
1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

1.1 Product identifier

Product name ARGON, COMPRESSED (NZ)
Synonyms 0118 - SDS NUMBER • 264G3 • ARGON • PRODUCT CODES: 012, 021, 032, 130, 274 • SHIELDING GAS FOR WELDING

1.2 Uses and uses advised against

Uses ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY • INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS

1.3 Details of the supplier of the product

Supplier name BOC LIMITED (NEW ZEALAND)
Address 988 Great South Road, Penrose, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND
Telephone +64 9 525 5600
Email customer.servicenz@boc.com
Website <http://www.boc.co.nz>

1.4 Emergency telephone numbers

Emergency 0800 111 333 (NZ only)

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

HAZARDOUS ACCORDING TO NZ ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY CRITERIA

Physical Hazards

Gases Under Pressure: Compressed gas

Health Hazards

Not classified as a Health Hazard

Environmental Hazards

Not classified as an Environmental Hazard

2.2 GHS Label elements

Signal word WARNING

Pictograms



Hazard statements

H280 Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

Prevention statements

None allocated.

Response statements

None allocated.

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Storage statements

P403 Store in a well-ventilated place.

Disposal statements

None allocated.

2.3 Other hazards

Asphyxiant. Effects are proportional to oxygen displacement.

3. COMPOSITION/ INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

3.1 Substances / Mixtures

Ingredient	CAS Number	EC Number	Content (v/v)
ARGON	7440-37-1	231-147-0	>99.9%

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

4.1 Description of first aid measures

Eye None required.

Inhalation If inhaled, remove from contaminated area. To protect rescuer, use an Air-line respirator or Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Apply artificial respiration if not breathing. Give oxygen if available.

Skin None required.

Ingestion Ingestion is not considered a potential route of exposure.

First aid facilities None allocated.

4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

In high concentrations may cause asphyxiation. Symptoms may include loss of mobility / consciousness. Victim may not be aware of asphyxiation.

4.3 Immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Treat symptomatically.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

5.1 Extinguishing media

Use water fog to cool containers from protected area.

5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Non flammable.

5.3 Advice for firefighters

Temperatures in a fire may cause cylinders to rupture. Cool cylinders or containers exposed to fire by applying water from a protected location. Remove cool cylinders from the path of the fire. Evacuate the area if unable to keep cylinders cool. Do not approach cylinders or containers suspected of being hot.

5.4 Hazchem code

2T
2 Fine Water Spray.
T Wear full fire kit and breathing apparatus. Dilute spill and run-off.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

If the cylinder is leaking, evacuate area of personnel. Inform manufacturer/supplier of leak. Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as detailed in Section 8 of the SDS.

6.2 Environmental precautions

Prevent from entering sewers, basements and workpits, or any place where its accumulation can be dangerous.

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6.3 Methods of cleaning up

Carefully move material to a well ventilated remote area, then allow to discharge if safe to do so. Do not attempt to repair leaking valve or cylinder safety devices.

6.4 Reference to other sections

See Sections 8 and 13 for exposure controls and disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

7.1 Precautions for safe handling

Use of safe work practices are recommended to avoid inhalation. Do not drag, drop, slide or roll cylinders. The uncontrolled release of a gas under pressure may cause physical harm. Use a suitable hand truck for cylinder movement.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Cylinders should be stored below 65°C in a secure area, upright and restrained to prevent cylinders from falling. Cylinders should also be stored in a dry, well ventilated area constructed of non-combustible material with firm level floor (preferably concrete), away from areas of heavy traffic and emergency exits.

7.3 Specific end uses

No information provided.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

8.1 Control parameters

Exposure standards

Ingredient	Reference	TWA		STEL	
		ppm	mg/m ³	ppm	mg/m ³
Argon	WES [NZ]	Asphyxiant			

Biological limits

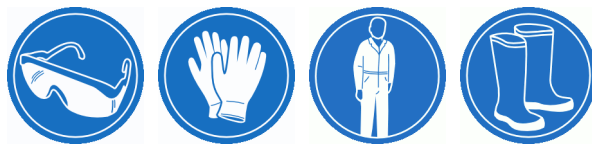
No biological limit values have been entered for this product.

8.2 Exposure controls

Engineering controls Provide suitable ventilation to minimise or eliminate exposure. Confined areas (e.g. tanks) should be adequately ventilated or gas tested.

PPE

Eye / Face	Wear safety glasses.
Hands	Wear leather gloves.
Body	Wear coveralls and safety boots.
Respiratory	Where an inhalation risk exists, wear Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) or an Air-line respirator.



9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Appearance	COLOURLESS GAS
Odour	ODOURLESS
Flammability	NON FLAMMABLE
Flash point	NOT RELEVANT
Boiling point	-185.9°C
Melting point	NOT AVAILABLE
Evaporation rate	NOT APPLICABLE
pH	NOT APPLICABLE
Vapour density	NOT AVAILABLE
Relative density	NOT APPLICABLE

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9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Solubility (water)	0.0337 cm ³ /cm ³
Vapour pressure	NOT AVAILABLE
Upper explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Lower explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Partition coefficient	NOT AVAILABLE
Autoignition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Decomposition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Viscosity	NOT AVAILABLE
Explosive properties	NOT AVAILABLE
Oxidising properties	NOT AVAILABLE
Odour threshold	NOT AVAILABLE

9.2 Other information

% Volatiles	100 %
Cylinder pressure (when full)	13000 to 30000 kPa @ 15°C
Density	1.667 kg/m ³ @ 15°C

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

10.1 Reactivity

Carefully review all information provided in sections 10.2 to 10.6.

10.2 Chemical stability

Stable under recommended conditions of storage.

10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

Polymerization will not occur.

10.4 Conditions to avoid

Avoid shock, friction, heavy impact, heat, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources.

10.5 Incompatible materials

Compatible with most commonly used materials. Hazardous by-products may be produced when this gas/gas mixture is used in welding, cutting and associated processes.

10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

May evolve toxic gases if heated to decomposition.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

11.1 Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Skin	Not classified as a skin irritant.
Eye	Not classified as an eye irritant.
Sensitisation	Not classified as causing skin or respiratory sensitisation.
Mutagenicity	Not classified as a mutagen.
Carcinogenicity	Not classified as a carcinogen.
Reproductive	Not classified as a reproductive toxin.
STOT - single exposure	Asphyxiant. Effects are proportional to oxygen displacement. Over exposure may result in dizziness, drowsiness, weakness, fatigue, breathing difficulties and unconsciousness.
STOT - repeated exposure	Not classified as causing organ damage from repeated exposure.
Aspiration	Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

12.1 Toxicity

No ecological damage caused by this product.

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12.2 Persistence and degradability

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

12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

This product does not bioaccumulate.

12.4 Mobility in soil

The substance is a gas, not applicable.

12.5 Other adverse effects

ATMOSPHERE: Argon is an inert gas and will not contribute to ozone depletion or global warming. Argon is a natural component of the atmosphere (0.93% v/v). SOIL/WATER: If released to soil or water argon will quickly evaporate to the atmosphere. Not toxic to plants or animals except at extremely high (asphyxiating) levels. Fume from fabrication processes which use this gas/gas mixture may be harmful to the environment.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 Waste treatment methods

Waste disposal Cylinders should be returned to the manufacturer or supplier for disposal of contents.

Legislation Dispose of in accordance with relevant local legislation.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD ACCORDING TO LAND TRANSPORT RULE: DANGEROUS GOODS 2005; NZS 5433:2012, UN, IMDG OR IATA



	LAND TRANSPORT (NZS 5433)	SEA TRANSPORT (IMDG / IMO)	AIR TRANSPORT (IATA / ICAO)
14.1 UN Number	1006	1006	1006
14.2 Proper Shipping Name	ARGON, COMPRESSED	ARGON, COMPRESSED	ARGON, COMPRESSED
14.3 Transport hazard class	2.2	2.2	2.2
14.4 Packing Group	None allocated.	None allocated.	None allocated.

14.5 Environmental hazards

No information provided.

14.6 Special precautions for user

Hazchem code 2T

EmS F-C, S-V

Other information Ensure cylinder is separated from driver and that outlet of relief device is not obstructed.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

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

Approval code None allocated.

Group standard None allocated.

Inventory listings **NEW ZEALAND: NZIoC (New Zealand Inventory of Chemicals)**
All components are listed on the NZIoC inventory, or are exempt.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

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Additional information

When using this gas/gas mixture for welding, cutting and associated processes, additional hazards may be generated by the process such as radiation, noise and fume. Risk assessments should be made for each activity to identify and quantify the individual hazards involved. Please refer to the BOC document "Welding Hazards and Risk Management" available from www.boc.com and refer to the relevant Safety Data Sheets for the welding consumables being used or, if available, the materials being welded. This product is used in scientific analysis as a purge gas in emission spectroscopy and as a carrier gas in gas chromatography. Argon mixtures are used as x-ray counting gases. Argon is used extensively in the incandescent lamp industry for the filling of light bulbs. It is used in arc welding as an inert gas shield to prevent oxidation of the metals being welded. It is also used with other rare gases in the filling of special bulbs and display tubes to obtain special colour effects in the neon-type bulbs. Many geiger-counting tubes contain argon or argon mixed with organic vapours and gases.

APPLICATION METHOD: Gas regulator of suitable pressure and flow rating fitted to cylinder or manifold with low pressure gas distribution to equipment.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES:

The recommendation for protective equipment contained within this report is provided as a guide only. Factors such as form of product, method of application, working environment, quantity used, product concentration and the availability of engineering controls should be considered before final selection of personal protective equipment is made.

HEALTH EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE:

It should be noted that the effects from exposure to this product will depend on several factors including: form of product; frequency and duration of use; quantity used; effectiveness of control measures; protective equipment used and method of application. Given that it is impractical to prepare a report which would encompass all possible scenarios, it is anticipated that users will assess the risks and apply control methods where appropriate.

Abbreviations

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
CAS #	Chemical Abstract Service number - used to uniquely identify chemical compounds
CCID	Chemical Classification and Information Database (HSNO)
CNS	Central Nervous System
EC No.	EC No - European Community Number
EMS	Emergency Schedules (Emergency Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods)
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority [New Zealand]
GHS	Globally Harmonized System
HSNO	Hazardous Substances and New Organisms
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LC50	Lethal Concentration, 50% / Median Lethal Concentration
LD50	Lethal Dose, 50% / Median Lethal Dose
mg/m ³	Milligrams per Cubic Metre
OEL	Occupational Exposure Limit
pH	relates to hydrogen ion concentration using a scale of 0 (high acidic) to 14 (highly alkaline).
ppm	Parts Per Million
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
STOT-RE	Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)
STOT-SE	Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TWA	Time Weighted Average

Report status

This document has been compiled by RMT on behalf of the manufacturer, importer or supplier of the product and serves as their Safety Data Sheet ('SDS').

It is based on information concerning the product which has been provided to RMT by the manufacturer, importer or supplier or obtained from third party sources and is believed to represent the current state of knowledge as to the appropriate safety and handling precautions for the product at the time of issue. Further clarification regarding any aspect of the product should be obtained directly from the manufacturer, importer or supplier.

While RMT has taken all due care to include accurate and up-to-date information in this SDS, it does not provide any warranty as to accuracy or completeness. As far as lawfully possible, RMT accepts no liability for any loss, injury or damage (including consequential loss) which may be suffered or incurred by any person as a consequence of their reliance on the information contained in this SDS.

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