

# GUIDE GALLIUM AND MERCURY

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### 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.

**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.