# GUIDE HALOGENATED SOLVENTS

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

### HEALTH

- · Toxic by ingestion.
- · Vapors may cause dizziness or asphyxiation.
- Exposure in an enclosed area may be very harmful.
- · Contact may irritate or burn skin and eyes.
- Fire may produce irritating and/or toxic gases.
- Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause environmental contamination.

### FIRE OR EXPLOSION

- · Some of these materials may burn, but none ignite readily.
- · Most vapors are heavier than air.
- · Air/vapor mixtures may explode when ignited.
- · Container may explode in heat of fire.

## **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.
- Many gases are heavier than air and will spread along the ground and collect in low or confined areas (sewers, basements, tanks, etc.).
- · Ventilate closed spaces before entering, but only if properly trained and equipped.

### PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Wear chemical protective clothing that is specifically recommended by the manufacturer when there is NO RISK OF FIRE.
- 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

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> or water spray.

### Large Fire

- Dry chemical, CO<sub>2</sub>, alcohol-resistant foam or water spray.
- 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 or Car/Trailer Loads

- Fight fire from maximum distance or use unmanned master stream devices or monitor nozzles.
- · 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

- ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames) from immediate area.
- · Stop leak if you can do it without risk.

### Small Liquid Spill

Pick up with sand, earth or other non-combustible absorbent material.

### Large Spill

- Dike far ahead of liquid spill for later disposal.
- · 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.
- · For minor skin contact, avoid spreading material on unaffected skin.
- · Wash skin with soap and water.
- · Keep victim calm and warm.

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