# GUIDE SUBSTANCES (LOW TO MODERATE HAZARD) 171

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

#### FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- · Some may burn but none ignite readily.
- · Containers may explode when heated.
- · Some may be transported hot.
- For UN3508, Capacitor, asymmetric, be aware of possible short circuiting as this product is transported in a charged state.
- Polymeric beads, expandable (UN2211) may evolve flammable vapours.

#### HEALTH

- Inhalation of material may be harmful.
- · Contact may cause burns to skin and eyes.
- Inhalation of Asbestos dust may have a damaging effect on the lungs.
- · Fire may produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases.
- · Some liquids produce vapors that may cause dizziness or asphyxiation.
- Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause environmental contamination.

## **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.
- Keep unauthorized personnel away.
- Stay upwind, uphill and/or upstream.

## 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 in all directions for at least 50 meters (150 feet) for liquids and at least 25 meters (75 feet) for solids.

## Spill

- For highlighted materials: see Table 1 Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distances.
- For non-highlighted materials: increase the immediate precautionary measure distance, in the downwind direction, as necessary.

#### 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.

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## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

### FIRE

#### Small Fire

Dry chemical, CO<sub>2</sub>, water spray or regular foam.

#### Large Fire

- · Water spray, fog or regular foam.
- · Do not scatter spilled material with high-pressure water streams.
- · If it can be done safely, move undamaged containers away from the area around the fire.
- Dike runoff from fire control for later disposal.

### Fire Involving Tanks

- 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

- · Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- · Stop leak if you can do it without risk.
- · Prevent dust cloud.
- For Asbestos, avoid inhalation of dust. Cover spill with plastic sheet or tarp to minimize spreading. Do not clean up or dispose of, except under supervision of a specialist.

## Small Dry Spill

 With clean shovel, place material into clean, dry container and cover loosely; move containers from spill area.

## Small Spill

 Pick up with sand or other non-combustible absorbent material and place into containers for later disposal.

## Large Spill

- Dike far ahead of liquid spill for later disposal.
- · Cover powder spill with plastic sheet or tarp to minimize spreading.
- Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.

## 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.

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	TABLE 1 - INITIAL ISOLATION AND PROTECTIVE ACTION DISTANCES															
				SMALL SPILLS (From a small package or small leak from a large package)						LARGE SPILLS (From a large package or from many small packages)						
				First ISOLATE in all Directions			Then PROTECT persons Downwind during				First ISOLATE in all Directions		Then PROTECT persons Downwind during			
	1931	171	Zinc dithionite (when spilled in water)	30 m	(100 ft)	0.1 km	(0.1 mi)	0.4 km	(0.3 mi)	60 m	(200 ft)	0.6 km	(0.4 mi)	2.4 km	(1.5 mi)	
	1931	171	Zinc hydrosulfite (when spilled in water)	30 m	(100 ft)	0.1 km	(0.1 mi)	0.4 km	(0.3 mi)	60 m	(200 ft)	0.6 km	(0.4 mi)	2.4 km	(1.5 mi)	
	1931	171	Zinc hydrosulphite (when spilled in water)	30 m	(100 ft)	0.1 km	(0.1 mi)	0.4 km	(0.3 mi)	60 m	(200 ft)	0.6 km	(0.4 mi)	2.4 km	(1.5 mi)	