



# SAFETY DATA SHEET

## SECTION 1 – IDENTIFICATION

**Chemical Name:** Benzene in Air  
**Chemical Formula:** C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> Balance Air  
**Chemical Family:** Inert Gas Mixture  
**Hazard Classification:** Compressed Gas, N.O.S., Non-Flammable Gas, UN1956, Green Label  
**Product Use Description:** Analytical Standard and General Laboratory Applications  
**Company:** MESA Specialty Gases & Equipment  
 2427 South Anne Street  
 Santa Ana, California 92704 USA  
**Phone Number for Information:** Infotrac  
**Emergency Contact:** 800-535-5053 (Int'l: 352-323-3500)

## SECTION 2 – HAZARD(S) IDENTIFICATION

**SIGNAL WORD - WARNING**

**HAZARD STATEMENTS:** Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

**PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS:**


General: Use in accordance with Safety Data Sheets.  
 Do not ingest or inhale. Avoid contact with skin and clothing.

Prevention: Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames, and other ignition sources. No smoking.

Response: Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish unless leak can be stopped safely.  
 In case of leakage, eliminate all ignition sources.  
 Do not open valve until prepared to use.  
 Always use a back flow preventative device in piping.

Storage: Protect from sunlight. Store in a well-ventilated place.

**OTHER HAZARDS:** High pressure gas.  
 Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) may be required.



## SECTION 3 – COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

COMPONENT	CAS NO.	CONCENTRATION
Benzene	71-43-2	< 1000 ppm
Air (79.1% N <sub>2</sub> + 20.9% O <sub>2</sub> )	See Below	Balance
Oxygen	7782-44-7	
Nitrogen	7727-37-9	

## SECTION 4 – FIRST AID MEASURES

### ROUTE OF EXPOSURE:

Inhalation: Remove person to uncontaminated area. SCBA may be required to prevent asphyxiation of rescue workers. Keep warm and at rest. Lay victim face down with head and chest lower than hips to improve drainage from lungs. If breathing is labored, administer pure oxygen. If breathing has stopped, start artificial respiration. Get immediate medical attention for serious exposure.

Eye contact: Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water, occasionally lifting the upper and lower eyelids. Check for and remove any contact lenses. Continue to rinse for at least 10 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation occurs.

Skin contact: Flush contaminated skin with plenty of water. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention if symptoms occur. Wash clothing before reuse. Clean shoes thoroughly before reuse.

Ingestion: N/A

**SYMPTOMS:** Overexposure can cause tingling of the fingers and toes, abnormal sensations, and impaired coordination and confusion. Decompression sickness, the “bends”, is possible following rapid decompression. Symptoms of frostbite include change in skin color to white or grayish-yellow. The pain after contact with liquid can quickly subside.

### DANGER!

**BLOOD TOXIN AND CARCINOGEN - ABSORBED THROUGH THE SKIN- CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM  
LONG-TERM EXPOSURE MAY CAUSE BLOOD DISEASE, INCLUDING ANEMIA AND LEUKEMIA**

## SECTION 5 – FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

**EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:** Use appropriate media for surrounding fire such as CO2 foam extinguishers

**UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:** Gas cylinders may rupture violently when exposed to fire. Continue to cool fire exposed cylinders until flames are extinguished. Cylinder valve is equipped with a pressure relief device to safely vent the cylinder if it is exposed to elevated pressure in a fire.

**SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:** Wear NIOSH/MSHA approved SCBA and full protective equipment. Stop flow of gas if this can be done safely. Use water spray to keep cylinders cool.

## SECTION 6 – ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

**PERSONAL PRECAUTIONS, PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:** Wear self-contained breathing apparatus when entering area unless atmosphere is proved to be safe. Monitor oxygen level. Ventilate the area.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PRECAUTIONS:** Prevent spreading of vapors through sewers, ventilation systems, and confined areas. Do not discharge materials into any place where their accumulation could be dangerous.

**METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR CONTAINMENT AND CLEANING UP:** Stop the flow of gas or remove cylinder to outdoor location if this can be done without risk. Ventilate enclosed areas. Move leaking cylinder to fume hood or safe outdoor area. Use monitoring equipment if hazardous conditions are suspected or likely to occur.

## SECTION 7 – HANDLING AND STORAGE

**PRECAUTIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING:** Only experienced and properly instructed persons should handle compressed gases. Person is to know and understand the properties and hazards of the product before use. Do not remove or deface labels provided by the supplier for the identification of the product.

Protect cylinders from physical damage to prevent valve damage or leakage. Move cylinders properly; do not drag, slide, or drop cylinders when transporting. Use adjustable strap wrench to remove tight/rusted caps. Ensure the complete gas system has been checked for leaks before use. Never insert any object into valve cap openings; doing so may damage valve causing leakage.

Gas or liquefied gas are to be used with the appropriate pressure regulating control and high pressure equipment. Suck-back into cylinder may cause rupture. Always use a back flow preventative device in piping. Never lift cylinder by its valve protection cap. Use only in ventilated areas.

**CONDITIONS FOR SAFE STORAGE:** Cylinders should be secured with mounting brackets away from heavily traveled areas. Use oldest cylinders in stock first to prevent full cylinders from being stored for excessive periods of time. Full and empty cylinders should be segregated. Keep cylinder in dry, cool, well ventilated area away from heat, flame, sparks or corrosive chemicals. Cylinders should be moved by suitable hand trucks. Close valve after each use and when empty. Cylinder valve guards or caps should be in place. Cylinder temperature should not exceed 52°C (125°F). Store containers in location free from fire risk and away from any sources of heat and ignition. Keep cylinder away from combustible material. Use equipment rated for cylinder pressure.

## SECTION 8 – EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

COMPONENT	OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV
Benzene	1 ppm (A1 Confirmed Human Carcinogen)	0.5 ppm (A1 Confirmed Human Carcinogen)
Air (79.1% N <sub>2</sub> + 20.9% O <sub>2</sub> )	See Below	See Below
Oxygen	None	None
Nitrogen	None	None

**APPROPRIATE ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** Ventilation: Enclosed area must be provided with general or local exhaust ventilation to avoid hazardous conditions.

**INDIVIDUAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES:** Safety glasses, work gloves, and safety shoes should be worn when handling high pressure cylinders or hazardous materials.

Respiratory Protection (Specify Type): Use self-contained breathing apparatus in emergency or rescue situations.

## SECTION 9 – PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance: Colorless	Upper/lower flammability/explosive limits: No data available
Odor: Aromatic, gasoline-like, pleasant odor	Vapor Pressure: N/A
Odor threshold: No data available	Vapor Density (Air=1): Varies
pH: N/A	Relative Density (Water=1): Varies
Melting point/range: N/A	Solubility (in water): N/A
Boiling point/range: N/A	Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water): N/A
Flash Point: N/A	Auto-ignition temperature: No data available
Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate=1): N/A	Decomposition temperature: No data available
Flammability (solid, gas): No data available	Viscosity: N/A

## SECTION 10 – STABILITY AND REACTIVITY DATA

<b>Reactivity:</b> Refer to possibility of hazardous reactions and/or incompatible materials sections	<b>Conditions to avoid:</b> Flame, excessive heat
<b>Chemical Stability:</b> Stable	<b>Incompatible materials:</b> None
<b>Possibility of hazardous reactions:</b> No data available	<b>Hazardous Decomposition or Byproducts:</b> None

## SECTION 11 – TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### LIKELY ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:

**Inhalation:** Overexposure by inhalation at elevated or reduced pressure. Remove person to uncontaminated area. SCBA may be required to prevent asphyxiation of rescue workers. Keep warm and at rest. Lay victim face down with head and chest lower than hips to improve drainage from lungs. If breathing is labored, administer pure oxygen. If breathing has stopped, start artificial respiration. Get immediate medical attention for serious exposure.

**Eye contact:** Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water, occasionally lifting the upper and lower eyelids. Check for and remove any contact lenses. Continue to rinse for at least 10 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation occurs.

**Skin contact:** Flush contaminated skin with plenty of water. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention if symptoms occur. Wash clothing before reuse. Clean shoes thoroughly before reuse.

**Ingestion:** N/A

**SYMPTOMS/EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE:** May cause frostbite. Overexposure can cause tingling of the fingers and toes, abnormal sensations, and impaired coordination and confusion. Decompression sickness, the “bends”, is possible following rapid decompression. Symptoms of frostbite include change in skin color to white or grayish-yellow. The pain after contact with liquid can quickly subside.

**ACUTE/CHRONIC TOXICITY:** This is a customized mixtures of liquids and/or gases. No data is available on the final product itself. Refer to Sections 2 and 3 for hazards related to specific components of the combined mixture.

**CARCINOGENICITY:** Benzene is a regulated human carcinogen. Benzene has the potential to cause bone depression, aplastic anemia and other blood diseases. Benzene can cause liver and kidney toxicity.

Carcinogenicity: NTP? Yes

IARC Monographs? Yes

OSHA Regulated? Yes

## SECTION 12 – ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**Ecotoxicity (aquatic and terrestrial):** 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.

Any adverse effect on animals would be related to oxygen deficient environments, as well as respiratory system damage. Additionally, frost produced in the presence of rapidly expanding gases may adversely affect plant life.

**Persistence and degradability:** No data available

**Bioaccumulative potential:** No data available

**Mobility in soil:** No data available

**Other Effects:** The mixture does not contain any class I or Class II ozone depleting chemicals.

## SECTION 13 – DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Disposal:** Waste disposal must be in accordance with appropriate National, Federal, State, and local regulations. Do not dispose or discharge into the environment. Do not discharge into enclosed environment. Contact supplier if additional guidance is required.

## SECTION 14 – TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

**DOT Classification:**

Proper Shipping Name: Compressed Gas, N.O.S.  
Class: 2.2  
UN/ID No.: UN1956  
Label: Non-Flammable Gas, Green Label

**IATA Classification:**

Proper Shipping Name: Compressed Gas, N.O.S.  
Class: 2.2  
UN/ID No.: UN1956  
Label: Non-Flammable Gas, Green Label

**Environment hazard:** No

**Transport in bulk (according to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code: N/A**

**SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR USER:** Avoid transport on vehicles where the load space is not separated from driver's compartment. Ensure that transporter is aware of the potential hazards of the load and knows what to do in event of an emergency. Contact supplier for complete transportation information.

## SECTION 15 – REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. SARA REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: The components of this gas mixture are subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 302, 304 and 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, as follows.

CHEMICAL NAME SARA 302  
(40 CFR 355, Appendix A) SARA 304  
(40 CFR Table 302.4) SARA 313  
(40 CFR 372.65)  
HEXANE NO YES YES

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

U.S. CERCLA REPORTABLE QUANTITY (RQ): Not applicable.

CANADIAN DSL/NDL INVENTORY STATUS: The components of this gas mixture are on the DSL Inventory.

U.S. TSCA INVENTORY STATUS: The components of this gas mixture are on the TSCA Inventory.

CANADIAN WHMIS : Class A: Compressed Gas

LABELING (For Compressed Gas):

WARNING: CONTAINS GAS UNDER PRESSURE; MAY EXPLODE IF HEATED. MAY CAUSE RAPID SUFFOCATION BY DISPLACING OXYGEN IN THE AIR. MAY INCREASE RESPIRATION AND HEART RATE. May cause dizziness, nausea, drowsiness, vomiting, excess salivation, and loss of mobility/consciousness. May cause frostbite. Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources—No smoking. Use and store in well-ventilated areas. Leaking gas fire: Do not extinguish unless leak can be stopped safely. In case of leakage, eliminate all ignition sources. Do not open valve until prepared to use. Always use a backflow preventative device in piping. Use only with equipment rated for cylinder pressure. Close valve after each use and when empty. Cylinder temperature should not exceed 52°C (125°F). Use in accordance with Safety Data Sheet. FIRST AID: IF INHALED, remove to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, give Oxygen. Call a physician. IN CASE OF FROSTBITE, obtain immediate medical attention. DO NOT REMOVE THIS LABEL.

## SECTION 16 – OTHER INFORMATION

Information contained in this data sheet is offered without charge for use by technically qualified personnel at their discretion and risk. All statements, technical information and recommendations contained herein are based on tests and data which we believe to be reliable. But the accuracy and completeness thereof, is not guaranteed and no warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied, is made with respect thereto. Since MESA Specialty Gases and Equipment Division of MESA International Technologies, Inc. shall have no control over the use of the product described herein, we assume no liability for loss or damage incurred from the proper or improper use of such product.

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