

#124

Product: Mixtures of Argon and
At Least 10% Carbon Dioxide

P-4715-F

Date: May 1999

Praxair Material Safety Data Sheet

1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

Product Name: Compressed gases, n.o.s. (argon, carbon dioxide) (MSDS No. P-4715-F)

Trade Name: STARGOLD C10, C15, C18, C20, C25, C40, C50 Shielding Gas Mixtures (This product is intended for electric welding use.)

Chemical Name: Mixtures of argon and carbon dioxide

Synonyms: Not applicable

Formula: Mixtures of Ar and CO₂

Chemical Family: Not applicable

Telephone: Emergencies: 1-800-645-4633*
CHEMTREC: 1-800-424-9300*
Routine: 1-800-PRAXAIR

Company Name: Praxair, Inc.
39 Old Ridgebury Road
Danbury, CT 06810-5113

** Call emergency numbers 24 hours a day only for spills, leaks, fire, exposure, or accidents involving this product. For routine information, contact your supplier, Praxair sales representative, or call 1-800-PRAXAIR (1-800-772-9247).*

2. Composition/Information on Ingredients

This section covers materials of manufacture only. See sections 3, 8, 10, 11, 15, and 16 for information on by-products generated during use, especially use in welding and cutting. For custom mixtures of this product, request an MSDS for each component. See section 16 for important information about mixtures.

INGREDIENT	CAS NUMBER	CONCENTRATION	OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV-TWA
Carbon Dioxide	124-38-9	10-50%	5000 ppm	5000 ppm*
Argon	7440-37-1	50-90%	None currently established	Simple asphyxiant

* See section 3.

3. Hazards Identification

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

CAUTION! High-pressure gas.

Can cause rapid suffocation.

Can increase respiration and heart rate.

May cause nervous system damage.

May cause dizziness and drowsiness.

Self-contained breathing apparatus may be required by rescue workers.

Odor: None

THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE: TLV-TWA, 5,000 ppm, carbon dioxide (ACGIH, 1998). TLV-TWA, 15 min STEL, 30,000 ppm, carbon dioxide. ACGIH recommends a TLV-TWA of 5 mg/m³ for welding

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SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES: CAUTION! High-pressure gas. Asphyxiant—lack of oxygen can kill. Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Immediately deluge cylinders with water from maximum distance until cool, then move them away from fire area if without risk. Self-contained breathing apparatus may be required by rescue workers. On-site fire brigades must comply with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.156.

UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS: Heat of fire can build pressure in cylinder and cause it to rupture. No part of cylinder should be subjected to a temperature higher than 125°F (52°C). Cylinders containing this mixture are equipped with a pressure relief device. (Exceptions may exist where authorized by DOT.)

HAZARDOUS COMBUSTION PRODUCTS: Carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide

6. Accidental Release Measures

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IF MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED: CAUTION! High-pressure gas. Asphyxiant. Lack of oxygen can kill. Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Use self-contained breathing apparatus where needed. Shut off flow if you can do so without risk. Ventilate area or move cylinder to a well-ventilated area. Test for sufficient oxygen, especially in confined spaces, before allowing reentry.

WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD: 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, state, and local regulations. If necessary, call your local supplier for assistance.

7. Handling and Storage

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN STORAGE: Store and use with adequate ventilation. Firmly secure cylinders upright to keep them from falling or being knocked over. Screw valve protection cap firmly in place by hand. Store only where temperature will not exceed 125°F (52°C). Store full and empty cylinders separately. Use a first-in, first-out inventory system to prevent storing full cylinders for long periods.

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. Never apply flame or localized heat directly to any part of the cylinder. High temperatures may damage the cylinder and could cause the pressure relief device to fail prematurely, venting the cylinder contents. For other precautions in using this mixture, 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.

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11. Toxicological Information

The welding process may generate hazardous fumes and gases. (See sections 3, 10, 15 and 16.)

Carbon dioxide is an asphyxiant. It initially stimulates respiration and then causes respiratory depression. High concentrations result in narcosis. Symptoms in humans are as follows:

<u>EFFECT:</u>	<u>CONCENTRATION:</u>
Breathing rate increases slightly.	1%
Breathing rate increases to 50% above normal level. Prolonged exposure can cause headache, tiredness.	2%
Breathing increases to twice normal rate and becomes labored. Weak narcotic effect. Impaired hearing, headache, increased blood pressure and pulse rate.	3%
Breathing increases to approximately four times normal rate, symptoms of intoxication become evident, and slight choking may be felt.	4 - 5%
Characteristic sharp odor noticeable. Very labored breathing, headache, visual impairment, and ringing in the ears. Judgment may be impaired, followed within minutes by loss of consciousness.	5 - 10%
Unconsciousness occurs more rapidly above 10% level. Prolonged exposure to high concentrations may eventually result in death from asphyxiation.	50 - 100%

12. Ecological Information

No adverse ecological effects expected. This mixture does not contain any Class I or Class II ozone-depleting chemicals. Neither component of this mixture is listed as a marine pollutant by DOT.

13. Disposal Considerations

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

14. Transport Information

DOT/IMO SHIPPING NAME: Compressed gases, n.o.s. (argon, carbon dioxide)

HAZARD CLASS: 2.2	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: UN 1956	PRODUCT RQ: Not applicable
SHIPPING LABEL(s):	NONFLAMMABLE GAS	
PLACARD (when required):	NONFLAMMABLE GAS	

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STATE REGULATIONS:

CALIFORNIA: Neither component of this mixture is listed by California under the SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (Proposition 65).

WARNING: The combustion of carbon dioxide produces carbon monoxide—a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

(California Health and Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*)

PENNSYLVANIA: Both components of this mixture are subject to the PENNSYLVANIA WORKER AND COMMUNITY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT (35 P.S. Sections 7301-7320).

16. Other Information

Be sure to read and understand all labels and instructions supplied with all containers of this product.

ADDITIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH HAZARDS: Using this product in welding and cutting may create additional hazards:

FUMES AND GASES can be dangerous to your health and may cause serious lung disease.

- **Keep your head out of fumes. Do not breathe fumes and gases. Use enough ventilation, local exhaust, or both to keep fumes and gases from your breathing zone and the general area. Short-term overexposure to fumes may cause dizziness, nausea, and dryness or irritation of the nose, throat, and eyes or may cause other similar discomfort.**

Fumes and gases cannot be classified simply. The amount and type depend on the metal being worked and the process, procedure, equipment, and supplies used. Possible dangerous materials may be found in fluxes, electrodes, and other materials. Get an MSDS for every material you use.

Contaminants in the air may add to the hazard of fumes and gases. One such contaminant, chlorinated hydrocarbon vapors from cleaning and degreasing activities, poses a special risk.

- **Do not use electric arcs in the presence of chlorinated hydrocarbon vapors—highly toxic phosgene may be produced.**

Metal coatings such as paint, plating, or galvanizing may generate harmful fumes when heated. Residues from cleaning materials may also be harmful.

- **Avoid arc operations on parts with phosphate residues (anti-rust, cleaning preparations)—highly toxic phosphine may be produced.**

To find the quantity and content of fumes and gases, you can take air samples. By analyzing these samples, you can find out what respiratory protection you need. One recommended sampling method is to take air from inside the worker's helmet or from the worker's breathing zone. See AWS F1.1, *Methods for Sampling and Analyzing Gases for Welding and Allied Processes*, available from the American Welding Society, 550 N.W. Le Jeune Rd., Miami, FL 33126.

Read and understand the manufacturer's instructions and the precautionary labels on the products used in welding and cutting. Ask your welding products supplier for a copy of Praxair's free safety booklet, P-52-529, *Precautions and Safe Practices for Electric Welding and Cutting*, and for other manufacturers' safety publications. For a detailed treatment, get ANSI Z49.1, *Safety in Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes*, published by the American Welding Society, or see OSHA's Web site at <http://www.osha-slc.gov/SLTC/weldingcuttingbrazing/>.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN:

Acute: Gases, fumes, and dusts may cause irritation to the eyes, lungs, nose, and throat. Some toxic gases associated with welding and related processes may cause pulmonary edema,

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STANDARD VALVE CONNECTIONS FOR U.S. AND CANADA:

THREADED: CGA-580
PIN-INDEXED YOKE: Not applicable
ULTRA-HIGH-INTEGRITY CONNECTION: Not applicable

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), 1725 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-4102, Telephone (703) 412-0900.

AV-1 *Safe Handling and Storage of Compressed Gases*
G-6 *Carbon Dioxide*
G-6.2 *Commodity Specification for Carbon Dioxide*
P-1 *Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers*
P-14 *Accident Prevention in Oxygen-Rich, Oxygen-Deficient Atmospheres*
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, Third 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.