DPM 149

L-4559-C
May 1985

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

UNION CARBIDE

An explanation of the terms used herein may be found in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200, available from OSHA regional or area offices.
(Essentially similar to U.S. Department of Labor Form OSHA-20 and generally accepted in Canada for information purposes)

I. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT	Acetylene		
CHEMICAL NAME	Acetylene	**SYNONYMS**	Acetylen, Ethine, Ethyne, Narcylene
FORMULA	C_2H_2	**CHEMICAL FAMILY**	Alkyne
		MOLECULAR WEIGHT	26.038

TRADE NAME Acetylene (This product is intended for welding and cutting use.)

II. HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

This section covers the materials from which this product is manufactured. The fumes and gases produced during welding and cutting with the normal use of this product are covered by Section VI. The term "hazardous" should be interpreted as a term required and defined in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200 and does not necessarily imply the existance of any hazard.

MATERIAL (CAS NO.)	Vol (%)	1984-1985 ACGIH TLV-TWA (OSHA-PEL)
Acetylene (74-86-2)	100	Simple asphyxiant (None currently established)

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III. PHYSICAL DATA

BOILING POINT, 760 mm. Hg	Not Applicable	**SUBLIMATION POINT**	−84°C (−119.2°F) @ 760mm Hg
SPECIFIC GRAVITY (H_2O = 1)	Not Applicable	**VAPOR PRESSURE AT 21°C.**	635 psig
VAPOR DENSITY (air = 1)	0.91	**SOLUBILITY IN WATER, % by wt.**	Slight
PERCENT VOLATILES BY VOLUME	100	**EVAPORATION RATE (Butyl Acetate = 1)**	Not Applicable

APPEARANCE AND ODOR Colorless gas at normal temperature and pressure; garlic-like odor.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES involving this material, further information is available at all times:
In the USA 304 — 744-3487 In Canada 514 — 645-5311
For routine information contact your local supplier

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Union Carbide requests the users of this product to study this Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) and become aware of product hazards and safety information. To promote safe use of this product a user should (1) notify its employees, agents and contractors of the information on this MSDS and any product hazards and safety information, (2) furnish this same information to each of its customers for the product, and (3) request such customers to notify their employees and customers for the product of the same product hazards and safety information.

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IV. HEALTH HAZARD DATA

THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE
The ACGIH 1984-85 recommended limit for welding fume, not otherwise classified (NOC), is 5mg/m³.
TLV-TWA's should be used as a guide in the control of health hazards and not as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations. See Section VI for specific fume constituents which may modify this TLV-TWA.

EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE AND EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES
working with welding and cutting may create one or more of the following health hazards:

FUMES AND GASES can be dangerous to your health and may cause serious lung disease.*

HEAT RAYS *(INFRARED RADIATION* from the flame or hot metal) can injure eyes.

NOISE can damage hearing.

Acetylene is an asphyxiant. Moderate concentrations may cause headache, drowsiness, dizziness and unconsciousness. Lack of oxygen can cause death. Keep your head out of the fumes. Do not breathe fumes and gases caused by the process. Use enough ventilation, local exhaust, or both to keep fumes and gases from your breathing zone and the general area. The type and amount of fumes and gases depend on the equipment and supplies used. Possibly dangerous materials may be found in fluxes, coatings, gases, and metals. Get a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for every material used. Air samples can be used to find out what respiratory protection is needed.

Wear correct ear, eye, and body protection.

Short term overexposure to fumes may result in discomfort such as dizziness, nausea, or dryness or irritation of nose, throat, or eyes.

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 produce 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.

A detailed description of the Health Hazards and their consequences may be found in Linde's free safety booklet L-2035. You may obtain copies from your local supplier, or by writing to Union Carbide Corporation, Linde Division, Communications Department, 39 Old Ridgebury Road, Danbury, Connecticut, 06817-0001.

FIRST AID IN CASE OF EMERGENCY — Call for medical aid. Employ First Aid techniques recommended by the American Red Cross. IF BREATHING IS DIFFICULT give oxygen. Call a physician. IF NOT BREATHING, begin artificial respiration, preferably mouth-to-mouth. If no detectable pulse, begin external heart massage. Immediately call a physician. IN CASE OF EYE BURN call a physician.

***NOTES TO PHYSICIAN:**

Acute — Gases, fumes, and dusts may cause irritation to the eyes, lungs, nose, and throat. Some toxic gases associated with welding and related processes may cause pulmonary edema, asphyxiation, and death. Acute overexposure may include signs and symptoms such as watery eyes, nose and throat irritation, headache, dizziness, difficulty breathing, frequent coughing, or chest pains.

Chronic — Protracted inhalation of air contaminants may lead to their accumulation in the lungs, a condition which may be seen as dense areas on chest x-rays. The severity of change is proportional to the length of exposure. The changes seen are not necessarily associated with symptoms or signs of reduced lung function or disease. In addition, the changes on x-rays may be caused by non-work related factors such as smoking, etc.

V. FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA

FLASH POINT (test method)	−17.8°C (0°F) T.C.C.	**AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE**	299°C (571°F)
FLAMMABLE LIMITS IN AIR, % by volume	**LOWER** 2.3%	**UPPER**	100%

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

See paragraphs below.

SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES

Refer to CGA pamphlet SB-4, "Handling Acetylene Cylinders in Fire Situations."

Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Immediately cool containers with water spray from maximum distance taking care not to extinguish flames. Remove ignition sources if without risk. If flames are accidentally extinguished, explosive re-ignition may occur. Use self-contained breathing apparatus. Stop flow of gas if without risk while continuing cooling water spray. Remove all containers from area of fire if without risk. Allow fire to burn out. On-site fire brigades must comply with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.156.

UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS

Extremely flammable gas. Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents. Container may rupture due to heat of fire. Do not extinguish flames due to possibility of explosive re-ignition. Flammable vapors may spread from leak. Explosive atmospheres may linger. Before entering area, especially confined areas, check atmosphere with approved explosion meter. No part of a container should be subjected to a temperature higher than 52°C (approximately 125°F). All containers are provided with a pressure relief device designed to vent contents when they are exposed to elevated temperature. Contact with copper, silver, or mercury or their alloys or halogens can cause explosion.

VI. REACTIVITY DATA

STABILITY		CONDITIONS TO AVOID
UNSTABLE	STABLE	Stable as shipped. Avoid use at pressures above 15 psig.
X		

INCOMPATIBILITY (materials to avoid)
Copper, silver, mercury or their alloys, oxidizing agents, acids, halogens, moisture.

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS
Thermal decomposition or burning may produce $CO/CO_2/H_2$. The welding and cutting process may form reaction products such as carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide. Other decomposition products of normal operation originate from the volatilization, reaction or oxidation of the material being worked.

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION		CONDITIONS TO AVOID
May Occur	Will not Occur	Elevated temperature and pressure and/or the presence of a catalyst.
X		

VII. SPILL OR LEAK PROCEDURES

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IF MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED

Forms explosive mixtures with air (See Section V). Immediately evacuate all personnel from danger area. Use self-contained breathing apparatus where needed. Remove all sources of ignition if without risk. Reduce vapors with fog or fine water spray. Shut off leak if without risk. Ventilate area of leak or move leaking container to well-ventilated area. Flammable gas may spread from leak. Before entering area, expecially confined areas, check atmosphere with appropriate device.

WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD Prevent waste from contaminating surrounding environment. Keep personnel away. Discard any product, residue, disposable container or liner in an environmentally acceptable manner, in full compliance with Federal, State and local regulations.

VIII. SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (specify type) — Use respirable fume respirator or air supplied respirator when working in confined space or where local exhaust or ventilation does not keep exposure below TLV. Select as per OSHA29 CFR1910.134.

VENTILATION	**LOCAL EXHAUST** — Use enough ventilation, local exhaust or both, to keep the fumes and gases below TLV's in the worker's breathing zone and the general area. Train the worker to keep his head out of the fumes.	
	MECHANICAL (general)	ALWAYS WORK WITH ENOUGH VENTILATION
	SPECIAL	Not applicable
	OTHER Depends on specific use conditions, and location. Use adequate ventilation or personal respiratory protection. See Section IX and OSHA29 CFR1910.252.	

PROTECTIVE GLOVES Welding gloves recommended

EYE PROTECTION — Wear goggles with filter lens selected as per ANSI Z49.1. Provide protective screens and goggles, if necessary, to protect others. Select as per OSHA29 CFR1910.133.

OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT — As needed, wear hand, head, and body protection which help to prevent injury from radiation, and sparks. See ANSI Z49.1. At a minimum this includes welder's gloves and protective goggles, and may include arm protectors, aprons, hats, shoulder protection, as well as substantial clothing. Train the worker not to touch live electrical parts.

IX. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

Fumes and gases cannot be classified simply. The composition and quantity of both are dependent upon the metal being worked, the process, procedure and electrodes used. Other conditions which also influence the composition and quantity of the fumes and gases to which workers may be exposed include: coatings on the metal being worked (such as paint, plating, or galvanizing), the number of workers and the volume of the work area, the quality and amount of ventilation, the position of the worker's head with respect to the fume plume, as well as the presence of contaminants in the atmosphere (such as chlorinated hydrocarbon vapors from cleaning and degreasing activities).

One recommended way to determine the composition and quantity of fumes and gases to which workers are exposed is to take an air sample from inside the worker's helmet if worn or in the worker's breathing zone. See ANSI/AWS F1.1, available from the American Welding Society, 550 N.W. Le Jeune Rd., Miami, FL 33126.

Read and understand the manufacturer's instructions and the precautionary label on the product. See American National Standard Z49.1, "Safety In Welding And Cutting" published by the American Welding Society and OSHA Publication 2206 (29CFR1910), U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 for more details. For further safety and health information refer to Linde's free safety booklet L-2035.

OTHER HANDLING AND STORAGE CONDITIONS

Heat and sparks during use could be the source of ignition of combustible materials. Prevent fires.
Refer to NFPA 51B "Cutting and Welding Processes" and NFPA 50 "Oxygen-Fuel Gas Systems." Use piping and equipment adequately designed to withstand pressures to be encountered. Gas can cause rapid suffocation due to oxygen deficiency. Store and use with adequate ventilation. Close valve when not in use and when empty. Never work on a pressurized system.

The opinions expressed herein are those of qualified experts within Union Carbide. We believe that the information contained herein is current as of the date of this Material Safety Data Sheet. Since the use of this information and these opinions and the conditions of use of the product are not within the control of Union Carbide, it is the user's obligation to determine the conditions of safe use of the product.

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