GUIDE SUBSTANCES (SELF-REACTIVE) 149

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- Self-decomposition, self-polymerization, or self-ignition may be triggered by heat, chemical reaction, friction or impact.
- May be ignited by heat, sparks or flames.
- · Some may decompose explosively when heated or involved in a fire.
- Those substances designated with a (P) may polymerize explosively when heated or involved in a fire.
- May burn violently. Decomposition or polymerization may be self-accelerating and produce large amounts
 of gases.
- · Vapors or dust may form explosive mixtures with air.

HEALTH

- Inhalation or contact with vapors, substance or decomposition products may cause severe injury or death.
- · May produce irritating, toxic and/or corrosive gases.
- Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause environmental contamination.

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.

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 in all directions for at least 50 meters (150 feet) for liquids and at least 25 meters (75 feet) for solids.

Large Spill

Consider initial evacuation for at least 250 meters (800 feet) in all directions.

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).

SUBSTANCES (SELF-REACTIVE) GUIDE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

FIRE

Small Fire

• Dry chemical, CO₂, water spray or regular foam.

Large Fire

- · Flood fire area with water from a distance.
- If it can be done safely, move undamaged containers away from the area around the fire.

Fire Involving Tanks or Car/Trailer Loads

- BEWARE OF POSSIBLE CONTAINER EXPLOSION.
- 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.

SPILL OR LEAK

- ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames) from immediate area.
- · Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- · Stop leak if you can do it without risk.

Small Spill

- Pick up with inert, damp, non-combustible material using clean, non-sparking tools and place into loosely covered plastic containers for later disposal.
- · Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.

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.
- · 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.
- · Keep victim calm and warm.