



# HYDROGEN BROMIDE

UN 1048

Shipping Name: Hydrogen bromide, anhydrous  
Other Names: Anhydrous hydrobromic acid



- WARNING!** ● **POISON! BREATHING THE GAS CAN KILL YOU! SKIN AND EYE CONTACT CAUSES SEVERE BURNS AND BLINDNESS!**
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure to the chemical occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel

## Hazards:

- Containers may BLEVE or explode when exposed to fire
- Gas is heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Reacts with water to produce toxic hydrobromic acid
- Reacts with metals to produce highly flammable hydrogen gas
- Contact with liquid may cause frostbite

## 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 and deny entry into the area of release or fire
- For containers exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE or explosion
- Evacuate or shelter in place the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- 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 gas
- May be shipped as a pale yellow liquid under pressure
- Irritating odor
- Liquid sinks in water and dissolves in water with the production of heat and toxic hydrobromic acid
- Nonflammable
- Gas is heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Boiling liquid may produce white vapor cloud

## Operational Level Training Response:

### RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Use large amounts of water to disperse gas - contain runoff
- 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 burning material
- 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
- Frostbite - warm injured area in very warm water
- Toxic effects may be delayed
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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