

# Material Safety Data Sheet

Version 1.4  
Revision Date 07/13/2004MSDS Number 300000000068  
Print Date 08/17/2004

## 1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product name : Helium (Refrigerated)

Chemical formula : He

Synonyms : Helium (refrigerated), Cryogenic Liquid Helium, Liquid Helium, Lhe

Product Use Description : General Industrial

Company : Air Products and Chemicals, Inc  
7201 Hamilton Blvd.  
Allentown, PA 18195-1501

Telephone : 800-345-3148

Emergency telephone number : 800-523-9374 USA  
01-610-481-7711 International

## 2. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Components	CAS Number	Concentration (Volume)
Helium	7440-59-7	100 %

Concentration is nominal. For the exact product composition, please refer to Air Products technical specifications.

## 3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### Emergency Overview

Extremely cold liquid and gas under pressure.  
Direct contact with liquid can cause frostbite.  
Can cause rapid suffocation.  
Avoid breathing gas.  
Self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) may be required.

### Potential Health Effects

Inhalation : In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility/consciousness. Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation. Asphyxiation may bring about unconsciousness without warning and so rapidly that victim may be unable to protect themselves.

Eye contact : Contact with liquid may cause cold burns/frost bite.

Skin contact : Contact with liquid may cause cold burns/frost bite. May cause severe frostbite.

Ingestion : Ingestion is not considered a potential route of exposure.

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Chronic Health Hazard : Not applicable.

## Exposure Guidelines

Primary Routes of Entry : Inhalation  
Eye and skin contact.

Target Organs : None.

Symptoms : Exposure to oxygen deficient atmosphere may cause the following symptoms:  
Dizziness. Salivation. Nausea. Vomiting. Loss of mobility/consciousness.

## Aggravated Medical Condition

None.

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## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

- General advice : Remove victim to uncontaminated area wearing self contained breathing apparatus. Keep victim warm and rested. Call a doctor. Apply artificial respiration if breathing stopped.
- Eye contact : In the case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. Keep eye wide open while rinsing.
- Skin contact : In case of frostbite, obtain medical treatment immediately. Wash frost-bitten areas with plenty of water. Do not remove clothing. Do not rub frozen parts as tissue damage may result. Cover wound with sterile dressing. As soon as practical, place the affected area in a warm water bath- which has a temperature not to exceed 40 °C (105 °F).
- Ingestion : Ingestion is not considered a potential route of exposure.
- Inhalation : Move to fresh air. If breathing has stopped or is labored, give assisted respirations. Supplemental oxygen may be indicated. If the heart has stopped, trained personnel should begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation immediately. In case of shortness of breath, give oxygen.

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## 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

- Suitable extinguishing media : All known extinguishing media can be used.
- Specific hazards : Spill will rapidly vaporize forming an oxygen deficient vapor cloud. Vapor cloud may obscure visibility. Do not direct water spray at container vent. Move away from container and cool with water from a protected position. Keep containers and surroundings cool with water spray.
- Special protective equipment for fire-fighters : Wear self contained breathing apparatus for fire fighting if necessary.

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## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

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- Personal precautions : Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Ventilate the area. Monitor oxygen level. Wear self-contained breathing apparatus when entering area unless atmosphere is proved to be safe.
- Environmental precautions : Prevent further leakage or spillage. Prevent from entering sewers, basements and workpits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous. Do not discharge into any place where its accumulation could be dangerous.
- Methods for cleaning up : Ventilate the area.
- Additional advice : If possible, stop flow of product. Increase ventilation to the release area and monitor oxygen level. Vapor cloud may obscure visibility. Do not spray water directly at leak. If leak is from cylinder or cylinder valve, call the Air Products emergency telephone number. If the leak is in the user's system, close the cylinder valve and safely vent the pressure before attempting repairs.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

### Handling

Know and understand the properties and hazards of the product before use. Only experienced and properly instructed persons should handle compressed gases. Before using the product, determine its identity by reading the label. Do not remove or deface labels provided by the supplier for the identification of the cylinder contents. Before connecting the container, check the complete gas system for suitability, particularly for pressure rating and materials. Before connecting the container for use, ensure that back feed from the system into the container is prevented. Close container valve after each use and when empty, even if still connected to equipment. Never attempt to repair or modify container valves or safety relief devices. Damaged valves should be reported immediately to the supplier. If user experiences any difficulty operating cylinder valve discontinue use and contact supplier. Do not remove or interchange connections. Ensure the complete gas system has been checked for leaks before use. Prevent entrapment of cryogenic liquid in closed systems not protected with relief device. When moving cylinders, even for short distances, use a cart (trolley, hand truck, etc.) designed to transport cylinders. When doubt exists as to the correct handling procedure for a particular gas, contact the supplier. Employ suitable pressure regulating devices on all containers when the gas is being emitted to systems with lower pressure rating than that of the container. Do not subject containers to abnormal mechanical shocks which may cause damage to their valve or safety devices. Only transfer lines designed for cryogenic liquids shall be used.

### Storage

**WARNING!** Do not change or force fit connections. Always keep container in upright position. Do not allow storage temperature to exceed 50°C (122°F). Containers should be stored in a purpose build compound which should be well ventilated, preferably in the open air. Full containers should be stored so that oldest stock is used first. Do not store in a confined space. Full and empty cylinders should be segregated. Store containers in location free from fire risk and away from sources of heat and ignition. Return empty containers in a timely manner. Stored containers should be periodically checked for general condition and leakage. Protect containers stored in the open against rusting and extremes of weather. Containers should not be stored in conditions likely to encourage corrosion. All vents should be piped to the exterior of the building. Cryogenic containers are equipped with pressure relief devices to control internal pressure. Under normal conditions these containers will periodically vent product. Observe all regulations and local requirements regarding storage of containers.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

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## Engineering measures

Natural or mechanical to prevent oxygen deficient atmospheres below 19.5% oxygen.  
Keep self contained breathing apparatus readily available for emergency use.

## Personal protective equipment

- Respiratory protection : Use self-contained breathing apparatus. Air purifying respirators will not provide protection. Users of breathing apparatus must be trained.
- Hand protection : Sturdy work gloves are recommended for handling cylinders.  
Loose fitting thermal insulated or leather gloves.  
The breakthrough time of the selected glove(s) must be greater than the intended use period.
- Eye protection : Safety glasses recommended when handling cylinders.  
Protect eyes, face and skin from liquid splashes.
- Skin and body protection : Never allow any unprotected part of the body to touch uninsulated pipes or vessels which contain cryogenic fluids. The extremely cold metal will cause the flesh to stick fast and tear when one attempts to withdraw from it.  
Safety shoes are recommended when handling cylinders.
- Special instructions for protection and hygiene : Ensure adequate ventilation, especially in confined areas.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

- Form : Liquefied gas.
- Color : Colorless.
- Odor : No odor warning properties.
- Molecular Weight : 4 g/mol
- Relative vapor density : 0.14 (air = 1)
- Relative density : 0.12 (water = 1)
- Boiling point/range : -452 °F (-269 °C)
- Critical temperature : -450 °F (-268 °C)
- Water solubility : 0.0015 g/l

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

- Stability : Stable under normal conditions.
- Materials to avoid : Carbon steel.

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## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### Acute Health Hazard

Ingestion : No data is available on the product itself.  
Inhalation : No data is available on the product itself.  
Skin. : No data is available on the product itself.

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## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### Ecotoxicity effects

Aquatic toxicity : Not applicable.  
Toxicity to other organisms : Not applicable.

### Persistence and degradability

Mobility : No data available.  
Bioaccumulation : No data is available on the product itself.

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## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Waste from residues / unused products : Return unused product in original cylinder to supplier. Contact supplier if guidance is required.  
Contaminated packaging : Return cylinder to supplier.

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## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

### CFR

Proper shipping name : Helium, refrigerated liquid  
Class : 2.2  
UN/ID No. : UN1963

### IATA

Proper shipping name : Helium, refrigerated liquid  
Class : 2.2  
UN/ID No. : UN1963

### IMDG

Proper shipping name : HELIUM, REFRIGERATED LIQUID  
Class : 2.2  
UN/ID No. : UN1963

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## CTC

Proper shipping name : HELIUM, REFRIGERATED LIQUID  
Class : 2.2  
UN/ID No. : UN1963

### Further Information

Avoid transport on vehicles where the load space is not separated from the driver's compartment. Ensure vehicle driver is aware of the potential hazards of the load and knows what to do in the event of an accident or an emergency.

## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) Hazard Class(es)  
Cryogenic (refrigerated) Liquid

Country	Regulatory list	Notification
USA	TSCA	Included on Inventory.
EU	EINECS	Included on Inventory.
Canada	DSL	Included on Inventory.
Australia	AICS	Included on Inventory.
Japan	ENCS	Included on Inventory.
South Korea	ECL	Included on Inventory.
China	SEPA	Included on Inventory.
Philippines	PICCS	Included on Inventory.

EPA SARA Title III Section 312 (40 CFR 370) Hazard Classification:  
No SARA Hazards

### US. California Safe Drinking Water & Toxic Enforcement Act (Proposition 65)

This product does not contain any chemicals known to State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or any other harm.

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

### NFPA Rating

Health : 3  
Fire : 0  
Instability : 0

### HMIS Rating

Health : 3  
Flammability : 0  
Physical hazard : 2

Prepared by : Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. Global EH&S Product Safety Department

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For additional information, please visit our Product Stewardship web site at  
<http://www.airproducts.com/productstewardship/>

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