# GUIDE SUBSTANCES - SPONTANEOUSLY COMBUSTIBLE 135

# POTENTIAL HAZARDS

## FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- · Flammable/combustible material.
- May ignite on contact with moist air or moisture.
- · May burn rapidly with flare-burning effect.
- · Some react vigorously or explosively on contact with water.
- Some may decompose explosively when heated or involved in a fire.
- · May re-ignite after fire is extinguished.
- · Runoff may create fire or explosion hazard.
- Containers may explode when heated.

## HEALTH

- Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases.
- Inhalation of decomposition products may cause severe injury or death.
- · Contact with substance may cause severe burns to skin and eyes.
- · Runoff from fire control may cause pollution.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

- CALL EMERGENCY RESPONSE Telephone Number on Shipping Paper first. If Shipping Paper not
  available or no answer, refer to appropriate telephone number listed on the inside back cover.
- As an 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.
- · Stay upwind, uphill and/or upstream.
- · Keep unauthorized personnel away.

## PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Wear chemical protective clothing that is specifically recommended by the manufacturer. It may provide little or no thermal protection.
- Structural firefighters' protective clothing will only provide limited protection.

#### **EVACUATION**

#### IliaS

See <u>Table 1 - Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distances</u> for highlighted materials. For non-highlighted materials, increase, in the downwind direction, as necessary, the isolation distance shown under "PUBLIC SAFETY".

#### 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 document and/or the ERAP Program Section (page 391).

# **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

## FIRE

- DO NOT USE WATER, CO. OR FOAM ON MATERIAL ITSELF.
- Some of these materials may react violently with water.

EXCEPTION: For Xanthates, UN3342 and for Dithionite (Hydrosulfite/Hydrosulphite) UN1384, UN1923 and UN1929, USE FLOODING AMOUNTS OF WATER for SMALL AND LARGE fires to stop the reaction. Smothering will not work for these materials, they do not need air to burn.

#### Small Fire

- Dry chemical, soda ash, lime or DRY sand, EXCEPT for UN1384, UN1923, UN1929 and UN3342.
   Large Fire
- DRY sand, dry chemical, soda ash or lime EXCEPT for UN1384, UN1923, UN1929 and UN3342, or withdraw from area and let fire burn.
- CAUTION: UN3342 when flooded with water will continue to evolve flammable Carbon disulfide/Carbon disulphide vapors.
- Move containers from fire area if you can do it without risk.

## Fire involving Tanks or Car/Trailer Loads

- Fight fire from maximum distance or use unmanned hose holders or monitor nozzles.
- · Do not get water inside containers or in contact with substance.
- · 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.

## SPILL OR LEAK

- Fully encapsulating, vapor-protective clothing should be worn for spills and leaks with no fire.
- ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames in immediate area).
- · Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- Stop leak if you can do it without risk.

#### Small Spill

EXCEPTION: For spills of Xanthates, UN3342 and for Dithionite (Hydrosulfite/Hydrosulphite), UN1384, UN1923 and UN1929, dissolve in 5 parts water and collect for proper disposal.

- CAUTION: UN3342 when flooded with water will continue to evolve flammable Carbon disulfide/Carbon disulphide vapors.
- Cover with DRY earth, DRY sand or other non-combustible material followed with plastic sheet to minimize spreading or contact with rain.
- Use clean, non-sparking tools to collect material and place it into loosely covered plastic containers for later disposal.
- Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.

#### FIRST AID

- Ensure that medical personnel are aware of the material(s) involved and take precautions to protect themselves.
- Move victim to fresh air.
- Call 911 or emergency medical service.
- · Give artificial respiration if victim is not breathing.
- · 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.
- Keep victim calm and warm.