

# GUIDE FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS - TOXIC

## 131

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS

#### HEALTH

- **TOXIC; may be fatal if inhaled, ingested or absorbed through skin.**
- Inhalation or contact with some of these materials will irritate or burn skin and eyes.
- Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases.
- Vapors may cause dizziness or asphyxiation.
- Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause environmental contamination.

#### FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- **HIGHLY FLAMMABLE: Will be easily ignited by heat, sparks or flames.**
- **CAUTION: Methanol (UN1230) will burn with an invisible flame. Use an alternate method of detection (thermal camera, broom handle, etc.)**
- Vapors may form explosive mixtures with air.
- Vapors may travel to source of ignition and flash back.
- Most vapors are heavier than air. They will spread along the ground and collect in low or confined areas (sewers, basements, tanks, etc.).
- Vapor explosion and poison hazard indoors, outdoors or in sewers.
- Those substances designated with a (P) may polymerize explosively when heated or involved in a fire.
- Runoff to sewer may create fire or explosion hazard.
- Containers may explode when heated.
- Many liquids will float on water.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

- **CALL 911. Then call emergency response telephone number on shipping paper.** If shipping paper not available or no answer, refer to appropriate telephone number listed on the inside back cover.
- Keep unauthorized personnel away.
- Stay upwind, uphill and/or upstream.
- Ventilate closed spaces before entering, but only if properly trained and equipped.

#### PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Wear chemical protective clothing that is specifically recommended by the manufacturer **when there is NO RISK OF FIRE**
- Structural firefighters' protective clothing provides thermal protection **but only limited chemical protection**

#### EVACUATION

##### Immediate precautionary measure

- Isolate spill or leak area for at least 50 meters (150 feet) in all directions.

##### Spill

- For **highlighted materials**: see Table 1 - Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distances.
- For non-highlighted materials: increase the immediate precautionary measure distance, in the downwind direction, as necessary.

##### Fire

- If tank, rail car or tank truck is involved in a fire, ISOLATE for 800 meters (1/2 mile) in all directions; also, consider initial evacuation for 800 meters (1/2 mile) in all directions.



In Canada, an Emergency Response Assistance Plan (ERAP) may be required for this product. Please consult the shipping paper and/or the ERAP Program Section (page 390).

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**FIRE**

**CAUTION:** The majority of these products have a very low flash point. Use of water spray when fighting fire may be inefficient.

**CAUTION:** Methanol (UN1230) will burn with an invisible flame. Use an alternate method of detection (thermal camera, broom handle, etc.)

**Small Fire**

- Dry chemical, CO<sub>2</sub>, water spray or alcohol-resistant foam.

**Large Fire**

- Water spray, fog or alcohol-resistant foam.
- If it can be done safely, move undamaged containers away from the area around the fire.
- Dike runoff from fire control for later disposal.
- Avoid aiming straight or solid streams directly onto the product.

**Fire Involving Tanks or Car/Trailer Loads**

- Fight fire from maximum distance or use unmanned master stream devices or monitor nozzles.
- Cool containers with flooding quantities of water until well after fire is out.
- Withdraw immediately in case of rising sound from venting safety devices or discoloration of tank.
- ALWAYS stay away from tanks engulfed in fire.
- For massive fire, use unmanned master stream devices or monitor nozzles; if this is impossible, withdraw from area and let fire burn.

**SPILL OR LEAK**

- ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames) from immediate area.
- All equipment used when handling the product must be grounded.
- Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- Stop leak if you can do it without risk.
- Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.
- A vapor-suppressing foam may be used to reduce vapors.

**Small Spill**

- Absorb with earth, sand or other non-combustible material and transfer to containers for later disposal.
- Use clean, non-sparking tools to collect absorbed material.

**Large Spill**

- Dike far ahead of liquid spill for later disposal.
- Water spray may reduce vapor, but may not prevent ignition in closed spaces.

**FIRST AID**

- Call 911 or emergency medical service.
- Ensure that medical personnel are aware of the material(s) involved and take precautions to protect themselves.
  - Move victim to fresh air if it can be done safely.
- Give artificial respiration if victim is not breathing.
- **Do not perform mouth-to-mouth resuscitation if victim ingested or inhaled the substance; wash face and mouth before giving artificial respiration. Use a pocket mask equipped with a one-way valve or other proper respiratory medical device.**
- Administer oxygen if breathing is difficult.
- Remove and isolate contaminated clothing and shoes.
- In case of contact with substance, immediately flush skin or eyes with running water for at least 20 minutes.
- Wash skin with soap and water.
- In case of burns, immediately cool affected skin for as long as possible with cold water. Do not remove clothing if adhering to skin.
  - Keep victim calm and warm.
- Effects of exposure (inhalation, ingestion or skin contact) to substance may be delayed.