

# Praxair Material Safety Data Sheet

## 1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

<b>Product Name:</b> Methane	<b>Trade Name:</b> Methane
<b>Product Use:</b> Many.	
<b>Chemical Name:</b> Methane	<b>Synonym:</b> Marsh Gas, Methyl Hydride, Fire Damp, Sewer Gas.
<b>Chemical Formula:</b> CH <sub>4</sub>	<b>Chemical Family:</b> Alkanes
<b>Telephone:</b> <b>Emergencies:</b> * 1-800-363-0042	<b>Supplier /Manufacture:</b> Praxair Canada Inc. 1 City Centre Drive Suite 1200 Mississauga, ON L5B 1M2
	<b>Phone:</b> 905-803-1600
	<b>Fax:</b> 905-803-1682

*\*Call emergency numbers 24 hours a day only for spills, leaks, fire, exposure, or accidents involving this product. For routine information, contact your supplier or Praxair sales representative.*

## 2. Hazards Identification

### Emergency Overview

**DANGER!** Flammable, high-pressure gas. May form explosive mixture with air. Can cause rapid suffocation. May cause dizziness and drowsiness. Self-contained breathing apparatus may be required by rescue workers. Odour: None.

**ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:** Inhalation.

**THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE:** TLV-TWA Data from 2007 Guide to Occupational Exposure Values (ACGIH). TLV-TWAs should be used as a guide in the control of health hazards and not as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations.

### EFFECTS OF A SINGLE (ACUTE) OVEREXPOSURE:

**INHALATION:** Asphyxiant. Effects are due to lack of oxygen. Moderate concentrations may cause headaches, drowsiness, dizziness, excitation, excess salivation, vomiting, and unconsciousness. Lack of oxygen can kill.

**SKIN CONTACT:** No harm expected.

**SKIN ABSORPTION:** No evidence of adverse effects from available information.

**SWALLOWING:** This product is a gas at normal temperature and pressure.

**EYE CONTACT:** No harm expected.

### EFFECTS OF REPEATED (CHRONIC) OVEREXPOSURE:

No harm expected.

### OTHER EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE:

Asphyxiant. Lack of oxygen can cause death.

**MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY OVEREXPOSURE:**

A knowledge of the available toxicology information and of the physical and chemical properties of the material suggests that overexposure is unlikely to aggravate existing medical conditions.

**SIGNIFICANT LABORATORY DATA WITH POSSIBLE RELEVANCE TO HUMAN HEALTH HAZARD EVALUATION:**

None currently known.

**CARCINOGENICITY:**

Not listed as carcinogen by OSHA, NTP or IARC.

**3. Composition and Information on Ingredients****COMPONENTS****CAS  
NUMBER****CONCENTRATION  
% by Mole**

Methane

74-82-8

100

**4. First Aid Measures****INHALATION:**

If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention immediately.

**SKIN CONTACT:**

Wash with soap and water.

**SWALLOWING:**

This product is a gas at normal temperature and pressure.

**EYE CONTACT:**

Flush with water.

**NOTES TO PHYSICIAN:**

*There is no specific antidote. Treatment of over-exposure should be directed at the control of symptoms and the clinical condition.*

**5. Fire Fighting Measures****FLAMMABLE :** Yes.**IF YES, UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS?**

Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents.

**EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:**

CO<sub>2</sub>, dry chemical, water spray or fog.

**PRODUCTS OF COMBUSTION:**

These products are carbon oxides (CO, CO<sub>2</sub>).

**PROTECTION OF FIREFIGHTERS:**

**DANGER!** Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Immediately cool cylinders with water spray from maximum distance taking care not to extinguish flames. Remove ignition source if without risk. If flames are accidentally extinguished. Explosive re-ignition may occur; therefore, appropriate measures should be taken; e.g., total evacuation. Reapproach with extreme caution. Use self-contained breathing apparatus. Stop flow of gas if without risk while continuing cooling water spray. Remove all containers from area if without risk. Allow fire to burn out.

**SPECIFIC PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL HAZARDS:**

Flammable gas. Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents. Container may rupture due to heat of fire. Do not extinguish flames due to possibility of explosive re-ignition. Vapours form from this product and may travel or be moved by air currents and ignited by pilot lights, other flames, smoking, sparks, heaters, electrical equipment, static discharges, or other ignition sources at locations distant from product handling point. Explosive atmospheres may linger. Before entering area, especially confined areas, check atmosphere with approved device. No part of a container should be subjected to temperature higher than 52 C. Most containers are provided with a pressure relief device designed to vent contents when they are exposed to elevated temperature.

**SENSITIVITY TO IMPACT:**

Avoid impact against container.

**SENSITIVITY TO STATIC DISCHARGE:**

Possible.

**PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND PRECAUTIONS FOR FIREFIGHTERS:**

Firefighters should wear self-contained breathing apparatus and full fire-fighting turnout gear.

**FLAMMABLE LIMITS IN AIR, % by volume:**

**LOWER:** 5

**UPPER:** 15

**FLASH POINT:**

CLOSED CUP: -187.8°C (-306°F).  
(Tag.)

**AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE:**

537.2°C (999°F)

## 6. Accidental Release Measures

**STEPS TO BE TAKEN IF MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED:****Personal Precautions:**

**DANGER!** **Flammable, high-pressure gas.** Forms explosive mixtures with air. Immediately evacuate all personnel from danger area. Use self-contained breathing apparatus where needed. Remove all sources of ignition if without risk. Reduce gas with fog or fine water spray. Shut off flow if without risk. Ventilate area or move cylinder to a well-ventilated area. Flammable gas may spread from leak. Before entering area, especially confined areas, check atmosphere with an appropriate device.

**Environmental Precautions:**

Prevent waste from contaminating the surrounding environment. Keep personnel away. Discard any product, residue, disposable container, or liner in an environmentally acceptable manner, in full compliance with federal, provincial, and local regulations. If necessary, call your local supplier for assistance.

## 7. Handling and Storage

**PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING:**

Protect cylinders from damage. Use a suitable hand truck to move cylinders; do not drag, roll, slide, or drop. Never attempt to lift a cylinder by its cap; the cap is intended solely to protect the valve. Never insert an object (e.g., wrench, screwdriver, pry bar) into cap openings; doing so may damage the valve and cause a leak. Use an adjustable strap wrench to remove over-tight or rusted caps. Open valve slowly. If valve is hard to open, discontinue use and contact your supplier. For other precautions, see Section 16.

For additional information on storage and handling, refer to Compressed Gas Association (CGA) pamphlet P-1, *Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers*, available from the CGA. Refer to Section 16 for the address and phone number along with a list of other available publications.

**PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN STORAGE:**

Store and use with adequate ventilation. Separate flammable cylinders from oxygen, chlorine, and other oxidizers by at least 6 m or use a barricade of non-combustible material. This barricade should be at least 1.5 m high and have a fire resistance rating of at least ½ hour. Firmly secure cylinders upright to keep them from falling or being knocked over. Screw valve protection cap firmly in place by hand. Post "No Smoking or Open Flames" signs in storage and use areas. There must be no sources of ignition. All electrical equipment in storage areas must be explosion-proof. Storage areas must meet national electric codes for Class 1 hazardous areas. Store only where temperature will not exceed 52 C. Store full and empty cylinders separately. Use a first-in, first-out inventory system to prevent storing full cylinders for long periods.

#### OTHER HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS OF HANDLING, STORAGE, AND USE:

**Flammable high-pressure gas.** Use only in a closed system. Use piping and equipment adequately designed to withstand pressures to be encountered. Use only spark-proof tools and explosion-proof equipment. Keep away from heat, sparks, and open flame. **May form explosive mixtures with air.** Ground all equipment. **Gas can cause rapid suffocation due to oxygen deficiency.** Store and use with adequate ventilation. Close valve after each use; keep closed even when empty. **Prevent reverse flow.** Reverse flow into cylinder may cause rupture. Use a check valve or other protective device in any line or piping from the cylinder. **When returning cylinder to supplier,** be sure valve is closed, then install valve outlet plug tightly. **Never work on a pressurized system.** If there is a leak, close the cylinder valve. Vent the system down in a safe and environmentally sound manner in compliance with all federal, provincial, and local laws; then repair the leak. **Never place a compressed gas cylinder where it may become part of an electrical circuit.**

#### RECOMMENDED PUBLICATIONS:

Additional information on storage, handling, and use of this product is provided in **NFPA 55: Standard for the Storage, Use, and Handling of Compressed and Liquefied Gases in Portable Cylinders**, published by the National Fire Protection Association.

See also Praxair publication P-14-153, *Guidelines for Handling Gas Cylinders and Containers*. Obtain from your local supplier.

### 8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

INGREDIENTS	CAS NUMBER	LD <sub>50</sub> (Species & Routes)	LC <sub>50</sub> (Rat, 4 hrs.)	Exposure Limits
Methane	74-82-8	Not applicable.	Not available.	Simple asphyxiant.

**THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE:** TLV-TWA Data from 2007 Guide to Occupational Exposure Values (ACGIH). TLV-TWAs should be used as a guide in the control of health hazards and not as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations.

#### IMMEDIATELY DANGEROUS TO LIFE AND HEALTH (IDLH):

#### VENTILATION/ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

**LOCAL EXHAUST:** An explosion-proof local exhaust system is acceptable.

**MECHANICAL (General):** Inadequate.

**SPECIAL:** Not applicable.

**OTHER:** Not applicable.

#### PERSONAL PROTECTION:

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Use respirable fume respirator or air supplied respirator when working in confined space or where local exhaust or ventilation does not keep exposure below TLV. Select in accordance with the provincial regulations or guidelines. Selection should also be based on the current CSA standards Z94.4, "Selection, care and use of respirators". Respirators should be approved by NIOSH and MSHA.

**SKIN PROTECTION:** Wear work gloves when handling cylinders.

**EYE PROTECTION:** Wear safety glasses when handling cylinders.

Select in accordance with the current CSA standard Z94.3, "Industrial Eye and Face Protection", and any provincial regulations, local bylaws or guidelines.

**OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** Metatarsal shoes for cylinder handling. Protective clothing where needed. Cuffless trousers should be worn outside the shoes. Select in accordance with the current CSA standard Z195, "Protective Foot Wear", and any provincial regulations, local bylaws or guidelines.

## 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

<b>PHYSICAL STATE:</b> Gas. (Compressed Gas.)	<b>FREEZING POINT:</b> -182.61°C (-296.7°F)	<b>pH:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>BOILING POINT</b> -161.48°C (-258.7°F)	<b>VAPOUR PRESSURE</b> Not applicable.	<b>MOLECULAR WEIGHT:</b>	16.042 g/mole
<b>SPECIFIC GRAVITY: LIQUID ( Water = 1)</b> 0.446 @ -164 C	<b>SOLUBILITY IN WATER,</b> Very slightly soluble in cold water.		
<b>SPECIFIC GRAVITY: VAPOUR (air = 1)</b> 0.55 g/ml @ 0 C	<b>EVAPORATION RATE (Butyl Acetate=1):</b> > 1 compared to (Butyl Acetate = 1)	<b>COEFFICIENT OF WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>VAPOUR DENSITY:</b> 0.000678 g/ml @ 15.6 C	<b>% VOLATILES BY VOLUME:</b> 100% (v/v).	<b>ODOUR THRESHOLD:</b>	Not available.
<b>APPEARANCE &amp; ODOUR:</b> Colourless. Odourless.			

## 10. Stability and Reactivity

<b>STABILITY:</b>	The product is stable.
<b>CONDITIONS OF CHEMICAL INSTABILITY:</b>	Temperatures greater than 700 C.
<b>INCOMPATIBILITY (materials to avoid):</b>	Oxidizing agents. Mixtures with bromine pentafluoride, chlorine and yellow mercuric oxide, nitrogen trifluoride, liquid oxygen, oxygen difluoride may explode.
<b>HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:</b>	Thermal decomposition or burning may produce carbon monoxide/carbon dioxide. At temperatures in excess of 700 C and in the absence of oxygen or air, methane may decompose to form hydrogen.
<b>HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:</b>	Will not occur.
<b>CONDITIONS TO AVOID:</b>	None.
<b>CONDITIONS OF REACTIVITY:</b>	None.

## 11. Toxicological Information

**ACUTE DOSE EFFECTS:** See section 2.

**STUDY RESULTS:**

None known.

## 12. Ecological Information

No adverse ecological effects expected. This product does not contain any Class I or Class II ozone-depleting chemicals. The components of this mixture are not listed as marine pollutants by TDG Regulations.

## 13. Disposal Considerations

**WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD:** Do not attempt to dispose of residual or unused quantities. Return cylinder to supplier.

## 14. Transport Information

**TDG/IMO SHIPPING NAME:** Methane, Compressed

<b>HAZARD CLASS:</b>	CLASS 2.1: Flammable gas.	<b>IDENTIFICATION #:</b>	UN1971	<b>PRODUCT RQ:</b> Any accidental release in a quantity that could pose a danger to public safety or any sustained release of 10 minutes or more.
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**SHIPPING LABEL(s):** Flammable gas

**PLACARD (When Required):** Flammable gas

**SPECIAL SHIPPING INFORMATION:**

Cylinders should be transported in a secure position, in a well-ventilated vehicle. Cylinders transported in an enclosed, nonventilated compartment of vehicle can present serious safety hazards.

## 15. Regulatory Information

The following selected regulatory requirements may apply to this product. Not all such requirements are identified. Users of this product are solely responsible for compliance with all applicable federal, provincial, and local regulations. This product has been classified in accordance with the hazard criteria of the CPR and the MSDS contains all the information required by the CPR.

**WHMIS (Canada):** CLASS A: Compressed gas.  
CLASS B-1: Flammable gas.

This product is on the DSL list.

**International Regulations:**

**EINECS:** Not available.

**DSCL (EEC):** This product is not classified according to the EU regulations.

**International Lists:** No products were found.

**16. Other Information****MIXTURES:**

When two or more gases, or liquefied gases are mixed, their hazardous properties may combine to create additional, unexpected hazards. Obtain and evaluate the safety information for each component before you produce the mixture. Consult an Industrial Hygienist, or other trained person when you make your safety evaluation of the end product. Remember, gases and liquids have properties which can cause serious injury or death.

**HAZARD RATING SYSTEM:****HMIS RATINGS:**

HEALTH 0

FLAMMABILITY 4

PHYSICAL HAZARD 3

**STANDARD VALVE CONNECTIONS FOR U.S. AND CANADA:**

<b>THREADED:</b>	CGA-350
<b>PIN-INDEXED YOKE:</b>	Not available.
<b>ULTRA-HIGH-INTEGRITY CONNECTION:</b>	Not assigned (CGA-724 anticipated)

Use the proper CGA connections. **DO NOT USE ADAPTERS.** Additional limited-standard connections may apply. See CGA pamphlets V-1 and V-7 listed below.

Ask your supplier about free Praxair safety literature as referred to in this MSDS and on the label for this product. Further information about this product can be found in the following pamphlets published by the Compressed Gas Association, Inc. (CGA), 4221 Walney Road, 5th Floor, Chantilly, VA 20151-2923, Telephone (703) 788-2700, Fax (703) 961-1831, website: [www.cganet.com](http://www.cganet.com).

AV-1	Safe Handling and Storage of Compressed Gas
P-1	Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers
P-14	Accident Prevention in Oxygen-Rich, Oxygen-Deficient Atmosphere
SB-2	Oxygen-Deficient Atmospheres
V-1	Compressed Gas Cylinder Valve Inlet and Outlet Connections
V-7	Standard Method of Determining Cylinder Valve Outlet Connections for Industrial Gas Mixtures
---	Handbook of Compressed Gases, Fourth Edition

Praxair asks users of this product to study this MSDS and become aware of product hazards and safety information. To promote safe use of this product, a user should (1) notify employees, agents, and contractors of the information in this MSDS and of any other known product hazards and safety information, (2) furnish this information to each purchaser of the product, and (3) ask each purchaser to notify its employees and customers of the product hazards and safety information.

**PREPARATION INFORMATION:**

<b>DATE:</b>	10/15/2007
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Safety and Environmental Services
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	905-803-1600

The opinions expressed herein are those of qualified experts within Praxair Canada Inc. We believe that the information contained herein is current as of the date of this Material Safety Data Sheet. Since the use of this information and the conditions of use of the product are not within the control of Praxair Canada Inc., it is the user's obligation to determine the conditions of safe use of the product.

Praxair Canada Inc. requests the users of this product to study this Material Data Sheet (MSDS) and become aware of product hazards and safety information. To promote safe use of this product, a user should (1) notify its employees, agents and contractors of the information on this MSDS and any product hazards and safety information, (2) furnish this same information to each of its customers for the product, and (3) request such customers to notify their employees and customers for the product of the same product hazards and safety information.

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