

Praxair Material Safety Data Sheet

1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

Product Name: Acetylene, dissolved (MSDS No. P-4559-K)	Trade Names: Acetylene
Chemical Name: Acetylene	Synonyms: Acetylen, ethine, ethyne, narcylene
Chemical Family: Alkyne	Product Grades: Industrial, 2.6 atomic absorption
Telephone:	Company Name: Praxair, Inc.
Emergencies: 1-800-645-4633*	39 Old Ridgebury Road
CHEMTREC: 1-800-424-9300*	Danbury, CT 06810-5113
Routine: 1-800-PRAXAIR	

*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. Hazards Identification

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

DANGER! Flammable gas under pressure.
Can form explosive mixtures with air.
Fusible plugs in top, bottom, or valve melt at 208-224°F (98-107°C).
Do not discharge at pressures above 15 psig (103 kPa).
May cause dizziness and drowsiness.
Self-contained breathing apparatus may be required by rescue workers.
At normal temperature and pressure, commercial acetylene is a colorless gas with a distinctive garlic-like odor.

OSHA REGULATORY STATUS: This material is considered hazardous by the OSHA Hazard Communications Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200).

POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS:

Effects of a Single (Acute) Overexposure

Inhalation. Asphyxiant. Effects are due to lack of oxygen. Moderate concentrations may cause headache, drowsiness, dizziness, excitation, excess salivation, nausea, vomiting, and unconsciousness. The vapor from a liquid release may also cause incoordination, abdominal pain. Effects may be delayed. Lack of oxygen can kill.

Skin Contact. No harm expected from vapor. Liquid may cause frostbite.

Swallowing. An unlikely route of exposure, but frostbite of the lips and mouth may result from contact with the liquid. If swallowed, the liquid may cause nausea.

Eye Contact. Vapors containing acetone may irritate the eyes. Liquid may irritate and cause frostbite.

Effects of Repeated (Chronic) Overexposure. No harm expected.

Other Effects of Overexposure. Asphyxiant. Lack of oxygen can kill.

Medical Conditions Aggravated by Overexposure. The toxicology and the physical and chemical properties of this product suggest that overexposure is unlikely to aggravate existing medical conditions.

CARCINOGENICITY: This product is not listed by NTP, OSHA, or IARC.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: None expected. For further information, see section 12, Ecological Information.

3. Composition/Information on Ingredients

This section covers materials of manufacture only. See sections 8, 10, 11, 15, and 16 for information on by-products generated during use, especially use in welding and cutting. See section 16 for important information about mixtures.

COMPONENT	CAS NUMBER	CONCENTRATION
Acetylene	74-86-2	>99%*

*The symbol > means "greater than."

NOTE: Acetylene cylinders are filled with a porous material containing acetone (CAS 67-64-1) into which the acetylene is dissolved.

4. First Aid Measures

INHALATION: Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, qualified personnel may give oxygen. Call a physician.

SKIN CONTACT: For exposure to liquid, immediately warm frostbite area with warm water not to exceed 105°F (41°C). In case of massive exposure, remove contaminated clothing while showering with warm water. Call a physician.

SWALLOWING: If liquid is swallowed, immediately give two glasses of water and induce vomiting if victim is conscious. Call a physician.

EYE CONTACT: In case of splash contamination, immediately flush eyes thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes. Hold the eyelids open and away from the eyeballs to ensure that all surfaces are thoroughly flushed. See a physician, preferably an ophthalmologist, immediately.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN: Aspirated acetone may cause severe lung damage. If a large quantity of material has been swallowed, stomach contents should be evacuated quickly in a manner that avoids aspiration. Otherwise, there is no specific antidote. Treatment of overexposure should be directed at the control of symptoms and the clinical condition of the patient.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

FLAMMABLE PROPERTIES: Extremely flammable gas. Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents.

SUITABLE EXTINGUISHING MEDIA: See the following paragraphs. See CGA Pamphlet SB-4, *Handling Acetylene Cylinders in Fire Situations*, listed in section 16, for further information.

PRODUCTS OF COMBUSTION: Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide

PROTECTION OF FIREFIGHTERS: DANGER! Flammable gas under pressure. Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Immediately cool cylinders with water spray from maximum distance, taking care not to extinguish flames. If flames are accidentally extinguished, explosive re-ignition may occur. Use self-contained breathing apparatus. Remove ignition sources if without risk. Stop flow of gas if without risk while continuing cooling water spray. Remove all cylinders from area of fire if without risk. Allow fire to burn out. On-site fire brigades must comply with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.156.

Specific Physical and Chemical Hazards. Heat of fire can build pressure in cylinder and cause it to rupture. Acetylene cylinders are provided with pressure relief devices designed to vent contents when exposed to elevated temperature. No part of a cylinder should be subjected to a temperature higher than 125°F (52°C). If venting or leaking acetylene catches fire, do not extinguish flames. Flammable vapors may spread from leak, creating an explosive reignition hazard. Vapors can be ignited by pilot lights, other flames, smoking, sparks, heaters, electrical equipment, static discharge, or other ignition sources at locations distant from product handling point. Explosive atmospheres may linger. Before entering area, especially confined areas, check atmosphere with an approved explosion meter.

Protective Equipment and Precautions for Firefighters. Firefighters should wear self-contained breathing apparatus and full fire-fighting turnout gear.

6. Accidental Release Measures

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IF MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED:

DANGER! Flammable gas under pressure.

Personal Precautions. 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 vapors with fog or fine water spray. Shut off flow if without risk. Ventilate area or move leaking cylinder to 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, state, and local regulations. If necessary, call your local supplier for assistance.

7. Handling and Storage

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING: Keep away from heat, sparks, and open flame. Use only spark-proof tools and explosion-proof equipment. Never use acetylene at pressures exceeding 15 psig (103.5 kPa). Can cause rapid suffocation due to oxygen deficiency. Close valve after each use; keep closed even when empty. Arcs and sparks can ignite combustible materials. Prevent fires. For more information on fire prevention in welding and cutting, see NFPA 51B, *Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting, and Other Hotwork*, published by the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, MA

02269-9101; 1-800-344-3555; www.nfpa.org. Do not strike an arc on a compressed gas cylinder. The defect produced by an arc burn could lead to cylinder rupture.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN STORAGE: Acetylene storage in excess of 2,500 cu ft (70.79 m³) is prohibited in buildings with other occupancies. Store and use with adequate ventilation. Separate acetylene cylinders from oxygen and other oxidizers by at least 20 ft (6.1 m), or use a barricade of noncombustible material. This barricade should be at least 5 ft (1.53 m) high and have a fire resistance rating of at least ½ hour. 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 125°F (52°C). For other precautions in using acetylene, see section 16.

RECOMMENDED PUBLICATIONS: For further information on storage, handling, and use, see Praxair publication P-14-153, *Guidelines for Handling Gas Cylinders and Containers*. Obtain from your local supplier.

8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

See section 16 for important information on by-products generated during use in welding and cutting.

COMPONENT	OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV-TWA (2009)
Acetylene	N.E.*	Simple asphyxiant

*N.E.—Not Established.

NOTE: Acetone, used as a solvent, has a TLV-TWA of 500 ppm for acetone and a TLV-STEL of 750 ppm (ACGIH, 2009). OSHA PEL, 1000 ppm (2400 mg/m³).

TLV-TWAs should be used as a guide in the control of health hazards and not as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations.

IDLH = Not available.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

Local Exhaust. Use a local exhaust system, if necessary, to prevent oxygen deficiency and to keep hazardous fumes and gases in the worker’s breathing zone below all applicable exposure limits.

Mechanical (General). General exhaust ventilation may be acceptable if it can maintain an adequate supply of air and keep hazardous fumes and gases in the worker’s breathing zone below all applicable exposure limits.

Special. None

Other. None

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

Skin Protection. Wear work gloves when handling cylinders; welding gloves for welding and cutting.

Eye/Face Protection. Wear goggles with filter lenses selected as per ANSI Z49.1. Provide protective screens and goggles, if necessary, to protect others. Select as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.33. For welding, see section 16.

Respiratory Protection. A respiratory protection program that meet OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134, ANSI Z88.2, or MSHA 30 CFR 72.710 (where applicable) requirements must be followed

whenever workplace conditions warrant respirator use. Use an air-supplied or air-purifying cartridge if the action level is exceeded. Ensure that the respirator has the appropriate protection factor for the exposure level. If cartridge type respirators are used, the cartridge must be appropriate for the chemical exposure (e.g., an organic vapor cartridge). For emergencies or instances with unknown exposure levels, use a self-contained breathing apparatus. Adequate ventilation must keep worker exposure below applicable exposure limits for fumes, gases, and other by products of welding.

Other Protective Equipment. As needed, wear hand, head, and body protection, which help to prevent injury from radiation and sparks. See ANSI Z49.1. At a minimum, this includes welder's gloves and protective goggles, and may include arm protectors, aprons, hats, and shoulder protection, as well as substantial clothing. Regardless of protective equipment, never touch live electrical parts.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

APPEARANCE:	Colorless gas
ODOR:	Acetylene of 100% purity is odorless, but commercial acetylene has a distinctive, garlic-like odor.
ODOR THRESHOLD:	Not available.
PHYSICAL STATE:	Gas at normal temperature and pressure
pH:	Not applicable.
SUBLIMATION POINT at 1 atm:	-118°F (-83.3°C)
MELTING POINT at 10 psig (170 kPa abs):	-116°F (-82.2°C)
BOILING POINT at 10 psig (170 kPa abs):	-103.4°F (-75.2°C)
FLASH POINT:	-0°F (-17.8°C)
EVAPORATION RATE (Butyl Acetate = 1):	Not applicable.
FLAMMABILITY:	Flammable
FLAMMABLE LIMITS IN AIR, % by volume:	LOWER: 2.5% UPPER: 100%
VAPOR PRESSURE at 70°F (21.1°C):	649.6 psia (4479 kPa abs)*
VAPOR DENSITY at 32°F (0°C) and 1 atm:	0.07314 lb/ft ³ (1.1716 kg/m ³)
SPECIFIC GRAVITY (H₂O = 1):	Not applicable.
SPECIFIC GRAVITY (Air = 1) at 32°F (0°C) and 1 atm:	0.906
SOLUBILITY IN WATER vol/vol at 32°F (0°C):	1.7
PARTITION COEFFICIENT: n-octanol/water:	Not available.
AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE:	581°F (305°C) at 1 atm
DECOMPOSITION TEMPERATURE:	Not available.
PERCENT VOLATILES BY VOLUME:	100
MOLECULAR WEIGHT:	26.04
MOLECULAR FORMULA:	C ₂ H ₂

*Maximum cylinder pressure: 250 psig (kPa) at 70°F (21.1°C)

10. Stability and Reactivity

CHEMICAL STABILITY: Unstable Stable

Acetylene is stable as shipped. Avoid use at pressures above 15 psig (103 kPa).

CONDITIONS TO AVOID: Elevated temperature and pressure and/or the presence of a catalyst.

INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS: Copper, silver, mercury, or their alloys; oxidizing agents; acids; halogens; moisture.

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS: Thermal decomposition or burning may produce CO/CO₂H₂. The welding and cutting process may form reaction products such as CO and CO₂. Other decomposition products of normal operation originate from the volatilization, reaction, or oxidation of the material being worked.

POSSIBILITY OF HAZARDOUS REACTIONS: May Occur Will Not Occur

Fire or explosion may result from use at elevated temperatures and pressures or from use with incompatible materials.

11. Toxicological Information

ACUTE DOSE EFFECTS: No known effects from acetylene gas. The welding process may generate hazardous fumes and gases. (See sections 8, 10, 15, and 16.)

12. Ecological Information

ECOTOXICITY: No adverse ecological effects expected.

OTHER ADVERSE EFFECTS: None known. Acetylene does not contain any Class I or Class II ozone-depleting chemicals.

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: Acetylene, dissolved.

HAZARD CLASS:	PACKING GROUP/Zone:	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	PRODUCT RQ:
2.1	None	UN1001	None

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 a vehicle can present serious safety hazards.

Shipment of compressed gas cylinders that have been filled without the owner's consent is a violation of federal law [49 CFR 173.301(b)].

MARINE POLLUTANTS: Acetylene is not listed as a marine pollutant by DOT.

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, state, and local regulations.

U.S. FEDERAL REGULATIONS:

EPA (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY)

CERCLA: COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT OF 1980 (40 CFR Parts 117 and 302):

Reportable Quantity (RQ): None

SARA: SUPERFUND AMENDMENT AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT:

SECTIONS 302/304: Require emergency planning based on Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ) and release reporting based on Reportable Quantities (RQ) of Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) (40 CFR Part 355):

TPQ: None

EHS RQ (40 CFR 355): None

SECTIONS 311/312: Require submission of MSDSs and reporting of chemical inventories with identification of EPA hazard categories. The hazard categories for this product are as follows:

IMMEDIATE: No

PRESSURE: Yes

DELAYED: No

REACTIVITY: Yes

FIRE: Yes

SECTION 313: Requires submission of annual reports of release of toxic chemicals that appear in 40 CFR Part 372.

Acetylene is not subject to reporting under Section 313.

40 CFR 68: RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR CHEMICAL ACCIDENTAL RELEASE PREVENTION: Requires development and implementation of risk management programs at facilities that manufacture, use, store, or otherwise handle regulated substances in quantities that exceed specified thresholds.

Acetylene is listed as a regulated substance in quantities of 10,000 lb (4536 kg) or greater.

TSCA: TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT: Acetylene is listed on the TSCA inventory.

OSHA: OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION:

29 CFR 1910.119: PROCESS SAFETY MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS: Requires facilities to develop a process safety management program based on Threshold Quantities (TQ) of highly hazardous chemicals.

Acetylene is not listed in Appendix A as a highly hazardous chemical. However, any process that involves a flammable gas on site in one location in quantities of 10,000 lb (4536 kg) or greater is covered under this regulation unless the gas is used as a fuel.

STATE REGULATIONS:

CALIFORNIA: Acetylene is not listed by California under the SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (Proposition 65).

PENNSYLVANIA: Acetylene is subject to the PENNSYLVANIA WORKER AND COMMUNITY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT (35 P.S. Sections 7301-7320).

16. Other Information

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.

Read and understand the manufacturer's instructions and the precautionary labels on the products used in welding and cutting. For other safe practices information and a more-detailed description of the health hazards of welding and their consequences, 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 (AWS), 550 N.W. Le Jeune Rd., Miami, FL 33126, <http://www.aws.org/>, or see OSHA's Web site at <http://www.osha-slc.gov/SLTC/weldingcuttingbrazing/>. Order AWS documents from Global Engineering Documents, 15 Inverness Way East, Englewood, CO 80112-5710, <http://global.ihs.com/>.

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.

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.

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, asphyxiation, and death. Acute overexposure may include signs and symptoms such as watery eyes, nose and throat irritation, headache, dizziness, difficulty breathing, frequent coughing, or chest pains.*

Chronic: *Protracted inhalation of air contaminants may lead to their accumulation in the lungs, a condition that may be seen as dense areas on chest x-rays. The severity of change is proportional to the length of exposure. The changes seen are not necessarily associated with symptoms or signs of reduced lung function or disease. In addition, the changes on x-rays may be caused by non-work-related factors such as smoking, etc.*

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT FOR WELDING OPERATIONS:

PROTECTIVE GLOVES: Wear welding gloves.

EYE PROTECTION: Wear a helmet or use a face shield with a filter lens. Select lens per ANSI Z49.1. Provide protective screens and flash goggles if needed to protect others; select per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.133.

OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: Wear hand, head, and body protection. (See ANSI Z49.1.) Worn as needed, these help prevent injury from radiation, sparks, and electrical shock. Minimum protection includes welder's gloves and a face shield. For added protection, consider arm protectors, aprons, hats, shoulder protection, and dark, substantial clothing.

OTHER HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS OF HANDLING, STORAGE, AND USE: *Flammable gas under pressure.* Use piping and equipment adequately designed to withstand pressures.

Acetylene systems should be installed only by persons with knowledge of the unique properties of acetylene and trained and experienced in such installation. All piped acetylene systems and associated equipment must be grounded. Electrical equipment must be non-sparking or explosion-proof. Leak check with soapy water; never use a flame. Use a backflow prevention device in any piping. In choosing tools and equipment, avoid materials incompatible with acetylene. Copper, silver, and mercury and their salts, compounds, and high-concentration alloys can form explosive compounds with acetylene. Never use copper piping for acetylene service; use only steel or wrought iron. Brass containing less than 65 percent copper and certain nickel alloys are generally acceptable for use in acetylene service but may not be adequate if high corrosion or excess moisture is present. Never work on a pressurized system. If there is a leak, close the cylinder valve. Blow down the system in an environmentally safe manner in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws; then repair the leak. Never place a compressed gas cylinder where it may become part of an electrical circuit.

Mixtures. When you mix two or more chemicals, you can 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 evaluate the end product. Chemicals have properties that can cause serious injury or death.

HAZARD RATING SYSTEMS:

NFPA RATINGS:

HEALTH = 0
FLAMMABILITY = 4
INSTABILITY = 2
SPECIAL = None

HMIS RATINGS:

HEALTH = 2
FLAMMABILITY = 4
PHYSICAL HAZARD = 2

STANDARD VALVE CONNECTIONS FOR U.S. AND CANADA:

THREADED:

The CGA-510 connection is standard for cylinders of greater than 50 cu ft (1.42 m³) capacity. See CGA Pamphlet V-1 for other, limited-standard connections.

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 pamphlet V-1 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 can be found in the following materials published by the Compressed Gas Association, Inc. (CGA), 4221 Walney Road, 5th Floor, Chantilly, VA 20151-2923, Telephone (703) 788-2700, <http://www.cganet.com/Publication.asp>.

AV-1	<i>Safe Handling and Storage of Compressed Gases</i>
G-1.1	<i>Commodity Specification for Acetylene</i>
G-1	<i>Acetylene</i>
P-1	<i>Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers</i>
SB-4	<i>Handling Acetylene Cylinders in Fire Situations</i>
SB-8	<i>Use of Oxy-Fuel Gas Welding and Cutting Apparatus</i>
V-1	<i>Compressed Gas Cylinder Valve Inlet and Outlet Connections</i>
—	<i>Handbook of Compressed Gases, Fourth Edition</i>

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.

The opinions expressed herein are those of qualified experts within Praxair, 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, Inc., it is the user's obligation to determine the conditions of safe use of the product.

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