# GUIDE FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS - TOXIC

# 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).

# ERG 2020

# 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.

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## 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.

