

SAFETY DATA SHEET

Methane

Section 1. Identification

GHS product identifier	: Methane
Chemical name	: methane
Other means of identification	: Methane or natural gas; Marsh gas; Methyl hydride; CH ₄ ; Fire Damp;
Product use	: Synthetic/Analytical chemistry.
Synonym	: Methane or natural gas; Marsh gas; Methyl hydride; CH ₄ ; Fire Damp;
SDS #	: 001033
Supplier's details	: Airgas USA, LLC and its affiliates 259 North Radnor-Chester Road Suite 100 Radnor, PA 19087-5283 1-610-687-5253
Emergency telephone number (with hours of operation)	: 1-866-734-3438

Section 2. Hazards identification

OSHA/HCS status	: This material is considered hazardous by the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200).
Classification of the substance or mixture	: FLAMMABLE GASES - Category 1 GASES UNDER PRESSURE - Compressed gas

GHS label elements

Hazard pictograms



Signal word

: Danger

Hazard statements

: Extremely flammable gas.
May form explosive mixtures with air.
Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.
May displace oxygen and cause rapid suffocation.

Precautionary statements

General

: Read and follow all Safety Data Sheets (SDS'S) before use. Read label before use. Keep out of reach of children. If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. Close valve after each use and when empty. Use equipment rated for cylinder pressure. Do not open valve until connected to equipment prepared for use. Use a back flow preventative device in the piping. Use only equipment of compatible materials of construction. Approach suspected leak area with caution.

Prevention

: Never Put cylinders into unventilated areas of passenger vehicles. Keep away from heat, sparks, open flames and hot surfaces. - No smoking. Use and store only outdoors or in a well ventilated place.

Response

: Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish, unless leak can be stopped safely. Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so.

Storage

: Protect from sunlight. Protect from sunlight when ambient temperature exceeds 52°C/125°F. Store in a well-ventilated place.

Disposal

: Not applicable.

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1/12

Section 2. Hazards identification

Hazards not otherwise classified : In addition to any other important health or physical hazards, this product may displace oxygen and cause rapid suffocation.

Section 3. Composition/information on ingredients

Substance/mixture : Substance
Chemical name : methane
Other means of identification : Methane or natural gas; Marsh gas; Methyl hydride; CH₄; Fire Damp;

CAS number/other identifiers

CAS number : 74-82-8
Product code : 001033

Ingredient name	%	CAS number
methane	100	74-82-8

There are no additional ingredients present which, within the current knowledge of the supplier and in the concentrations applicable, are classified as hazardous to health or the environment and hence require reporting in this section.

Occupational exposure limits, if available, are listed in Section 8.

Section 4. First aid measures

Description of necessary first aid measures

Eye contact : Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water, occasionally lifting the upper and lower eyelids. Check for and remove any contact lenses. Continue to rinse for at least 10 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation occurs.

Inhalation : Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. If not breathing, if breathing is irregular or if respiratory arrest occurs, provide artificial respiration or oxygen by trained personnel. It may be dangerous to the person providing aid to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Get medical attention if adverse health effects persist or are severe. If unconscious, place in recovery position and get medical attention immediately. Maintain an open airway. Loosen tight clothing such as a collar, tie, belt or waistband.

Skin contact : Wash contaminated skin with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. To avoid the risk of static discharges and gas ignition, soak contaminated clothing thoroughly with water before removing it. Get medical attention if symptoms occur. Wash clothing before reuse. Clean shoes thoroughly before reuse.

Ingestion : As this product is a gas, refer to the inhalation section.

Most important symptoms/effects, acute and delayed

Potential acute health effects

Eye contact : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.
Inhalation : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
Skin contact : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.
Frostbite : Try to warm up the frozen tissues and seek medical attention.
Ingestion : As this product is a gas, refer to the inhalation section.

Over-exposure signs/symptoms

Eye contact : No specific data.
Inhalation : No specific data.
Skin contact : No specific data.

Section 4. First aid measures

Ingestion : No specific data.

Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment needed, if necessary

Notes to physician : Treat symptomatically. Contact poison treatment specialist immediately if large quantities have been ingested or inhaled.

Specific treatments : No specific treatment.

Protection of first-aiders : No action shall be taken involving any personal risk or without suitable training. It may be dangerous to the person providing aid to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

See toxicological information (Section 11)

Section 5. Fire-fighting measures

Extinguishing media

Suitable extinguishing media : Use an extinguishing agent suitable for the surrounding fire.

Unsuitable extinguishing media : None known.

Specific hazards arising from the chemical : Contains gas under pressure. Extremely flammable gas. In a fire or if heated, a pressure increase will occur and the container may burst, with the risk of a subsequent explosion.

Hazardous thermal decomposition products : Decomposition products may include the following materials:
carbon dioxide
carbon monoxide

Special protective actions for fire-fighters : Promptly isolate the scene by removing all persons from the vicinity of the incident if there is a fire. No action shall be taken involving any personal risk or without suitable training. Contact supplier immediately for specialist advice. Move containers from fire area if this can be done without risk. Use water spray to keep fire-exposed containers cool. If involved in fire, shut off flow immediately if it can be done without risk. If this is impossible, withdraw from area and allow fire to burn. Fight fire from protected location or maximum possible distance. Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so.

Special protective equipment for fire-fighters : Fire-fighters should wear appropriate protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) with a full face-piece operated in positive pressure mode.

Section 6. Accidental release measures

Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

For non-emergency personnel : Accidental releases pose a serious fire or explosion hazard. No action shall be taken involving any personal risk or without suitable training. Evacuate surrounding areas. Keep unnecessary and unprotected personnel from entering. Shut off all ignition sources. No flares, smoking or flames in hazard area. Avoid breathing gas. Provide adequate ventilation. Wear appropriate respirator when ventilation is inadequate. Put on appropriate personal protective equipment.

For emergency responders : If specialised clothing is required to deal with the spillage, take note of any information in Section 8 on suitable and unsuitable materials. See also the information in "For non-emergency personnel".

Environmental precautions : Ensure emergency procedures to deal with accidental gas releases are in place to avoid contamination of the environment. Inform the relevant authorities if the product has caused environmental pollution (sewers, waterways, soil or air).

Section 6. Accidental release measures

Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up

- Small spill** : Immediately contact emergency personnel. Stop leak if without risk. Use spark-proof tools and explosion-proof equipment.
- Large spill** : Immediately contact emergency personnel. Stop leak if without risk. Use spark-proof tools and explosion-proof equipment. Note: see Section 1 for emergency contact information and Section 13 for waste disposal.

Section 7. Handling and storage

Precautions for safe handling

- Protective measures** : Put on appropriate personal protective equipment (see Section 8). Contains gas under pressure. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Avoid breathing gas. Use only with adequate ventilation. Wear appropriate respirator when ventilation is inadequate. Do not enter storage areas and confined spaces unless adequately ventilated. Store and use away from heat, sparks, open flame or any other ignition source. Use explosion-proof electrical (ventilating, lighting and material handling) equipment. Use only non-sparking tools. Empty containers retain product residue and can be hazardous. Do not puncture or incinerate container. Use equipment rated for cylinder pressure. Close valve after each use and when empty. Protect cylinders from physical damage; do not drag, roll, slide, or drop. Use a suitable hand truck for cylinder movement.
- Advice on general occupational hygiene** : Eating, drinking and smoking should be prohibited in areas where this material is handled, stored and processed. Workers should wash hands and face before eating, drinking and smoking. Remove contaminated clothing and protective equipment before entering eating areas. See also Section 8 for additional information on hygiene measures.

- Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities** : Store in accordance with local regulations. Store in a segregated and approved area. Store away from direct sunlight in a dry, cool and well-ventilated area, away from incompatible materials (see Section 10). Eliminate all ignition sources. Keep container tightly closed and sealed until ready for use. Cylinders should be stored upright, with valve protection cap in place, and firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Cylinder temperatures should not exceed 52 °C (125 °F).

Section 8. Exposure controls/personal protection

Control parameters

Occupational exposure limits

Ingredient name	Exposure limits
methane	ACGIH TLV (United States, 3/2012). TWA: 1000 ppm 8 hours.

- Appropriate engineering controls** : Use only with adequate ventilation. Use process enclosures, local exhaust ventilation or other engineering controls to keep worker exposure to airborne contaminants below any recommended or statutory limits. The engineering controls also need to keep gas, vapor or dust concentrations below any lower explosive limits. Use explosion-proof ventilation equipment.
- Environmental exposure controls** : Emissions from ventilation or work process equipment should be checked to ensure they comply with the requirements of environmental protection legislation. In some cases, fume scrubbers, filters or engineering modifications to the process equipment will be necessary to reduce emissions to acceptable levels.

Individual protection measures

Section 8. Exposure controls/personal protection

- Hygiene measures** : Wash hands, forearms and face thoroughly after handling chemical products, before eating, smoking and using the lavatory and at the end of the working period. Appropriate techniques should be used to remove potentially contaminated clothing. Wash contaminated clothing before reusing. Ensure that eyewash stations and safety showers are close to the workstation location.
- Eye/face protection** : Safety eyewear complying with an approved standard should be used when a risk assessment indicates this is necessary to avoid exposure to liquid splashes, mists, gases or dusts. If contact is possible, the following protection should be worn, unless the assessment indicates a higher degree of protection: safety glasses with side-shields.
- Skin protection**
- Hand protection** : Chemical-resistant, impervious gloves complying with an approved standard should be worn at all times when handling chemical products if a risk assessment indicates this is necessary. Considering the parameters specified by the glove manufacturer, check during use that the gloves are still retaining their protective properties. It should be noted that the time to breakthrough for any glove material may be different for different glove manufacturers. In the case of mixtures, consisting of several substances, the protection time of the gloves cannot be accurately estimated.
- Body protection** : Personal protective equipment for the body should be selected based on the task being performed and the risks involved and should be approved by a specialist before handling this product. When there is a risk of ignition from static electricity, wear anti-static protective clothing. For the greatest protection from static discharges, clothing should include anti-static overalls, boots and gloves.
- Other skin protection** : Appropriate footwear and any additional skin protection measures should be selected based on the task being performed and the risks involved and should be approved by a specialist before handling this product.
- Respiratory protection** : Use a properly fitted, air-purifying or air-fed respirator complying with an approved standard if a risk assessment indicates this is necessary. Respirator selection must be based on known or anticipated exposure levels, the hazards of the product and the safe working limits of the selected respirator.

Section 9. Physical and chemical properties

Appearance

- Physical state** : Gas. [Compressed gas.]
- Color** : Colorless.
- Molecular weight** : 16.05 g/mole
- Molecular formula** : C-H4
- Boiling/condensation point** : -161.48°C (-258.7°F)
- Melting/freezing point** : -187.6°C (-305.7°F)
- Critical temperature** : -82.45°C (-116.4°F)
- Odor** : Odorless.
- Odor threshold** : Not available.
- pH** : Not available.
- Flash point** : Closed cup: -188.15°C (-306.7°F)
- Burning time** : Not applicable.
- Burning rate** : Not applicable.
- Evaporation rate** : Not available.
- Flammability (solid, gas)** : Extremely flammable in the presence of the following materials or conditions: open flames, sparks and static discharge and oxidizing materials.
- Lower and upper explosive (flammable) limits** : Lower: 1.8%
Upper: 8.4%

Section 9. Physical and chemical properties

Vapor pressure	: Not available.
Vapor density	: 0.55 (Air = 1) Liquid Density@BP: 26.5 lb/ft ³ (424.5 kg/m ³)
Specific Volume (ft³/lb)	: 2.3641
Gas Density (lb/ft³)	: 0.423 (25°C / 77 to °F)
Relative density	: Not applicable.
Solubility	: Not available.
Solubility in water	: 0.0244 g/l
Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water	: 1.09
Auto-ignition temperature	: 287°C (548.6°F)
Decomposition temperature	: Not available.
SADT	: Not available.
Viscosity	: Not applicable.

Section 10. Stability and reactivity

Reactivity	: No specific test data related to reactivity available for this product or its ingredients.
Chemical stability	: The product is stable.
Possibility of hazardous reactions	: Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous reactions will not occur.
Conditions to avoid	: Avoid all possible sources of ignition (spark or flame). Do not pressurize, cut, weld, braze, solder, drill, grind or expose containers to heat or sources of ignition.
Incompatibility with various substances	: Extremely reactive or incompatible with the following materials: oxidizing materials.
Hazardous decomposition products	: Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous decomposition products should not be produced.
Hazardous polymerization	: Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous polymerization will not occur.

Section 11. Toxicological information

Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity

Not available.

Irritation/Corrosion

Not available.

Sensitization

Not available.

Mutagenicity

Not available.

Carcinogenicity

Section 11. Toxicological information

Not available.

Reproductive toxicity

Not available.

Teratogenicity

Not available.

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)

Not available.

Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)

Not available.

Aspiration hazard

Not available.

Information on the likely routes of exposure : Not available.

Potential acute health effects

- Eye contact** : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.
- Inhalation** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
- Skin contact** : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.
- Ingestion** : As this product is a gas, refer to the inhalation section.

Symptoms related to the physical, chemical and toxicological characteristics

- Eye contact** : No specific data.
- Inhalation** : No specific data.
- Skin contact** : No specific data.
- Ingestion** : No specific data.

Delayed and immediate effects and also chronic effects from short and long term exposure

Short term exposure

- Potential immediate effects** : Not available.
- Potential delayed effects** : Not available.

Long term exposure

- Potential immediate effects** : Not available.
- Potential delayed effects** : Not available.

Potential chronic health effects

Not available.

- General** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
- Carcinogenicity** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
- Mutagenicity** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
- Teratogenicity** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
- Developmental effects** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.
- Fertility effects** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.

Section 11. Toxicological information

Numerical measures of toxicity

Acute toxicity estimates

Not available.

Section 12. Ecological information

Toxicity

Not available.

Persistence and degradability

Not available.

Bioaccumulative potential

Product/ingredient name	LogP _{ow}	BCF	Potential
methane	1.09	-	low

Mobility in soil






Soil/water partition coefficient (K_{oc}) : Not available.

Other adverse effects : No known significant effects or critical hazards.

Section 13. Disposal considerations

Disposal methods : The generation of waste should be avoided or minimized wherever possible. Disposal of this product, solutions and any by-products should at all times comply with the requirements of environmental protection and waste disposal legislation and any regional local authority requirements. Dispose of surplus and non-recyclable products via a licensed waste disposal contractor. Waste should not be disposed of untreated to the sewer unless fully compliant with the requirements of all authorities with jurisdiction. Empty Airgas-owned pressure vessels should be returned to Airgas. Waste packaging should be recycled. Incineration or landfill should only be considered when recycling is not feasible. This material and its container must be disposed of in a safe way. Empty containers or liners may retain some product residues. Do not puncture or incinerate container.

Section 14. Transport information

	DOT	TDG	Mexico	IMDG	IATA
UN number	UN1971	UN1971	UN1971	UN1971	UN1971
UN proper shipping name	Methane, compressed	Methane, compressed or Methane or Natural gas, compressed (with high methane content)	Methane, compressed	Methane, compressed	Methane, compressed
Transport hazard class(es)	2.1 	2.1 	2.1 	2.1 	2.1 

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Section 14. Transport information

Packing group	-	-	-	-	-
Environment	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Additional information	-	<u>Explosive Limit and Limited Quantity Index</u> 0.125 <u>ERAP Index</u> 3000 <u>Passenger Carrying Ship Index</u> Forbidden <u>Passenger Carrying Road or Rail Index</u> Forbidden	-	-	<u>Passenger and Cargo Aircraft</u> Quantity limitation: 0 Forbidden <u>Cargo Aircraft Only</u> Quantity limitation: 150 kg

“Refer to CFR 49 (or authority having jurisdiction) to determine the information required for shipment of the product.”

Special precautions for user : **Transport within user’s premises:** always transport in closed containers that are upright and secure. Ensure that persons transporting the product know what to do in the event of an accident or spillage.

Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code : Not available.

Section 15. Regulatory information

U.S. Federal regulations : **TSCA 8(a) CDR Exempt/Partial exemption:** Not determined
United States inventory (TSCA 8b): This material is listed or exempted.
Clean Air Act (CAA) 112 regulated flammable substances: methane

Clean Air Act Section 112 (b) Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) : Not listed

Clean Air Act Section 602 Class I Substances : Not listed

Clean Air Act Section 602 Class II Substances : Not listed

DEA List I Chemicals (Precursor Chemicals) : Not listed

DEA List II Chemicals (Essential Chemicals) : Not listed

SARA 302/304

Composition/information on ingredients

No products were found.

SARA 304 RQ : Not applicable.

SARA 311/312

Classification : Fire hazard
Sudden release of pressure

Composition/information on ingredients

Section 15. Regulatory information

Name	%	Fire hazard	Sudden release of pressure	Reactive	Immediate (acute) health hazard	Delayed (chronic) health hazard
methane	100	Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.	No.

State regulations

- Massachusetts** : This material is listed.
New York : This material is not listed.
New Jersey : This material is listed.
Pennsylvania : This material is listed.
Canada inventory : This material is listed or exempted.

International regulations

- International lists** : **Australia inventory (AICS)**: This material is listed or exempted.
China inventory (IECSC): This material is listed or exempted.
Japan inventory: This material is listed or exempted.
Korea inventory: This material is listed or exempted.
Malaysia Inventory (EHS Register): Not determined.
New Zealand Inventory of Chemicals (NZIoC): This material is listed or exempted.
Philippines inventory (PICCS): This material is listed or exempted.
Taiwan inventory (CSNN): Not determined.

- Chemical Weapons Convention List Schedule I Chemicals** : Not listed

- Chemical Weapons Convention List Schedule II Chemicals** : Not listed

- Chemical Weapons Convention List Schedule III Chemicals** : Not listed

Canada

- WHMIS (Canada)** : Class A: Compressed gas.
Class B-1: Flammable gas.
CEPA Toxic substances: This material is listed.
Canadian ARET: This material is not listed.
Canadian NPRI: This material is listed.
Alberta Designated Substances: This material is not listed.
Ontario Designated Substances: This material is not listed.
Quebec Designated Substances: This material is not listed.

Section 16. Other information

- Canada Label requirements** : Class A: Compressed gas.
Class B-1: Flammable gas.

Hazardous Material Information System (U.S.A.)

Health	0
Flammability	4
Physical hazards	3

Section 16. Other information

Caution: HMIS® ratings are based on a 0-4 rating scale, with 0 representing minimal hazards or risks, and 4 representing significant hazards or risks. Although HMIS® ratings are not required on SDSs under 29 CFR 1910.1200, the preparer may choose to provide them. HMIS® ratings are to be used with a fully implemented HMIS® program. HMIS® is a registered mark of the National Paint & Coatings Association (NPCA). HMIS® materials may be purchased exclusively from J. J. Keller (800) 327-6868.

The customer is responsible for determining the PPE code for this material.

[National Fire Protection Association \(U.S.A.\)](#)



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Copyright ©2001, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA 02269. This warning system is intended to be interpreted and applied only by properly trained individuals to identify fire, health and reactivity hazards of chemicals. The user is referred to certain limited number of chemicals with recommended classifications in NFPA 49 and NFPA 325, which would be used as a guideline only. Whether the chemicals are classified by NFPA or not, anyone using the 704 systems to classify chemicals does so at their own risk.

[History](#)

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Key to abbreviations :

- ATE = Acute Toxicity Estimate
- BCF = Bioconcentration Factor
- GHS = Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
- IATA = International Air Transport Association
- IBC = Intermediate Bulk Container
- IMDG = International Maritime Dangerous Goods
- LogPow = logarithm of the octanol/water partition coefficient
- MARPOL 73/78 = International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships, 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978. ("Marpol" = marine pollution)
- UN = United Nations
- ACGIH – American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
- AIHA – American Industrial Hygiene Association
- CAS – Chemical Abstract Services
- CEPA – Canadian Environmental Protection Act
- CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (EPA)
- CFR – United States Code of Federal Regulations
- CPR – Controlled Products Regulations
- DSL – Domestic Substances List
- GWP – Global Warming Potential
- IARC – International Agency for Research on Cancer
- ICAO – International Civil Aviation Organisation
- Inh – Inhalation
- LC – Lethal concentration
- LD – Lethal dosage
- NDSL – Non-Domestic Substances List
- NIOSH – National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Section 16. Other information

TDG – Canadian Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations

TLV – Threshold Limit Value

TSCA – Toxic Substances Control Act

WEEL – Workplace Environmental Exposure Level

WHMIS – Canadian Workplace Hazardous Material Information System

References

: Not available.

✔ Indicates information that has changed from previously issued version.

Notice to reader

To the best of our knowledge, the information contained herein is accurate. However, neither the above-named supplier, nor any of its subsidiaries, assumes any liability whatsoever for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein.

Final determination of suitability of any material is the sole responsibility of the user. All materials may present unknown hazards and should be used with caution. Although certain hazards are described herein, we cannot guarantee that these are the only hazards that exist.