

Safety Data Sheet



Division of Fresno Oxygen

Barnes Welding Supply/Barnes Specialty Gases

Division of Fresno Oxygen

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Section 1: Product and Company Identification

Barnes Welding Supply / Barnes Specialty Gases - Division of Fresno Oxygen
2825 S. Elm Ave. #101
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FOR CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES DURING TRANSPORTATION ONLY CALL INFOTRAC
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Product Name: Methane/balance Argon (2:1)

Part Number: Nuclear Counter Mixtures

Synonyms: NCM Mixes Methane in Argon

Recommended Use: Flammable Gas Mixture For general analytical/synthetic uses.

Section 2: Hazards Identification



Hazard Classification:

Flammable (Category 1)
Gases Under Pressure

Hazard Statements:

Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated
Extremely flammable gas

Precautionary Statements

Prevention:
Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. - No smoking.

Response:

Eliminate all ignition sources if safe to do so.
Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish, unless leak can be stopped safely.

Storage:

Protect from sunlight.
Store in well-ventilated place.

Section 3: Composition/Information on Ingredients

	CAS #	Concentration
Methane	74-82-8	10.1 – 99 %
Argon	7440-37-1	Balance

	Chemical Substance	Chemical Family	Trade Names
Methane	METHANE, COMPRESSED GAS	Hydrocarbons, Aliphatic, Saturated	FIRE DAMP; MARSH GAS; METHYL HYDRIDE; NATURAL GAS; METHANE; UN 1971; R50; CH4
Argon	ARGON, COMPRESSED	Inorganic gases	ARGON; UN 1008; AR

Section 4: First Aid Measures

	Skin Contact	Eye Contact	Ingestion	Inhalation	Note to Physicians
Methane	Wash exposed skin with soap and water.	Flush eyes with plenty of water.	If a large amount is swallowed, get medical attention.	If adverse effects occur, remove to uncontaminated area. Give artificial respiration if not breathing. If breathing is difficult, oxygen should be administered by qualified personnel. Get immediate medical attention.	For inhalation, consider oxygen.
Argon	Not applicable route of exposure	Flush eyes with plenty of water.	Not applicable route of exposure	If adverse effects occur, remove to uncontaminated area. Give artificial respiration if not breathing. If breathing is difficult, oxygen should be administered by qualified personnel. Get immediate medical attention.	For inhalation, consider oxygen.

Section 5: Fire Fighting Measures

	Suitable Extinguishing Media	Products of Combustion	Protection of Firefighters
Methane	Carbon dioxide, regular dry chemical. Large fires: Use regular foam or flood with fine water spray.	Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, water	- Respiratory protection may be needed for frequent or heavy exposure. Any self-contained breathing apparatus with a full facepiece. - Respiratory protection may be needed for frequent or heavy exposure. Any self-contained breathing apparatus with a full facepiece.
Argon	Non-flammable gas	Not applicable	- N/A - N/A

Section 6: Accidental Release Measures

	Personal Precautions	Environmental Precautions	Methods for Containment
Methane	Keep unnecessary people away, isolate hazard area and deny entry. Ventilate closed spaces before entering.	Avoid heat, flames, sparks and other sources of ignition.	Stop leak if possible without personal risk. Reduce vapors with water spray. Remove sources of ignition.
Argon	Keep unnecessary people away, isolate hazard area and deny entry. Stay upwind and keep out of low areas.	None known.	Stop leak if possible without personal risk.

	Methods for Cleanup	Other Information
Methane	Not available	Not available
Argon	Leaks may be detected by a soapy-water solution.	

Section 7: Handling and Storage

	Handling	Storage
Methane	Store and handle in accordance with all current regulations and standards. Grounding and bonding required. Subject to storage regulations: U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.101.	Keep separated from incompatible substances.
Argon	Store and handle in accordance with all current regulations and standards. Subject to storage regulations: U.S. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.101. Keep separated from incompatible substances.	Avoid using in confined spaces.

Section 8: Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

	Exposure Guidelines
Methane	METHANE, COMPRESSED GAS: ALIPHATIC HYDROCARBON GASES ALKANE (C1-C4): 1000 ppm ACGIH TWA. METHANE: No occupational exposure limits established. ALIPHATIC HYDROCARBON GASES ALKANE (C1-C4): 1000 ppm ACGIH TWA.
Argon	ARGON, COMPRESSED: ARGON: ACGIH (simple asphyxiant)

Engineering Controls

Handle only in fully enclosed systems.

	Eye Protection	Skin Protection	Respiratory Protection
Methane	Eye protection not required, but recommended.	Protective clothing is not required.	Respiratory protection may be needed for frequent or heavy exposure. Any self-contained breathing apparatus with a full facepiece.
Argon	Eye protection not required, but recommended.	Protective clothing is not required.	N/A

General Hygiene considerations

- Avoid breathing vapor or mist
- Avoid contact with eyes and skin
- Wash thoroughly after handling and before eating or drinking

Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

	Physical State	Appearance	Color	Change in Appearance	Physical Form	Odor	Taste
Methane	Gas	Colorless	Colorless	N/A	Gas	Odorless	Tasteless
Argon	Gas	Colorless	Colorless	N/A	Gas	Odorless	Tasteless

	Flash Point	Flammability	Partition Coefficient	Autoignition Temperature	Upper Explosive Limits	Lower Explosive Limits
Methane	-369 F (-223 C)	Not available	724.44 (log = 2.87) (estimated from water solubility)	999 F (537 C)	15%	5%
Argon	Not flammable			Nonflammable	Nonflammable	Nonflammable

	Boiling Point	Freezing Point	Vapor Pressure	Vapor Density	Specific Gravity	Water Solubility	pH	Odor Threshold	Evaporation Rate	Viscosity
Methane	-260 F (-162 C)	-297 F (-183 C)	760 mmHg @ -161 C	0.555 (Air=1)	Not applicable	3.5% @ 17 C	Not applicable	Not available	Not applicable	0.01118 cP @ 27 C
Argon	-303 F (-186 C)	-308 F (-189 C)	500 mmHg @ -190 C	1.38 (Air=1)	Not applicable	3.36% @ 20 C	Not applicable	Not available	Not applicable	0.0225 cP @ 25 C

	Molecular Weight	Molecular Formula	Density	Weight per Gallon	Volatility by Volume	Volatility	Solvent Solubility
Methane	16.04	C-H4	0.717 g/L @ 0 C	Not available	Not applicable	Not applicable	Soluble: Alcohol, ether, benzene, organic solvents
Argon	39.948	AR	1.784 g/L @ 0 C	Not available	100%	Not applicable	Soluble: Organic solvents

Section 10: Stability and Reactivity

	Stability	Conditions to Avoid	Incompatible Materials
Methane	Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.	Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.	Halogens, oxidizing materials, combustible materials
Argon	Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.	Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.	No data available.

	Hazardous Decomposition Products	Possibility of Hazardous Reactions
Methane	Oxides of carbon	Will not polymerize.
Argon	No data available.	Will not polymerize.

Section 11: Toxicology Information

Acute Effects

	Oral LD50	Dermal LD50	Inhalation
Methane	Not available	Not available	Nausea, vomiting, difficulty breathing, irregular heartbeat, headache, drowsiness, fatigue, dizziness, disorientation, mood swings, tingling sensation, loss of coordination, suffocation, convulsions, unconsciousness, coma
Argon	Not established	Not established	Nausea, vomiting, difficulty breathing, irregular heartbeat, headache, dizziness, disorientation, mood swings, tingling sensation, loss of coordination, suffocation, convulsions, unconsciousness, coma

	Eye Irritation	Skin Irritation	Sensitization
Methane	No information on significant adverse effects	No information on significant adverse effects	Difficulty breathing
Argon	No information on significant adverse effects	No information on significant adverse effects	

Chronic Effects

	Carcinogenicity	Mutagenicity	Reproductive Effects	Developmental Effects
Methane	Not available	Not available	Not available	No data
Argon	Not established	Not established	Not established	No data

Section 12: Ecological Information

Fate and Transport

	Eco toxicity	Persistence / Degradability	Bioaccumulation / Accumulation	Mobility in Environment
Methane	Fish toxicity: Not available Invertebrate toxicity: Not available Algal toxicity: Not available Phyto toxicity: Not available Other toxicity: Not available	Relatively non-persistent in the environment. Moderately volatile from water.	Accumulates very little in the bodies of living organisms.	Not expected to leach through the soil or the sediment.
Argon	Fish toxicity: Not available Invertebrate toxicity: Not available Algal toxicity: Not available Phyto toxicity: Not available Other toxicity: Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available

Section 13: Disposal Considerations

Methane	Dispose in accordance with all applicable regulations. Subject to disposal regulations: U.S. EPA 40 CFR 262. Hazardous Waste Number(s): D001.
Argon	Dispose in accordance with all applicable regulations.

Section 14: Transportation Information

U.S. DOT 49 CFR 172.101

DOT Information For This Mixture

Shipping Name	Compressed gas, flammable, n.o.s. (Argon, Methane)
UN Number	UN1954
Hazard Class	2.1
Hazard Information	FLAMMABLE GAS

Individual Component Information

	Proper Shipping Name	ID Number	Hazard Class or Division	Packing Group	Labeling Requirements	Passenger Aircraft or Railcar Quantity Limitations	Cargo Aircraft Only Quantity Limitations	Additional Shipping Description
Methane	Methane, compressed	UN1971	2.1	Not applicable	2.1	Forbidden	150 kg	N/A
Argon	Argon, compressed	UN1006	2.2	Not applicable	2.2	75 kg or L	150 kg	N/A

Canadian Transportation of Dangerous Goods

	Shipping Name	UN Number	Class	Packing Group / Risk Group
Methane	Methane, compressed	UN1971	2.1	Not applicable
Argon	Argon, compressed	UN1006	2.2	Not applicable

Section 15: Regulatory Information

U.S. Regulations

	CERCLA Sections	SARA 355.30	SARA 355.40
Methane	Not regulated.	Not regulated.	Not regulated.
Argon	Not regulated.	Not regulated.	Not regulated.

SARA 370.21

	Acute	Chronic	Fire	Reactive	Sudden Release
Methane	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Argon	Yes	No	No	No	Yes

SARA 372.65

Methane	Not regulated.
Argon	Not regulated.

OSHA Process Safety

Methane	Not regulated.
Argon	Not regulated.

State Regulations

	CA Proposition 65
Methane	Not regulated.
Argon	Not regulated.

Canadian Regulations

	WHMIS Classification
Methane	A, B1
Argon	A

National Inventory Status

	US Inventory (TSCA)	TSCA 12b Export Notification	Canada Inventory (DSL/NDSL)
Methane	Listed on inventory.	Not listed.	Listed on inventory.
Argon	Listed on inventory.	Not listed.	Listed on inventory.

Section 16: Other Information

	NFPA Rating
Methane	HEALTH=1 FIRE=4 REACTIVITY=0
Argon	HEALTH=0 FIRE=0 REACTIVITY=0

0 = minimal hazard, 1 = slight hazard, 2 = moderate hazard, 3 = severe hazard, 4 = extreme hazard