



SODIUM AZIDE

UN 1687

Shipping Name: Sodium azide

Other Names: Azide

Hydrazoic acid, sodium salt



WARNING! • EXPLOSIVE! SHOCK OR HEAT MAY CAUSE MATERIAL TO EXPLODE!

Hazards:

- Breathing in the dust, swallowing the material or absorption through the skin can cause serious illness
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel
- Container may explode when exposed to fire
- Decomposition products upon heating include toxic hydrazoic acid fumes and nitrogen oxides

Awareness and Operational Level Training

Response:

- **Do not put yourself in danger by entering a contaminated area to rescue a victim**
- Stay upwind
- Determine the extent of the problem
- **BACK OFF!** - Isolate a wide area around the release or fire, deny entry and call for expert help
- Evacuate the immediate area and down wind for a large release
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of explosion
- 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 solid
- No odor
- Initially sinks in water and is soluble in water
- Nonflammable

Operational Level Training Response:

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Cover material to protect from wind, rain or spray
- Prevent contaminated runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

FIRE:

- **APPROACH FIRE WITH EXTREME CAUTION;** consider letting fire burn
- Material does not burn; fight surrounding fire with an agent appropriate for the burning material
- 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 put yourself in danger by entering a contaminated area to rescue a victim**
- 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
 - ◆ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention

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