

OXYGEN

Chemical Names:

Oxygen

Chemical Family:

Oxidizing Gas

Components - May Contain Variable Amounts of:

Negligible - usually 99% or above pure product

Extinguishing Media:

Material is nonflammable. Use extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.

Special Fire Fighting Procedures and Precautions:

Though not flammable itself, oxygen vigorously accelerates combustion. If possible, shut off oxygen gas and remove cylinders from fire area or cool with water to avoid excessive pressure build up.

Fire and Explosion Hazards:

Extreme fire hazards exist in an oxygen-enriched atmosphere! Materials which do not burn in air may burn in an oxygen-enriched atmosphere where the oxygen content exceeds 21%. **Oxygen may form explosive compounds when exposed to ethers, alcohols, oil, grease, other hydrocarbon materials and/or combustible materials.**

Health Hazards:

Breathing 80% or more oxygen at atmospheric pressure for more than a few hours may cause nasal stuffiness, cough, sore throat, chest pain and breathing difficulties. Breathing oxygen at higher pressure increases the likelihood of adverse affects within a shorter time period. Exposure to oxygen at higher pressure for prolonged periods has been found to affect vision, neuromuscular coordination and attentive powers.