

# PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER

# **Hydrogen Gas**

Important! For detailed information on this product and emergency measures, obtain the country-specific Safety Data Sheet (SDS) on the Product Finder. In the case of an emergency, please call our 24-hour hotline at 1-800-561-6682 or 1-403- 314-8767.

Hydrogen Gas may also be called: Hydrogen gas - Corunna (H2, Hydrogen Methanated); Hydrogen Gas - Joffre (H2).

#### Product/Substance Use:

- These products are manufactured at NOVA Chemicals' Corunna, Ontario and Joffre, Alberta facilities and are transported by pipeline.
- Hydrogen is used as a fuel and as a raw material to make various industrial chemicals and polymers.
- Hydrogen is naturally present as a free element in the atmosphere at levels less than 1 ppm (part per million).

### **Characteristics and Safe Handling:**

- These products are regulated in the workplace as flammable, compressed gases and simple asphyxiants. They are also regulated during transportation as flammable gases.
- Hydrogen is an extremely flammable, compressed gas, having no color and no odor. Hydrogen is a simple asphyxiant, and at high
  concentrations, and in confined spaces, may displace oxygen and cause rapid suffocation. Hydrogen burns with an invisible to pale blue
  flame that is often very difficult to see.
- Areas surrounding a hydrogen release must be considered as immediate high risk for fire or explosion. Hydrogen is lighter than air and may
  collect to dangerous levels in confined areas. Check for gas pockets under roofs or at high ends of equipment. Ignition from a distance with
  flashback is possible.
- Any equipment used in areas of handling or storage must be approved for flammable, compressed gas systems and properly grounded for control of static electricity.
- Do NOT attempt to extinguish a hydrogen gas fire unless leak source can be isolated and shut off. Any release to water, air or land will
  immediately disperse into a highly flammable gas cloud that is easily ignited by heat, sparks, static charge or flames. High-pressure leaks
  frequently ignite spontaneously.
- Risk of container or pipeline explosion is extremely high when subjected to high heat or direct flames. Use large quantities of cold water to
  cool any pipelines or vessels exposed to fire.
- In the event of a large release or fire, evacuate personnel upwind to a safe distance of at least 800 meters (½ mile).

## **Health and Safety Information:**

- Ensure adequate ventilation is available and wear all recommended personal protective equipment if contact with this material is likely.
- Inhaling high concentrations reduce available oxygen levels and may cause headache, dizziness, nausea, loss of coordination, difficulty breathing, suffocation, or cardiac rhythm disturbance.
- Care should be taken to avoid having compressed hydrogen gas contact the ears, skin or eyes, which can cause severe injury including
  frostbite or burns. Wear thermal protective gloves and all recommended personal protective equipment if contact with this material is likely.
- Wear fire-resistant or natural fiber clothing in areas where hydrogen releases can occur to reduce risk of possible build-up of static charge on synthetic fabrics.

#### **Environmental Information:**

- Hydrogen is a highly volatile gas with limited absorption into soil and sediment. Product is not considered harmful to plants, terrestrial or aquatic life.
- Hydrogen is present in the atmosphere naturally at levels less than 1 ppm. The methane component of these hydrogen gas products slowly
  degrades in air over a period of approximately six years. Methane is a greenhouse gas (GHG). Carbon monoxide elevates the concentrations
  of methane and ozone in the atmosphere and eventually oxidizes into carbon dioxide.
- Associated wastes may be flammable and regulated in Canada and in the United States. Ensure all applicable regulations are met.

Updated: February 23, 2024

For more information on this, or any other NOVA Chemicals' product, please contact us at the nearest location below during business hours or visit our website at <a href="https://www.novachemicals.com">www.novachemicals.com</a>:

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