

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

SECTION 1. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT NAME: Methane **FORMULA:** CH₄
CHEMICAL NAME: Methane, Saturated Aliphatic Hydrocarbon, Alkane
SYNONYMS: Methyl Hydride, Marsh Gas, Fire Damp
MANUFACTURER: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
7201 Hamilton Boulevard
Allentown, PA 18195 - 1501

PRODUCT INFORMATION : (800) 752-1597

MSDS NUMBER: 1070 **REVISION:** 6
REVIEW DATE: July 1999 **REVISION DATE:** July 1999

SECTION 2. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Methane is packaged as pure product (>99%).

CAS NUMBER: 74-82-8

EXPOSURE LIMITS:

OSHA: None established

ACGIH: Simple Asphyxiant

NIOSH: None established

SECTION 3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

Methane is a flammable, colorless, odorless, compressed gas packaged in cylinders under high pressure. It poses an immediate fire and explosion hazard when mixed with air at concentrations exceeding 5.0%. High concentrations that can cause rapid suffocation are within the flammable range and should not be entered.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

800 - 523 - 9374 in Continental U.S. , Canada and Puerto Rico
610 - 481 - 7711 outside U.S.

ACUTE POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS:

ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:

EYE CONTACT: No harmful affect.

INGESTION: Not applicable

INHALATION: Methane is nontoxic. It can, however, reduce the amount of oxygen in the air necessary to support life. Exposure to oxygen-deficient atmospheres (less than 19.5 %) may produce dizziness, nausea, vomiting, loss of consciousness, and death. At very low oxygen concentrations (less than 12 %) unconsciousness and death may occur without warning. It should be noted that before suffocation could occur, the lower flammable limit for Methane in air will be exceeded; causing both an oxygen deficient and an explosive atmosphere.

SKIN CONTACT: No harmful affect.

POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS OF REPEATED EXPOSURE:

ROUTE OF ENTRY: None

SYMPTOMS: None

TARGET ORGANS: None

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY OVEREXPOSURE: None

CARCINOGENICITY: Methane is not listed as a carcinogen or potential carcinogen by NTP, IARC, or OSHA Subpart Z.

SECTION 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

EYE CONTACT: No treatment necessary.

INGESTION: Not applicable

INHALATION: Remove person to fresh air. If not breathing, administer artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, administer oxygen. Obtain prompt medical attention.

SKIN CONTACT: No treatment necessary.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN: Treatment of overexposure should be directed at the control of symptoms and the clinical condition.

SECTION 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

FLASH POINT:
-306 °F (-187.8 °C)

AUTOIGNITION:
999 °F (537 °C)

FLAMMABLE RANGE:
5.0% - 15%

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA: Dry chemical, carbon dioxide, or water.

SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS: Evacuate all personnel from area. If possible, without risk, shut off source of methane, then fight fire according to types of materials burning. Extinguish fire only if gas flow can be stopped. This will avoid possible accumulation and re-ignition of a flammable gas mixture. Keep adjacent cylinders cool by spraying with large amounts of water until the fire burns itself out. Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) may be required.

UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS: Most cylinders are designed to vent contents when exposed to elevated temperatures. Pressure in a cylinder can build up due to heat and it may rupture if pressure relief devices should fail to function.

HAZARDOUS COMBUSTION PRODUCTS: Carbon monoxide

SECTION 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IF MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED: Evacuate immediate area. Eliminate any possible sources of ignition, and provide maximum explosion-proof ventilation. Use a flammable gas meter (explosimeter) calibrated for Methane to monitor concentration. Never enter an area where Methane concentration is greater than 1.0% (which is 20% of the lower flammable limit). An immediate fire and explosion hazard exists when atmospheric Methane concentration exceeds 5.0%. Use appropriate protective equipment (SCBA and fire resistant suit). Shut off source of leak if possible. Isolate any leaking cylinder. If leak is from container, pressure relief device or its valve, contact your supplier. If the leak is in the user's system, close the cylinder valve, safely vent the pressure, and purge with an inert gas before attempting repairs.

SECTION 7. STORAGE AND HANDLING

STORAGE: Store cylinders in a well-ventilated, secure area, protected from the weather. Cylinders should be stored upright with valve outlet seals and valve protection caps in place. There should be no sources of ignition. All electrical equipment should be explosion-proof in the storage areas. Storage areas must meet National Electrical Codes for class 1 hazardous areas. Flammable storage areas must be separated from oxygen and other oxidizers by a minimum distance of 20 ft. or by a barrier of non-combustible material at least 5 ft. high having a fire resistance rating of at least 1/2 hour. Post "No Smoking or Open Flames" signs in the storage or use areas. Do not allow storage temperature to exceed 125 °F (52 °C). Storage should be away from heavily traveled areas and emergency exits. Full and empty cylinders should be segregated. Use a first-in first-out inventory system to prevent full containers from being stored for long periods of time.

HANDLING: Do not drag, roll, slide or drop cylinder. Use a suitable hand truck designed for cylinder movement. Never attempt to lift a cylinder by its cap. Secure cylinders at all times while in use. Use a pressure reducing regulator to safely discharge gas from cylinder. Use a check valve to prevent reverse flow

into cylinder. Never apply flame or localized heat directly to any part of the cylinder. Do not allow any part of the cylinder to exceed 125 °F (52 °C). Use piping and equipment adequately designed to withstand pressures to be encountered. Once cylinder has been connected to properly purged and inerted process, open cylinder valve slowly and carefully. If user experiences any difficulty operating cylinder valve, discontinue use and contact supplier. Never insert an object (e.g., wrench, screwdriver, etc.) into valve cap openings. Doing so may damage valve causing a leak to occur. Use an adjustable strap-wrench to remove over-tight or rusted caps. All piped systems and associated equipment must be grounded. Electrical equipment should be non-sparking or explosion-proof.

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS: Always store and handle compressed gas cylinders in accordance with Compressed Gas Association, Inc. (telephone 703-412-0900) pamphlet CGA P-1, *Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers*. Local regulations may require specific equipment for storage or use.

SECTION 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

VENTILATION: Provide adequate natural or explosion-proof ventilation to prevent accumulation of gas concentrations above 1.0% Methane (20% of LEL).

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:

Emergency Use: Do not enter areas where Methane concentration is greater than 1.0% (20% of the LEL). Exposure to concentrations below 1.0% do not require respiratory protection.

EYE PROTECTION: Safety glasses and/or face shield.

SKIN PROTECTION: Leather gloves for handling cylinders. Fire resistant suit and gloves in emergency situations.

OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: Safety shoes are recommended when handling cylinders.

SECTION 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

APPEARANCE, ODOR AND STATE: Colorless, odorless, flammable gas.

MOLECULAR WEIGHT: 16.04

BOILING POINT (1 atm): -258.7 °F (-161.5 °C)

SPECIFIC GRAVITY (Air = 1): 0.554

FREEZING POINT / MELTING POINT: -296.5 °F (-182.5 °C)

VAPOR PRESSURE (At 70 °F (21.1 °C)): Permanent, noncondensable gas.

GAS DENSITY (At 70 °F (21.1 °C) and 1 atm): 0.042 lb/ft³

SOLUBILITY IN WATER (vol/vol): 3.3 ml gas / 100 ml

SECTION 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

CHEMICAL STABILITY: Stable

CONDITIONS TO AVOID: Cylinders should not be exposed to temperatures in excess of 125 °F (52 °C).

INCOMPATIBILITY (Materials to Avoid): Oxygen, Halogens and Oxidizers

REACTIVITY:

A) **HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:** None

B) **HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:** Will not occur

SECTION 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

LC₅₀ (Inhalation): Not applicable. Simple asphyxiant.

LD₅₀ (Oral): Not applicable

LD₅₀ (Dermal): Not applicable

SKIN CORROSIVITY: Methane is not corrosive to the skin.

ADDITIONAL NOTES: None

SECTION 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

AQUATIC TOXICITY: Not determined

MOBILITY: Not determined

PERSISTENCE AND BIODEGRADABILITY: Not determined

POTENTIAL TO BIOACCUMULATE: Not determined

REMARKS: This product does not contain any Class I or Class II ozone depleting chemicals.

SECTION 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

UNUSED PRODUCT / EMPTY CONTAINER: Return container and unused product to supplier. Do not attempt to dispose of residual or unused quantities.

DISPOSAL INFORMATION: Residual product in the system may be burned if a suitable burning unit (flair incinerator) is available on site. This shall be done in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations. Wastes containing this material may be classified by EPA as hazardous waste by characteristic (i.e., Ignitability, Corrosivity, Toxicity, Reactivity). Waste streams must be characterized by the user to meet federal, state, and local requirements.

SECTION 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

DOT SHIPPING NAME: Methane, compressed

HAZARD CLASS: 2.1

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: UN1971

SHIPPING LABEL(s): Flammable gas

PLACARD (When required): Flammable gas

SPECIAL SHIPPING INFORMATION: Cylinders should be transported in a secure upright position in a well-ventilated truck. Never transport in passenger compartment of a vehicle. Ensure cylinder valve is properly closed, valve outlet cap has been reinstalled, and valve protection cap is secured before shipping cylinder.

CAUTION: Compressed gas cylinders shall not be refilled except by qualified producers of compressed gases. Shipment of a compressed gas cylinder which has not been filled by the owner or with the owner's written consent is a violation of Federal law (49 CFR 173.301).

NORTH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK NUMBER (NAERG #): 115

SECTION 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. FEDERAL REGULATIONS:

EPA - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

CERCLA: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
(40 CFR Parts 117 and 302)

Reportable Quantity (RQ): None

SARA TITLE III: Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act

SECTIONS 302/304: Emergency Planning and Notification (40 CFR Part 355)

Extremely Hazardous Substances: Methane is not listed.

Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ): None

Reportable Quantity (RQ): None

SECTIONS 311/312: Hazardous Chemical Reporting (40 CFR Part 370)

IMMEDIATE HEALTH: Yes PRESSURE: Yes

DELAYED HEALTH: No REACTIVITY: No

FIRE: Yes

SECTION 313: Toxic Chemical Release Reporting (40 CFR Part 372)

Methane does not require reporting under Section 313.

CLEAN AIR ACT:

SECTION 112 (r): Risk Management Programs for Chemical Accidental Release
(40 CFR PART 68)

Methane is listed as a regulated substance.

Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ): 10,000 lbs

TSCA: Toxic Substance Control Act

Methane is listed on the TSCA inventory.

OSHA - OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION:

29 CFR Part 1910.119: Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals

Methane is not listed in Appendix A as a highly hazardous chemical. However, any process that involves a flammable gas on site in one location, in quantities of 10,000 pounds

(4,553 kg) or greater is covered under this regulation unless it is used as fuel.

STATE REGULATIONS:

CALIFORNIA:

Proposition 65: This product is not a listed substance which the State of California requires warning under this statute.

SECTION 16. OTHER INFORMATION

NFPA RATINGS:

HEALTH: = 1
FLAMMABILITY: = 4
REACTIVITY: = 0
SPECIAL: = SA*

HMIS RATINGS:

HEALTH: = 0
FLAMMABILITY: = 4
REACTIVITY: = 0

*SA denotes "Simple Asphyxiant" per Compressed Gas Association recommendation.