

Praxair Material Safety Data Sheet

1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

Product Name: Dimethyl ether	Trade Name: Dimethyl ether
Product Use: Not available.	
Chemical Name: Dimethyl ether	Synonym: Methyl ether, methyl oxide, wood ether, oxybismethane.
Chemical Formula: C ₂ H ₆ O	Chemical Family: Ethers
Telephone: Emergencies: * 1-800-363-0042	Supplier /Manufacture: Praxair Canada Inc. 1 City Centre Drive Suite 1200 Mississauga, ON L5B 1M2 Phone: 905-803-1600 Fax: 905-803-1682

*Call emergency numbers 24 hours a day only for spills, leaks, fire, exposure, or accidents involving this product. For routine information, contact your supplier or Praxair sales representative.

2. Composition and Information on Ingredients

INGREDIENTS	% (VOL)	CAS NUMBER	LD ₅₀ (Species & Routes)	LC ₅₀ (Rat, 4 hrs.)	TLV-TWA (ACGIH)
Dimethyl ether	100	115-10-6	Not applicable.	Not available.	None currently established.

3. Hazards Identification

Emergency Overview

DANGER! Flammable liquid and gas under pressure. Can form explosive mixtures with air. May cause anesthetic effects. May irritate eyes, skin, and mucous membranes. May cause frostbite. Self-contained breathing apparatus may be required by rescue workers.

ROUTES OF EXPOSURE: Inhalation. Swallowing. Skin Absorption. Skin contact. Eye contact.

THRESHOLD LIMIT VALUE: TLV-TWA Data from 2004 Guide to Occupational Exposure Values (ACGIH). TLV-TWAs should be used as a guide in the control of health hazards and not as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations.

EFFECTS OF A SINGLE (ACUTE) OVEREXPOSURE:

INHALATION: Narcotic. May cause incoordination, blurred vision, headache, analgesia, unconsciousness, cardiac irregularities, and respiratory failure due to depression of the central nervous system. Lack of oxygen can kill.

SKIN CONTACT: Exposure to liquid may cause frostbite.

SKIN ABSORPTION: Prolonged or widespread skin contact with the liquid may result in the absorption of harmful amounts of material.

SWALLOWING:

This product is a gas at normal temperature and pressure. Liquid may cause frostbite of the mouth and lips. May also cause incoordination, blurred vision, headache, analgesia, unconsciousness, and respiratory failure due to depression of the central nervous system.

EYE CONTACT:

Concentrated vapour may be irritating to eyes. Exposure to liquid may cause freezing.

EFFECTS OF REPEATED (CHRONIC) OVEREXPOSURE:

Repeated overexposure of liquid to skin can cause cracking and drying. Repeated inhalation may cause loss of appetite, exhaustion, headaches, sleepiness, dizziness, excitation, and psychic disturbances.

OTHER EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE:

None known.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY OVEREXPOSURE:

The skin irritating properties of the material may aggravate an existing dermatitis.

SIGNIFICANT LABORATORY DATA WITH POSSIBLE RELEVANCE TO HUMAN HEALTH HAZARD EVALUATION:

None currently known.

CARCINOGENICITY:

Not listed as carcinogen by OSHA, NTP or IARC.

4. First Aid Measures**INHALATION:**

If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention.

SKIN CONTACT:

For exposure to liquid, immediately warm frostbite area with warm water not to exceed 41 C. In case of massive exposure, remove contaminated clothing while showering with warm water. Call a physician.

SWALLOWING:

This product is a gas at normal temperature and pressure.

EYE CONTACT:

For contact with the liquid, immediately flush eyes thoroughly with warm water for at least 15 minutes. Hold the eyelids open and away from the eyeballs to ensure that all surfaces are flushed thoroughly. See a physician, preferably an ophthalmologist, immediately.

NOTES TO PHYSICIAN:

There is no specific antidote. Treatment of over-exposure should be directed at the control of symptoms and the clinical condition.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

FLAMMABLE : Yes.	IF YES, UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS?	Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents. May ignite in presence of flames or sparks.
FLASH POINT (test method)	CLOSED CUP: -41.1°C (-42°F). (Tag)	AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE
FLAMMABLE LIMITS IN AIR, % by volume:	LOWER: 3.4	UPPER: 27

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:

CO₂, dry chemical, water spray or fog.

SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:

DANGER! Evacuate all personnel from danger area. Immediately cool cylinders with water spray from maximum distance taking care not to extinguish flames. Remove ignition source if without risk. If flames are accidentally extinguished, explosive re-ignition may occur; therefore, appropriate measures should be taken; e.g., total evacuation. Reapproach with extreme caution. Use self-contained breathing apparatus. Stop flow of gas if without risk while continuing cooling water spray. Remove all containers from area if without risk. Allow fire to burn out.

UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD:

Flammable gas. Forms explosive mixtures with air and oxidizing agents. Container may rupture due to heat of fire. Do not extinguish flames due to possibility of explosive re-ignition. Vapours form from this product and may travel or be moved by air currents and ignited by pilot lights, other flames, smoking, sparks, heaters, electrical equipment, static discharges, or other ignition sources at locations distant from product handling point. Explosive atmospheres may linger. Before entering area, especially confined areas, check atmosphere with approved device. No part of a container should be subjected to temperature higher than 52 C (approximately 125 F). Most containers are provided with a pressure relief device designed to vent contents when they are exposed to elevated temperature.

HAZARDOUS COMBUSTION PRODUCTS:

These products are carbon oxides (CO, CO₂).

SENSITIVITY TO IMPACT:

Avoid impact against container.

SENSITIVITY TO STATIC DISCHARGE:

Possible.

6. Accidental Release Measures

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IF MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED:

DANGER! **Flammable, high-pressure gas.** 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 gas with fog or fine water spray. Shut off flow if without risk. Ventilate area or move cylinder to a well-ventilated area. Flammable gas may spread from leak. Before entering area, especially confined areas, check atmosphere with an appropriate device.

WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD:

Prevent waste from contaminating the surrounding environment. Keep personnel away. Discard any product, residue, disposable container, or liner in an environmentally acceptable manner, in full compliance with federal, provincial, and local regulations. If necessary, call your local supplier for assistance.

7. Handling and Storage

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN STORAGE:

Store and use with adequate ventilation. Separate flammable cylinders from oxygen, chlorine, and other oxidizers by at least 6 m or use a barricade of non-combustible material. This barricade should be at least 1.5 m high and have a fire resistance rating of at least ½ hour. Firmly secure cylinders upright to keep them from falling or being knocked over. Screw valve protection cap firmly in place by hand. 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 52 C. Store full and empty cylinders separately. Use a first-in, first-out inventory system to prevent storing full cylinders for long periods.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING:

Protect cylinders from damage. Use a suitable hand truck to move cylinders; do not drag, roll, slide, or drop. Never attempt to lift a cylinder by its cap; the cap is intended solely to protect the valve. Never insert an object (e.g., wrench, screwdriver, pry bar) into cap openings; doing so may damage the valve and cause a leak. Use an adjustable strap wrench to remove over-tight or rusted caps. Open valve slowly. If valve is hard to open, discontinue use and contact your supplier. For other precautions, see Section 16.

For additional information on storage and handling, refer to Compressed Gas Association (CGA) pamphlet P-1, *Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers*, available from the CGA. Refer to Section 16 for the address and phone number along with a list of other available publications.

OTHER HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS OF HANDLING, STORAGE, AND USE:

Flammable liquid and gas under pressure. Do not get liquid or vapours in eyes, on skin, or clothing. Safety showers and eyewash fountains should be immediately available. Use only in a closed system. Use piping and equipment adequately designed to withstand pressures to be encountered. Use only spark-proof tools and explosion-proof equipment. Keep away from heat, sparks, and open flame. **May form explosive mixtures with air.** Ground all equipment. Store and use with adequate ventilation at all times. Close valve after each use; keep closed even when empty. **Prevent reverse flow.** Reverse flow into cylinder may cause rupture. Use a check valve or other protective device in any line or piping from the cylinder. **When returning cylinder to supplier,** be sure valve is closed, then install valve outlet plug tightly. **Never work on a pressurized system.** If there is a leak, close the cylinder valve. Vent the system down in a safe and environmentally sound manner in compliance with all federal, provincial, and local laws; then repair the leak. **Never place a compressed gas cylinder where it may become part of an electrical circuit.**

8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

VENTILATION/ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

LOCAL EXHAUST: An explosion-proof local exhaust system is acceptable. See SPECIAL.

MECHANICAL (general): See SPECIAL.

SPECIAL: Use only in a closed system.

OTHER: See SPECIAL.

PERSONAL PROTECTION:

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION: Use respirable fume respirator or air supplied respirator when working in confined space or where local exhaust or ventilation does not keep exposure below TLV. Select in accordance with the provincial regulations or guidelines. Selection should also be based on the current CSA standards Z94.4, "Selection, care and use of respirators". Respirators should be approved by NIOSH and MSHA.

SKIN PROTECTION: Neoprene gloves.

EYE PROTECTION: Wear safety glasses when handling cylinders.

Select in accordance with the current CSA standard Z94.3, "Industrial Eye and Face Protection", and any provincial regulations, local bylaws or guidelines.

OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: Metatarsal shoes for cylinder handling. Protective clothing where needed. Cuffless trousers should be worn outside the shoes. Select in accordance with the current CSA standard Z195, "Protective Foot Wear", and any provincial regulations, local bylaws or guidelines.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

PHYSICAL STATE:	Gas. (Compressed Gas)	FREEZING POINT:	-141.5°C (-222.7°F)	pH:	Not available.
BOILING POINT	-24.8°C (-12.6°F)	VAPOUR PRESSURE	530.7 kPa (@ 20°C)	MOLECULAR WEIGHT:	46.07 g/mole
SPECIFIC GRAVITY:	0.66 LIQUID (Water = 1)	SOLUBILITY IN WATER,	Moderate.		
SPECIFIC GRAVITY:	1.59 VAPOUR (air = 1)	EVAPORATION RATE (Butyl Acetate=1):	>1 compared to (Butyl Acetate=1):	COEFFICIENT OF WATER/OIL DISTRIBUTION:	Moderate.
VAPOUR DENSITY:	1.908 g/l	% VOLATILES BY VOLUME:	100% (v/v).	ODOUR THRESHOLD:	Not available.

APPEARANCE & ODOUR: Colourless. Odour: Ethereal. (Slight.)

10. Stability and Reactivity

STABILITY:	The product is stable.
CONDITIONS OF CHEMICAL INSTABILITY:	Not available.
INCOMPATIBILITY (materials to avoid):	Oxidizing agents, halogens and acids, carbon monoxide, aluminum hydride, lithium aluminum hydride.
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:	Thermal decomposition or burning may produce carbon monoxide/carbon dioxide. The presence of oxygen, prolonged standing or exposure of product to direct sunlight may result in formation of unstable peroxides which may explode.
HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:	Will not occur.
CONDITIONS OF REACTIVITY:	None known.

11. Toxicological Information

See section 3.

12. Ecological Information

No adverse ecological effects expected. This product does not contain any Class I or Class II ozone-depleting chemicals. The components of this mixture are not listed as marine pollutants by TDG Regulations.

13. Disposal Considerations

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

14. Transport Information

TDG/IMO SHIPPING NAME:	Dimethyl ether	
HAZARD CLASS:	CLASS 2.1 : Flammable gas.	IDENTIFICATION #: UN1033

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 vehicle can present serious safety hazards.

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, provincial, and local regulations.

WHMIS (Canada) CLASS A: Compressed gas.
CLASS B-1: Flammable gas.

International Regulations

EINECS Not available.

DSCL (EEC) This product is not classified according to the EU regulations.

International Lists No products were found.

16. Other Information

MIXTURES:

When two or more gases, or liquefied gases are mixed, their hazardous properties may combine to 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 make your safety evaluation of the end product. Remember, gases and liquids have properties which can cause serious injury or death.

HAZARD RATING SYSTEM:

HMIS RATINGS:

HEALTH 2

FLAMMABILITY 4

PHYSICAL HAZARD 1

STANDARD VALVE CONNECTIONS FOR U.S. AND CANADA:

THREADED: CGA-510

PIN-INDEXED YOKE: Not available.

ULTRA-HIGH-INTEGRITY CONNECTION: Not available.

Use the proper CGA connections. **DO NOT USE ADAPTERS.** Additional limited-standard connections may apply. See CGA pamphlets V-1 and V-7 listed below.

Ask your supplier about free Praxair safety literature as referred to in this MSDS and on the label for this product. Further information about this product can be found in the following pamphlets published by the Compressed Gas Association, Inc. (CGA), 4221 Walney Road, 5th Floor, Chantilly, VA 20151-2923, Telephone (703) 788-2700, Fax (703) 961-1831, website: www.cganet.com.

- AV-1 Safe Handling and Storage of Compressed Gas
- P-1 Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers
- P-14 Accident Prevention in Oxygen-Rich, Oxygen-Deficient Atmosphere
- SB-2 Oxygen-Deficient Atmospheres
- V-1 Compressed Gas Cylinder Valve Inlet and Outlet Connections
- V-7 Standard Method of Determining Cylinder Valve Outlet Connections for Industrial Gas Mixtures
- Handbook of Compressed Gases, Fourth Edition

PREPARATION INFORMATION:

DATE: 10/15/2004

DEPARTMENT: Safety and Environmental Services

TELEPHONE: 905-803-1600

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

Praxair Canada Inc. requests the users of this product to study this Material Data Sheet (MSDS) and become aware of product hazards and safety information. To promote safe use of this product, a user should (1) notify its employees, agents and contractors of the information on this MSDS and any product hazards and safety information, (2) furnish this same information to each of its customers for the product, and (3) request such customers to notify their employees and customers for the product of the same product hazards and safety information.

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