# 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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