



LITHIUM

UN 1415

Shipping Name: Lithium

Other Names: Li
Lithium metal



WARNING! • DO NOT USE WATER! REACTS VIOLENTLY WITH WATER TO FORM FLAMMABLE HYDROGEN GAS AND A CAUSTIC SOLUTION!
• METAL POWDER OR SHAVINGS MAY IGNITE SPONTANEOUSLY IN AIR!

Hazards:

- Skin and eye contact causes severe burns and blindness
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel
- Fumes from burning metal are highly irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs

Description:

- Silvery white solid - turns yellow upon exposure to moisture
- No odor
- Shipped and stored under inert gas, mineral oil or kerosene
- Floats on the surface of water and reacts with water to form highly flammable hydrogen gas and a caustic solution
- Very flammable

Awareness and Operational Level Training

Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- Evacuate 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 waterway, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

Operational Level Training Response:

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Cover material to protect from wind, rain or spray
- Prevent runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release

FIRE:

- DO NOT allow water to come in contact with the material; if material is on fire, use Class D extinguisher to extinguish
- 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
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

CAS: 7439-93-2