

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET (MSDS) ARGON

Product Name Argon Chemical Formula Ar

Trade Names Argon, Compressed Argon, High Purity (N4.8)

Argon, Instrument grade (N5.0)

Colour coding Argon Compressed

Peacock blue (F.08) body Argon High Purity (N4.8)

Peacock blue (F.08) Body with the "HP" decal affixed centrally on the body of the

cylinder.

Argon Instrument grade (N5.0) Peacock blue (F.08) body with the "Instrument Grade" logo affixed to the

body of the cylinder.

Argon, Ultra High Purity (N5.0)

Peacock blue (F.08) body with the "UHP" decal affixed centrally to the body of the

cylinder.

Valve All of the above grades have the Neriki-

Brass 5/8 inch right hand BSP female Care should be taken when entering

positive pressure valve.

Company Identification RAKEETH IND. GASES CO LLC

483/1 Street Al Sajaa industrial area

SHARJAH, UAE Mob No: 0565264605 Tel No: 065265161

EMERGENCY NUMBER 997 (CIVIL DEFENCE UAE) (24 hours)

# **2 COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS**

Chemical Name Argon
Chemical Family Inert Rare Gas
CAS No. 7440-37-1
UN No. 1006
ERG No. 121

Hazard Warning 2 C Non flammable gas

## 3 HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

## **Main Hazards**

All cylinders are portable gas containers, and must be regarded as pressure vessels at all times. Argon does not support life. It can act as a simple asphyxiant by diluting the concentration of oxygen in air below the levels necessary to support life.

# **Adverse Health Effects**

Inhalation of Argon in excessive concentrations can result in dizziness, nausea, vomiting, loss of consciousness and death.

## **Chemical Hazards**

Argon is extremely inert and forms no known chemical compounds.

Biological Hazards

No known effect.

# Vapour Inhalation

As Argon acts as a simple asphyxiant death may result from errors in judgement, confusion, or loss of consciousness, which prevents self-rescue. At low oxygen concentrations, unconsciousness and death may occur in seconds without warning.

# 4 FIRST AID MEASURES

**Eye/Skin Contact** No known effect. (See Section 3 above)

Inhalation

Prompt medical attention is mandatory in all cases of overexposure to Argon. Rescue personnel should be equipped with self-contained breathing apparatus. Conscious persons should be assisted to an uncontaminated area and inhale fresh air. Quick removal from the contaminated area is most important. Unconscious persons should be removed to an uncontaminated area, and given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and supplemental oxygen.

# 5 FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

## **Extinguishing Media**

As Argon is an inert gas, it does not contribute to the fire, but could help with the extinguishing by reducing the oxygen content of the air by dilution to below the level to support combustion.

# **Specific Hazards**

Argon does not support life. It can act as a simple asphyxiant by diluting the concentration of oxygen in the air below the levels to support life.

#### **Emergency Actions**

If possible, shut off the source of excess Argon. Evacuate area. All cylinders should be removed from the vicinity of the fire. Cylinders that cannot be removed should be cooled with water from a safe distance to prevent build-up of excessive pressure. Cylinders that have been exposed to excessive heat should be clearly identified and returned to supplier..

#### **Protective Clothing**

Self-contained breathing apparatus. Safety gloves, goggles and shoes, or boots, should be worn when handling cylinders.

# **Environmental Precautions**

Argon is heavier than air and could accumulate in low-lying areas. Care should be taken when entering a potentially oxygen-deficient environment. If possible, ventilate the affected area.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

#### **Personal Precautions**

Do not enter any area where Argon has been spilled unless tests

have shown that it is safe to do so.

**Environmental Precautions**Argon does not pose a hazard to the environment.

# Small Spills

Shut off the source of escaping Argon. Ventilate the area.

# **Large Spills**

Evacuate the area. Shut off the source of the spill if this can be done without risk. Restrict access to the area until completion of the clean-up procedure. Ventilate the area using forced-draught if necessary.

# 7 HANDLING AND STORAGE

Do not allow cylinders to slide or come into contact with sharp edges. Argon cylinders may be stacked horizontally provided that they are firmly secured at each end to prevent rolling. Use a "first in - first out" inventory system to prevent full cylinders from being stored for excessive periods of time. Keep out of reach of children.

# **8 EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION**

## **Occupational Exposure Hazards**

As Argon is a simple asphyxiant, avoid any areas where spillage has taken place. Only enter once testing has proved the atmosphere to be safe.

# **Engineering Control Measures**

Engineering control measures are preferred to reduce exposure to oxygen-depleted atmospheres. General methods include forced-draught ventilation, separate from other exhaust ventilation systems. Ensure that sufficient fresh air enters at, or near, floor level.

# **Personal Protection**

Self-contained breathing apparatus should always be worn when entering area where oxygen depletion may have occurred. Safety goggles, gloves and shoes or boots should be worn when handling cylinders.

Skin No known effect.

# 9 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES PHYSICAL DATA

Chemical Symbol Ar
Molecular Weight 39,948
Specific Volume @ 20°C & 101,325 kPa 603,7ml/g
Colour None
Taste None
Odour None



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# 10 STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

## Conditions to avoid

The dilution of the oxygen concentration in the atmosphere to levels which cannot support life. Never use cylinders as rollers or supports, or for any other purpose than the storing of Argon. Never expose cylinders to excessive heat, as this may cause sufficient build-up of pressure to rupture the cylinders.

# **Incompatible Materials**

As Argon is inert it may be contained in systems constructed of any of the common metals which have been designed to safely withstand the pressures involved.

## **Hazardous Decomposition Products None**

## 11 TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No known effect Acute Toxicity Skin & eye contact No known effect Chronic Toxicity No known effect Carcinogenicity No known effect No known effect Mutagenicity Reproductive Hazards No known effect

(For further information see Section 3. Adverse Health effects)

#### 12 ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Argon is heavier than air and can cause pockets of oxygen-depleted atmosphere in low-lying areas. It does not pose a hazard to the

#### 13 DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### **Disposal Methods**

Small amounts may be blown to the atmosphere under controlled conditions. The gas supplier should only handle large amounts.

## **Disposal of Packaging**

The gas supplier must only handle the disposal of cylinders.

# 14 TRANSPORT INFORMATION

**ROAD TRANSPORTATION** 

UN No 1006 ERG No

Hazchem warning 2C Non-flammable gas

**SEA TRANSPORTATION** 

**IMDG** 1006

Class

Packaging group Non-flammable gas Label

AIR TRANSPORTATION

ICAO/IATA Code 1006

Class 2.2

Packaging group Packaging instructions

200 Cargo

200

Passenger

Maximum quantity allowed

150kg Cargo

Passenger