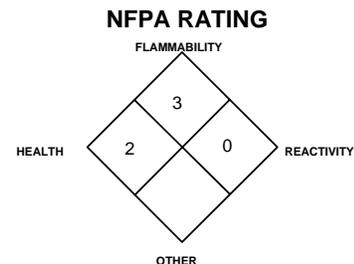




MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Prepared to U.S. OSHA, CMA, ANSI and Canadian WHMIS Standards



PART I *What is the material and what do I need to know in an emergency?*

1. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

CHEMICAL NAME; CLASS: **BENZENE - C₆H₆**
Document Number: Benzene

PRODUCT USE: For general analytical/synthetic chemical uses.

SUPPLIER/MANUFACTURER'S NAME: MESA Specialty Gases & Equipment
ADDRESS: 3619 Pendleton Avenue, Suite C
 Santa Ana, CA 92704

BUSINESS PHONE: 1-714-434-7102
EMERGENCY PHONE: INFOTRAC: 1-800-535-5053

DATE OF PREPARATION: May 10, 1999

2. COMPOSITION and INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS #	mole %	EXPOSURE LIMITS IN AIR					
			ACGIH		OSHA		IDLH ppm	OTHER
			TLV ppm	STEL ppm	PEL ppm	STEL ppm		
BENZENE	71-43-2	99.9%	0.5, A1 (Confirmed Human Carcinogen)	2.5, A1 (Confirmed Human Carcinogen)	1	5	500	NIOSH REL: 0.1 ppm TWA; 1 ppm STEL OSHA: 1 ppm TWA; 5 ppm STEL OSHA Action Level: 0.5 ppm EPA-A; IARC-1; MAK-A1; NIOSH-X; NTP-1; OSHA- X;

NE = Not Established C = Ceiling Limit See Section 16 for Definitions of Terms Used
 NOTE: All WHMIS required information is included. It is located in appropriate sections based on the ANSI Z400.1-1993 format.

3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW: Benzene is a colorless, flammable, toxic liquid with a characteristic aromatic odor. Benzene is a confirmed human carcinogen and a possible human mutagen. Inhalation of vapors of Benzene can cause serious, permanent damage to the blood system. Skin and eye contact can be irritating. This liquid is very flammable; vapors are heavier than air and may travel long distances to source of ignition and flashback. If involved in a fire Benzene will decompose to produce toxic gases (e.g., carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, irritating aldehydes and ketones). Persons responding to fires or emergencies involving Benzene must have adequate fire protection and wear personal protective equipment to protect against the significant health hazards posed by Benzene.

SYMPTOMS OF OVEREXPOSURE BY ROUTE OF EXPOSURE:
Benzene is a serious poison by all routes of exposure. The symptoms of each route of exposure are described below.

INHALATION: The immediate symptoms of inhalation of vapors of Benzene are due to the initial excitation, followed by depression of the central nervous system. Central nervous system symptoms include drowsiness, headache, nausea, incoordination and unconsciousness, that can lead to death in severe cases. Other symptoms of acute overexposure to vapors of Benzene can include transient euphoria, ataxia (incoordination of voluntary muscular movements), vertigo, tinnitus, substernal pain, cough, hoarseness and general irritation of the nose, throat and respiratory tract, confusion, stupefaction and coma. In cases of severe overexposure (as may occur in a confined space, or other poorly ventilated areas, or if large volumes are used or released), tremors, convulsions and death, due to respiratory paralysis or circulatory collapse can occur within minutes to several hours following exposure. Reversible liver and kidney effects have been reported after exposure to Benzene. The effects associated with various levels of Benzene vapors are as follows:

CONCENTRATION

Brief (10 minute) up to 25 ppm:
50-150 ppm:

20,000 (for 5-10 min):

SYMPTOM OF EXPOSURE

No symptoms.
Exhilaration, headache, tiredness, nose and throat irritation.
Collapse and death

One of the most significant health effects associated with Benzene is the potential for blood system disorders which develop after long-term exposures to relatively low vapor concentrations. There are reports that exposure to low levels (10 ppm) over an extended time period (24 weeks) of Benzene vapors can damage the bone marrow and blood systems. This damage can result in the development of serious health disorders (including anemia and leukemia). Adverse effects on the immune system have also been reported. Refer to "Other Health Effects" in this section for further information.

CONTACT WITH SKIN or EYES: Contact with the skin can cause irritation and redness. Repeated or prolonged contact can also cause dermatitis, resulting in dry, itchy, cracked skin as Benzene is a defatting agent, removing oils from the skin. Contact with the vapors of Benzene and the eyes will be irritating. Direct contact of the liquid with the eyes can cause irritation, pain; prolonged contact may result in tissue damage.

SKIN ABSORPTION: Benzene poisoning through skin contact has been reported, although skin absorption is not considered as significant a route of exposure as via inhalation or ingestion. Symptoms of absorption may be similar to those described in "Ingestion".

INGESTION: Ingestion of Benzene will cause a burning sensation in the mouth and stomach, nausea, vomiting, excess salivation and vomiting of blood. Benzene is readily absorbed into the body following ingestion exposures, producing symptoms of central nervous system depression and other symptoms similar to those described in "Inhalation". If ingested, Benzene presents a potential aspiration hazard. Aspiration of even small amounts of Benzene into the lungs can result in immediate pulmonary edema (a potentially fatal accumulation of fluid in the lungs), chemical pneumonitis and hemorrhage of pulmonary tissue.

INJECTION: Injection is not anticipated to be a significant route of overexposure for Benzene. If Benzene is "injected" (as may occur through punctures by contaminated, sharp objects), symptoms described in "Inhalation" can occur.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM			
HEALTH		(BLUE)	2
FLAMMABILITY		(RED)	3
REACTIVITY		(YELLOW)	0
PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT			X
EYES	RESPIRATORY	HANDS	BODY
	See Section 8		See Section 8
For routine industrial applications			

See Section 16 for Definition of Ratings

3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION (Continued)

OTHER HEALTH EFFECTS: The chief target organ affected by serious Benzene exposure is the blood and bone marrow system. Chronic Benzene exposure eventually leads to pancytopenia (abnormal decrease of all three formed elements of the blood; hemoglobin, disease-fighting leukocytes and blood-clotting thrombocytes), followed by thrombocytopenia (problems with the blood-clotting properties of the blood) and anemia. These syndromes can lead to sudden, overwhelming infections. After exposure to Benzene, bleeding from the nose, gums, or mucous membranes and development of small bruises can occur. Benzene is a confirmed human carcinogen and can produce forms of leukemia. Direct contact with the liquid with mucous membranes will result in the development of hemorrhagic lesions.

HEALTH EFFECTS OR RISKS FROM EXPOSURE: An Explanation in Lay Terms. Overexposure to may cause the health effects described on the following page.

ACUTE: Acute inhalation overexposure to Benzene will initially act as a narcotic, possibly leading to coma in extreme cases. Following exposure to high concentrations, victims may be unconscious, and if exposure continues, death can follow from respiratory failure and circulatory collapse. Contact with the skin can cause irritation and dermatitis. Contact with the eyes is irritating, causing burning and watering of the eyes. Ingestion of Benzene will cause gastric distress, hemorrhage and possible severe depression of the central nervous system. Aspiration of Benzene into the lungs, following ingestion, can result in severe damage to the lungs; death may result.

CHRONIC: Chronic exposure to Benzene causes serious damage to the health by all routes of exposure. Chronic oral and inhalation exposure causes severe effects on the blood system, including damage to the bone marrow, leading to a decrease in production or changes to the cells of hemoglobin, hematocrit, red and white blood cells. Effects can occur with an exposure level as low as 10 ppm for 24 weeks. Benzene also causes harmful changes to the immune system, decreasing the production of mature B- and T- white blood cells. Benzene is a confirmed human carcinogen, which can produce Hodgkin's Disease, leukemia and lymphomas by inhalation. Human mutation data are reported for Benzene. See Section 11 (Toxicological Information) for further information. Symptoms of chronic exposure by most routes can be delayed for months to years after exposure has ceased.

TARGET ORGANS: Respiratory system, central nervous system, blood and immune systems, bone marrow, heart, liver, kidneys, skin, eyes, and reproductive system.

PART II *What should I do if a hazardous situation occurs?*

4. FIRST-AID MEASURES

RESCUERS SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO RETRIEVE VICTIMS OF EXPOSURE TO BENZENE WITHOUT ADEQUATE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT. If necessary, a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus should be worn.

INHALATION: If vapors, mists, or sprays of Benzene are inhaled, remove victim to fresh air. Only trained personnel should administer supplemental oxygen and/or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation if necessary. Remove or cover gross contamination to avoid exposure to rescuers.

SKIN EXPOSURE: If Benzene contaminates the skin, immediately begin decontamination with running water. Minimum flushing is for 15 minutes. Remove exposed or contaminated clothing, taking care not to contaminate eyes. Victim must seek medical attention if any adverse reaction occurs.

EYE EXPOSURE: If Benzene or its vapors enter the eyes, open victim's eyes while under gentle running water. Use sufficient force to open eyelids. Have victim "roll" eyes. Minimum flushing is for 15 minutes. Victim must seek immediate medical attention.

INGESTION: If Benzene is swallowed, CALL PHYSICIAN OR POISON CONTROL CENTER FOR MOST CURRENT INFORMATION. If professional advice is not available, do not induce vomiting. Victim should drink milk, egg whites, or large quantities of water. If vomiting occurs naturally, have victim lean forward to reduce risk of aspiration. Never induce vomiting or give diluents (milk or water) to someone who is unconscious, having convulsions, or who cannot swallow.

Victims of chemical exposure must be taken for medical attention. Rescuers should be taken for medical attention, if necessary. Physicians should refer to "Recommendations to Physicians" in Section 11 (Toxicological Information). Take copy of label and MSDS to health professional with victim.

5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

FLASH POINT, (Closed Cup): -11°C (12°F)

AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE: 498°C (928°F)

FLAMMABLE LIMITS (in air by volume, %):

Lower (LEL): 1.3%

Upper (UEL): 7.1%

FIRE EXTINGUISHING MATERIALS:

Water Spray: YES (for cooling only)

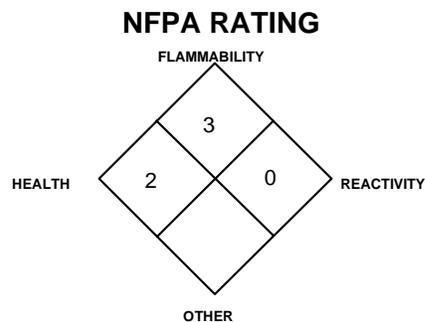
Foam: YES

Halon: YES

Carbon Dioxide: YES

Dry Chemical: YES

Other: Any "B" Class.



UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS: Benzene is a Class IB flammable liquid and presents a serious fire hazard to firefighters. Due to the low flash point, vapors can form explosive mixtures with air, at room temperature. When involved in a fire, this material may decompose and produce toxic gases (e.g., carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, irritating aldehydes and ketones). The vapors of Benzene are heavier than air and may spread long distances; distant ignition and flash-back are possible. Benzene can float on water; therefore, water contaminated with Benzene can spread the flammable liquid and can spread fire. Containers of Benzene, when involved in fire, may rupture or burst in the heat of the fire.

See Section 16 for Definition of Ratings

Explosion Sensitivity to Mechanical Impact: Not sensitive.

Explosion Sensitivity to Static Discharge: Benzene can accumulate static charge by flow or agitation; vapors can be ignited by static discharge.

SPECIAL FIRE-FIGHTING PROCEDURES: In the event of fire, cool containers of Benzene with water to prevent failure. Use a water spray or fog to reduce or direct vapors. Water may not be effective in actually extinguishing a fire involving Benzene, due to its low flash point. Stop the leak or discharge, if possible. For small releases, if it is not possible to stop the leak, and it does not endanger personnel, let the fire burn itself out. Incipient fire responders should wear eye protection. Structural firefighters must wear Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and full protective equipment, including chemical resistant clothing. Large fires should be fought from a distance with an unmanned hose holder or monitor nozzles. If Benzene is involved in a fire, fire runoff water should be contained to prevent possible environmental damage. If necessary, decontaminate fire-response equipment with soap and water solution. For large releases, consider evacuation. Refer to the North American Emergency Response Guidebook (Guide #130) for additional guidance.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

SPILL AND LEAK RESPONSE: Evacuate immediate area. Uncontrolled releases should be responded to by trained personnel using pre-planned procedures. Proper protective equipment should be used. In case of a release, clear the affected area, protect people, and respond with trained personnel.

Minimum Personal Protective Equipment should be **Level B: triple-gloves (rubber gloves and nitrile gloves, over latex gloves), chemical resistant suit and boots, hard-hat, and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.** Monitor the surrounding area for combustible vapor levels. Combustible vapor levels must be below 10% of the LEL for Benzene (LEL = 1.3%) before personnel are permitted to enter the area. If necessary, ventilate area.

Monitoring should be done for the levels of Benzene and oxygen. Colorimetric tubes are available to detect the presence of Benzene. Levels of Benzene should be below levels listed in Section 2 (Composition and Information on Ingredients) and the atmosphere must have at least 19.5 percent oxygen before personnel can be allowed in the area without Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Eliminate all sources of ignition before clean-up operations begin. Use non-sparking tools. Absorb spilled liquid with activated carbon, polypads or other suitable absorbent materials. Prevent material from entering sewer or confined spaces. Decontaminate the area thoroughly. Place all spill residue in an appropriate container and seal. If necessary, decontaminate spill-response equipment with soap and water solution. Dispose of in accordance with Federal, State, and local hazardous waste disposal regulations (see Section 13, Disposal Considerations).

THIS IS AN EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE, TOXIC LIQUID: Protection of all personnel and the area must be maintained. All responders must be adequately protected from exposure.

PART III *How can I prevent hazardous situations from occurring?*

7. HANDLING and STORAGE

WORK PRACTICES AND HYGIENE PRACTICES: As with all chemicals, avoid getting Benzene ON YOU or IN YOU. Wash hands after handling chemicals. Do not eat or drink while handling this material. Remove contaminated clothing immediately.

Note: Refer to the OSHA Benzene Standard (29 CFR 1910.1028) for specific requirements associated with the use of Benzene. The Action Level for Benzene is 0.5 ppm as an 8-hour, time-weighted average. In workplaces where employees are exposed above the Action Level, the OSHA requirements for monitoring, establishment of regulated areas, methods of compliance, respiratory protection, emergency response protocol, medical surveillance, training and record keeping must be followed.

STORAGE AND HANDLING PRACTICES: Entrances to regulated areas (as defined by the OSHA Benzene Standard) must be posted with signs which reads as follows:

<p style="text-align: center;">DANGER BENZENE CANCER HAZARD FLAMMABLE- NO SMOKING AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY</p>
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All employees who handle this material should be trained to handle it safely. Avoid breathing vapors or mists generated by Benzene. Use in a well-ventilated location. Cylinders of Benzene must be properly labeled. If Benzene is used in other types of containers, only use portable containers and dispensing equipment (faucet, pump, drip can) approved for flammable liquids.

Store cylinders of Benzene in a cool, dry location, away from direct sunlight, sources of intense heat, or where freezing is possible. Do not allow area where cylinders are stored to exceed 52°C (125°F). Material should be stored in secondary containers, or in a diked area, as appropriate. Store containers away from incompatible chemicals. Keep container tightly closed when not in use. Storage areas should be made of fire-resistant materials. Inspect all incoming containers before storage, to ensure containers are properly labeled and not damaged. Refer to NFPA 30, Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code, for additional information on storage.

Empty containers may contain residual flammable liquid or vapors. Therefore, empty containers should be handled with care. Do not expose "empty" containers to welding touches, or any other source of ignition.

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING CYLINDERS: Protect cylinders of Benzene against physical damage. If appropriate, cylinders should be stored in an up-right position. Cylinders should be firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Cylinders can be stored in the open, but in such cases, should be protected against extremes of weather and from the dampness of the ground to prevent rusting. Never tamper with pressure relief devices in valves and cylinders. Electrical equipment should be non-sparking or explosion proof. The following rules are applicable to situations in which cylinders are being used :

Before Use: If appropriate, move cylinders with a suitable hand-truck. Do not drag, slide or roll cylinders. Do not drop cylinders or permit them to strike each other. Secure cylinders firmly. Leave the valve protection cap in-place until cylinder is ready for use.

During Use: Use designated CGA fittings and other support equipment. Do not use adapters. Do not heat cylinder by any means to increase the discharge rate of the product from the cylinder. Use check valve or trap in discharge line to prevent hazardous backflow into the cylinder. Do not use oils or grease on gas-handling fittings or equipment.

After Use: Close main cylinder valve. Replace valve protection cap. Mark empty cylinders "EMPTY".

NOTE: Use only DOT or ASME code containers. Earth-ground and bond all lines and equipment associated with Benzene. Close valve after each use and when empty. Cylinders must not be recharged except by or with the consent of owner. For additional information refer to the Compressed Gas Association Bulletin SB-2 "Oxygen Deficient Atmospheres".

PROTECTIVE PRACTICES DURING MAINTENANCE OF CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT: Follow practices indicated in Section 6 (Accidental Release Measures). Make certain application equipment is locked and tagged-out safely. Always use Benzene in areas where adequate ventilation is provided. Decontaminate equipment using soapy water before maintenance begins. Collect all rinsates and dispose of according to applicable Federal, State, or local procedures.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS - PERSONAL PROTECTION

VENTILATION AND ENGINEERING CONTROLS: Use with adequate ventilation. Use a mechanical fan or vent area to outside. Where appropriate, use a non-sparking, grounded ventilation system separate from other exhaust ventilation systems. Ensure eyewash/safety shower stations are available near areas where Benzene is used.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION: Maintain exposure levels of Benzene below the levels listed in Section 2 (Composition and Information on Ingredients) and oxygen levels above 19.5% in the workplace. Use supplied air respiratory protection if Benzene levels exceed exposure limits and if oxygen level is below 19.5% or during emergency response to a release of Benzene. If respiratory protection is required, follow the requirements of the Federal OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134), or equivalent State standards. The following NIOSH respiratory protection recommendations are for Benzene.

CONCENTRATION **RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT**

At Concentrations Above the NIOSH REL, or Where there is no REL, at any Detectable Concentration: Positive-pressure, full facepiece SCBA or positive pressure, full-facepiece Supplied Air Respirator (SAR) with an auxiliary positive pressure SCBA.

Escape: Gas mask with organic vapor cartridge or escape-type SCBA should be used.

The IDLH concentration for Benzene is 500 ppm. The carcinogenic effects of Benzene were not considered by NIOSH in determination of the IDLH.

NOTE: In areas which exceed the OSHA Action Level of Benzene, the respirator selection guidelines in the Benzene Standard [29 CFR 1910.1028 (g)] apply.

EYE PROTECTION: Splash goggles or safety glasses. Face-shields should be worn if contact with the liquid is anticipated.

HAND PROTECTION: Wear leather gloves for handling of cylinders of Benzene. Wear chemically impervious gloves appropriate for Benzene for industrial use. Gloves should have a resistance to breakthrough greater than 8 hours, such as polyvinyl alcohol, Barricade™ or Responder™. **Butyl rubber, natural rubber, neoprene, nitrile rubber, or polyethylene, polyvinyl chloride, Saranex™, Chemrel™ are not recommended.** Use triple gloves for spill response (see Section 6, Accidental Release Measures).

BODY PROTECTION: Use body protection appropriate for task. An impervious, full-body, encapsulating suit may be necessary for some operations involving Benzene. Safety shoes are recommended when handling cylinders.

9. PHYSICAL and CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

RELATIVE VAPOR DENSITY (air = 1): 2.7

SPECIFIC GRAVITY(@ 68°F (20°C) (water = 1): 0.877

SOLUBILITY IN WATER @ 77°F (25°C): 180 mg/mL

EVAPORATION RATE (diethyl ether = 1): 2.8

ODOR THRESHOLD: 97 ppm(detection); 97 ppm (recognition)

LOG COEFFICIENT WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION: Log P (oct) = 1.18-1.9; 2.13; 2.15

VAPOR PRESSURE @ 68°F (20°C): 75 mm Hg; 10 kPa

pH: Not applicable.

FREEZING/MELTING POINT: 5.5°C (42°F)

BOILING POINT: 80°C (176°F)

SPECIFIC VOLUME: Not applicable.

EXPANSION RATIO Not applicable.

APPEARANCE AND COLOR: Colorless, flammable liquid, with a characteristic aromatic hydrocarbon odor.

HOW TO DETECT THIS SUBSTANCE (warning properties): The odor of Benzene is not a good warning property as the odor threshold is above the TLV.

10. STABILITY and REACTIVITY

STABILITY: Normally stable.

DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS: If Benzene is involved in a fire, it may ignite to yield toxic fumes of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, irritating aldehydes and ketones.

MATERIALS WITH WHICH SUBSTANCE IS INCOMPATIBLE: Benzene becomes spontaneously flammable in the presence of sodium peroxide and potassium peroxide. Benzene can explode on contact with chromic anhydride, permanganic acid and chlorine.

10. STABILITY and REACTIVITY (Continued)

MATERIALS WITH WHICH SUBSTANCE IS INCOMPATIBLE (Continued): Benzene can react vigorously with oxidizing materials. Benzene may react violently or explosively with risk of fire with nitric acid, ozone, diborane, interhalogens (e.g., bromine trifluoride, bromine pentafluoride, chloride trifluoride, iodine pentafluoride, iodine heptafluoride), dioxygen difluoride, dioxygenyl tetrafluoroborate, permanganic acid, peroxodisulfuric acid, peroxomonosulfuric acid. Benzene will react with nitryl perchlorate, causing a slight explosion and flash. Benzene will react vigorously with uranium hexafluoride. Benzene will attack rubber and plastics.

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION: Will not occur.

CONDITIONS TO AVOID: Avoid contact with incompatible materials, sparks, flame static discharge and other sources of ignition. Avoid exposing cylinders to extremely high temperatures, which could cause the cylinders to rupture or burst.

PART III *How can I prevent hazardous situations from occurring?*

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

TOXICITY DATA: The following information is available for Benzene.

Skin-Rabbit, adult 15 mg/24 hours open Mild irritation effects	Inhalation-Man TC: 150 ppm/11 years - intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects
Skin-Rabbit, adult 20 mg/24 hours Moderate irritation effects	Inhalation-Mouse TC :1200 ppm/6 hours/10 weeks - intermittent: Equivocal tumorigenic agent
Eye effects-Rabbit, adult 88 mg Moderate irritation effects	Oral-Mouse TD: 2400 mg/kg/8 weeks - intermittent: Neoplastic effects
Eye effects-Rabbit, adult 2 mg/24H Severe irritation effects	Inhalation-Mouse TC: 300 ppm/6 hours/16 weeks intermittent: Carcinogenic effects
oms-Human: lymphocyte 5 μ mol/L	Inhalation-Human LCLo :2 pph/5 minutes
Microsomal Mutagenicity Assay-Mouse: embryo 2500 mg/L	Oral-Man LDLo: 50 mg/kg
Oral-Mouse TDLo: 6500 mg/kg (female 8-12 days post): Reproductive effects Teratogenesis, Carcinogenesis, and Mutagenesis	Inhalation-Human LCLo: 20,000 ppm/5
Inhalation-Mouse TCLo: 5 ppm (female 6-15 days post): Teratogenic effects	Inhalation-Man TCLo: 150 ppm/1 year - intermittent: Blood effects
Inhalation-Man TCLo: 200 mg/m ³ /78 weeks -intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects	Inhalation-Human TCLo: 100 ppm
Inhalation-Human TCLo: 10 ppm/8 hours /10 years-intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects	Intravenous-Rabbit, adult LDLo :88 mg/kg
Oral-Rat TDLo: 52 g/kg/52 weeks - intermittent: Carcinogenic effects	Inhalation-Human LCLo: 65 mg/m ³ /5 years: Blood effects
Inhalation-Rat TCLo: 1200 ppm/6 hours/10 weeks - intermittent: Equivocal tumorigenic agent	Oral-Rat LD50: 3306 mg/kg
Oral-Mouse TDLo :18,250 mg/kg/2 years - continuous: Carcinogenic effects	Inhalation-Rat LC50: 10,000 ppm/7 hours
Inhalation-Human TC :8 ppb/4 weeks- intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects	Intraperitoneal-Rat LD50 :2890 μ g/kg
Inhalation-Dog, adult LCLo: 146,000 mg/	Oral-Mouse LD50: 4700 mg/kg
Inhalation-Cat, adult LCLo: 170,000 mg/m ³	Inhalation-Mouse LC50: 9980 ppm
Inhalation-Human TC: 10 mg/m 3/11 years- intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects	Intraperitoneal-Mouse LD50: 340 mg/kg
Inhalation-Mouse TCLo: 300 ppm/6 hours/16 weeks-intermittent: Equivocal tumorigenic agent	Oral-Dog, adult LDLo: 2000 mg/kg
Skin-Mouse TDLo: 1200 g/kg/49 weeks - intermittent: Neoplastic effects	Subcutaneous-Mouse TDLo 600 mg/kg/17 weeks - intermittent: Equivocal tumorigenic agent
Intraperitoneal-Mouse TDLo: 1200 mg/kg/8 weeks - intermittent: Neoplastic effects	Parenteral-Mouse TDLo: 670 mg/kg/19 weeks - intermittent: Equivocal tumorigenic agent
	Inhalation-Human TC: 150 ppm/15 minutes /8 years - intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects
	Oral-Rat TD: 52 g/kg/1 years - intermittent: Carcinogenic effects
	Oral-Rat TD: 10 g/kg/52 weeks - intermittent: Carcinogenic effects
	Inhalation-Man TC :600 mg/m ³ /4 years - intermittent: Carcinogenic effects, Blood effects

Additional Information on Benzene: Because of the chronic toxicity effects associated with Benzene, additional information is provided, as follows:

EFFECTS ON THE BLOOD AND BLOOD-FORMING ORGANS: Extensive studies have conclusively proven that oral and inhalation exposure to benzene causes severe effects on the blood system, including damaging the bone marrow where new blood cells are formed. Most studies report a decrease in hemoglobin, hematocrit, red and white blood cells, platelets and/or changes in the cells. Effects of varying severity have been demonstrated with both intermittent and continuous exposures to concentrations as low as 10 ppm for 24 weeks.

EFFECTS ON THE IMMUNE SYSTEM: Studies have also conclusively shown that benzene causes harmful changes to the immune system which protects the body from disease. Benzene has decreased the number of mature B- and T-lymphocytes (white blood cells which produce disease-fighting antibodies). Exposure of mice to 300 ppm for 6 to 23 weeks resulted in a decrease in the number of mature B- and T-lymphocytes. Rats and mice exposed orally to 25 to 200 mg/kg/day for 2 years had significantly reduced white blood cells and lymphocytes.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION (Continued)

SUSPECTED CANCER AGENT: Benzene is listed as follows:

BENZENE: ACGIH-A2 (Suspected Human Carcinogen); EPA-A (Human Carcinogen); IARC-1 (Carcinogenic to Humans); MAK-A1 (Capable of Inducing Malignant Tumors/Experience with Humans); NIOSH-X (Carcinogen); NTP-1 (Known to be a Carcinogen); OSHA-X (Carcinogen); Cal-OSHA (Carcinogen).

IRRITANCY OF PRODUCT: Benzene is irritating to the skin, eyes, and other contaminated tissue.

SENSITIZATION OF PRODUCT: Benzene is not known to cause respiratory system or skin sensitization in humans. Cardiac sensitization to stimulants (e.g., epinephrine, ephedrine) is a possible result of severe or chronic overexposure.

REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY INFORMATION: Listed below is information concerning the effects of Benzene on the human reproductive system.

Mutagenicity: Human mutation data are available for Benzene. These data were obtained from individuals who were exposed at levels which produced changes in the blood system.

Embryotoxicity: Benzene is not reported to cause embryotoxic effects in humans.

Teratogenicity: Benzene is not reported to cause teratogenic effects in humans. Teratogenic data are available from clinical studies involving test animals exposed to relatively high doses of Benzene. Fetotoxic effects (e.g., reduced birth weight and/or minor skeletal variations) were observed at exposures above 50 ppm.

Reproductive Toxicity: Data on reproductive effects on ovaries and testes are available from clinical studies involving test animals exposed to relatively high doses of Benzene. These data were obtained at doses which caused toxic effects on other organs.

*A **mutagen** is a chemical which causes permanent changes to genetic material (DNA) such that the changes will propagate through generational lines. An **embryotoxin** is a chemical which causes damage to a developing embryo (i.e. within the first eight weeks of pregnancy in humans), but the damage does not propagate across generational lines. A **teratogen** is a chemical which causes damage to a developing fetus, but the damage does not propagate across generational lines. A **reproductive toxin** is any substance which interferes in any way with the reproductive process.*

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE: Pre-existing blood system disorders, respiratory conditions, central nervous, liver, kidney, and cardio-vascular conditions may be aggravated by severe or chronic overexposure to Benzene. Skin disorders may also be aggravated by exposures to Benzene.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO PHYSICIANS: The following guidelines are derived from "Clinical Toxicology of Commercial Chemical Products" (5th edition, 1984).

- Check for signs of impending pulmonary edema.
- Because of the aspiration hazard, avoid emetic drugs, whenever practical.
- For overexposures in which emesis is advisable: If the patient is not drowsy, comatose, or in respiratory difficulty, induce vomiting. If necessary, as an alternative treatment, remove Benzene from the stomach via gastric lavage. One or two ounces of mineral oil may be instilled and left in the stomach at the completion of lavage.
- Avoid epinephrine because of its possible adverse effect on the sensitized myocardium. Avoid all digestible fats, oils and alcohol, which may promote the absorption of Benzene in the intestinal system.
- If eyes or skin are affected, wash thoroughly and apply a bland analgetic ointment.
- Because of the possibility of ventricular fibrillation, monitor the ECG continuously and be prepared to administer external cardiac massage.

Refer to the OSHA Benzene Standard [29 CFR 1910.1028; paragraph(i) and Appendix C] for specific information on Medical Surveillance requirements (i.e. for the general physical exam, medical history, specific tests, and re-examination protocol).

BIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE INDICES (BEIs): The following Biological Exposure Indices (BEIs) are currently applicable for Benzene.

BIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE INDICES (BEIs) for Benzene are as follows:		
CHEMICAL DETERMINANT	SAMPLING TIME	BEI
BENZENE • Total phenol in urine • Benzene in exhaled air: mixed-exhaled end-exhaled	• End of shift • Prior to next shift	• 50 mg/g creatinine • 0.08 ppm • 0.12 ppm

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ENVIRONMENTAL STABILITY: Benzene will be degraded over time into other organic compounds. The following environmental data are available for Benzene.

BENZENE: K_{ow} = 2.13. Water Solubility = 1791 mg/L. BCF (*Anguilla japonica*, eels) = 3.5. BCF (*Clupea harengus Pallasii*, pacific herring) = 4.4. BCF (goldfish) = 4.3. BCF, benzene = 24 (estimated). If benzene is released into the soil, it will be volatilized near the surface or it will leach to the groundwater. No degradation of benzene (BOD) was reported in coarse-filtered Lake Superior harbor water incubated at 21°C for 12 days. In the marine eco-system, biodegradation occurs from 2 days to 2 weeks in the summer and spring, respectively. The half-life of Benzene in estuarine water was 6 days, as measured by ^{14}C produced. Biodegradation half-lives of 28 and 16 days were reported in die-away tests for degradation of up to 3.2 UL/L benzene using groundwater and Lester River water, respectively, under aerobic conditions. In a base-rich para-brownish soil, 20 ppm benzene was 24% degraded in one week, 44% in 5 weeks and 47% in 10 weeks. It is not expected to adsorb to sediment nor bioconcentrate in aquatic organisms.

EFFECT OF MATERIAL ON PLANTS or ANIMALS: Benzene may be harmful or fatal to contaminated plant and animal-life (especially if large quantities of Benzene are released). Refer to Section 11 (Toxicology Information). Additional information is available on the effects of Benzene on plants as follows:

Benzene is lethal to plants at high concentrations (GT 15600 ppm in air) and short (30 minutes) exposure times. In all species studied recovery was complete upon removal from exposure to sub-lethal concentrations.

Plant growth and rooting is stimulated by aqueous solutions of low benzene concentrations (0.01-0.10 saturated). Aqueous solutions containing high concentrations (0.10-0.15% Benzene) inhibit growth and interfere with metabolism and cell division.

EFFECT OF CHEMICAL ON AQUATIC LIFE: Benzene can be harmful or fatal to contaminated aquatic plant and animal life. Benzene floats on water, and can potentially form slicks which are capable of creating oxygen-deprived waterways which can contaminate coastal and shore life. The following aquatic toxicity data are available for Benzene.

LC₁₀₀ (*Tetrahymena pyriformis*, ciliate) = 12.8 mmol/L/24 hours
LC₅₀ (*Palaemonetes pugio*, grass shrimp) = 27 ppm/96 hours
LC₅₀ (*Cancer magister*, crab larvae, stage 1) = 108 ppm/96 hours
LC₅₀ (*Crangon franciscorum*, shrimp) = 20 ppm/96 hours
LC₅₀ (*Poecilia reticulata*, guppy) = 63 ppm/14 days
LC₅₀ (*Morone saxatilis*, bass) = 5.8 to 10.9 ppm/96 hours
LC₅₀ (*Salmo trutta*, brown trout yearling) = 12 mg/L/1-hour
LC₅₀ (*Ambystoma mexicana*, mexican axototl salamander, 3-4 weeks after hatching) = 370 mg/L/48 hours
LC₅₀ (clawed toad, 3-4 weeks after hatching) = 190 mg/L/48 hours
LD₅₀ (*Carassium auratus*, goldfish) = 46 mg/L/24-hours
LD₅₀ (*Lepomis macrochirus*, bluegill sunfish) = 60 mg/L/2-hours

LC (*Daphnia magna*) highest no adverse level = 98 mg/L
Effect level (blue crab) = 1 mg/L
EC₅₀ (freshwater green algae, *Ankistrodesmus falcatus*) = 310 mg (3.97 mmol/L)
Photosynthetic carbon fixation (*selenastrum capricornutum*) = 100, 95, 84, 5; for 24 hour exposure to 0, 10, 100 Or 1000 mg Benzene/L
Growth inhibition (*Chlorella vulgaris*) = significant for 25-1744 ppm Benzene
Light saturated photosynthesis relative rates (*Nitzschia palea*, freshwater diatom) = 100, 61, 38, 13; exposure for 2 hours to 0, 175, 350, 520 mg Benzene/L
Growth inhibition (*Skeletonema costatum*) = at 20 mg/L

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

PREPARING WASTES FOR DISPOSAL: Waste disposal must be in accordance with appropriate Federal, State, and local regulations. Return cylinders with residual product to MESA Specialty Gases & Equipment Inc. Do not dispose of locally.

14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

THIS MATERIAL IS HAZARDOUS AS DEFINED BY 49 CFR 172.101 BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Benzene
HAZARD CLASS NUMBER and DESCRIPTION: 3 (Flammable Liquid)
UN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: UN 1114
PACKING GROUP: PG II
DOT LABEL(S) REQUIRED: Flammable Liquid
NORTH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK NUMBER (1996): 130

MARINE POLLUTANT: Benzene is not classified by the DOT as a Marine Pollutant (as defined by 49 CFR 172.101, Appendix B).

TRANSPORT CANADA, TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS REGULATIONS: THIS MATERIAL IS CONSIDERED AS DANGEROUS GOODS. Use the above information for the preparation of Canadian Shipments. Also, , there is an additional Hazard Class: 9.2 (Substance Hazardous to the Environment).

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. SARA REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Benzene is subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 302, 304 and 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act., as follows:

COMPONENT	SARA 302 (40 CFR 355, Appendix A)	SARA 304 (40 CFR Table 302.4)	SARA 313 (40 CFR 372.65)
Benzene	NO	YES	YES

U.S. SARA THRESHOLD PLANNING QUANTITY: Not applicable.

U.S. CERCLA REPORTABLE QUANTITIES (RQ): 10 lb; RCRA Code = U019.

CANADIAN DSL/NDSL INVENTORY STATUS: Benzene is on the DSL Inventory.

U.S. TSCA INVENTORY STATUS: Benzene is listed on the TSCA Inventory.

OTHER U.S. FEDERAL REGULATIONS: Benzene is subject to the requirements of CFR 29 1910.1028, the OSHA Benzene Standard. The Action Level for Benzene is 0.5 ppm as an 8-hour, time-weighted average under this regulation. The EPA is promulgating water regulations for certain volatile synthetic organic chemicals. Specifically, this notice promulgates a maximum contaminant level for Benzene at 0.005 mg/L. Benzene is not listed in Appendix A as a highly hazardous chemical, per 29 CFR 1910.119: Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals. Under this regulation, however, any process that involves a flammable liquid on-site, in one location, in quantities of 10,000 lbs (4,553 kg) or greater is covered under this regulation unless it is used as a fuel.

U.S. STATE REGULATORY INFORMATION: Benzene is covered under specific State regulations, as denoted below:

Alaska - Designated Toxic and Hazardous Substances: Benzene.	Minnesota - List of Hazardous Substances: Benzene.	Pennsylvania - Hazardous Substance List: Benzene.
California - Permissible Exposure Limits for Chemical Contaminants: Benzene.	Missouri - Employer Information/Toxic Substance List: Benzene.	Rhode Island - Hazardous Substance List: Benzene.
Florida - Substance List: Benzene.	New Jersey - Right to Know Hazardous Substance List: Benzene.	Texas - Hazardous Substance List: Benzene.
Illinois - Toxic Substance List: Benzene.	North Dakota - List of Hazardous Chemicals, Reportable Quantities: Benzene.	West Virginia - Hazardous Substance List: Benzene.
Kansas - Section 302/313 List: Benzene.		Wisconsin - Toxic and Hazardous Substances: Benzene.
Massachusetts - Substance List: Benzene.		
Michigan Critical Materials Register: Benzene.		

CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT (PROPOSITION 65): Benzene is listed on the California Proposition 65 Lists. **WARNING:** Benzene is known to the State of California to cause cancer.

LABELING: DANGER! EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE LIQUID AND VAPOR. VAPOR CAN CAUSE FLASH FIRE. FLASH POINT = -11°C (12°F). HARMFUL IF INHALED. HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED. PROLONGED OR REPEATED SKIN CONTACT MAY DRY SKIN AND CAUSE IRRITATION. CAN CAUSE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM EFFECTS. CHRONIC EXPOSURE MAY CAUSE LEUKEMIA AND CAN CAUSE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE BLOOD SYSTEM, LIVER, KIDNEYS, REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM. CAN CAUSE DEATH IF TOO MUCH IS BREATHED. ASPIRATION HAZARD IF SWALLOWED - CAN ENTER LUNGS AND CAUSE DAMAGE. Keep away from heat, sparks and flame. Keep container closed. Use only with adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with skin and clothing. Avoid exposure to vapor. Wash thoroughly after handling. **FIRST-AID:** In case of contact, immediately flush skin with plenty of water. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention if irritation develops or persists. If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. In case of fire, use water fog, foam, dry chemical, or CO₂. In case of spill: Absorb spill with inert materials (e.g. activated carbon, dry sand). Flush residual spill with water. Consult Material Safety Data Sheet for additional information.

CANADIAN WHMIS SYMBOLS: **Class B2:** Flammable Liquid.
Class D2A/D2B: Material Causing Other Toxic Effects



16. OTHER INFORMATION

The information contained herein is based on data considered accurate. However, no warranty is expressed or implied regarding the accuracy of these data or the results to be obtained from the use thereof. MESA SPECIALTY GASES & EQUIPMENT assumes no responsibility for injury to the vendee or third persons proximately caused by the material if reasonable safety procedures are not adhered to as stipulated in the data sheet. Additionally, MESA SPECIALTY GASES & EQUIPMENT assumes no responsibility for injury to vendee or third persons proximately caused by abnormal use of the material even if reasonable safety procedures are followed. Furthermore, vendee assumes the risk in his use of the material.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

A large number of abbreviations and acronyms appear on a MSDS. Some of these which are commonly used include the following:

CAS #: This is the Chemical Abstract Service Number which uniquely identifies each constituent. It is used for computer-related searching.

EXPOSURE LIMITS IN AIR:

ACGIH - American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, a professional association which establishes exposure limits. **TLV** - Threshold Limit Value - an airborne concentration of a substance which represents conditions under which it is generally believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed without adverse effect. The duration must be considered, including the 8-hour Time Weighted Average (**TWA**), the 15-minute Short Term Exposure Limit, and the instantaneous Ceiling Level (**C**). Skin absorption effects must also be considered.

OSHA - U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration. **PEL** - Permissible Exposure Limit - This exposure value means exactly the same as a TLV, except that it is enforceable by OSHA. The OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits are based in the 1989 PELs and the June, 1993 Air Contaminants Rule (Federal Register: 58: 35338-35351 and 58: 40191). Both the current PELs and the vacated PELs are indicated. The phrase, "Vacated 1989 PEL," is placed next to the PEL which was vacated by Court Order.

IDLH - Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health - This level represents a concentration from which one can escape within 30-minutes without suffering escape-preventing or permanent injury. **The DFG - MAK** is the Republic of Germany's Maximum Exposure Level, similar to the U.S. PEL. **NIOSH** is the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, which is the research arm of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (**OSHA**). NIOSH issues exposure guidelines called **Recommended Exposure Levels (RELs)**. When no exposure guidelines are established, an entry of **NE** is made for reference.

HAZARD RATINGS:

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM: Health Hazard: **0** (minimal acute or chronic exposure hazard); **1** (slight acute or chronic exposure hazard); **2** (moderate acute or significant chronic exposure hazard); **3** (severe acute exposure hazard; onetime overexposure can result in permanent injury and may be fatal); **4** (extreme acute exposure hazard; onetime overexposure can be fatal). Flammability Hazard: **0** (minimal hazard); **1** (materials that require substantial pre-heating before burning); **2** (combustible liquid or solids; liquids with a flash point of 38-93°C [100-200°F]); **3** (Class IB and IC flammable liquids with flash points below 38°C [100°F]); **4** (Class IA flammable liquids with flash points below 23°C [73°F] and boiling points below 38°C [100°F]). Reactivity Hazard: **0** (normally stable); **1** (material that can become unstable at elevated temperatures or which can react slightly with water); **2** (materials that are unstable but do not detonate or which can react violently with water); **3** (materials that can detonate when initiated or which can react explosively with water); **4** (materials that can detonate at normal temperatures or pressures).

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION: Health Hazard: **0** (material that on exposure under fire conditions would offer no hazard beyond that of ordinary combustible materials); **1** (materials that on exposure under fire conditions could cause irritation or minor residual injury); **2** (materials that on intense or continued exposure under fire conditions could cause temporary incapacitation or possible residual injury); **3** (materials that can on short exposure could cause serious temporary or residual injury); **4** (materials that under very short exposure causes death or major residual injury).

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (Continued): Flammability Hazard and Reactivity Hazard: Refer to definitions for "Hazardous Materials Identification System".

FLAMMABILITY LIMITS IN AIR:

Much of the information related to fire and explosion is derived from the National Fire Protection Association (**NFPA**). Flash Point - Minimum temperature at which a liquid gives off sufficient vapors to form an ignitable mixture with air. Autoignition Temperature: The minimum temperature required to initiate combustion in air with no other source of ignition. LEL - the lowest percent of vapor in air, by volume, that will explode or ignite in the presence of an ignition source. UEL - the highest percent of vapor in air, by volume, that will explode or ignite in the presence of an ignition source.

TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION:

Possible health hazards as derived from human data, animal studies, or from the results of studies with similar compounds are presented. Definitions of some terms used in this section are: **LD₅₀** - Lethal Dose (solids & liquids) which kills 50% of the exposed animals; **LC₅₀** - Lethal Concentration (gases) which kills 50% of the exposed animals; **ppm** concentration expressed in parts of material per million parts of air or water; **mg/m³** concentration expressed in weight of substance per volume of air; **mg/kg** quantity of material, by weight, administered to a test subject, based on their body weight in kg. Data from several sources are used to evaluate the cancer-causing potential of the material. The sources are: **IARC** - the International Agency for Research on Cancer; **NTP** - the National Toxicology Program, **RTECS** - the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances, **OSHA** and **CAL/OSHA**. IARC and NTP rate chemicals on a scale of decreasing potential to cause human cancer with rankings from 1 to 4. Subrankings (2A, 2B, etc.) are also used. Other measures of toxicity include **TDLo**, the lowest dose to cause a symptom and **TCLo** the lowest concentration to cause a symptom; **TDo**, **LDLo**, and **LDo**, or **TC**, **TCo**, **LCLo**, and **LCo**, the lowest dose (or concentration) to cause lethal or toxic effects. **BEI** - Biological Exposure Indices, represent the levels of determinants which are most likely to be observed in specimens collected from a healthy worker who has been exposed to chemicals to the same extent as a worker with inhalation exposure to the TLV. Ecological Information: EC is the effect concentration in water.

REGULATORY INFORMATION:

This section explains the impact of various laws and regulations on the material. **EPA** is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. **WHMIS** is the Canadian Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. **DOT** and **TC** are the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Transport Canada, respectively. Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (**SARA**); the Canadian Domestic/Non-Domestic Substances List (**DSL/NDL**); the U.S. Toxic Substance Control Act (**TSCA**); Marine Pollutant status according to the **DOT**; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (**CERCLA** or **Superfund**); and various state regulations.