# GUIDE GALLIUM AND MERCURY

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

#### HEALTH

- Inhalation of vapors or contact with substance will result in contamination and potential harmful effects.
- · Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases.

#### FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- Non-combustible, substance itself does not burn but may react upon heating to produce corrosive and/or toxic fumes.
- · Runoff may pollute waterways.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- CALL 911. Then call emergency response telephone number on shipping paper. If shipping paper not available or no answer, refer to appropriate telephone number listed on the inside back cover.
- Stay upwind, uphill and/or upstream.
- · Keep unauthorized personnel away.

#### PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Structural firefighters' protective clothing provides thermal protection but only limited chemical protection.

#### EVACUATION

#### Immediate precautionary measure

Isolate spill or leak area for at least 50 meters (150 feet) in all directions.

#### Large Spill

Consider initial downwind evacuation for at least 100 meters (330 feet).

#### Fire

 When any large container is involved in a fire, consider initial evacuation for 500 meters (1/3 mile) in all directions.

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## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

#### FIRE

- · Use extinguishing agent suitable for type of surrounding fire.
- · Do not direct water at the heated metal.

#### SPILL OR LEAK

- · Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- Do not touch damaged containers or spilled material unless wearing appropriate protective clothing.
- Stop leak if you can do it without risk.
- · Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.
- · Do not use steel or aluminum tools or equipment.
- Cover with earth, sand or other non-combustible material followed with plastic sheet to minimize spreading or contact with rain.
- · For mercury, use a mercury spill kit.
- Mercury spill areas may be subsequently treated with calcium sulphide/calcium sulfide or with sodium thiosulphate/sodium thiosulfate wash to neutralize any residual mercury.

#### FIRST AID

- Call 911 or emergency medical service.
- Ensure that medical personnel are aware of the material(s) involved and take precautions to protect themselves.
- · Move victim to fresh air if it can be done safely.
- · 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.

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