Fact Sheet Cryogenic Material (Liquid Nitrogen)

What are the potential hazards of Liquid Nitrogen?

- Fire or explosion: liquid nitrogen can catch fire.
- Liquid nitrogen container can explode if near fire.

What are the health hazards?

- Liquid nitrogen vapors can cause dizziness or suffocation.
- If contact with liquid nitrogen, it can cause frostbite.

What are the emergency actions for Liquid Nitrogen?

- Keeping unnecessary employees away, deny entry and isolate hazardous area.
- Ventilate closed spaces before entering.
- Required to have self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and PPE fire protection.
- If nitrogen liquid spills, do not touch material and stop leak if it is possible.
- Move nitrogen liquid container from fire area if you can.
- Cool nitrogen liquid containers with water from the side if exposed to flames and stay away.
- Move victims to fresh air and call emergency medical care. If victim is having trouble breathing give them oxygen. In case of frostbite- thaw human body parts with water, keep victim quiet, and maintain them at normal body temperature.

Who to call in case of an emergency?

• Call CHEMTREC 1-800-424-9300 as soon as possible.

Cryogenic Material (Liquid Nitrogen) Hazards		
Condition	Symptoms/Consequenes	Treatment
Health Hazard	Breathing issues and body pain (frostbite)	Seek medical assistance. Provide oxygen. Thaw frostbite to maintain body at room temperature.
Fire	Pain on the body, burns, moist skin	Provide burn ointment. Seek medical assistance. If conscious and responsive, provide drinking water. Remove layers of clothing and apply wet cool towels or wet clothes down.
Insufficient PPE and Safety skills	No fire protection-burning, touching spills without protection-frostbite	Seek medical assistance and PPE equipment.
Nitrogen liquid spill	Frostbite, dizziness, suffocation	Call 911 or CHEMTREC at 1-800-424-9300.

Examples of Hazard Communications:



Nitrogen Gas

Odorless, colorless gas. Stored as compressed gas in cylinders. Simple asphyxiant (reduced oxygen available for breathing). Eye/skin contact with compressed gas can cause frostbite.



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