

# SAFETY DATA SHEET




Nonflammable Gas Mixture (Gold Gas; Shielding Gases; Alumix): Argon 1-77% / Helium 23-99%

## Section 1. Identification

- GHS product identifier** : Nonflammable Gas Mixture (Gold Gas; Shielding Gases; Alumix): Argon 1-77% / Helium 23-99%
- Other means of identification** : Gold Gas; Shielding Gases; Alumix
- Product use** : Synthetic/Analytical chemistry.
- Synonym** : Gold Gas; Shielding Gases; Alumix
- SDS #** : 002002
- Supplier's details** : Airgas USA, LLC and its affiliates  
259 North Radnor-Chester Road  
Suite 100  
Radnor, PA 19087-5283  
1-610-687-5253
- Emergency telephone number (with hours of operation)** : 1-866-734-3438

## Section 2. Hazards identification

- OSHA/HCS status** : This material is considered hazardous by the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200).
- Classification of the substance or mixture** : GASES UNDER PRESSURE - Compressed gas
- GHS label elements**
- Hazard pictograms** : 
- Signal word** : Warning
- Hazard statements** : Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.  
May displace oxygen and cause rapid suffocation.
- Precautionary statements**
- General** : Read and follow all Safety Data Sheets (SDS'S) before use. Read label before use. Keep out of reach of children. If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. Close valve after each use and when empty. Use equipment rated for cylinder pressure. Do not open valve until connected to equipment prepared for use. Use a back flow preventative device in the piping. Use only equipment of compatible materials of construction.
- Prevention** : Use and store only outdoors or in a well ventilated place.
- Response** : Not applicable.
- Storage** : Protect from sunlight. Protect from sunlight when ambient temperature exceeds 52°C/125°F. Store in a well-ventilated place.
- Disposal** : Not applicable.
- Hazards not otherwise classified** : In addition to any other important health or physical hazards, this product may displace oxygen and cause rapid suffocation.

**Date of issue/Date of revision** : 11/11/2014. **Date of previous issue** : No previous validation. **Version** : 0.01 1/11

## Section 3. Composition/information on ingredients

**Substance/mixture** : Mixture  
**Other means of identification** : Gold Gas; Shielding Gases; Alumix

### CAS number/other identifiers

**CAS number** : Not applicable.  
**Product code** : 002002

| Ingredient name | %       | CAS number |
|-----------------|---------|------------|
| Helium          | 23 - 99 | 7440-59-7  |
| Argon           | 1 - 77  | 7440-37-1  |

**There are no additional ingredients present which, within the current knowledge of the supplier and in the concentrations applicable, are classified as hazardous to health or the environment and hence require reporting in this section.**

**Occupational exposure limits, if available, are listed in Section 8.**

## Section 4. First aid measures

### Description of necessary first aid measures

**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.

**Inhalation** : Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. If not breathing, if breathing is irregular or if respiratory arrest occurs, provide artificial respiration or oxygen by trained personnel. It may be dangerous to the person providing aid to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Get medical attention if adverse health effects persist or are severe. If unconscious, place in recovery position and get medical attention immediately. Maintain an open airway. Loosen tight clothing such as a collar, tie, belt or waistband.

**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** : As this product is a gas, refer to the inhalation section.

### Most important symptoms/effects, acute and delayed

#### Potential acute health effects

**Eye contact** : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.  
**Inhalation** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Skin contact** : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.  
**Frostbite** : Try to warm up the frozen tissues and seek medical attention.  
**Ingestion** : As this product is a gas, refer to the inhalation section.

#### Over-exposure signs/symptoms

**Eye contact** : No specific data.  
**Inhalation** : No specific data.  
**Skin contact** : No specific data.  
**Ingestion** : No specific data.

### Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment needed, if necessary

**Notes to physician** : Treat symptomatically. Contact poison treatment specialist immediately if large quantities have been ingested or inhaled.

## Section 4. First aid measures

- Specific treatments** : No specific treatment.
- Protection of first-aiders** : No action shall be taken involving any personal risk or without suitable training. It may be dangerous to the person providing aid to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

See toxicological information (Section 11)

## Section 5. Fire-fighting measures

### Extinguishing media

- Suitable extinguishing media** : Use an extinguishing agent suitable for the surrounding fire.
- Unsuitable extinguishing media** : None known.

**Specific hazards arising from the chemical** : Contains gas under pressure. In a fire or if heated, a pressure increase will occur and the container may burst or explode.

**Hazardous thermal decomposition products** : No specific data.

**Special protective actions for fire-fighters** : Promptly isolate the scene by removing all persons from the vicinity of the incident if there is a fire. No action shall be taken involving any personal risk or without suitable training. Contact supplier immediately for specialist advice. Move containers from fire area if this can be done without risk. Use water spray to keep fire-exposed containers cool.

**Special protective equipment for fire-fighters** : Fire-fighters should wear appropriate protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) with a full face-piece operated in positive pressure mode.

## Section 6. Accidental release measures

### Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

- For non-emergency personnel** : No action shall be taken involving any personal risk or without suitable training. Evacuate surrounding areas. Keep unnecessary and unprotected personnel from entering. Avoid breathing gas. Provide adequate ventilation. Wear appropriate respirator when ventilation is inadequate. Put on appropriate personal protective equipment.
- For emergency responders** : If specialised clothing is required to deal with the spillage, take note of any information in Section 8 on suitable and unsuitable materials. See also the information in "For non-emergency personnel".

**Environmental precautions** : Ensure emergency procedures to deal with accidental gas releases are in place to avoid contamination of the environment. Inform the relevant authorities if the product has caused environmental pollution (sewers, waterways, soil or air).

### Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up

- Small spill** : Immediately contact emergency personnel. Stop leak if without risk.
- Large spill** : Immediately contact emergency personnel. Stop leak if without risk. Note: see Section 1 for emergency contact information and Section 13 for waste disposal.

## Section 7. Handling and storage

### Precautions for safe handling

- Protective measures** : Put on appropriate personal protective equipment (see Section 8). Contains gas under pressure. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Avoid breathing gas. Empty containers retain product residue and can be hazardous. Do not puncture or incinerate container. Use equipment rated for cylinder pressure. Close valve after each use and when empty. Protect cylinders from physical damage; do not drag, roll, slide, or drop. Use a suitable hand truck for cylinder movement.
- Advice on general occupational hygiene** : Eating, drinking and smoking should be prohibited in areas where this material is handled, stored and processed. Workers should wash hands and face before eating, drinking and smoking. Remove contaminated clothing and protective equipment before entering eating areas. See also Section 8 for additional information on hygiene measures.
- Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities** : Store in accordance with local regulations. Store in a segregated and approved area. Store away from direct sunlight in a dry, cool and well-ventilated area, away from incompatible materials (see Section 10). Keep container tightly closed and sealed until ready for use. Cylinders should be stored upright, with valve protection cap in place, and firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Cylinder temperatures should not exceed 52 °C (125 °F).

## Section 8. Exposure controls/personal protection

### Control parameters

#### Occupational exposure limits

None.

- Appropriate engineering controls** : Good general ventilation should be sufficient to control worker exposure to airborne contaminants.
- Environmental exposure controls** : Emissions from ventilation or work process equipment should be checked to ensure they comply with the requirements of environmental protection legislation. In some cases, fume scrubbers, filters or engineering modifications to the process equipment will be necessary to reduce emissions to acceptable levels.

### Individual protection measures

- Hygiene measures** : Wash hands, forearms and face thoroughly after handling chemical products, before eating, smoking and using the lavatory and at the end of the working period. Appropriate techniques should be used to remove potentially contaminated clothing. Wash contaminated clothing before reusing. Ensure that eyewash stations and safety showers are close to the workstation location.
- Eye/face protection** : Safety eyewear complying with an approved standard should be used when a risk assessment indicates this is necessary to avoid exposure to liquid splashes, mists, gases or dusts. If contact is possible, the following protection should be worn, unless the assessment indicates a higher degree of protection: safety glasses with side-shields.
- Skin protection**
- Hand protection** : Chemical-resistant, impervious gloves complying with an approved standard should be worn at all times when handling chemical products if a risk assessment indicates this is necessary. Considering the parameters specified by the glove manufacturer, check during use that the gloves are still retaining their protective properties. It should be noted that the time to breakthrough for any glove material may be different for different glove manufacturers. In the case of mixtures, consisting of several substances, the protection time of the gloves cannot be accurately estimated.

## Section 8. Exposure controls/personal protection

- Body protection** : Personal protective equipment for the body should be selected based on the task being performed and the risks involved and should be approved by a specialist before handling this product.
- Other skin protection** : Appropriate footwear and any additional skin protection measures should be selected based on the task being performed and the risks involved and should be approved by a specialist before handling this product.
- Respiratory protection** : Use a properly fitted, air-purifying or air-fed respirator complying with an approved standard if a risk assessment indicates this is necessary. Respirator selection must be based on known or anticipated exposure levels, the hazards of the product and the safe working limits of the selected respirator.

## Section 9. Physical and chemical properties

### Appearance

- Physical state** : Gas.
- Color** : Not available.
- Melting/freezing point** : -189.2°C (-308.6°F) This is based on data for the following ingredient: argon. Weighted average: -235.89°C (-392.6°F)
- Critical temperature** : Lowest known value: -267.9°C (-450.2°F) (helium).
- Odor** : Not available.
- Odor threshold** : Not available.
- pH** : Not available.
- Flash point** : Not available.
- Burning time** : Not applicable.
- Burning rate** : Not applicable.
- Evaporation rate** : Not available.
- Flammability (solid, gas)** : Not available.
- Lower and upper explosive (flammable) limits** : Not available.
- Vapor pressure** : Not available.
- Vapor density** : Highest known value: 1.66 (Air = 1) (argon). Weighted average: 0.81 (Air = 1)
- Gas Density (lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)** : Weighted average: 0.02
- Relative density** : Not applicable.
- Solubility** : Not available.
- Solubility in water** : Not available.
- Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water** : Not available.
- Auto-ignition temperature** : Not available.
- Decomposition temperature** : Not available.
- SADT** : Not available.
- Viscosity** : Not applicable.

## Section 10. Stability and reactivity

- Reactivity** : No specific test data related to reactivity available for this product or its ingredients.
- Chemical stability** : The product is stable.
- Possibility of hazardous reactions** : Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous reactions will not occur.
- Conditions to avoid** : No specific data.
- Incompatibility with various substances** : Not considered to be reactive according to our database.
- Hazardous decomposition products** : Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous decomposition products should not be produced.
- Hazardous polymerization** : Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous polymerization will not occur.

## Section 11. Toxicological information

### Information on toxicological effects

#### Acute toxicity

Not available.

#### Irritation/Corrosion

Not available.

#### Sensitization

Not available.

#### Mutagenicity

Not available.

#### Carcinogenicity

Not available.

#### Reproductive toxicity

Not available.

#### Teratogenicity

Not available.

#### Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)

Not available.

#### Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)

Not available.

#### Aspiration hazard

Not available.

**Information on the likely routes of exposure** : Not available.

## Section 11. Toxicological information

### Potential acute health effects

- Eye contact** : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.  
**Inhalation** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Skin contact** : Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite.  
**Ingestion** : As this product is a gas, refer to the inhalation section.

### Symptoms related to the physical, chemical and toxicological characteristics

- Eye contact** : No specific data.  
**Inhalation** : No specific data.  
**Skin contact** : No specific data.  
**Ingestion** : No specific data.

### Delayed and immediate effects and also chronic effects from short and long term exposure

#### Short term exposure

- Potential immediate effects** : Not available.  
**Potential delayed effects** : Not available.

#### Long term exposure

- Potential immediate effects** : Not available.  
**Potential delayed effects** : Not available.

### Potential chronic health effects

Not available.

- General** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Carcinogenicity** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Mutagenicity** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Teratogenicity** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Developmental effects** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.  
**Fertility effects** : No known significant effects or critical hazards.

### Numerical measures of toxicity

#### Acute toxicity estimates

Not available.

## Section 12. Ecological information

### Toxicity

Not available.

### Persistence and degradability

Not available.

### Bioaccumulative potential

Not available.

## Section 12. Ecological information

### Mobility in soil





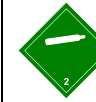
Soil/water partition coefficient ( $K_{oc}$ ) : Not available.

Other adverse effects : No known significant effects or critical hazards.

## Section 13. Disposal considerations

**Disposal methods** : The generation of waste should be avoided or minimized wherever possible. Disposal of this product, solutions and any by-products should at all times comply with the requirements of environmental protection and waste disposal legislation and any regional local authority requirements. Dispose of surplus and non-recyclable products via a licensed waste disposal contractor. Waste should not be disposed of untreated to the sewer unless fully compliant with the requirements of all authorities with jurisdiction. Empty Airgas-owned pressure vessels should be returned to Airgas. Waste packaging should be recycled. Incineration or landfill should only be considered when recycling is not feasible. This material and its container must be disposed of in a safe way. Empty containers or liners may retain some product residues. Do not puncture or incinerate container.

## Section 14. Transport information

|                                   | DOT  | TDG  | Mexico   | IMDG   | IATA   |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>UN number</b>                  | UN1956   | UN1956   | UN1956   | UN1956   | UN1956   |
| <b>UN proper shipping name</b>    | COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (helium, argon)   | COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (helium, argon)   | COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (helium, argon)   | COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (helium, argon)   | COMPRESSED GAS, N.O.S. (helium, argon)   |
| <b>Transport hazard class(es)</b> | 2.2<br> | 2.2<br>                           | 2.2<br> | 2.2<br> | 2.2<br> |
| <b>Packing group</b>              | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |
| <b>Environment</b>                | No.  | No.  | No.  | No.  | No.  |
| <b>Additional information</b>     | -  | <u>Explosive Limit and Limited Quantity Index</u><br>0.125<br><br><u>Passenger Carrying Road or Rail Index</u><br>75 | -  | -  | -  |

“Refer to CFR 49 (or authority having jurisdiction) to determine the information required for shipment of the product.”

**Special precautions for user** : **Transport within user’s premises:** always transport in closed containers that are upright and secure. Ensure that persons transporting the product know what to do in the event of an accident or spillage.

**Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code** : Not available.



## Section 15. Regulatory information

**U.S. Federal regulations** : TSCA 8(a) CDR Exempt/Partial exemption: Not determined  
United States inventory (TSCA 8b): All components are listed or exempted.

**Clean Air Act Section 112 (b) Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)** : Not listed

**Clean Air Act Section 602 Class I Substances** : Not listed

**Clean Air Act Section 602 Class II Substances** : Not listed

**DEA List I Chemicals (Precursor Chemicals)** : Not listed

**DEA List II Chemicals (Essential Chemicals)** : Not listed

### SARA 302/304

#### Composition/information on ingredients

No products were found.

**SARA 304 RQ** : Not applicable.

### SARA 311/312

**Classification** : Sudden release of pressure

#### Composition/information on ingredients

No products were found.

### State regulations

**Massachusetts** : The following components are listed: HELIUM; ARGON

**New York** : None of the components are listed.

**New Jersey** : The following components are listed: HELIUM; ARGON

**Pennsylvania** : The following components are listed: HELIUM; ARGON

**Canada inventory** : All components are listed or exempted.

### International regulations

**International lists** : **Australia inventory (AICS)**: All components are listed or exempted.  
**China inventory (IECSC)**: All components are listed or exempted.  
**Japan inventory**: Not determined.  
**Korea inventory**: All components are listed or exempted.  
**Malaysia Inventory (EHS Register)**: Not determined.  
**New Zealand Inventory of Chemicals (NZIoC)**: All components are listed or exempted.  
**Philippines inventory (PICCS)**: All components are listed or exempted.  
**Taiwan inventory (CSNN)**: Not determined.

**Chemical Weapons Convention List Schedule I Chemicals** : Not listed

**Chemical Weapons Convention List Schedule II Chemicals** : Not listed

**Chemical Weapons Convention List Schedule III Chemicals** : Not listed

## Section 15. Regulatory information

### Canada

**WHMIS (Canada)** : Class A: Compressed gas.  
**CEPA Toxic substances:** None of the components are listed.  
**Canadian ARET:** None of the components are listed.  
**Canadian NPRI:** None of the components are listed.  
**Alberta Designated Substances:** None of the components are listed.  
**Ontario Designated Substances:** None of the components are listed.  
**Quebec Designated Substances:** None of the components are listed.

## Section 16. Other information

**Canada Label requirements** : Class A: Compressed gas.

### Hazardous Material Information System (U.S.A.)

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Health           | 0 |
| Flammability     | 0 |
| Physical hazards | 3 |
|                  |   |

**Caution:** HMIS® ratings are based on a 0-4 rating scale, with 0 representing minimal hazards or risks, and 4 representing significant hazards or risks. Although HMIS® ratings are not required on SDSs under 29 CFR 1910.1200, the preparer may choose to provide them. HMIS® ratings are to be used with a fully implemented HMIS® program. HMIS® is a registered mark of the National Paint & Coatings Association (NPCA). HMIS® materials may be purchased exclusively from J. J. Keller (800) 327-6868.

The customer is responsible for determining the PPE code for this material.

### National Fire Protection Association (U.S.A.)



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Copyright ©2001, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA 02269. This warning system is intended to be interpreted and applied only by properly trained individuals to identify fire, health and reactivity hazards of chemicals. The user is referred to certain limited number of chemicals with recommended classifications in NFPA 49 and NFPA 325, which would be used as a guideline only. Whether the chemicals are classified by NFPA or not, anyone using the 704 systems to classify chemicals does so at their own risk.

### History

**Date of printing** : 11/11/2014.  
**Date of issue/Date of revision** : 11/11/2014.  
**Date of previous issue** : No previous validation.  
**Version** : 0.01

## Section 16. Other information

### Key to abbreviations

- : ATE = Acute Toxicity Estimate
- BCF = Bioconcentration Factor
- GHS = Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
- IATA = International Air Transport Association
- IBC = Intermediate Bulk Container
- IMDG = International Maritime Dangerous Goods
- LogPow = logarithm of the octanol/water partition coefficient
- MARPOL 73/78 = International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships, 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978. ("Marpol" = marine pollution)
- UN = United Nations
- ACGIH – American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
- AIHA – American Industrial Hygiene Association
- CAS – Chemical Abstract Services
- CEPA – Canadian Environmental Protection Act
- CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (EPA)
- CFR – United States Code of Federal Regulations
- CPR – Controlled Products Regulations
- DSL – Domestic Substances List
- GWP – Global Warming Potential
- IARC – International Agency for Research on Cancer
- ICAO – International Civil Aviation Organisation
- Inh – Inhalation
- LC – Lethal concentration
- LD – Lethal dosage
- NDSL – Non-Domestic Substances List
- NIOSH – National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- TDG – Canadian Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations
- TLV – Threshold Limit Value
- TSCA – Toxic Substances Control Act
- WEEL – Workplace Environmental Exposure Level
- WHMIS – Canadian Workplace Hazardous Material Information System

### References

- : Not available.

▣ Indicates information that has changed from previously issued version.

### Notice to reader

To the best of our knowledge, the information contained herein is accurate. However, neither the above-named supplier, nor any of its subsidiaries, assumes any liability whatsoever for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein.

Final determination of suitability of any material is the sole responsibility of the user. All materials may present unknown hazards and should be used with caution. Although certain hazards are described herein, we cannot guarantee that these are the only hazards that exist.