BOC
A Member of The Linde Group

SAFETY DATA SHEET

 # 0181

Product Name **SPECSHIELD WIT**

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

Supplier name	**BOC LIMITED (AUSTRALIA)**
Address	10 Julius Avenue, North Ryde, NSW, 2113, AUSTRALIA
Telephone	131 262, (02) 8874 4400
Fax	132 427 (24 hours)
Emergency	1800 653 572 (24/7) (Australia only)
Web site	http://www.boc.com.au/
Synonym(s)	0181 - SDS NUMBER • ARGON SHIELDING GAS COMPRESSED MIXTURE • BOC SPECSHIELD WIT • PRODUCT CODE: 265 WIT
Use(s)	SHIELDING GAS
SDS date	03 April 2013

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

NOT CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS ACCORDING TO SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA CRITERIA

RISK PHRASES

None allocated

SAFETY PHRASES

None allocated

CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD BY THE CRITERIA OF THE ADG CODE

UN number	1956	**DG division**	2.2
Packing group	None Allocated	**Subsidiary risk(s)**	None Allocated
Hazchem code	2TE		

3. COMPOSITION/ INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Ingredient	Identification	Classification	Content
ARGON	CAS: 7440-37-1 EC: 231-147-0	Not Available	78%
HELIUM	CAS: 7440-59-7 EC: 231-168-5	Not Available	20%
CARBON DIOXIDE	CAS: 124-38-9 EC: 204-696-9	Not Available	2%

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Eye	None required.
Inhalation	If inhaled, remove from contaminated area. To protect rescuer, use an Air-line respirator or Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Be aware of possible explosive atmospheres. Apply artificial respiration if not breathing. Give oxygen if available. For advice, contact a Poison Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia Wide) or a doctor.
Skin	None required.

Ingestion Due to product form and application, ingestion is considered unlikely.

Advice to doctor Treat symptomatically.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Flammability Non flammable.

Fire and explosion Temperatures in a fire may cause cylinders to rupture. Cool cylinders or containers exposed to fire by applying water from a protected location. Remove cool cylinders from the path of the fire. Evacuate the area if unable to keep cylinders cool. Do not approach cylinders or containers suspected of being hot.

Extinguishing Use water fog to cool containers from protected area.

Hazchem code 2TE

2	Water Fog (or fine water spray if fog unavailable)
T	Self Contained Breathing apparatus and protective gloves.
E	Evacuation of people in the vicinity of the incident should be considered.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Personal precautions If the cylinder is leaking, evacuate area of personnel. Inform manufacturer/supplier of leak. Use personal protective equipment as detailed in Section 8 of this SDS.

Environmental precautions Prevent from entering sewers, basements and workpits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous.

Methods of cleaning up Carefully move material to a well ventilated remote area, then allow to discharge if safe to do so. Do not attempt to repair leaking valve or cylinder safety devices.

References See Sections 8 and 13 for exposure controls and disposal.

7. STORAGE AND HANDLING

Storage Do not store near incompatible materials. Cylinders should be stored below 45°C in a secure area, upright and restrained to prevent cylinders from falling. Cylinders should also be stored in a dry, well ventilated area constructed of non-combustible material with firm level floor (preferably concrete), away from areas of heavy traffic and emergency exits.

Handling Use of safe work practices are recommended to avoid inhalation. Do not drag, drop, slide or roll cylinders. The uncontrolled release of a gas under pressure may cause physical harm. Use a suitable hand truck for cylinder movement.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Exposure standards

Ingredient	Reference	TWA		STEL	
		ppm	mg/m³	ppm	mg/m³
Argon	SWA (AUS)	Asphyxiant			
Carbon dioxide	SWA (AUS)	5000	9000	30000	54000
Carbon dioxide in coal mines	SWA (AUS)	12500	22500	30000	54000
Helium	SWA (AUS)	Asphyxiant			

Biological limits No biological limit allocated.

Engineering controls Provide suitable ventilation to minimise or eliminate exposure. Confined areas (eg. tanks) should be adequately ventilated or gas tested.

PPE

Eye / Face	Wear safety glasses.
Hands	Wear leather gloves.
Body	Wear safety boots.
Respiratory	Where an inhalation risk exists, wear Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) or an Air-line respirator.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance	COLOURLESS GAS
Odour	ODOURLESS
Flammability	NON FLAMMABLE
Flash point	NOT RELEVANT
Boiling point	NOT AVAILABLE
Melting point	NOT AVAILABLE
Evaporation rate	NOT APPLICABLE
pH	NOT APPLICABLE
Vapour density	1.4 (Air = 1)
Specific gravity	NOT APPLICABLE
Solubility (water)	0.759 L/L (Carbon dioxide)
Vapour pressure	NOT AVAILABLE
Upper explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Lower explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Autoignition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Decomposition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Viscosity	NOT AVAILABLE
Partition coefficient	NOT AVAILABLE
% Volatiles	100 %
Cylinder pressure (when full)	Refer to Industrial Gases Reference Manual

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Chemical stability	Stable under recommended conditions of storage.
Conditions to avoid	Avoid contact with incompatible substances.
Material to avoid	Aluminium, chrome and manganese dust may explode when heated in carbon dioxide. Incompatible with acryaldehyde, aziridine, metal acetylides and sodium peroxide. Avoid heating cylinders. Hazardous by-products may be produced when this gas/gas mixture is used in welding, cutting and associated processes.
Hazardous Decomposition Products	This material will not decompose to form hazardous products other than that already present.
Hazardous Reactions	Polymerization will not occur.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Health Hazard Summary	Asphyxiant gas. Symptoms of exposure are directly related to displacement of oxygen. As the amount of oxygen inhaled is reduced from 21-14% volume, the pulse rate may accelerate and the rate and volume of breathing may increase. The ability to maintain attention and think clearly is diminished, muscular co-ordination is somewhat disturbed. As oxygen decreases from 14-10% volume, judgement becomes faulty, severe injuries may result in no pain. Muscular effort may lead to rapid fatigue. Further reduction to 6% may result in nausea and vomiting. Ability to move may be lost. Permanent brain damage may result even after resuscitation from exposure to this low level of oxygen. Below 6% breathing is in gasps and convulsions may occur. Inhalation of a mixture containing no oxygen may result in unconsciousness from the first breath and death may follow in minutes. When released into air the concentration of carbon dioxide is diluted. Carbon dioxide concentrations of 3 to 5 vol% in air cause increased respiration and headache. Adverse health affects to long term exposure to carbon dioxide have not been reported. However in environments

such as submarines where exposure to levels of 0.5 - 1.0% may occur, specialist medical opinion should be sought on the effects of long term exposure.

Eye Non irritant.

Inhalation Asphyxiant. Effects are proportional to oxygen displacement. Acts as a simple asphyxiant by displacing oxygen in the lungs thereby diminishing the supply of oxygen to the blood and tissues.

Skin Non irritant.

Ingestion Ingestion is considered unlikely due to product form.

Toxicity data CARBON DIOXIDE (124-38-9)

LC50 (inhalation)	470000 ppm/30M (rat)
LCLo (inhalation)	9 pph/5M (human)

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Toxicity No information provided.

Persistence and degradability No information provided.

Bioaccumulative potential No information provided.

Mobility in soil No information provided.

Other adverse effects Fume from fabrication processes which use this gas/gas mixture may be harmful to the environment.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Waste disposal Cylinders should be returned to the manufacturer or supplier for disposal of contents.

Legislation Dispose of in accordance with relevant local legislation.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD BY THE CRITERIA OF THE ADG CODE

	LAND TRANSPORT (ADG)	SEA TRANSPORT (IMDG / IMO)	AIR TRANSPORT (IATA / ICAO)
UN number	1956	-	-
Proper shipping name	COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S.	-	-
DG class/ Division	2.2	-	-
Subsidiary risk(s)	None Allocated	-	-
Packing group	None Allocated	-	-
GTEPG	2C1		

Hazchem code 2TE

Other information Ensure cylinder is separated from driver and that outlet of relief device is not obstructed.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Poison schedule A poison schedule number has not been allocated to this product using the criteria in the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP)

Inventory Listing(s) **AUSTRALIA: AICS (Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances)**
All components are listed on AICS, or are exempt.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Additional information

The storage of significant quantities of gas cylinders must comply with AS4332 The storage and handling of gases in cylinders. When using this gas/gas mixture for welding, cutting and associated processes, additional hazards may be generated by the process such as radiation, noise and fume. Risk assessments should be made for each activity to identify and quantify the individual hazards involved. Please refer to the BOC document "Welding Hazards and Risk Management" available from www.boc.com and refer to the relevant Safety Data Sheets for the welding consumables being used or, if available, the materials being welded.

APPLICATION METHOD: Gas regulator of suitable pressure and flow rating fitted to cylinder or manifold with low pressure gas distribution to equipment.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES:
The recommendation for protective equipment contained within this report is provided as a guide only. Factors such as method of application, working environment, quantity used, product concentration and the availability of engineering controls should be considered before final selection of personal protective equipment is made.

HEALTH EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE:
It should be noted that the effects from exposure to this product will depend on several factors including: frequency and duration of use; quantity used; effectiveness of control measures; protective equipment used and method of application. Given that it is impractical to prepare a ChemAlert report which would encompass all possible scenarios, it is anticipated that users will assess the risks and apply control methods where appropriate.

Abbreviations

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
CAS #	Chemical Abstract Service number - used to uniquely identify chemical compounds
CNS	Central Nervous System
EC No.	EC No - European Community Number
GHS	Globally Harmonized System
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LD50	Lethal Dose, 50% / Median Lethal Dose
mg/m³	Milligrams per Cubic Metre
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
pH	relates to hydrogen ion concentration using a scale of 0 (high acidic) to 14 (highly alkaline).
ppm	Parts Per Million
REACH	Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
STOT-RE	Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)
STOT-SE	Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)
SUSMP	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TWA/OEL	Time Weighted Average or Occupational Exposure Limit

Revision history

Revision	Description
2.0	Standard SDS Review.
1.0	Initial SDS creation

Report status

This document has been compiled by RMT on behalf of the manufacturer, importer or supplier of the product and serves as their Safety Data Sheet ('SDS').

It is based on information concerning the product which has been provided to RMT by the manufacturer, importer or supplier or obtained from third party sources and is believed to represent the current state of knowledge as to the appropriate safety and handling precautions for the product at the time of issue. Further clarification regarding any aspect of the product should be obtained directly from the manufacturer, importer or supplier.

While RMT has taken all due care to include accurate and up-to-date information in this SDS, it does not provide any warranty as to accuracy or completeness. As far as lawfully possible, RMT accepts no liability for any loss, injury or damage (including consequential loss) which may be suffered or incurred by any person as a consequence of their reliance on the information contained in this SDS.

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End of SDS