

<b>MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET</b>
Title: <b>DISSOLVED ACETYLENE MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET</b>
Date of Issue: 1 October 2021
Date of Next Review: 1 October 2026

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET DISSOLVED ACETYLENE



### IDENTIFICATION:

**Chemical Name:** Dissolved Acetylene

**Synonyms:** Ethyne, Ethine

**UN Number:** 1001

**Use:** Acetylene is used as a fuel gas for oxy-welding, cutting, heating, flame hardening, flame cleaning, spalling of concrete, etc.

### HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION:

**Dangerous Goods Class and Subsidiary Risk:** 2.1

**HSNO Classification:** 2.1.1A

**Hazard Statement:**

Extremely flammable gas.

Explosive, fire, blast or projectile hazard.

Acetylene is highly shock sensitive and is a flammable gas that is unstable in certain conditions, which may decompose explosively.

**Precautionary Statements:**

Read label before use.

Read Safety Data Sheet before use.

Protect from heat, sparks, open flames, hot surfaces and all other ignition sources

No Smoking

Store in a well-ventilated place.

Wear protective gloves and eye protection.

Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish, unless leak can be stopped safely.

Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so.

Prepared By:	MAM	Document Number:	MSDS 025	Number of Copies	1
Authorised By:	WJM	Issue Date:	01/10/2021	File Location:	MASTER FILE
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Store in a well-ventilated place.  
 Do not subject to any rough handling (grinding/shock/friction/banging).  
 Explosion risk in case of fire.  
 Fight fire with normal precautions from a reasonable distance.  
 Take precautionary measures against static discharges.

<b>COMPOSITION / INGREDIENTS:</b>
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<b>Chemical Entity</b>	<b>CAS Number</b>	<b>Proportion</b>
Acetylene	74-86-2	100%

Contains no other components or impurities that will influence the classification of the product.

<b>FIRST AID MEASURES:</b>
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**Health Effects**

**Acute**

Swallowed: Not applicable to gases.  
 Eye: Not irritating to the eye.  
 Skin: Not irritating to the skin.

**Inhaled:** Acetylene is narcotic. Low concentrations of acetylene (10-20% in air) cause symptoms similar to those of being intoxicated. By diluting the oxygen concentration in air below the level necessary to support life; it can act as an asphyxiant. Effects of oxygen deficiency are:

**16%:** breathing and pulse rate increased, impaired thinking and attention, reduced coordination;

**14%:** Abnormal fatigue upon exertion, emotional upset, faulty coordination, poor judgement;

**12.5%:** Very poor judgement and coordination, impaired respiration that can cause permanent hearing damage, nausea and vomiting;

**below 10%:** Inability to perform various movements, loss of consciousness, convulsions, and death.

**Chronic:**

Prolonged exposure to an oxygen deficient atmosphere (below 19% oxygen in air) may affect the heart and nervous system.

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**First Aid:**

**Inhalation:**

In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility/consciousness.  
 Remove victim to uncontaminated area whilst wearing self-contained breathing apparatus.  
 Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation.  
 Keep victim warm and rested.  
 Call a doctor. Apply artificial respiration if breathing stopped.

**Advice to Doctor**

Advise doctor that victim has been exposed to an oxygen deficient atmosphere.

**General:**

Rescuers should not enter an oxygen deficient atmosphere without using self-contained full face positive pressure breathing equipment.  
 Rescue personnel should be aware of extreme fire hazard associated with acetylene rich atmospheres.

<b>FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES:</b>
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**Flammability:**

Highly flammable. Spontaneously flammable in air. Avoid all ignition sources.

**Fire/Explosion Hazard:**

Acetylene is highly flammable.  
 Exposure to fire may cause container to rupture/explode.  
 Do not extinguish a leaking gas flame unless absolutely necessary. Spontaneous/explosive re-ignition may occur.

Extinguish any other fire. Incomplete combustion may form carbon monoxide.

**Hot Acetylene Cylinder:**

Move cylinders from vicinity of fire if safe to do so. Cool cylinders by spraying flooding quantities of water from a protected location for one hour. After one hour check if the cylinder surface is steaming. If so, continue to spray flooding quantities of water from a protected location until the cylinder surface no longer steams.

If unable to keep cylinders cool, evacuate area, minimum 200 meters.

**Extinguishing Media:**

Water, Fog or Fine water spray

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**Hazchem Code:** 2 SE

**Recommended Protective Clothing:**

Breathing apparatus should be worn

<b>ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES:</b>
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**Personal Protection:**

Personnel engaged in the movement of cylinders shall be provided with safety footwear, safety glasses and leather or PVC gloves. Full cover overalls are recommended. In areas where equipment failure may cause an immediate high concentration of acetylene, ensure adequate ventilation and have approved self-contained, full face respiratory equipment readily available for emergencies.

**Spills and Disposal:**

Ventilate area. Stop leak if it can be done without risk. Allow gas to dissipate to atmosphere. Prevent from entering sewers, basements and workpits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous.

**Reference Guide:**

Standard SNZ HB 76:2008 Dangerous Goods – Initial Emergency Response Guide.  
AS/NZS 1337 – Eye Protection for Industrial Applications  
AS/NZS 2161.1 – Occupational Protective Gloves – Selection, use and maintenance  
AS/NZS 1715 – Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices  
AS/NZS 1716 – Respiratory Protective Devices

**General:**

Only experienced and properly instructed personnel should handle compressed gases. Open valve slowly to avoid pressure shock. Cylinder contents and identification labels provided by the supplier must not be removed or defaced. Colour coding should not be the only criterion used for content identification.

<b>HANDLING AND STORAGE:</b>
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**Handling:**

**Flammability:**

Highly flammable. Spontaneously flammable in air. Avoid all ignition sources.

**General:**

Only experienced and properly instructed personnel should handle compressed gases. Open valve slowly to avoid pressure shock. Cylinder contents and identification labels provided by

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the supplier must not be removed or defaced. Colour coding should not be the only criterion used for content identification. Do not mechanically impact or dent an acetylene cylinder. This may damage the porous mass and lead to explosive decomposition of acetylene.

**Approved Handlers:**

Approved handlers are required if more than 100 m<sup>3</sup> is stored on site.

**Storage:**

Storage of compressed gas cylinders shall be in compliance with New Zealand HSNO Regulations.

Acetylene is stored in the dissolved state in solvents such as acetone, held in a porous mass lining the inside of the cylinder. Cylinders are equipped with a fusible plug to protect from over temperature. A release from a fusible plug can project a flame up to 4.6 meters.

Always keep acetylene cylinders upright to avoid getting liquid in the valve.

Cylinders must be kept away from ignition sources (including static discharges).

Cylinders shall be stored in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight and away from heat.

No part of cylinders shall be exposed to temperatures above 50°C.

Cylinders shall be stored upright on a level, fireproof floor, secured in position and protected from damage.

Full cylinders shall be stored separately from empties.

Cylinders should be moved by hand-truck or cart designed for that purpose.

**Separation:**

Avoid any contact with oil or grease particularly to the cylinder valve.

Keep acetylene cylinders a minimum of 5 meters away from ignition sources and from incompatible materials (e.g. HSNO classes 1, 3, 4 and 5).

Keep acetylene cylinders a minimum of 5 meters away from edge of the controlled zone. A controlled zone is an area surrounding a hazardous substance location; beyond the controlled zone members of the public are provided with reasonable protection from adverse events.

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**Spills and Disposal:**

Ventilate area. Stop leak if it can be done without risk. Allow gas to dissipate to atmosphere.

Prevent from entering sewers, basements and work pits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous.

<b>EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION:</b>
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**Exposure Standards:**

Acetylene is a simple asphyxiant.

**Engineering Controls:**

Do not reticulate at pressure greater than 150 kPa. (Acetylene can ignite by decomposition above 200 kPa).

Always use a flashback arrestor on both the torch and cylinder ends of a hose.

Provide ventilation to area of use to prevent accumulation of acetylene at flammable concentrations. Never use acetylene in direct contact with unalloyed copper, silver and mercury (forms explosive acetylides compounds with copper, mercury, silver and brasses containing more than 66% copper or brazing materials containing silver or copper).

**Personal Protection:**

Personnel engaged in the movement of cylinders shall be provided with safety footwear, safety glasses and leather or PVC gloves. Full cover overalls are recommended. In areas where equipment failure may cause an immediate high concentration of acetylene, ensure adequate ventilation and have approved self-contained, full face respiratory equipment readily available for emergencies.

**Reference Guide:**

- AS/NZS 1337 – Eye Protection for Industrial Applications
- AS/NZS 2161.1 – Occupational Protective Gloves – Selection, use and maintenance
- AS/NZS 1715 – Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices
- AS/NZS 1716 – Respiratory Protective Devices

<b>PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES:</b>
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**Physical Properties**

Appearance: Colourless, slight Garlic odour

Flashpoint: Not Applicable

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**Boiling Point:** -84°C

**Flammability Limits:** (In air) 2.2% - 85%

**Vapour Pressure:** Not Applicable

**Solubility in Water (at 0°C):** 1.72 m<sup>3</sup>/kg

**Other Properties**

Relative Density: (Air = 1): 0.908

Density of Gas: (101.3 kPa, 15°C): 1.113 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Molecular Weight: 26.04

Critical Temperature: 35.2°C

Auto Ignition Temperature: 325°C

<b>STABILITY AND REACTIVITY:</b>
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**Flammability:**

Extremely flammable gas. Explosive; fire, blast or projection hazard.

**Materials Compatibility:**

Acetylene is non-corrosive. It is satisfactory for use with all commonly used metals with the exception of copper, silver and mercury. The use of brasses containing more than 66% copper, brazing materials containing copper or silver and mercury manometers should be avoided.

<b>TOXICOLOGY INFORMATION:</b>
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No known toxicological effects from this product.

<b>ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION:</b>
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No known ecological damage is caused by this product.

<b>DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS:</b>
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Do not discharge into areas where there is a risk of forming an explosive mixture with air.

Any waste gas should be flared through a suitable burner with a flash back arrestor.

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Do not discharge into any place where its accumulation could be dangerous.

<b>TRANSPORT INFORMATION:</b>
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**UN Number:** 1001  
**Proper Shipping Name:** ACETYLENE, DISSOLVED  
**Dangerous Goods Class and Subsidiary Risk:** 2.1  
**Packing Group:** Not applicable  
**Hazchem Code:** 2 SE

**Other Information:**

Avoid transport on vehicles where the load is not separated from the driver's compartment. Ensure vehicle driver is aware of the potential hazards of the load and knows what to do in the event of an accident or an emergency.

**Before transporting product containers:**

Ensure that containers are firmly secured and upright (**Do not transport Acetylene cylinders laying down**)  
 Ensure cylinder valve is closed and not leaking.  
 Ensure there is adequate ventilation.  
 Compliance with applicable regulations.

<b>REGULATORY INFORMATION:</b>
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**Environmental Protection Agency Register Approval No:** HSR000987

**HSNO Controls:**

Hazardous Substances (Classes 1 to 5 Controls) Regulations 2001.  
 Hazardous Substances (Disposal) Regulations 2001.  
 Hazardous Substances (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001.  
 Hazardous Substances (Emergency Management) Regulations 2001.  
 Hazardous Substances (Identification) Regulations 2001.  
 Hazardous Substances (Compressed Gases) Regulations 2004.  
 Hazardous Substances (Tank Wagon and Transportable Containers) Regulations 2004.  
 Schedule 10 of the Hazardous Substances (Dangerous Goods and Scheduled Toxic Substances) Transfer Notice 2004.  
 Schedule 12 of the Hazardous Substances (Dangerous Goods and Scheduled Toxic Substances) Transfer Notice 2004

**Approved Handlers:** Approved handlers are required if more than 100 m3 is stored on site.

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<b>OTHER INFORMATION:</b>
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Dissolved Acetylene is supplied in low pressure steel welded cylinders, specific to acetylene traffic.

**Cylinder Colour:**

**Industrial:** AS2700 –R55 (Claret)

**Cylinder Valve Outlet:**

**Industrial:** AS 2473.2 Type 20

**References:**

- NZS 5433:2007 Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land
- EPA Website – Approvals Register – [www.epa.govt.nz](http://www.epa.govt.nz)
- SNZ HB76:2008 Dangerous Goods – Initial Emergency Response Guide
- AS1678 2C1 Emergency Procedure Guide – Transport – Non-Flammable, Compressed Gas
- AS 4484-2004 - Gas Cylinders for Industrial, Scientific, medical and refrigerant use - Labelling and colour coding
- AS 2473.2-2007 - Valves for compressed gas outlets - Part 2 Outlet connections (threaded) and stem (inlet) threads
- AS 2473.3-2007 - Valves for compressed gas outlets - Part 3 Outlet connections for medical gases (including pin-indexed yoke connections)
- Operators Handbook for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road – NZ Road Transport & Logistics Industry Training Organisation
- NZCIC Code of Practice – Preparation of Safety Data Sheets

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<b>MSDS SUMMARY:</b>
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This MSDS summarises to our best knowledge, at the date of issue, the health and safety hazard information regarding this product and general guidance on how to safely handle the product in the workplace. All due care has been taken to include accurate and up-to-date information in this MSDS.

Each user should read this MSDS and consider the information in the context of how the product will be handled and used in the workplace in conjunction with other products. If clarification or further information is needed to ensure that an appropriate risk assessment can be made, the user should contact Southern Gas Services Limited.

As far as lawfully possible, no liability for any loss, injury or damage (including consequential loss) which may be suffered or incurred by any person as a consequence of their reliance on the information contained in this MSDS can be accepted.

Our responsibility for products sold is subject to our standard terms and conditions, a copy of which is available on request.

This MSDS has been prepared in accordance with NZCIC Code of Practice – Preparation of Safety Data Sheets.

This MSDS is subject to change without notice.

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