

PUBCHEM > AQUA REGIA > SAFETY AND HAZARDS

CID 90477010

Aqua regia

Safety and Hazards



1.1 Hazards Identification



1.1.1 Health Hazard



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: TOXIC; inhalation, ingestion or contact (skin, eyes) with vapors, dusts or substance may cause severe injury, burns or death. Reaction with [water](#) or moist air may release toxic, corrosive or flammable gases. Reaction with [water](#) may generate much heat that will increase the concentration of fumes in the air. Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases. Runoff from fire control or dilution [water](#) may be corrosive and/or toxic and cause pollution. (ERG, 2016)

U.S. Department of Transportation, Transport Canada, and Secretariat of Communications and Transport of Mexico, with collaboration from Argentina's Centro de Información Química para Emergencias. 2016 Emergency Response Guidebook. <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/outreach-training/erg> (accessed April 26, 2016).

▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

Corrosive

▶ from NJDOH RTK Hazardous Substance List

1.1.2 Fire Hazard



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: Non-combustible, substance itself does not burn but may decompose upon heating to produce corrosive and/or toxic fumes. For UN1796, UN1826, [UN2031](#) at high concentrations and for [UN2032](#), these may act as oxidizers, also consult ERG Guide 140. Vapors may accumulate in confined areas (basement, tanks, hopper/tank cars, etc.). Substance may react with [water](#) (some violently), releasing corrosive and/or toxic gases and runoff. Contact with metals may evolve flammable [hydrogen](#) gas. Containers may explode when heated or if contaminated with [water](#). (ERG, 2016)

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▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.2 First Aid Measures



1.2.1 First Aid



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: 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. Do not use mouth-to-mouth method if victim ingested or inhaled the substance; give artificial respiration with the aid of a pocket mask equipped with a one-way valve or other proper respiratory medical device. 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. In case of contact with [Hydrofluoric acid \(UN1790\)](#), flush with large amounts of [water](#). For skin contact, if [calcium gluconate](#) gel is available, rinse 5 minutes, then apply gel. Otherwise, continue rinsing until medical treatment is available. For eyes, flush with [water](#) or a saline solution for 15 minutes. For minor skin contact, avoid spreading material on unaffected skin. Keep victim calm and warm. Effects of exposure (inhalation, ingestion or skin contact) to substance may be delayed. (ERG, 2016)

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<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/outreach-training/erg> (accessed April 26, 2016).

► from CAMEO Chemicals

1.3 Fire Fighting



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: Note: Some foams will react with the material and release corrosive/toxic gases. SMALL FIRE: CO₂ (except for Cyanides), dry chemical, dry sand, alcohol-resistant foam. LARGE FIRE: [Water](#) spray, fog or alcohol-resistant foam. Move containers from fire area if you can do it without risk. Use [water](#) spray or fog; do not use straight streams. Dike fire-control [water](#) for later disposal; do not scatter the material. 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. 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. (ERG, 2016)

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► from CAMEO Chemicals

1.4 Accidental Release Measures



1.4.1 Isolation and Evacuation



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: 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. SPILL: Increase, in the downwind direction, as necessary, the isolation distance shown above. 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. (ERG, 2016)

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► from CAMEO Chemicals

1.5 Handling and Storage



1.5.1 Nonfire Spill Response



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames in immediate area). All equipment used when handling the product must be grounded. Do not touch damaged containers or spilled material unless wearing appropriate protective clothing. Stop leak if you can do it without risk. A vapor-suppressing foam may be used to reduce vapors. DO NOT GET [WATER](#) INSIDE CONTAINERS. Use [water](#) spray to reduce vapors or divert vapor cloud drift. Avoid allowing [water](#) runoff to contact spilled material. Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas. SMALL SPILL: 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. (ERG, 2016)

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▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.6 Exposure Control and Personal Protection



1.6.1 Protective Equipment and Clothing



Excerpt from ERG Guide 157 [Substances - Toxic and/or Corrosive (Non-Combustible / [Water](#)-Sensitive)]: 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 provides limited protection in fire situations ONLY; it is not effective in spill situations where direct contact with the substance is possible. (ERG, 2016)

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▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.7 Stability and Reactivity



1.7.1 Air and Water Reactions



Fumes in air. Soluble in [water](#) with release of heat.

▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.7.2 Reactive Group



Acids, Strong Oxidizing

▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.7.3 Reactivity Alerts



Strong Oxidizing Agent

▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.7.4 Reactivity Profile



AQUA REGIA is a powerful oxidizing agent and a strong acid. Reacts exothermically with chemical bases (for example: amines and inorganic hydroxides) to form salts and [water](#). Reacts with most metals, including [gold](#) and [platinum](#), to dissolve them with generation of toxic and/or flammable gases. Can initiate polymerization in polymerizable organic compounds. Reacts with cyanide salts to generate toxic [hydrogen cyanide](#) gas. Generates flammable and/or toxic gases with dithiocarbamates, isocyanates, mercaptans, nitrides, nitriles, sulfides, and weak or strong reducing agents. Additional exothermic gas-generating reactions occur with sulfites, nitrites, thiosulfates (to give H2S and SO3), dithionites (SO2), and carbonates (CO2).

▶ from CAMEO Chemicals

1.8 Transport Information



1.8.1 DOT ID and Guide



[1798 157](#)

▶ from DOT Emergency Response Guidebook

1.8.2 DOT Label



Corrosive

▶ from CAMEO Chemicals