

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Prepared to U.S. OSHA, CMA, ANSI and Canadian WHMIS Standards

### PART I *What is the material and what do I need to know in an emergency?*

#### 1. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

CHEMICAL NAME; CLASS: **PROPANE - C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>**  
 Document Number: 001045

PRODUCT USE: For general analytical/synthetic chemical uses.  
SUPPLIER/MANUFACTURER'S NAME: AIRGAS INC.  
ADDRESS: 259 N. Radnor-Chester Road  
 Suite 100  
 Radnor, PA 19087-5283

BUSINESS PHONE: 1-610-687-5253  
EMERGENCY PHONE: 1-800-949-7937  
 International: 423-479-0293

DATE OF PREPARATION: May 12, 1996  
REVISION DATE: February 16, 2001

#### 2. COMPOSITION and INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS #	mole %	EXPOSURE LIMITS IN AIR					
			ACGIH		OSHA		IDLH ppm	OTHER
			TLV ppm	STEL ppm	PEL ppm	STEL ppm		
Propane	74-98-6	> 96.0	Simple Asphyxiant	NE	1000	NE	2200 (Based on LEL)	NIOSH REL: 1000 ppm DFG MAK: 1000 ppm
Maximum Impurities		<4.0	None of the trace impurities in this mixture contribute significantly to the hazards associated with the product. All hazard information pertinent to this product has been provided in this Material Safety Data Sheet, per the requirements of the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) and State equivalent standards.					

NE = Not Established

C = Ceiling Limit

See Section 16 for Definitions of Terms Used

NOTE: All WHMIS required information is included. It is located in appropriate sections based on the ANSI Z400.1-1993 format.

### 3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

**EMERGENCY OVERVIEW:** Propane is a colorless, liquefied, flammable gas, with a faint odor at high concentrations. The liquefied gas rapidly turns into a gas at standard atmospheric pressure and temperature. Propane is an asphyxiant and presents a significant health hazard by displacing the oxygen in the atmosphere. Both the liquid and gas pose a serious fire hazard when accidentally released. The gas is heavier than air and may spread long distances. Distant ignition and flashback are possible. Contact with liquid or rapidly expanding gases may cause frostbite. Flame or high temperature impinging on a localized area of the cylinder of Propane can cause the cylinder to rupture without activating the cylinder's relief devices. Provide adequate fire protection during emergency response situations.

**SYMPTOMS OF OVEREXPOSURE BY ROUTE OF EXPOSURE:**  
The most significant route of overexposure for this gas is by inhalation. The following paragraphs describe symptoms of exposure by route of exposure.

**INHALATION:** High concentrations of this gas can cause an oxygen-deficient environment. Individuals breathing such an atmosphere may experience symptoms which include headaches, ringing in ears, dizziness, drowsiness, unconsciousness, nausea, vomiting, and depression of all the senses. The skin of a victim may have a blue color. Under some circumstances, death may occur. The effects associated with various levels of oxygen are as follows:

<b>CONCENTRATION</b>	<b>SYMPTOMS OF EXPOSURE</b>
12-16% Oxygen:	Breathing and pulse rate increased, muscular coordination slightly disturbed.
10-14% Oxygen:	Emotional upset, abnormal fatigue, disturbed respiration.
6-10% Oxygen:	Nausea and vomiting, collapse or loss of consciousness.
Below 6%:	Convulsive movements, possible respiratory collapse, and death.

**OTHER POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS:** Contact with the liquefied gas or rapidly expanding gases may cause frostbite. Symptoms of frostbite include change in skin color to white or grayish-yellow. The pain after contact can quickly subside.

**HEALTH EFFECTS OR RISKS FROM EXPOSURE:** An Explanation in **Lay Terms.** Overexposure to Propane may cause the following health effects:

**ACUTE:** The most significant hazard associated with this gas is inhalation of oxygen-deficient atmospheres. Symptoms of oxygen deficiency include respiratory difficulty, headache, dizziness and nausea. At high concentrations, unconsciousness or death may occur. Contact with liquefied gas or rapidly expanding gases may cause frostbite.

**CHRONIC:** Propane is considered a weak heart sensitizing agent, based on animal tests.

**TARGET ORGANS:** Respiratory system.

<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM</b>			
<b>HEALTH</b>		(BLUE)	1
<b>FLAMMABILITY</b>		(RED)	4
<b>REACTIVITY</b>		(YELLOW)	0
<b>PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT</b>			B
EYES	RESPIRATORY	HANDS	BODY
	See Section 8		See Section 8
For routine industrial applications			

**See Section 16 for Definition of Ratings**

## **PART II** *What should I do if a hazardous situation occurs?*

### 4. FIRST-AID MEASURES

**RESCUERS SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO RETRIEVE VICTIMS OF EXPOSURE TO PROPANE WITHOUT ADEQUATE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT. At a minimum, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and Fire-Retardant Personal Protective equipment should be worn. Adequate fire protection must be provided during rescue situations.**

## 4. FIRST-AID MEASURES (Continued)

Remove victim(s) to fresh air as quickly as possible. Trained personnel should administer supplemental oxygen and/or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, if necessary. Only trained personnel should administer supplemental oxygen. In case of frostbite, place the frostbitten part in warm water. DO NOT USE HOT WATER. If warm water is not available, or is impractical to use, wrap the affected parts gently in blankets. Alternatively, if the fingers or hands are frostbitten, place the affected area in the armpit. Encourage victim to gently exercise the affected part while being warmed. Seek immediate medical attention.

Victim(s) must be taken for medical attention. Rescuers should be taken for medical attention, if necessary. Take copy of label and MSDS to physician or other health professional with victim(s).

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## 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

FLASH POINT (Closed Cup): -104°C (-156°F)

AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE: 450°C (842°F)

FLAMMABLE LIMITS (in air by volume, %):

Lower (LEL): 2.2%

Upper (UEL): 9.5%

FIRE EXTINGUISHING MATERIALS: Extinguish Propane fires by shutting off the source of the gas. Use water spray or a foam agent to cool fire-exposed containers, structures, and equipment.

UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS: When involved in a fire, this material ignites to produce toxic gases including carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.

**DANGER!** Fires impinging (direct flame) on the outside surface of unprotected pressure storage vessels of Propane can be very dangerous.

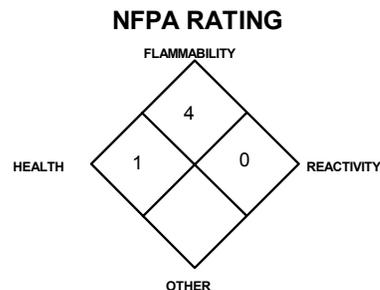
Direct flame exposure on the container wall can cause an explosion by BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion).

This is a catastrophic failure of the vessel releasing the contents into a massive fireball and explosion. The resulting fire and explosion can result in severe equipment damage and personnel injury or death over a large area around the vessel. For massive fires in large areas, use unmanned hose holder or monitor nozzles; if this is not possible, withdraw from area and allow fire to burn.

Explosion Sensitivity to Mechanical Impact: Not sensitive.

Explosion Sensitivity to Static Discharge: Static discharge may cause Propane to ignite explosively if released.

SPECIAL FIRE-FIGHTING PROCEDURES: Structural fire-fighters must wear Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and full protective equipment. Because of the potential for a BLEVE, evacuation of non-emergency personnel is essential. If water is not available for cooling or protection of vessel exposures, evacuate the area. Refer to the North American Emergency Response Guidebook for further information.



**See Section 16 for Definition of Ratings**

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## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

SPILL AND LEAK RESPONSE: Uncontrolled releases should be responded to by trained personnel using pre-planned procedures. Proper protective equipment should be used. In case of a release, clear the affected area and protect people. Adequate fire protection must be provided.

Minimum Personal Protective Equipment should be **Level B: fire-retardant protective clothing, gloves resistant to tears, and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus**. Use only non-sparking tools and equipment. Locate and seal the source of the leaking gas. Protect personnel attempting the shut-off with water-spray. Allow the gas to dissipate.

Monitor the surrounding area for combustible gas levels and oxygen. Combustible gas concentration must be below 10% of the LEL (LEL = 2.2%) prior to entry of response personnel. The atmosphere must have at least 19.5% oxygen before personnel can be allowed in the area without Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus. Attempt to close the main source valve prior to entering the area. If this does not stop the release (or if it is not possible to reach the valve), allow the gas to release in-place or remove it to a safe area and allow the gas to be released there.

**THIS IS AN EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE GAS.** Protection of all personnel and the area must be maintained.

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## **PART III** *How can I prevent hazardous situations from occurring?*

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### **7. HANDLING and STORAGE**

**WORK PRACTICES AND HYGIENE PRACTICES:** As with all chemicals, avoid getting Propane IN YOU. Do not eat or drink while handling chemicals. Be aware of any signs of dizziness or fatigue; exposures to fatal concentrations of Propane could occur without any significant warning symptoms.

**STORAGE AND HANDLING PRACTICES:** Cylinders should be stored in dry, well-ventilated areas away from sources of heat. Compressed gases can present significant safety hazards. Store containers away from heavily trafficked areas and emergency exits. Post "No Smoking or Open Flames" signs in storage or use areas.

**SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING GAS CYLINDERS:** Protect cylinders against physical damage. Store in cool, dry, well-ventilated area, away from sources of heat, ignition, and direct sunlight. Do not allow area where cylinders are stored to exceed 52°C (125°F). Isolate from oxidizers such as oxygen, chlorine, or fluorine. Use a check valve or trap in the discharge line to prevent hazardous backflow. Post "No Smoking or Open Flame" signs in storage and use areas. Cylinders should be stored upright and be firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Cylinders can be stored in the open, but in such cases, should be protected against extremes of weather and from the dampness of the ground to prevent rusting. Never tamper with pressure relief devices in valves and cylinders. Electrical equipment should be non-sparking or explosion-proof. The following rules are applicable to work situations in which cylinders are being used:

**Before Use:** Move cylinders with a suitable hand truck. Do not drag, slide, or roll cylinders. Do not drop cylinders or permit them to strike each other. Secure cylinders firmly. Leave the valve protection cap in place until cylinder is ready for use.

**During Use:** Use designated CGA fittings and other support equipment. Do not use adapters. Do not heat cylinder by any means to increase the discharge rate of the product from the cylinder. Use check valve or trap in discharge line to prevent hazardous backflow into the cylinder. Do not use oils or grease on gas-handling fittings or equipment.

**After Use:** Close main cylinder valve. Replace valve protection cap. Mark empty cylinders "EMPTY".

**NOTE:** Use only DOT or ASME code containers. Earth-ground and bond all lines and equipment associated with this product. Close valve after each use and when empty. Cylinders must not be recharged except by or with the consent of owner. For additional information refer to the Compressed Gas Association Pamphlet P-1, *Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers*. Additionally, refer to CGA Bulletin SB-2 "Oxygen Deficient Atmospheres" and NFPA Bulletin 58.

**PROTECTIVE PRACTICES DURING MAINTENANCE OF CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT:** Follow practices indicated in Section 6 (Accidental Release Measures). Make certain that application equipment is locked and tagged-out safely. Purge gas handling equipment with inert gas (e.g., nitrogen) before attempting repairs.

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### **8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS - PERSONAL PROTECTION**

**VENTILATION AND ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** Use with adequate ventilation. Local exhaust ventilation is preferred, because it prevents Propane dispersion into the work place by eliminating it at its source. If appropriate, install automatic monitoring equipment to detect the presence of potentially explosive air-gas mixtures and the level of oxygen.

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Maintain oxygen levels above 19.5% in the workplace. Use supplied air respiratory protection if oxygen levels are below 19.5% or during emergency response to a release of Propane. If respiratory protection is required, follow the requirements of the Federal OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134) or equivalent State standards. The following are NIOSH recommendations for Propane concentrations in air and are provided for further information:

#### **CONCENTRATION**

Up to 2100 ppm:

#### **RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT**

Facepiece Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) or full-facepiece Supplied-Air Respirator (SAR).

Emergency or Planned Entry into Unknown Concentration or IDLH Conditions: Positive pressure, full-facepiece SCBA or positive pressure, full-facepiece SAR with an auxiliary positive pressure SCBA.

Escape: Escape-type SCBA.

**NOTE:** The IDLH concentration for Propane is 2200 ppm, which is based on the LEL. It must be noted that protection for chemical overexposures is not effective protection from burns in the event of a fire.

**EYE PROTECTION:** Splash goggles or safety glasses, for protection from rapidly expanding gases and splashes of liquid Propane. Additionally, face shields should be worn for Liquid Propane use.

**HAND PROTECTION:** Wear mechanically resistant-gloves when handling cylinders of Propane. Use low-temperature protective gloves when working with containers of Liquid Propane.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS - PERSONAL PROTECTION (Continued)

**BODY PROTECTION:** Use body protection appropriate for task. Transfer of large quantities under pressure may require protective equipment appropriate to protect employees from splashes of liquefied product, as well as fire retardant items.

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## 9. PHYSICAL and CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

**VAPOR DENSITY:** 1.868 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (0.1166 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)

**SPECIFIC GRAVITY (air =1):** 1.550

**SOLUBILITY IN WATER:** Very slight.

**EVAPORATION RATE(nBuAc = 1):** Not applicable.

**COEFFICIENT WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION:** 2.36

**ODOR THRESHOLD:** 22,000-36,000 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

**pH:** Not applicable.

**FREEZING POINT:** -187.7°C (-305.9°F)

**BOILING POINT @ 1 atm:** -42°C (-43.7°F)

**EXPANSION RATIO:** Not applicable.

**SPECIFIC VOLUME (ft<sup>3</sup>/lb):** 8.5

**VAPOR PRESSURE (psia):** 123.7

**APPEARANCE AND COLOR:** Colorless gas with a faint odor at high concentrations. The liquid is also colorless and has a faint odor at high concentrations.

**HOW TO DETECT THIS SUBSTANCE (warning properties):** There are no distinct warning properties. The odor is not a reliable warning property. In terms of leak detection, fittings and joints can be painted with a soap solution to detect leaks, which will be indicated by a bubble formation.

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## 10. STABILITY and REACTIVITY

**STABILITY:** Stable.

**DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:** When ignited in the presence of oxygen, this gas will burn to produce carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide.

**MATERIALS WITH WHICH SUBSTANCE IS INCOMPATIBLE:** Strong oxidizers (e.g., chlorine, bromine pentafluoride, oxygen, oxygen difluoride, and nitrogen trifluoride).

**HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:** Will not occur.

**CONDITIONS TO AVOID:** Contact with incompatible materials and exposure to heat, sparks and other sources of ignition.

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## PART IV *Is there any other useful information about this material?*

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## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**TOXICITY DATA:** The following information is for pure Propane.

**Skin Contact (Rabbit):** Several formulations containing an isobutane-propane mixture were tested for skin irritation effects. All formulations contained less than 13% propane. All of the formulations containing propane caused only mild irritation.

**Effects on Short-Term Inhalation:** Guinea-pigs breathing 5.5% propane by volume developed tremors after 5 minutes. Nausea, retching, and stupefaction were observed when animals were exposed for 30-120 minutes. All the animals survived a two-hour exposure and had no significant tissue damage. A gas concentration of 89% did not cause anesthesia, but depressed the blood pressure of cats. Inhalation of 10 percent propane by mice and 15% by dogs cause weak cardiac sensitization. Presumably, all of these effects are reversible when exposure ceases. In primates, 10% propane caused some change in heart function. At 20% there was aggravation of these symptoms and respiratory depression.

**Effects of Long-Term Inhalation:** No toxicity or abnormalities were observed when monkeys were exposed to approximately 750 ppm for 90 days. Similar results were obtained when monkeys were exposed to an aerosol spray containing 65% propane and isobutane.

**SUSPECTED CANCER AGENT:** Propane is not found on the following lists: FEDERAL OSHA Z LIST, NTP, IARC, CAL/OSHA, and therefore is neither considered to be nor suspected to be a cancer-causing agent by these agencies.

**IRRITANCY OF PRODUCT:** Propane is not irritating; however, contact with rapidly expanding gases can cause frostbite to exposed tissue.

**SENSITIZATION TO THE PRODUCT:** Propane is not known to cause sensitization in humans; however, some animal studies indicate that exposure to Propane can cause weak cardiac sensitization.

**REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY INFORMATION:** Listed below is information concerning the effects Propane on the human reproductive system.

**Mutagenicity:** No mutagenicity effects have been described for Propane.

**Embryotoxicity:** No embryotoxic effects have been described for Propane.

**Teratogenicity:** No teratogenicity effects have been described for Propane.

**Reproductive Toxicity:** No reproductive toxicity effects have been described for Propane.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION (Continued)

### REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY INFORMATION (continued):

A mutagen is a chemical which causes permanent changes to genetic material (DNA) such that the changes will propagate through generational lines. An embryotoxin is a chemical which causes damage to a developing embryo (i.e., within the first eight weeks of pregnancy in humans), but the damage does not propagate across generational lines. A teratogen is a chemical which causes damage to a developing fetus, but the damage does not propagate across generational lines. A reproductive toxin is any substance which interferes in any way with the reproductive process.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE: Acute or chronic respiratory conditions may be aggravated by overexposure to Propane.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO PHYSICIANS: Administer oxygen, if necessary. Treat symptoms and eliminate exposure.

BIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE INDICES (BEIs): Currently, there are no Biological Exposure Indices for Propane.

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## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ENVIRONMENTAL STABILITY: This gas will be dissipated rapidly in well-ventilated areas. Additional environmental data are available for Propane as follows:

**PROPANE**: Log  $K_{ow}$  = 2.36. Water Solubility = 62.4 ppm (25°C). Log BCF (calculated) = 1.56 and 1.78. The bioconcentration in aquatic organisms is not expected to be important. Propane is readily degraded by soil bacteria

EFFECT OF MATERIAL ON PLANTS or ANIMALS: Any adverse effect on animals would be related to oxygen-deficient environments. No adverse effect is anticipated to occur to plant life, except for frost produced in the presence of rapidly expanding gases.

EFFECT OF CHEMICAL ON AQUATIC LIFE: No evidence is currently available on Propane's effects on aquatic life.

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## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

PREPARING WASTES FOR DISPOSAL: Product removed from the cylinder must be disposed of in accordance with appropriate Federal, State, and local regulations. Return cylinders with residual product to Airgas. Do not dispose locally.

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## 14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

THIS MATERIAL IS HAZARDOUS AS DEFINED BY 49 CFR 172.101 BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

### For Propane Gas:

<u>PROPER SHIPPING NAME</u> :	Propane
<u>HAZARD CLASS NUMBER and DESCRIPTION</u> :	2.1 (Flammable Gas)
<u>UN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER</u> :	UN 1978
<u>PACKING GROUP</u> :	Not Applicable
<u>DOT LABEL(S) REQUIRED</u> :	Flammable Gas
<u>NORTH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK NUMBER (2000)</u> :	115

### Alternate Description:

<u>PROPER SHIPPING NAME</u> :	Petroleum gases, liquefied
<u>HAZARD CLASS NUMBER and DESCRIPTION</u> :	2.1 (Flammable Gas)
<u>UN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER</u> :	UN 1075
<u>PACKING GROUP</u> :	Not Applicable
<u>DOT LABEL(S) REQUIRED</u> :	Flammable Gas
<u>NORTH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK NUMBER (2000)</u> :	115

MARINE POLLUTANT: Propane is not classified by the DOT as a Marine Pollutant (as defined by 49 CFR 172.101, Appendix B).

TRANSPORT CANADA TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS REGULATIONS: THIS MATERIAL IS CONSIDERED AS DANGEROUS GOODS. Use the above information for the preparation of Canadian Shipments.

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## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. SARA REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Propane is not subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 302, 304, and 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

U.S. SARA THRESHOLD PLANNING QUANTITY: Not applicable.

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## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION (Continued)

CANADIAN DSL/NDSL INVENTORY STATUS: Propane is on the DSL Inventory.

U.S. TSCA INVENTORY STATUS: Propane is on the TSCA Inventory.

OTHER U.S. FEDERAL REGULATIONS: Propane is subject to the reporting requirements of Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act. The Threshold Quantity for this gas is 10,000 lb. Depending on specific operations involving the use of Propane, the regulations of the Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals may be applicable (29 CFR 1910.119). Under this regulation Propane is not listed in Appendix A; however, any process that involves a flammable gas on-site, in one location, in quantities of 10,000 lb (4,553 kg) or greater is covered under this regulation unless it is used as a fuel.

U.S. STATE REGULATORY INFORMATION: Propane is covered under specific State regulations, as denoted below:

**Alaska - Designated Toxic and Hazardous Substances:** Propane.

**California - Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants:** Propane.

**Florida - Substance List:** No.

**Illinois - Toxic Substance List:** Propane.

**Kansas - Section 302/313 List:** No.

**Massachusetts - Substance List:** Propane.

**Michigan - Critical Materials Register:** No.  
**Minnesota - List of Hazardous Substances:** Propane.

**Missouri - Employer Information/Toxic Substance List:** Propane.

**New Jersey - Right to Know Hazardous Substance List:** Propane.

**North Dakota - List of Hazardous Chemicals, Reportable Quantities:** No.

**Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List:** Propane.

**Rhode Island - Hazardous Substance List:** Propane.

**Texas - Hazardous Substance List:** Propane.

**West Virginia - Hazardous Substance List:** Propane.

**Wisconsin - Toxic and Hazardous Substances:** Propane.

CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT (PROPOSITION 65): Propane is not on the California Proposition 65 lists.

### LABELING:

#### **DANGER:**

FLAMMABLE LIQUID AND GAS UNDER PRESSURE.  
CAN FORM EXPLOSIVE MIXTURES WITH AIR.  
MAY CAUSE FROSTBITE.

Keep away from heat, flames, and sparks.

Store and use with adequate ventilation.

Cylinder temperature should not exceed 52°C (125°F).

Do not get liquid in eyes, on skin or clothing.

Close valve after each use and when empty.

Use in accordance with the Material Safety Data Sheet.

#### **FIRST-AID:**

**IF INHALED,** remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Call a physician.

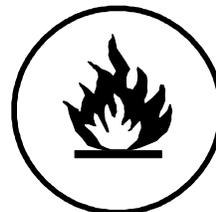
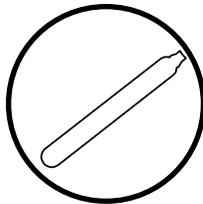
**IN CASE OF FROSTBITE,** obtain immediate medical attention.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS PRODUCT LABEL

### CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS:

**Class A:** Compressed Gases

**Class B1:** Flammable Gas



## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

PREPARED BY:

Airgas - SAFECOR

The information contained herein is based on data considered accurate. However, no warranty is expressed or implied regarding the accuracy of these data or the results to be obtained from the use thereof. AIRGAS, Inc. assumes no responsibility for injury to the vendee or third persons proximately caused by the material if reasonable safety procedures are not adhered to as stipulated in the data sheet. Additionally, AIRGAS, Inc. assumes no responsibility for injury to vendee or third persons proximately caused by abnormal use of the material even if reasonable safety procedures are followed. Furthermore, vendee assumes the risk in his use of the material.

### DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

A large number of abbreviations and acronyms appear on a MSDS. Some of these which are commonly used include the following:

**CAS #:** This is the Chemical Abstract Service Number which uniquely identifies each constituent. It is used for computer-related searching.

#### EXPOSURE LIMITS IN AIR:

**ACGIH** - American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, a professional association which establishes exposure limits. **TLV** - Threshold Limit Value - an airborne concentration of a substance which represents conditions under which it is generally believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed without adverse effect. The duration must be considered, including the 8-hour Time Weighted Average (**TWA**), the 15-minute Short Term Exposure Limit, and the instantaneous Ceiling Level (**C**). Skin absorption effects must also be considered.

**OSHA** - U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration. **PEL** - Permissible Exposure Limit - This exposure value means exactly the same as a TLV, except that it is enforceable by OSHA. The OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits are based in the 1989 PELs and the June, 1993 Air Contaminants Rule (Federal Register: 58: 35338-35351 and 58: 40191). Both the current PELs and the vacated PELs are indicated. The phrase, "Vacated 1989 PEL," is placed next to the PEL which was vacated by Court Order.

**IDLH** - Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health - This level represents a concentration from which one can escape within 30-minutes without suffering escape-preventing or permanent injury. **The DFG - MAK** is the Republic of Germany's Maximum Exposure Level, similar to the U.S. PEL.

**NIOSH** is the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, which is the research arm of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (**OSHA**). NIOSH issues exposure guidelines called **Recommended Exposure Levels (RELs)**. When no exposure guidelines are established, an entry of **NE** is made for reference.

#### HAZARD RATINGS:

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM:** Health Hazard: **0** (minimal acute or chronic exposure hazard); **1** (slight acute or chronic exposure hazard); **2** (moderate acute or significant chronic exposure hazard); **3** (severe acute exposure hazard; onetime overexposure can result in permanent injury and may be fatal); **4** (extreme acute exposure hazard; onetime overexposure can be fatal). Flammability Hazard: **0** (minimal hazard); **1** (materials that require substantial pre-heating before burning); **2** (combustible liquid or solids; liquids with a flash point of 38-93°C [100-200°F]); **3** (Class IB and IC flammable liquids with flash points below 38°C [100°F]); **4** (Class IA flammable liquids with flash points below 23°C [73°F] and boiling points below 38°C [100°F]). Reactivity Hazard: **0** (normally stable); **1** (material that can become unstable at elevated temperatures or which can react slightly with water); **2** (materials that are unstable but do not detonate or which can react violently with water); **3** (materials that can detonate when initiated or which can react explosively with water); **4** (materials that can detonate at normal temperatures or pressures).

**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION:** Health Hazard: **0** (material that on exposure under fire conditions would offer no hazard beyond that of ordinary combustible materials); **1** (materials that on exposure under fire conditions could cause irritation or minor residual injury); **2** (materials that on intense or continued exposure under fire conditions could cause temporary incapacitation or possible residual injury); **3** (materials that can on short exposure could cause serious temporary or residual injury); **4** (materials that under very short exposure causes death or major residual injury).

**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (Continued):** Flammability Hazard and Reactivity Hazard: Refer to definitions for "Hazardous Materials Identification System".

#### FLAMMABILITY LIMITS IN AIR:

Much of the information related to fire and explosion is derived from the National Fire Protection Association (**NFPA**). Flash Point - Minimum temperature at which a liquid gives off sufficient vapors to form an ignitable mixture with air. Autoignition Temperature: The minimum temperature required to initiate combustion in air with no other source of ignition. LEL - the lowest percent of vapor in air, by volume, that will explode or ignite in the presence of an ignition source. UEL - the highest percent of vapor in air, by volume, that will explode or ignite in the presence of an ignition source.

#### TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION:

Possible health hazards as derived from human data, animal studies, or from the results of studies with similar compounds are presented. Definitions of some terms used in this section are: **LD<sub>50</sub>** - Lethal Dose (solids & liquids) which kills 50% of the exposed animals; **LC<sub>50</sub>** - Lethal Concentration (gases) which kills 50% of the exposed animals; **ppm** concentration expressed in parts of material per million parts of air or water; **mg/m<sup>3</sup>** concentration expressed in weight of substance per volume of air; **mg/kg** quantity of material, by weight, administered to a test subject, based on their body weight in kg. Data from several sources are used to evaluate the cancer-causing potential of the material. The sources are: **IARC** - the International Agency for Research on Cancer; **NTP** - the National Toxicology Program, **RTECS** - the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances, **OSHA** and **CAL/OSHA**. IARC and NTP rate chemicals on a scale of decreasing potential to cause human cancer with rankings from 1 to 4. Subrankings (2A, 2B, etc.) are also used. Other measures of toxicity include **TDLo**, the lowest dose to cause a symptom and **TCLo** the lowest concentration to cause a symptom; **TDo**, **LDLo**, and **LDo**, or **TC**, **TCo**, **LCLo**, and **LCo**, the lowest dose (or concentration) to cause lethal or toxic effects. **BEI** - Biological Exposure Indices, represent the levels of determinants which are most likely to be observed in specimens collected from a healthy worker who has been exposed to chemicals to the same extent as a worker with inhalation exposure to the TLV. Ecological Information: EC is the effect concentration in water.

#### REGULATORY INFORMATION:

This section explains the impact of various laws and regulations on the material. **EPA** is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. **WHMIS** is the Canadian Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. **DOT** and **TC** are the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Transport Canada, respectively. Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (**SARA**); the Canadian Domestic/Non-Domestic Substances List (**DSL/NDL**); the U.S. Toxic Substance Control Act (**TSCA**); Marine Pollutant status according to the **DOT**; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (**CERCLA** or **Superfund**); and various state regulations.