
1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

1.1 Product identifier

Product name 4.3% ARGON, 13% NITROUS OXIDE, BALANCE HELIUM
Synonym(s) 1144 - MSDS NUMBER • PRODUCT CODES: 285, 288 • SPECIAL GAS MIXTURE

1.2 Uses and uses advised against

Use(s) CALIBRATION • INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS

1.3 Details of the supplier of the product

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)
Website <http://www.boc.com.au>

1.4 Emergency telephone number(s)

Emergency 1800 653 572 (24/7) (Australia only)

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS (GHS ONLY) ACCORDING TO SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA CRITERIA

GHS classification(s) Gases Under Pressure: Compressed gas

2.2 Label elements

Signal word WARNING

Pictogram(s)



Hazard statement(s)

H280 Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

Prevention statement(s)

P202 Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.

Response statement(s)

None allocated.

Storage statement(s)

P410 + P403 Protect from sunlight. Store in a well-ventilated place.

Disposal statement(s)

None allocated.

2.3 Other hazards

No information provided.

3. COMPOSITION/ INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

3.1 Substances / Mixtures

Ingredient	CAS Number	EC Number	Content (v/v)
HELIUM	7440-59-7	231-168-5	Remainder
NITROUS OXIDE	10024-97-2	233-032-0	13%
ARGON	7440-37-1	231-147-0	4.3%

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

4.1 Description of 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). Apply artificial respiration if not breathing. Give oxygen if available. For advice, contact a Poisons 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.
First aid facilities	None allocated.

4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility / consciousness. Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation.

4.3 Immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Treat symptomatically.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

5.1 Extinguishing media

Use water fog to cool containers from protected area.

5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Non flammable.

5.3 Advice for firefighters

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.

5.4 Hazchem code

2TE	
2	Fine Water Spray.
T	Wear full fire kit and breathing apparatus. Dilute spill and run-off.
E	Evacuation of people in and around the immediate vicinity of the incident should be considered.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

If the cylinder is leaking, evacuate area of personnel. Inform manufacturer/supplier of leak. Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as detailed in Section 8 of the SDS.

6.2 Environmental precautions

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

6.3 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.

6.4 Reference to other sections

See Sections 8 and 13 for exposure controls and disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

7.1 Precautions for safe 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.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

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.

7.3 Specific end use(s)

No information provided.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

8.1 Control parameters

Exposure standards

Ingredient	Reference	TWA		STEL	
		ppm	mg/m ³	ppm	mg/m ³
Argon	SWA (AUS)	Asphyxiant			
Helium	SWA (AUS)	Asphyxiant			
Nitrous oxide	SWA (AUS)	25	45	--	--

Biological limits

No biological limit values have been entered for this product.

8.2 Exposure controls

Engineering controls Provide suitable ventilation to minimise or eliminate exposure. Confined areas (e.g. tanks) should be adequately ventilated or gas tested. Maintain vapour levels below the recommended exposure standard.

PPE

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



9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Appearance	COLOURLESS GAS
Odour	SLIGHT SWEET ODOUR
Flammability	NON FLAMMABLE
Flash point	NOT RELEVANT
Boiling point	NOT AVAILABLE
Melting point	NOT AVAILABLE
Evaporation rate	NOT APPLICABLE
pH	NOT APPLICABLE
Vapour density	NOT AVAILABLE
Specific gravity	NOT APPLICABLE
Solubility (water)	0.5 cm ³ /cm ³ (Nitrous oxide)
Vapour pressure	NOT AVAILABLE
Upper explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Lower explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Partition coefficient	NOT AVAILABLE

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Autoignition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Decomposition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Viscosity	NOT AVAILABLE
Explosive properties	NOT AVAILABLE
Oxidising properties	NOT AVAILABLE
Odour threshold	NOT AVAILABLE

9.2 Other information

% Volatiles	100 %
Cylinder pressure (when full)	13,000 kPa @ 15°C

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

10.1 Reactivity

Carefully review all information provided in sections 10.2 to 10.6.

10.2 Chemical stability

Stable under recommended conditions of storage.

10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

Polymerization will not occur.

10.4 Conditions to avoid

Avoid shock, friction, heavy impact, heat, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources.

10.5 Incompatible materials

Compatible with most commonly used materials.

10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

This material will not decompose to form hazardous products other than that already present.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

11.1 Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met. Nitrous oxide passes into all gas containing spaces in the body faster than nitrogen passes out, thus it should not be used with any condition where its expansion might be dangerous. May induce vomiting in susceptible individuals.

Information available for the ingredient(s):

Ingredient	Oral Toxicity (LD50)	Dermal Toxicity (LD50)	Inhalation Toxicity (LC50)
NITROUS OXIDE	--	--	1068 mg/m ³ (rat)

Skin	Not classified as a skin irritant.
Eye	Not classified as an eye irritant.
Sensitisation	Not classified as causing skin or respiratory sensitisation.
Mutagenicity	Not classified as a mutagen.
Carcinogenicity	Not classified as a carcinogen.
Reproductive	Insufficient evidence to classify as a reproductive toxin. Reduced fertility in healthcare personnel has been reported where they have been repeatedly exposed to levels of nitrous oxide above the specified occupational exposure limits in inadequately ventilated rooms. There is no documented evidence to confirm or exclude the existence of any causal connection between these cases and exposure to nitrous oxide.
STOT – single exposure	Asphyxiant - anaesthetic. May have short term effects on the central nervous system, including drowsiness, dizziness, euphoria and anxiolytic and analgesic effects.
STOT - repeated exposure	Chronic exposure to nitrous oxide can result in some symptoms of pernicious anaemia: Megaloblastic bone-marrow depression or peripheral and central neuropathy (tingling, numbness, impairment of equilibrium, difficulty in thinking clearly).
Aspiration	Not classified as causing aspiration.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

12.1 Toxicity

No information provided.

12.2 Persistence and degradability

No information provided.

12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

No information provided.

12.4 Mobility in soil

No information provided.

12.5 Other adverse effects

Product is not harmful to the environment.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 Waste treatment methods

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)
14.1 UN Number	1956	1956	1956
14.2 Proper Shipping Name	COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (Contains helium)	COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (Contains helium)	COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (Contains helium)
14.3 Transport hazard class	2.2	2.2	2.2
14.4 Packing Group	None allocated.	None allocated.	None allocated.

14.5 Environmental hazards

No information provided.

14.6 Special precautions for user

Hazchem code 2TE

GTEPG 2C1

EMS F-C, S-V

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

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture

Poison schedule Classified as a Schedule 4 (S4) Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).

Classifications Safework Australia criteria is based on the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

The classifications and phrases listed below are based on the Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances [NOHSC: 1008(2004)].

Hazard codes None allocated.

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None allocated.

Safety phrases None allocated.

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.

APPLICATION METHOD: Gas regulator of suitable pressure and flow rating fitted to cylinder or manifold with low pressure gas distribution to equipment. Application Method: Gas regulator of suitable pressure and flow rating fitted to cylinder valve 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 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
EMS	Emergency Schedules (Emergency Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods)
GHS	Globally Harmonized System
GTEPG	Group Text Emergency Procedure Guide
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LC50	Lethal Concentration, 50% / Median Lethal Concentration
LD50	Lethal Dose, 50% / Median Lethal Dose
mg/m ³	Milligrams per Cubic Metre
OEL	Occupational Exposure Limit
pH	relates to hydrogen ion concentration using a scale of 0 (high acidic) to 14 (highly alkaline).
ppm	Parts Per Million
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
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
SWA	Safe Work Australia
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TWA	Time Weighted Average

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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.

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