



# CYANOGEN

UN 1026

Shipping Name: Cyanogen, liquefied  
Other Names: Carbon nitride Oxalonitrile  
Dicyan Oxalyl cyanide  
Dicyanogen Prussite  
Ethane dinitrate



- WARNING!** • **POISON! CONTACT WITH SKIN OR BREATHING THE GAS CAN KILL YOU! CONVERTED TO CYANIDE IN THE BODY!**
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) provides NO protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel
  - **EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE!**

### Hazards:

- Odor is not a reliable indicator of the presence of toxic amounts of gas
- Gas is heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Gas may travel long distances to ignition sources and flashback
- Gas in confined areas (e.g., tanks, sewers, buildings) may explode when exposed to fire
- Containers may BLEVE or explode when exposed to fire
- Severely irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs
- Contact with liquid can cause frostbite
- Reacts with acids to produce toxic cyanides and nitrogen oxide
- Combustion products include toxic cyanides and nitrogen oxides

### Awareness and Operational Level Training Response:

- **DO NOT ATTEMPT RESCUE!**
- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- **BACK OFF!** - Isolate a wide area around the release or fire, deny entry and call for expert help
- Remove all ignition sources
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE or explosion
- Evacuate the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

### Description:

- Colorless liquefied compressed gas
- Almond-like odor which may not be present at toxic levels
- Slightly soluble in water and boils on the surface of water forming toxic hydrogen cyanide
- Extremely flammable
- Gas is heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas

### Operational Level Training Response:

#### RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Use large amounts of water to disperse gas - contain runoff
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

#### FIRE:

- If material is on fire and conditions permit, **DO NOT EXTINGUISH**. Cool exposures using unattended monitors.
- Do not extinguish the fire unless the flow of the gas can be stopped and any remaining gas is out of the line. Specially trained personnel may use fog lines to cool exposures and let the fire burn itself out
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (unvented container distorts, bulges or shows any other sign of deforming) withdraw immediately to a secure location

### First Aid:

- **DO NOT ATTEMPT RESCUE!**
- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
  - ♦ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
  - ♦ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
  - ♦ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
- Seek medical attention
- **Do NOT perform direct mouth to mouth resuscitation; use a bag/mask apparatus**
- Victims should be examined by a physician as soon as possible
- Frostbite - warm injured area in very warm water
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing
- Note to physician: can produce cyanide toxicity; if symptoms indicate, initial treatment includes the cyanide antidote kit

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