shipment of compressed gas cylinders via Public Passenger Road Vehicle is a violation of Canadian law (Transport Canada Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992).

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL U.S. REGULATIONS:

U.S. SARA REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: No component of this product is subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 302, 304 and 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

U.S. SARA THRESHOLD PLANNING QUANTITY: There are no specific Threshold Planning Quantities for the components of this product. The default Federal MSDS submission and inventory requirement filing threshold of 10,000 lbs (4,540 kg) therefore applies, per 40 CFR 370.20.

U.S. SARA HAZARD CATEGORIES (SECTION 311/312, 40 CFR 370-21): ACUTE: Yes; CHRONIC: Yes; FIRE: No; REACTIVE: No; SUDDEN RELEASE: Yes

U.S. TSCA INVENTORY STATUS: Components of this product are listed on the TSCA Inventory.

U.S. CERCLA REPORTABLE QUANTITY (RQ): Not applicable.

OTHER U.S. FEDERAL REGULATIONS: Methane is subject to the reporting requirements of Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act. The threshold quantity for this gas is 10,000 lbs (4,540 kg). Methane is listed as Regulated Substances in quantities of 10,000 lbs (4,540 kg) or greater, per 40 CFR, Part 68 of the Risk Management for Chemical Accidental Release.

U.S. STATE REGULATORY INFORMATION: Components of this product are covered under some specific State regulations, as denoted below (other State regulatory lists may exist; individual States should be contacted regarding full compliance).

California - Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants:	New Jersey - Right to Know Hazardous Substance List:	Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List:
Methane, Nitrogen.	Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrogen.	Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrogen.

CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT (PROPOSITION 65): No component of this product is on the California Proposition 65 lists.

LABELING: Cylinders of this gas mixture should be labeled for precautionary information per the guidelines of the CGA. Refer to the CGA for further information.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION (Continued)

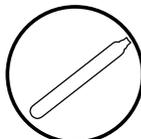
ADDITIONAL CANADIAN REGULATIONS:

CANADIAN DSL/NDL INVENTORY STATUS: The components of this product are listed on the DSL Inventory.

OTHER CANADIAN REGULATIONS: Not applicable.

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (CEPA) PRIORITIES SUBSTANCES LISTS: The components of this product are not on the CEPA Priorities Substances Lists.

CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS: This gas mixture would be categorized as a Controlled Product, Hazard Class: **A** (compressed gas). The following symbol is required for WHMIS compliance for this gas mixture.



16. OTHER INFORMATION

CREATION DATE: April 5, 2000

REVISION DATE: April 11, 2002

REVISION HISTORY: Up-date of manufacturer address and phone.

MIXTURES: When two or more gases or liquefied gases are mixed, their hazardous properties may combine to create additional, unexpected hazards. Obtain and evaluate the safety information for each component before you use the mixture. Consult an Industrial Hygienist or other trained person when you make your safety evaluation of the end product. Remember, gases and liquids have properties which can cause serious injury or death.

Further information can be found in the following pamphlets published by: Compressed Gas Association Inc. (CGA), 1725 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1004, Arlington, VA 22202-4102. Telephone: (703) 412-0900.

“Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers” (P-1, 1999)

“Safe Handling and Storage of Compressed Gases” (AV-1, 1999)

“Handbook of Compressed Gases” (1992)

PREPARED BY:

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800/441-3365

16. OTHER INFORMATION (Continued)

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

A large number of abbreviations and acronyms appear on a MSDS. Some of these which are commonly used include the following:

CAS #:

This is the Chemical Abstract Service Number which uniquely identifies each constituent. It is used for computer-related searching.

EXPOSURE LIMITS IN AIR:

ACGIH - American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, a professional association which establishes exposure limits.

TLV - Threshold Limit Value - an airborne concentration of a substance which represents conditions under which it is generally believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed without adverse effect. The duration must be considered, including the 8-hour Time Weighted Average (**TWA**), the 15-minute Short Term Exposure Limit, and the instantaneous Ceiling Level (**C**). Skin absorption effects must also be considered.

OSHA - U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

PEL - Permissible Exposure Limit - This exposure value means exactly the same as a TLV, except that it is enforceable by OSHA. The OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits are based in the 1989 PELs and the June, 1993 Air Contaminants Rule (**Federal Register**: 58: 35338-35351 and 58: 40191). Both the current PELs and the vacated PELs are indicated. The phrase, "Vacated 1989 PEL," is placed next to the PEL which was vacated by Court Order.

IDLH - Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health - This level represents a concentration from which one can escape within 30-minutes without suffering escape-preventing or permanent injury.

NIOSH is the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, which is the research arm of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (**OSHA**). NIOSH issues exposure guidelines called **Recommended Exposure Levels (RELs)**. When no exposure guidelines are established, an entry of **NE** is made for reference.

HAZARD RATINGS:

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM: This rating system was developed by the National Paint and Coating Association and has been adopted by industry to identify the degree of chemical hazards. **Health Hazard:** 0 (minimal acute or chronic exposure hazard); 1 (slight acute or chronic exposure hazard); 2 (moderate acute or significant chronic exposure hazard); 3 (severe acute exposure hazard; onetime overexposure can result in permanent injury and may be fatal); 4 (extreme acute exposure hazard; onetime overexposure can be fatal). **Flammability Hazard:** 0 (minimal hazard); 1 (materials that require substantial pre-heating before burning); 2 (combustible liquid or solids; liquids with a flash point of 38-93°C [100-200°F]); 3 (Class IB and IC flammable liquids with flash points below 38°C [100°F]); 4 (Class IA flammable liquids with flash points below 23°C [73°F] and boiling points below 38°C [100°F]). **Reactivity Hazard:** 0 (normally stable); 1 (material that can become unstable at elevated temperatures or which can react slightly with water); 2 (materials that are unstable but do not detonate or which can react violently with water); 3 (materials that can detonate when initiated or which can react explosively with water); 4 (materials that can detonate at normal temperatures or pressures). PPE Rating B: Hand and eye protection is required for routine chemical use.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION: **Health Hazard:** 0 (material that on exposure under fire conditions would offer no hazard beyond that of ordinary combustible materials); 1 (materials that on exposure under fire conditions could cause irritation or minor residual injury); 2 (materials that on intense or continued exposure under fire conditions could cause temporary incapacitation or possible residual injury); 3 (materials that can on short exposure could cause serious temporary or residual injury); 4 (materials that under very short exposure could cause death or major residual injury).

Flammability Hazard and Reactivity Hazard: Refer to definitions for "Hazardous Materials Identification System".

FLAMMABILITY LIMITS IN AIR:

Much of the information related to fire and explosion is derived from the National Fire Protection Association (**NFPA**). **Flash Point** - Minimum temperature at which a liquid gives off sufficient vapors to form an ignitable mixture with air. **Autoignition Temperature:** The minimum temperature required to initiate combustion in air with no other source of ignition. **LEL** - the lowest percent of vapor in air, by volume, that will explode or ignite in the presence of an ignition source. **UEL** - the highest percent of vapor in air, by volume, that will explode or ignite in the presence of an ignition source.

TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION:

Human and Animal Toxicology: Possible health hazards as derived from select human data, animal studies, or from the results of studies with similar compounds are presented. Definitions of some terms used in this section are: **LD₅₀** - Lethal Dose (solids & liquids) which kills 50% of the exposed animals; **LC₅₀** - Lethal Concentration (gases) which kills 50% of the exposed animals; **ppm** concentration expressed in parts of material per million parts of air or water; **mg/m³** concentration expressed in weight of substance per volume of air; **mg/kg** quantity of material, by weight, administered to a test subject, based on their body weight in kg. Other measures of toxicity include **TDLo**, the lowest dose to cause a symptom and **TCLo** the lowest concentration to cause a symptom; **TD₀₁**, **LDLo**, and **LD₀₁**, or **TC**, **TC₀₁**, **LCLo**, and **LCo**, the lowest dose (or concentration) to cause lethal or toxic effects. **Cancer Information:** The sources are: **IARC** - the International Agency for Research on Cancer; **NTP** - the National Toxicology Program, **RTECS** - the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances. **OSHA** and **CAL/OSHA**. IARC and NTP rate chemicals on a scale of decreasing potential to cause human cancer with rankings from 1 to 4. Subrankings (2A, 2B, etc.) are also used. **Other Information:** **BEI** - ACGIH Biological Exposure Indices, represent the levels of determinants which are most likely to be observed in specimens collected from a healthy worker who has been exposed to chemicals to the same extent as a worker with inhalation exposure to the TLV. **Ecological Information:** **EC** is the effect concentration in water. **BCF** = Bioconcentration Factor, which is used to determine if a substance will concentrate in lifeforms which consume contaminated plant or animal matter. **TL_m** = median threshold limit; Coefficient of Oil/Water Distribution is represented by **log K_{ow}** or **log K_{oc}** and is used to assess a substance's behavior in the environment.

REGULATORY INFORMATION:

U.S. and CANADA: This section explains the impact of various laws and regulations on the material. **EPA** is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. **WHMIS** is the Canadian Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. **DOT** and **TC** are the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Transport Canada, respectively. Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (**SARA**); the Canadian Domestic/Non-Domestic Substances List (**DSL/NDL**); the U.S. Toxic Substance Control Act (**TSCA**); Marine Pollutant status according to the **DOT**; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (**CERCLA** or **Superfund**); and various state regulations. This section also includes information on the precautionary warnings which appear on the material's package label.