



HYDROGEN SULFIDE

UN 1053

Shipping Name: Hydrogen sulfide, liquefied
Other Names: Hydrosulfuric acid
Sewer gas
Sulfureted hydrogen
Sulfur hydride



- WARNING!** ● **POISON! BREATHING THE GAS WILL KILL YOU!**
- Fire fighting gear including SCBA does not provide adequate protection. If exposure to the chemical 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
- Containers may BLEVE or explode when exposed to fire
- 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
- Contact with liquid can cause frostbite
- Combustion products include toxic sulfur oxides
- Will burn or explode in the presence of metal oxides

Awareness and Operational Level Training

Response:

- **DO NOT ATTEMPT RESCUE!**
- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- For containers exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE or explosion
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

Description:

- Colorless gas that produces a visible cloud
- Shipped and stored as liquefied compressed gas
- Rotten egg odor
- Insoluble in water
- 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 well away from the material to disperse gas - contain runoff

FIRE:

- 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 signs of expanding), withdraw immediately to a secure location

First Aid:

- **DO NOT ATTEMPT RESCUE!**
- The contaminated victim poses a health risk to the responder
- Decontaminate the victim from a safe distance with a stream of water; have the victim remove clothing if possible; provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Further 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
- Victims should be examined by a physician as soon as possible
- **Do NOT perform direct mouth to mouth resuscitation; use a bag/mask apparatus**
- Frostbite - warm injured area in very warm water
- Toxic effects may be delayed
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing
- Note to physician: if symptoms indicate, initial treatment includes amyl nitrite

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