

# GUIDE SUBSTANCES (IRRITATING)

## 159

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS

#### HEALTH

- Inhalation of vapors or dust is extremely irritating.
- May cause burning of eyes and lachrymation (flow of tears).
- May cause coughing, difficult breathing and nausea.
- Brief exposure effects last only a few minutes.
- Exposure in an enclosed area may be very harmful.
- Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases.
- Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause environmental contamination.

#### FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- Some of these materials may burn, but none ignite readily.
- Containers may explode when heated.

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

##### 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**

**Small Fire**

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

**Large Fire**

- Water spray, fog or regular 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.

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

- Fight fire from maximum distance or use unmanned master stream devices or monitor nozzles.
- Do not get water inside containers.
- 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**

- Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- Stop leak if you can do it without risk.

**Small Spill**

- Pick up with sand or other non-combustible absorbent material and place into containers for later disposal.

**Large Spill**

- Dike far ahead of liquid spill 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.
- **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.
- For minor skin contact, avoid spreading material on unaffected skin.
- Keep victim calm and warm.
- Effects should disappear after individual has been exposed to fresh air for approximately 10 minutes.