

PRODUCT NAME: METHANE

1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

BOC Gases,
Division of,
The BOC Group, Inc.
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (908) 464-8100
24-HOUR EMERGENCY TELEPHONE
NUMBER: CHEMTREC (800) 424-9300

BOC Gases
Division of
BOC Canada Limited
5975 Falbourne Street, Unit 2
Mississauga, Ontario L5R 3W6

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (905) 501-1700
24-HOUR EMERGENCY TELEPHONE
NUMBER: (905) 501-0802
EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN NO: 2-0101

PRODUCT NAME: METHANE
CHEMICAL NAME: CH₄
COMMON NAMES/SYNONYMS: Methyl Hydride
TDG (Canada) CLASSIFICATION: 2.1
WHMIS CLASSIFICATION: A, B1

PREPARED BY: Loss Control (908)464-8100/(905)501-1700
PREPARATION DATE: 6/1/95
REVIEW DATES: 6/1/99

2. Composition, Information on Ingredients

EXPOSURE LIMITS¹:

INGREDIENT	% VOLUME	PEL-OSHA ²	TLV-ACGIH ³	LD ₅₀ or LC ₅₀ Route/Species
Methane FORMULA: CH ₄ CAS: 74-82-8 RTECS #: PA1490000	100	None Established	Simple Asphyxiant	Not Available

¹ Refer to individual state or provincial regulations, as applicable, for limits which may be more stringent than those listed here.

² As stated in 29 CFR 1910, Subpart Z (revised July 1, 1993)

³ As stated in the ACGIH 1998-1999 Threshold Limit Values for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents.

OSHA Regulatory Status: This material is classified as hazardous under OSHA regulations.

3. Hazards Identification

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

Odorless, colorless flammable gas. Dangerous fire and explosion hazard. Avoid heat, sparks and flames. Simple Asphyxiant – This product does not contain oxygen and may cause asphyxia if released in a confined area. Maintain oxygen levels above 19.5%. Contents under pressure. Use and store below 125 °F.

PRODUCT NAME: METHANE

ROUTE OF ENTRY:

Skin Contact No	Skin Absorption No	Eye Contact No	Inhalation Yes	Ingestion No
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HEALTH EFFECTS:

Exposure Limits No	Irritant No	Sensitization No
Teratogen No	Reproductive Hazard No	Mutagen No
Synergistic Effects None reported		

Carcinogenicity: -- NTP: No IARC: No OSHA: No

EYE EFFECTS:

None anticipated.

SKIN EFFECTS:

None anticipated.

INGESTION EFFECTS:

None known. Ingestion is unlikely.

INHALATION EFFECTS:

Methane and nitrogen are simple asphyxiants. Exposure to high concentrations of this gas mixture may exclude an adequate supply of oxygen. Oxygen levels should be maintained at greater than 19.5% at normal atmospheric pressure.

Effects of oxygen deficiency resulting from simple asphyxiants may include: rapid breathing, diminished mental alertness, impaired muscular coordination, faulty judgement, depression of all sensations, emotional instability, and fatigue. As asphyxiation progresses, nausea, vomiting, prostration, and loss of consciousness may result, eventually leading to convulsions, coma, and death.

Oxygen deficiency during pregnancy has produced developmental abnormalities in humans and experimental animals.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE: None known.

NFPA HAZARD CODES

Health: 2
Flammability: 4
Instability: 0

HMIS HAZARD CODES

Health: 0
Flammability: 4
Reactivity: 0

RATINGS SYSTEM

0 = No Hazard
1 = Slight Hazard
2 = Moderate Hazard
3 = Serious Hazard
4 = Severe Hazard

4. First Aid Measures

EYES:

None required.

MSDS: G-56

Revised: 6/1/99

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SKIN:

None required.

INGESTION:

Not normally required.

INHALATION:

PROMPT MEDICAL ATTENTION IS MANDATORY IN ALL CASES OF OVEREXPOSURE TO THIS PRODUCT. RESCUE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS. Victims should be assisted to an uncontaminated area and inhale fresh air. Quick removal from the contaminated area is most important. If breathing has stopped administer artificial resuscitation and supplemental oxygen. Further treatment should be symptomatic and supportive. Keep victim warm and quiet.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

Conditions of Flammability: Flammable gas		
Flash point: -306°F (-188°C)	Method: Closed cup	Autoignition Temperature: 1076°F (580°C)
LEL(%): 5	UEL(%): 15	
Hazardous combustion products: Carbon dioxide, Carbon monoxide		
Sensitivity to mechanical shock: None		
Sensitivity to static discharge: Not Available		

FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:

Flammable gas. Cylinder may rupture violently from pressure when involved in a fire situation.

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:

Carbon dioxide, dry chemical or water spray.

FIRE FIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS:

If possible, stop the flow of gas. Inerting the atmosphere to reduce oxygen levels may extinguish flame, allowing capping of leaking container. Do not attempt this unless specifically trained. Reduce the rate of flow and inject an inert gas, if possible, before completely stopping the flow to prevent flashback. Do not extinguish the fire until the supply is shut off as otherwise an explosive re-ignition may occur. If the fire is extinguished and the flow of gas continues, use increased ventilation to prevent build-up of explosive atmosphere. Use non-sparking tools to close container valves.

Use water spray to cool surrounding containers. Be cautious of a Boiling Liquid Evaporating Vapor Explosion, BLEVE, if flame is impinging on surrounding containers. Direct 500 GPM water stream onto containers above liquid level with remote monitors. Limit the number of personnel in proximity of fire and evacuate surrounding areas in all directions.

Firefighters should wear respiratory protection (SCBA) and full turnout or Bunker gear. Continue to cool fire-exposed cylinders until well after flames are extinguished.

6. Accidental Release Measures

Immediately extinguish all ignition sources. No smoking, flames, sparks or flares in hazard area. Evacuate all personnel from affected area. Use appropriate protective equipment. If leak is in user's equipment, be certain to purge piping with inert gas prior to attempting repairs. If leak is in container or container valve, contact the appropriate emergency telephone number listed in Section 1 or call your closest BOC location.

7. Handling and Storage

Electrical Classification:

Not Available

Earth ground and bond all lines and equipment associated with the system. All equipment should be non-sparking or explosion-proof.

Methane is non-corrosive and may be used with any common structural material.

Use only in well-ventilated areas. Valve protection caps must remain in place unless container is secured with valve outlet piped to use point. Do not drag, slide or roll cylinders. Use a suitable hand truck for cylinder movement. Use a pressure regulator when connecting cylinder to lower pressure piping or systems. Do not heat cylinder by any means to increase the discharge rate of product from the cylinder. Use a check valve or trap in the discharge line to prevent hazardous back flow into the cylinder.

Protect cylinders from physical damage. Store in cool, dry, well-ventilated area of non-combustible construction away from heavily trafficked areas and emergency exits. Do not allow the temperature where cylinders are stored to exceed 125°F (52°C). Cylinders should be stored upright and firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Full and empty cylinders should be segregated. Use a "first in-first out" inventory system to prevent full cylinders from being stored for excessive periods of time. Post "NO SMOKING" signs in use or storage areas. There should be no sources of ignition in areas where this product is being used or stored. Outside or detached storage is preferred.

For additional storage recommendations, consult Compressed Gas Association's Pamphlets P-1, P-14, and Safety Bulletin SB-2.

8. Exposure Controls, Personal Protection

ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

Hood with forced ventilation. Local exhaust to prevent dilution of oxygen levels below 19.5%. Mechanical in accordance with electrical codes.

EYE/FACE PROTECTION:

Safety goggles or glasses.

SKIN PROTECTION:

Plastic or rubber gloves. Protective gloves made of any suitable material.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:

Positive pressure air line with mask and escape bottle or self-contained breathing apparatus should be available for emergency use.

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OTHER/GENERAL PROTECTION:

Safety shoes.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

PARAMETER	VALUE	UNITS
Physical state (gas, liquid, solid)	: Gas	
Vapor pressure	: Not Available	
Vapor density (Air = 1)	: Not Available	
Evaporation point	: Not Available	
Boiling point	: -285.7	°F
	: -161.5	°C
Freezing point	: -296.5	°F
	: -182.5	°C
pH	: Not Applicable	
Specific gravity	: 0.55	
Oil/water partition coefficient	: Not Available	
Solubility (H ₂ O)	: Negligible	
Odor threshold	: Not Applicable	
Odor and appearance	: Odorless, colorless gas	

10. Stability and Reactivity

STABILITY:

Stable

INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS:

Oxidizers

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:

Will not occur.

11. Toxicological Information

No data given in the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances (RTECS) or Sax, Dangerous Properties of Industrial Materials, 7th ed.

Oxygen deficiency during pregnancy has produced developmental abnormalities in humans and experimental animals.

12. Ecological Information

No data given.

MSDS: G-56

Revised: 6/1/99

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13. Disposal Considerations

Do not attempt to dispose of residual waste or unused quantities. Return in the shipping container PROPERLY LABELED, WITH ANY VALVE OUTLET PLUGS OR CAPS SECURED AND VALVE PROTECTION CAP IN PLACE to BOC Gases or authorized distributor for proper disposal.

14. Transport Information

PARAMETER	United States DOT	Canada TDG
PROPER SHIPPING NAME:	Methane, compressed	Methane, compressed
HAZARD CLASS:	2.1	2.1
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	UN 1971	UN 1971
SHIPPING LABEL:	FLAMMABLE GAS	FLAMMABLE GAS

15. Regulatory Information

Methane is listed under the accident prevention provisions of section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) with a threshold quantity (TQ) of 10,000 pounds.

SARA TITLE III NOTIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION

SARA TITLE III - HAZARD CLASSES:

Fire Hazard
Sudden Release of Pressure Hazard

16. Other Information

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
DOT	Department of Transportation
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
NTP	National Toxicology Program
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit
TDG	Transportation of Dangerous Goods
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System

Compressed gas cylinders shall not be refilled without the express written permission of the owner. Shipment of a compressed gas cylinder which has not been filled by the owner or with his/her (written) consent is a violation of transportation regulations.

DISCLAIMER OF EXPRESSED AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES:

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