



# SAFETY DATA SHEET

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SDS Number: 7979-L  
Date Revised: 02/04/2013

This Safety Data Sheet complies with Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006, ISO 11014-1 and ANSI Z400.1

## 1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

**Product Name:** NICKEL-ARC ELECTRODES FOR CAST IRON WELDING  
**Application:** Arc Welding  
**Classification:** AWS A5.15  
**Supplier:** THE ESAB GROUP, INC., 801 Wilson Avenue, Hanover, PA 17331  
**Telephone No.:** 1-717-637-8911, 1-800-933-7070  
**Emergency No.:** 1-717-637-8911 and 1-800-424-9300 (CHEMTREC)  
**Web site:** [www.esabna.com](http://www.esabna.com)

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

**Emergency Overview:** Coated metal rods in varying colors. These products are normally not considered hazardous as shipped. Gloves should be worn when handling to prevent contaminating hands with product dust.

These products contain nickel, which is classified as toxic by prolonged inhalation, a skin sensitizer and a suspect carcinogen. In the form that nickel is present in these products it does not contribute to a hazard classification of the products. These products contain quartz, but normally not in an inhalable fraction. Quartz can cause silicosis and may cause cancer.

Avoid eye contact or inhalation of dust from these products. Skin contact is normally no hazard but should be avoided to prevent possible allergic reactions.

Persons with a pacemaker should not go near welding or cutting operations until they have consulted their doctor and obtained information from the manufacturer of the device.

When these products are used in a welding process, the most important hazards are heat, radiation, electric shock and welding fumes.

**Heat:** Spatter and melting metal can cause burn injuries and start fires.

**Radiation:** Arc rays can severely damage eyes or skin.

**Electricity:** Electric shock can kill.

**Fumes:** Overexposure to welding fumes may result in symptoms like metal fume fever, dizziness, nausea, dryness or irritation of the nose, throat or eyes. Chronic overexposure to welding fumes may affect pulmonary function. Prolonged inhalation of nickel compounds above safe exposure limits can cause cancer. Overexposure to manganese and manganese compounds above safe exposure limits can cause irreversible damage to the central nervous system, including the brain, symptoms of which may include slurred speech, lethargy, tremor, muscular weakness, psychological disturbances and spastic gait.

## 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

These products are preparations of core wire with extruded coating.

Ingredients	REACH Reg. #	CAS#	EINECS#	Hazard classification <sup>(1)</sup>	IARC <sup>(2)</sup>	NTP <sup>(3)</sup>	OSHA List <sup>(4)</sup>
Aluminum	--	7429-90-5	231-072-3	F; R15 R10 stabilized F; R15-17 pyrophoric	--	--	--
Barium Carbonate	--	513-77-9	208-167-3	Xn; R22	--	--	--
Boron	--	7440-42-8	231-151-2	No	--	--	--
Calcium Carbonate	--	1317-65-3	215-279-6	No	--	--	--
Calcium Fluoride	--	7789-75-5	232-188-7	No	--	--	--
Copper	--	7440-50-8	231-159-6	No	--	--	--
Graphite	--	7782-42-5	231-955-3	No	--	--	--
Iron	01-2119462838-24	7439-89-6	231-096-4	No	--	--	--
Manganese	--	7439-96-5	231-105-1	No	--	--	--
Nickel	--	7440-02-0	231-111-4	Carc. Cat. 3; R40 T; R48/23 R43	2B	S	--
Silicate Binder (Sodium Silicate)	--	1344-09-8	215-687-4	No	--	--	--
Silicon	--	7440-21-3	231-130-8	No	--	--	--



Ingredients	REACH Reg. #	CAS#	EINECS#	Hazard classification <sup>(1)</sup>	IARC <sup>(2)</sup>	NTP <sup>(3)</sup>	OSHA List <sup>(4)</sup>
Silicon Dioxide	--	14808-60-7	238-878-4	T; R45	1	K	--
Strontium Carbonate	--	1633-05-2	216-643-7	No	--	--	--
Strontium Fluoride	--	7783-48-4	232-000-3	No	--	--	--

<sup>(1)</sup> Hazard Classification according to European Council Directive 67/548/EEC, for R-phrases, see Section 16.

<sup>(2)</sup> Evaluation according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

1 –Carcinogenic to humans. 2A – Probably carcinogenic to humans. 2B – Possibly carcinogenic to humans.

<sup>(3)</sup> Classification according to the 11th Report on Carcinogens, published by the US National Toxicology Program.

K – Known Carcinogen S – Suspect Carcinogen

<sup>(4)</sup> Carcinogen listing according to OSHA, Occupational Safety & Health Administration (USA).

#### APPROXIMATE COMPOSITION (Wt. %)

Product Trade Name	Nickel-Arc 55	Nickel-Arc 99	Nickel-Arc 550
Aluminum	1-3	1-3	1-3
Barium Carbonate	<0.5	1-5	1-5
Boron	--	<0.5	--
Calcium Carbonate	<0.5	1-3	<0.5
Calcium Fluoride	1-3	1-3	1-3
Copper	--	1-3	--
Graphite	1-3	1-3	1-3
Iron	35-45	1-5	45-55
Manganese	0.3-1	0.3-1	0.3-1
Silicate Binder	1-3	1-3	1-3
Silicon	<0.5	1-3	1-3
Silicon Dioxide	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5
Strontium Carbonate	6-12	2-7	2-7
Strontium Fluoride	--	--	0.5-2.5
Nickel	Bal. >40	Bal. >70	Bal. >40
AWS Specification and Classification	A5.15 ENiFe-Cl-A	A5.15 ENi-Cl-A	A5.15 ENiFe-Cl-A

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation:	If breathing has stopped, perform artificial respiration and obtain medical assistance immediately! If breathing is difficult, provide fresh air and call physician.
Eye contact:	For radiation burns due to arc flash, see physician. To remove dusts or fumes flush with water for at least fifteen minutes. If irritation persists, obtain medical assistance.
Skin contact:	For skin burns from arc radiation, promptly flush with cold water. Get medical attention for burns or irritations that persist. To remove dust or particles wash with mild soap and water.
Electric shock:	Disconnect and turn off the power. Use a nonconductive material to pull victim away from contact with live parts or wires. If not breathing, begin artificial respiration, preferably mouth-to-mouth. If no detectable pulse, begin Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Immediately call a physician.
General:	Move to fresh air and call for medical aid.

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

No specific recommendations for welding consumables. Welding arcs and sparks can ignite combustible and flammable materials. Use the extinguishing media recommended for the burning materials and fire situation. Wear self-contained breathing apparatus as fumes or vapors may be harmful.



## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Solid objects may be picked up and placed into a container. Liquids or pastes should be scooped up and placed into a container. Wear proper protective equipment while handling these materials. Do not discard as refuse.

Personal precautions: refer to Section 8.

Environmental precautions: refer to Section 13.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Handling:

Handle with care to avoid stings and cuts. Wear gloves when handling welding consumables. Avoid exposure to dust. Do not ingest. Some individuals can develop an allergic reaction to certain materials. Retain all warning and identity labels.

Storage:

Keep separate from chemical substances like acids and strong bases, which could cause chemical reactions.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROL/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Avoid exposure to welding fumes, radiation, spatter, electric shock, heated materials and dust.

Engineering measures:

Ensure sufficient ventilation, local exhaust, or both, to keep welding fumes and gases from breathing zone and general area. Keep working place and protective clothing clean and dry. Train welders to avoid contact with live electrical parts and insulate conductive parts. Check condition of protective clothing and equipment on a regular basis.

Personal protective equipment:

Use respirator or air supplied respirator when welding or brazing in a confined space, or where local exhaust or ventilation is not sufficient to keep exposure values within safe limits. Use special care when welding painted or coated steels since hazardous substances from the coating may be emitted. Wear hand, head, eyes, ear and body protection like welders gloves, helmet or face shield with filter lens, safety boots, apron, arm and shoulder protection. Keep protective clothing clean and dry.

Use industrial hygiene monitoring equipment to ensure that exposure does not exceed applicable national exposure limits. The following limits can be used as guidance. For information about welding fume analysis refer to Section 10.

Substance		CAS#	ACGIH TLV <sup>(1)</sup> mg/m <sup>3</sup>	OSHA PEL <sup>(2)</sup> mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Aluminum	(metal and insoluble compounds)	7429-90-5	1**	15*, 5**
Barium Carbonate	(as Ba)	513-77-9	0.5	0.5
Boron		7440-42-8	None	None
Calcium Carbonate		1317-65-3	Withdrawn	15*, 5**
Calcium Fluoride	(as F)	7789-75-5	2.5	2.5
Copper	(fume, as Cu)	7440-50-8	0.2	0.1
	(dust and mists, as Cu)		1	1
Graphite		7782-42-5	2**	15*, 5**
Iron	(as iron oxide)	7439-89-6	5**	10 (fume)
Manganese and inorganic compounds	(as Mn)	7439-96-5	0.2	5 Ceiling
Nickel, elemental		7440-02-0	1.5***	1
Silicate Binder (Potassium Silicate & Sodium Silicate)		1312-76-1 1344-09-8	None None	None None
Silicon		7440-21-3	Withdrawn	15*, 5**
Silicon Dioxide (quartz)		14808-60-7	0.025**	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ### %SiO <sub>2</sub> +2
Strontium Carbonate		1633-05-2	None	None
Strontium Fluoride	(as F)	7783-48-4	2.5	2.5

<sup>(1)</sup> Threshold Limit Values according to American Conference of Governmental Hygienists, 2012

<sup>(2)</sup> Permissible Exposure Limits according to the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (USA)

Unless noted, all values are for 8 hour time weighted averages (TWA).

\* Total dust, \*\* Respirable fraction, \*\*\* Inhalable fraction.

### Respirable dust

**NOTE:** Some of these products may not contain all of the materials listed. For details of composition, refer to the COMPOSITION TABLES in Section 3.



## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance: Solid, non-volatile with varying color.

Melting Point: >1300°C/>2300°F

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

General: These products are only intended for normal welding purposes.

Stability: These products are stable under normal conditions.

Reactivity: Contact with chemical substances like acids or strong bases could cause generation of gas.

When these products are used in a welding process, hazardous decomposition products would include those from the volatilization, reaction or oxidation of the materials listed in Section 3 and those from the base metal and coating.

The amount of fumes generated from manual metal arc welding varies with welding parameters and dimensions but is generally no more than 5 to 20 g/kg consumable. Fumes from these products may contain compounds of the following chemical elements: Fe, O, Mn, Ni, F, Na, Si, K, Ca, Ba, Sr, Al and Cu. The rest is not analyzed, according to available standards.

Refer to applicable national exposure limits for fume compounds, including those exposure limits for fume compounds found in Section 8. Manganese and nickel have low exposure limits, in some countries, that may be easily exceeded.

Reasonably expected gaseous products would include carbon oxides, nitrogen oxides and ozone. Air contaminants around the welding area can be affected by the welding process and influence the composition and quantity of fumes and gases produced.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Inhalation of welding fumes and gases can be dangerous to your health. Classification of welding fumes is difficult because of varying base materials, coatings, air contamination and processes. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified welding fumes as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B).

Acute toxicity: Overexposure to welding fumes may result in symptoms like metal fume fever, dizziness, nausea, dryness or irritation of the nose, throat or eyes.

Chronic toxicity: Overexposure to welding fumes may affect pulmonary function. Prolonged inhalation of nickel compounds above safe exposure limits can cause cancer. Overexposure to manganese and manganese compounds above safe exposure limits can cause irreversible damage to the central nervous system, including the brain, symptoms of which may include slurred speech, lethargy, tremor, muscular weakness, psychological disturbances and spastic gait. Inhalable quartz is a respiratory carcinogen; however, the process of welding converts crystalline quartz to the amorphous form which is not considered to be a carcinogen.

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Welding consumables and materials could degrade/weather into components originating from the consumables or from the materials used in the welding process. Avoid exposure to conditions that could lead to accumulation in soils or groundwater.

## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Discard any product, residue, disposable container or liner in an environmentally acceptable manner, in full compliance with federal and local regulations. Use recycling procedures if available.

USA RCRA: Unused products or product residue containing barium is considered hazardous waste if discarded, RCRA ID characteristic Toxic Hazardous Waste D005.

Residues from welding consumables and processes could degrade and accumulate in soils and groundwater. Welding slag from these products typically contain mainly the following components originating from the coating of the electrode: Fe, O, Mn, Ni, F, Na, Si, K, Ca, Ba, Sr, Al and Cu.

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

No international regulations or restrictions are applicable.

## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Read and understand the manufacturer's instructions, your employer's safety practices and the health and safety instructions on the label. Observe any federal and local regulations. Take precautions when welding and protect yourself and others.

WARNING: Welding fumes and gases are hazardous to your health and may damage lungs and other organs. Use adequate ventilation.

ELECTRIC SHOCK can kill.

ARC RAYS and SPARKS can injure eyes and burn skin.

Wear correct hand, head, eye and body protection.

**Canada:** WHMIS classification: Class D; Division 2, Subdivision A

Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA): All constituents of these products are on the Domestic Substance List (DSL).



**USA:** Under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, these products are considered hazardous.

These products contain or produce a chemical known to the state of California to cause cancer and birth defects (or other reproductive harm). (California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.)

United States EPA Toxic Substance Control Act: All constituents of these products are on the TSCA inventory list or are excluded from listing.

**CERCLA/SARA Title III**

Reportable Quantities (RQs) and/or Threshold Planning Quantities (TPQs):

Ingredient name	RQ (lb)	TPQ (lb)
Product is a solid solution in the form of a solid article.	--	--

Spills or releases resulting in the loss of any ingredient at or above its RQ require immediate notification to the National Response Center and to your Local Emergency Planning Committee.

**Section 311 Hazard Class**

As shipped: Immediate In use: Immediate delayed

**EPCRA/SARA Title III 313 Toxic Chemicals**

The following metallic components are listed as SARA 313 "Toxic Chemicals" and potential subject to annual SARA 313 reporting. See Section 3 for weight percent.

Ingredient name	Disclosure threshold
Copper	1.0% de minimis concentration
Manganese	1.0% de minimis concentration
Nickel	0.1% de minimis concentration

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

This Safety Data Sheet has been revised due to modifications to Section 13. This SDS supersedes 7979-K.

Refer to ESAB "Welding and Cutting - Risks and Measures", F52-529 "Precautions and Safe Practices for Electric Welding and Cutting" and F2035 "Precautions and Safe Practices for Gas Welding, Cutting and Heating" available from ESAB, and to:

**USA:** Contact ESAB at [www.esabna.com](http://www.esabna.com) or 1-800-ESAB-123 if you have questions about this SDS.

American National Standard Z49.1 "Safety in Welding and Cutting", ANSI/AWS F1.5 "Methods for Sampling and Analyzing Gases from Welding and Allied Processes", ANSI/AWS F1.1 "Method for Sampling Airborne Particles Generated by Welding and Allied Processes", AWSF3.2M/F3.2 "Ventilation Guide for Weld Fume", American Welding Society, 550 North Le Jeune Road, Miami, Florida, 33135. Safety and Health Fact Sheets available from AWS at [www.aws.org](http://www.aws.org).

OSHA Publication 2206 (29 C.F.R. 1910), U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954.

American Conference of Governmental Hygienists (ACGIH), Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices, 6500 Glenway Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45211, USA.

NFPA 51B "Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting and Other Hot Work" published by the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169.

**UK:** WMA Publication 236 and 237, "Hazards from Welding Fume", "The arc welder at work, some general aspects of health and safety".

**Germany:** Unfallverhütungsvorschrift BGV D1, "Schweißen, Schneiden und verwandte Verfahren".

**Canada:** CSA Standard CAN/CSA-W117.2-01 "Safety in Welding, Cutting and Allied Processes".

These products have been classified according to the hazard criteria of the CPR and the SDS contains all the information required by the CPR.

Explanation of risk phrases mentioned in this SDS:

- R-phrases:
- R10 – Flammable.
  - R15 – Contact with water liberates extremely flammable gases.
  - R17 – Spontaneously flammable in air.
  - R22 – Harmful if swallowed.
  - R40 – Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect.
  - R43 – May cause sensitization by skin contact.
  - R45 – May cause cancer.
  - R48/23 – Toxic: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation.



ESAB requests the users of these products to study this Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and become aware of product hazards and safety information. To promote safe use of these products a user should:

- notify its employees, agents and contractors of the information on this SDS and any product hazards/safety information.
- furnish this same information to each of its customers for these products.
- request such customers to notify employees and customers for the same product hazards and safety information.

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