



# ARSENIC TRICHLORIDE

UN 1560

Shipping Name: Arsenic trichloride  
Other Names: Arsenic butter  
Arsenic chloride  
Arsenous chloride  
Arsenous trichloride



- WARNING!** ● **POISON! BREATHING THE VAPOR, SKIN CONTACT OR SWALLOWING THE MATERIAL CAN KILL YOU!**
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel

## Hazards:

- Severely irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs; prolonged contact with skin and eyes can cause burns
- Upon contact with water generates toxic hydrochloric acid
- Will react with most metals to produce explosive hydrogen gas
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Decomposition products upon heating include toxic hydrogen chloride and arsenic fumes
- Known to cause cancer in humans following long term exposure: contact should be avoided

## Awareness and Operational Level Training Response:

- Do not put yourself in danger by entering a contaminated area to rescue a victim
- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Evacuate or shelter in place the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

## Description:

- Colorless to yellow oily liquid
- Pungent odor
- Decomposes in water to form toxic hydrochloric acid
- Nonflammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas

## Operational Level Training Response:

### RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk
- If in a building, evacuate building and confine vapors by closing doors and shutting down HVAC systems

### FIRE:

- Material does not burn, fight surrounding fire with an agent appropriate for the material burning
- If material is not leaking, cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (unvented container distorts, bulges or shows any other signs of expanding), withdraw immediately to a secure location

## First Aid:

- Do not put yourself in danger by entering a contaminated area to rescue a victim
- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
  - ◆ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
  - ◆ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
  - ◆ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
  - ◆ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- Toxic effects may be delayed
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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