

SAFETY DATA SHEET
Helium, compressed

Issue Date: 16.01.2013
Last revised date: 27.04.2021

Version: 1.6

SDS No.: 000010021690
1/13

SECTION 1: Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking

1.1 Product identifier

Product name: Helium, compressed

Trade name: Helium Balloon Gas, Helium A/Zero Grade N4.6, Helium CP Grade N5.0, Helium CP Grade N5.0 NMR Use Only, Helium Diving Grade, Helium ECD Grade, Helium Grade N6.0, Helium Research Grade N5.5

Other Name: Balloon Gas (Sureflow), Balloon Gas (Industrial), Balloon Occasions Non-Refillable Cylinders

Additional identification

Chemical name: Helium

Chemical formula: He

INDEX No. -

CAS-No. 7440-59-7

EC No. 231-168-5

REACH Registration No. Listed in Annex IV/V of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), exempted from registration.

1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

Identified uses: Industrial and professional. Perform risk assessment prior to use. Balance gas for mixtures. Balloon gas. Calibration gas. Carrier gas. Combustion, melting and cutting processes. Inerting gas. Laboratory use. Laser gas. Pressure head gas, operational assist gas in pressure systems. Process gas. Professional diving. Purge gas. Test gas. Consumer use.

Uses advised against Balloon gas. Shielding gas in gas welding. Industrial or technical grade is unsuitable for medical applications or inhalation. Inhaling helium may cause asphyxiation followed by death.

1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Supplier
BOC
Priestley Road, Worsley
M28 2UT Manchester

Telephone: 0800 111 333

E-mail: ReachSDS@boc.com

1.4 Emergency telephone number: 0800 111 333

SECTION 2: Hazards identification

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

Classification according to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as amended.

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Physical Hazards

Gases under pressure

Compressed gas H280: Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

2.2 Label Elements



Signal Word: Warning

Hazard Statement(s): H280: Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

Precautionary Statements

General None.

Prevention: None.

Response: None.

Storage: P403: Store in a well-ventilated place.

Disposal None.

Supplemental information

EIGA-As: Asphyxiant in high concentrations.

2.3 Other hazards None.

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SECTION 3: Composition/information on ingredients

3.1 Substances

Chemical name Helium
INDEX No.: -
CAS-No.: 7440-59-7
EC No.: 231-168-5
REACH Registration No.: Listed in Annex IV/V of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), exempted from registration.
Purity: 100%
 The purity of the substance in this section is used for classification only, and does not represent the actual purity of the substance as supplied, for which other documentation should be consulted.
Trade name: Helium Balloon Gas, Helium A/Zero Grade N4.6, Helium CP Grade N5.0, Helium CP Grade N5.0 NMR Use Only, Helium Diving Grade, Helium ECD Grade, Helium Grade N6.0, Helium Research Grade N5.5

Chemical name	Chemical formula	Concentration	CAS-No.	REACH Registration No.	M-Factor:	Notes
Helium	He	100%	7440-59-7	Listed in Annex IV/V of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), exempted from registration.	-	

The concentrations of the components in the SDS header, product name on page one and in section 3.2 are in mol due to regulatory requirements. All concentrations are nominal.

This substance has workplace exposure limit(s).

PBT: persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substance.

vPvB: very persistent and very bioaccumulative substance.

SECTION 4: First Aid Measures

General: In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility/consciousness. Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation. Remove victim to uncontaminated area wearing self contained breathing apparatus. Keep victim warm and rested. Call a doctor. Apply artificial respiration if breathing stopped.

4.1 Description of first aid measures

Inhalation: In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility/consciousness. Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation. 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: Adverse effects not expected from this product.

Skin Contact: Adverse effects not expected from this product.

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

4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed: Respiratory arrest.

4.3 Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Hazards: None.

Treatment: None.

SECTION 5: Firefighting Measures

General Fire Hazards: Heat may cause the containers to explode.

5.1 Extinguishing media

Suitable extinguishing media: Material will not burn. In case of fire in the surroundings: use appropriate extinguishing agent.

Unsuitable extinguishing media: None.

5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture: None.

Hazardous Combustion Products: None.

5.3 Advice for firefighters

Special fire fighting procedures: In case of fire: Stop leak if safe to do so. Continue water spray from protected position until container stays cool. Use extinguishants to contain the fire. Isolate the source of the fire or let it burn out.

Special protective equipment for firefighters: Firefighters must use standard protective equipment including flame retardant coat, helmet with face shield, gloves, rubber boots, and in enclosed spaces, SCBA. Guideline: EN 469 Protective clothing for firefighters. Performance requirements for protective clothing for firefighting. EN 15090 Footwear for firefighters. EN 659 Protective gloves for firefighters. EN 443 Helmets for fire fighting in buildings and other structures. EN 137 Respiratory protective devices - Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with full face mask - Requirements, testing, marking.

SECTION 6: Accidental Release Measures

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures: Evacuate area. Provide adequate ventilation. Prevent from entering sewers, basements and workpits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous. Wear self-contained breathing apparatus when entering area unless atmosphere is proved to be safe. Guideline EN 137 Respiratory protective devices - Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with full face mask - Requirements, testing, marking.

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6.2 Environmental Precautions: Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so.

6.3 Methods and material for containment and cleaning up: Provide adequate ventilation.

6.4 Reference to other sections: Refer to sections 8 and 13.

SECTION 7: Handling and Storage:

7.1 Precautions for safe handling: Only experienced and properly instructed persons should handle gases under pressure. Use only properly specified equipment which is suitable for this product, its supply pressure and temperature. Refer to supplier's handling instructions. The substance must be handled in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety procedures. Protect containers from physical damage; do not drag, roll, slide or drop. Do not remove or deface labels provided by the supplier for the identification of the container contents. When moving containers, even for short distances, use appropriate equipment eg. trolley, hand truck, fork truck etc. Secure cylinders in an upright position at all times, close all valves when not in use. Provide adequate ventilation. Suck back of water into the container must be prevented. Do not allow backfeed into the container. Avoid suckback of water, acid and alkalis. Keep container below 50°C in a well ventilated place. Observe all regulations and local requirements regarding storage of containers. When using do not eat, drink or smoke. Store in accordance with local/regional/national/international regulations. Never use direct flame or electrical heating devices to raise the pressure of a container. Leave valve protection caps in place until the container has been secured against either a wall or bench or placed in a container stand and is ready for use. Damaged valves should be reported immediately to the supplier. 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. Replace valve outlet caps or plugs and container caps where supplied as soon as container is disconnected from equipment. Keep container valve outlets clean and free from contaminants particularly oil and water. If user experiences any difficulty operating container valve discontinue use and contact supplier. Never attempt to transfer gases from one container to another. Container valve guards or caps should be in place.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities: Containers should not be stored in conditions likely to encourage corrosion. Stored containers should be periodically checked for general conditions and leakage. Container valve guards or caps should be in place. Store containers in location free from fire risk and away from sources of heat and ignition. Keep away from combustible material.

7.3 Specific end use(s): None.

SECTION 8: Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

8.1 Control Parameters

Occupational Exposure Limits

None of the components have assigned exposure limits.

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8.2 Exposure controls

Appropriate engineering controls:

Consider a work permit system e.g. for maintenance activities. Ensure adequate air ventilation. Provide adequate ventilation, including appropriate local extraction, to ensure that the defined occupational exposure limit is not exceeded. Oxygen detectors should be used when asphyxiating gases may be released. Systems under pressure should be regularly checked for leakages. Preferably use permanent leak tight connections (eg. welded pipes). Do not eat, drink or smoke when using the product.

Individual protection measures, such as personal protective equipment

General information:

A risk assessment should be conducted and documented in each work area to assess the risks related to the use of the product and to select the PPE that matches the relevant risk. The following recommendations should be considered. Keep self contained breathing apparatus readily available for emergency use. Personal protective equipment for the body should be selected based on the task being performed and the risks involved.

Eye/face protection:

Wear eye protection to EN 166 when using gases.
Guideline: EN 166 Personal Eye Protection.

Skin protection

Hand Protection:

Guideline: EN 388 Protective gloves against mechanical risks.
Additional Information: Wear working gloves while handling containers

Body protection:

No special precautions.

Other:

Wear safety shoes while handling containers
Guideline: ISO 20345 Personal protective equipment - Safety footwear.

Respiratory Protection:

When allowed by a risk assessment Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) may be used The selection of the Respiratory Protective Device (RPD) must be based on known or anticipated exposure levels, the hazards of the product and the safe working limits of the selected RPD. Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or positive pressure airline with mask are to be used in oxygen-deficient atmospheres.
Guideline: EN 137 Respiratory protective devices - Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with full face mask - Requirements, testing, marking.

Thermal hazards:

No precautionary measures are necessary.

Hygiene measures:

Specific risk management measures are not required beyond good industrial hygiene and safety procedures. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using the product.

Environmental exposure controls:

For waste disposal, see section 13.

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7/13**SECTION 9: Physical And Chemical Properties****9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties****Appearance**

Physical state:	Gas
Form:	Compressed gas
Colour:	Colourless
Odour:	Odourless
Odour Threshold:	Odour threshold is subjective and is inadequate to warn of over exposure.
pH:	Not applicable.
Melting Point:	-272.15 °C
Boiling Point:	-269 °C
Sublimation Point:	Not applicable.
Critical Temp. (°C):	-268.0 °C
Flash Point:	Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures.
Evaporation Rate:	Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures.
Flammability (solid, gas):	This product is not flammable.
Flammability limit - upper (%):	Not applicable.
Flammability limit - lower(%):	Not applicable.
Vapour pressure:	No reliable data available.
Vapour density (air=1):	0.138 (0 °C)
Relative density:	No data available.
Solubility(ies)	
Solubility in Water:	2.5 mg/l (21 °C)
Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water):	Not known.
Autoignition Temperature:	Not applicable.
Decomposition Temperature:	Not known.
Viscosity	
Kinematic viscosity:	No data available.
Dynamic viscosity:	0.025 mPa.s
Explosive properties:	Not applicable.
Oxidising Properties:	Not applicable.

9.2 Other information: None.

Molecular weight: 4 g/mol (He)

SECTION 10: Stability and Reactivity**10.1 Reactivity:** No reactivity hazard other than the effects described in sub-section below.**10.2 Chemical Stability:** Stable under normal conditions.

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10.3 Possibility of Hazardous Reactions:	None.
10.4 Conditions to Avoid:	None.
10.5 Incompatible Materials:	No reaction with any common materials in dry or wet conditions.
10.6 Hazardous Decomposition Products:	Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous decomposition products should not be produced.

SECTION 11: Toxicological Information
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General information: None.

11.1 Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity - Oral Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Acute toxicity - Dermal Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Acute toxicity - Inhalation Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Skin Corrosion/Irritation Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Serious Eye Damage/Eye Irritation Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Respiratory or Skin Sensitisation Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Germ Cell Mutagenicity Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Carcinogenicity Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Reproductive toxicity Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Specific Target Organ Toxicity - Single Exposure Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Specific Target Organ Toxicity - Repeated Exposure Product	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.

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Aspiration Hazard
Product

Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures..

SECTION 12: Ecological Information

12.1 Toxicity

Acute toxicity
Product

No ecological damage caused by this product.

12.2 Persistence and Degradability
Product

Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures..

12.3 Bioaccumulative Potential
Product

The subject product is expected to biodegrade and is not expected to persist for long periods in an aquatic environment.

12.4 Mobility in Soil
Product

Because of its high volatility, the product is unlikely to cause ground or water pollution.

12.5 Results of PBT and vPvB
assessment
Product

Not classified as PBT or vPvB.

12.6 Other Adverse Effects:

No ecological damage caused by this product.

SECTION 13: Disposal Considerations

13.1 Waste treatment methods

General information:

Do not discharge into any place where its accumulation could be dangerous. Vent to atmosphere in a well ventilated place.

Disposal methods:

Refer to the EIGA code of practice (Doc.30 "Disposal of Gases", downloadable at <http://www.eiga.org>) for more guidance on suitable disposal methods. Dispose of container via supplier only. Discharge, treatment, or disposal may be subject to national, state, or local laws.

European Waste Codes
Container:

16 05 05: Gases in pressure containers other than those mentioned in 16 05 04.

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10/13**SECTION 14: Transport Information****ADR**

14.1 UN Number: UN 1046
14.2 UN Proper Shipping Name: HELIUM, COMPRESSED
14.3 Transport Hazard Class(es)
Class: 2
Label(s): 2.2
Hazard No. (ADR): 20
Tunnel restriction code: (E)
Emergency Action Code: 2T
14.4 Packing Group: –
14.5 Environmental hazards: Not applicable
14.6 Special precautions for user: –

RID

14.1 UN Number: UN 1046
14.2 UN Proper Shipping Name: HELIUM, COMPRESSED
14.3 Transport Hazard Class(es)
Class: 2
Label(s): 2.2
14.4 Packing Group: –
14.5 Environmental hazards: Not applicable
14.6 Special precautions for user: –

IMDG

14.1 UN Number: UN 1046
14.2 UN Proper Shipping Name: HELIUM, COMPRESSED
14.3 Transport Hazard Class(es)
Class: 2.2
Label(s): 2.2
EmS No.: F-C, S-V
14.4 Packing Group: –
14.5 Environmental hazards: Not applicable
14.6 Special precautions for user: –

IATA

14.1 UN Number: UN 1046
14.2 Proper Shipping Name: Helium, compressed
14.3 Transport Hazard Class(es)
Class: 2.2
Label(s): 2.2
14.4 Packing Group: –
14.5 Environmental hazards: Not applicable
14.6 Special precautions for user: –
Other information

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Passenger and cargo aircraft: Allowed.
Cargo aircraft only: Allowed.

14.7 Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL and the IBC Code: Not applicable

Additional identification: 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. Before transporting product containers ensure that they are firmly secured. Ensure that the container valve is closed and not leaking. Container valve guards or caps should be in place. Ensure adequate air ventilation.

SECTION 15: Regulatory information

15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture:

EU. Directive 2012/18/EU (SEVESO III) on major accident hazards involving dangerous substances, as amended.:
Not applicable

National Regulations

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999 No. 3242). The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (2005 No. 1541). Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH, 2002 No. 2677). Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER, 1998 No. 2306). Personal Protective Equipment Regulations (1992 No. 2966). Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH, 2015 No. 483). Pressure Systems Safety Regulations (PSSR, 2000 No. 128). Only products that comply with the food regulations (EC) No. 1333/2008 and (EU) No. 231/2012 and are labelled as such may be used as food additives.
This Safety Data Sheet has been produced to comply with Regulation (EU) 2015/830.

15.2 Chemical safety assessment: Listed in Annex IV/V of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), exempted from registration. A CSA does not need to be carried out for this product.

SECTION 16: Other Information

Revision Information: Not relevant.

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Key literature references and sources for data:

Various sources of data have been used in the compilation of this SDS, they include but are not exclusive to:
Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry (ATSDR) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>).
European Chemical Agency: Guidance on the Compilation of Safety Data Sheets.
European Chemical Agency: Information on Registered Substances <http://apps.echa.europa.eu/registered/registered-sub.aspx#search>
European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA) Doc. 169 "Classification and Labelling guide", as amended.
International Programme on Chemical Safety (<http://www.inchem.org/>)
ISO 10156:2010 Gases and gas mixtures - Determination of fire potential and oxidizing ability for the selection of cylinder valve outlets.
Matheson Gas Data Book, 7th Edition.
National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) Standard Reference Database Number 69.
The ESIS (European chemical Substances 5 Information System) platform of the former European Chemicals Bureau (ECB) ESIS (<http://ecb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/esis/>).
The European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) ERICards.
United States of America's National Library of Medicine's toxicology data network TOXNET (<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/index.html>)
Threshold Limit Values (TLV) from the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH).
Substance specific information from suppliers.
Details given in this document are believed to be correct at the time of publication.
EH40 (as amended) Workplace exposure limits.

Wording of the H-statements in sections 2 and 3

H280	Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.
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Training information:

Users of breathing apparatus must be trained. The hazard of asphyxiation is often overlooked and must be stressed during operator training. Ensure operators understand the hazards.

Classification according to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as amended.

Press. Gas Compr. Gas, H280

Other information:

Before using this product in any new process or experiment, a thorough material compatibility and safety study should be carried out. Ensure adequate air ventilation. Ensure all national/local regulations are observed. Whilst proper care has been taken in the preparation of this document, no liability for injury or damage resulting from its use can be accepted. Note: When the Product Name appears in the SDS header the decimal sign and its position comply with rules for the structure and drafting of international standards, and is a comma on the line. As an example 2,000 is two (to three decimal places) and not two thousand, whilst 1.000 is one thousand and not one (to three decimal places).

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Disclaimer: This information is provided without warranty. The information is believed to be correct. This information should be used to make an independent determination of the methods to safeguard workers and the environment.