# GUIDE FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS - TOXIC 131

# **POTENTIAL HAZARDS**

## HEALTH

- TOXIC; may be fatal if inhaled, ingested or absorbed through skin.
- Inhalation or contact with some of these materials will irritate or burn skin and eyes.
- Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases.
- · Vapors may cause dizziness or asphyxiation.
- Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause environmental contamination.

# FIRE OR EXPLOSION

· HIGHLY FLAMMABLE: Will be easily ignited by heat, sparks or flames.

CAUTION: Methanol (UN1230) will burn with an invisible flame. Use an alternate method of detection (thermal camera, broom handle, etc.)

- · Vapors may form explosive mixtures with air.
- · Vapors may travel to source of ignition and flash back.
- Most vapors are heavier than air. They will spread along the ground and collect in low or confined areas (sewers, basements, tanks, etc.).
- Vapor explosion and poison hazard indoors, outdoors or in sewers.
- Those substances designated with a (P) may polymerize explosively when heated or involved in a fire.
- · Runoff to sewer may create fire or explosion hazard.
- · Containers may explode when heated.
- · Many liquids will float on water.

# **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.
- 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.

## 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.



In Canada, an Emergency Response Assistance Plan (ERAP) may be required for this product. Please consult the shipping paper and/or the ERAP Program Section (page 390).

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# **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

## FIRE

CAUTION: The majority of these products have a very low flash point. Use of water spray when fighting fire may be inefficient.

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#### Small Fire

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

#### Large Fire

- · Water spray, fog or alcohol-resistant foam.
- If it can be done safely, move undamaged containers away from the area around the fire.
- · Dike runoff from fire control for later disposal.
- Avoid aiming straight or solid streams directly onto the product.

## 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.
- For massive fire, use unmanned master stream devices or monitor nozzles; if this is impossible, withdraw from area and let fire burn.

## SPILL OR LEAK

- ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames) from immediate area.
- All equipment used when handling the product must be grounded.
- · Do not touch or walk through spilled material.
- · Stop leak if you can do it without risk.
- Prevent entry into waterways, sewers, basements or confined areas.
- · A vapor-suppressing foam may be used to reduce vapors.

### Small Spill

- Absorb with earth, sand or other non-combustible material and transfer to containers for later disposal.
- Use clean, non-sparking tools to collect absorbed material.

## Large Spill

- Dike far ahead of liquid spill for later disposal.
- Water spray may reduce vapor, but may not prevent ignition in closed spaces.

### 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.
- Do not perform mouth-to-mouth resuscitation if victim ingested or inhaled the substance; wash
  face and mouth before giving artificial respiration. Use a pocket mask equipped with a one-way
  valve or other proper respiratory medical device.
- · 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.
- · Wash skin with soap and water.
- In case of burns, immediately cool affected skin for as long as possible with cold water. Do not remove clothing if adhering to skin.
   Keep victim calm and warm.
- Effects of exposure (inhalation, ingestion or skin contact) to substance may be delayed.

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