

## SAFETY DATA SHEET

### Argon, compressed

Issue Date: 16.01.2013  
Last revised date: 03.08.2016

Version: 1. 3

SDS No.: 000010021700  
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#### SECTION 1: Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking

##### 1.1 Product identifier

**Product name:** Argon, compressed

**Trade name:** Argon Pureshield, Argon Pure, Argon Industrial, Argon Grade N6.0, Argon Research Grade N5.5, Argon Zero Grade N5.0, Argon Food Grade

**Additional identification**

**Chemical name:** Argon

**Chemical formula:** Ar

**INDEX No.** -

**CAS-No.** 7440-37-1

**EC No.** 231-147-0

**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. Blanketing gas. Calibration gas. Carrier gas. Combustion, melting and cutting processes. Fire suppressant gas. Food packaging gas. Inerting gas. Inflation systems. Laboratory use. Laser gas. Pressure head gas, operational assist gas in pressure systems. Process gas. Purge gas. Test gas. Consumer use. Shielding gas in gas welding.

**Uses advised against** Industrial or technical grade unsuitable for medical and/or food applications or inhalation.

##### 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 Directive 67/548/EEC or 1999/45/EC as amended.**

Not classified

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

**Physical Hazards**

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

**2.2 Label Elements**



**Signal Words:**                      Warning

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

**Precautionary Statement**

**Prevention:**                      None.

**Response:**                        None.

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

**Disposal:**                        None.

**Supplemental label information**

EIGA-As: Asphyxiant in high concentrations.

**2.3 Other hazards:**                      None.

**SECTION 3: Composition/information on ingredients**

**3.1 Substances**

**Chemical name**                      Argon  
**INDEX No.:**                        -  
**CAS-No.:**                         7440-37-1  
**EC No.:**                          231-147-0  
**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:**                      Argon Pureshield, Argon Pure, Argon Industrial, Argon Grade N6.0, Argon Research Grade N5.5, Argon Zero Grade N5.0, Argon Food Grade

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#### 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.

**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.

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#### 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.

#### 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.

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#### 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:

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

##### Body protection:

No special precautions.

##### Other:

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

##### Respiratory Protection:

Not required.

##### 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.

## SECTION 9: Physical And Chemical Properties

### 9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

#### Appearance

##### Physical state:

Gas

##### Form:

Compressed gas

##### Colour:

Colorless

##### Odour:

Odorless

##### Odour Threshold:

Odour threshold is subjective and is inadequate to warn of over exposure.

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<b>pH:</b>	not applicable.
<b>Melting Point:</b>	-189 °C
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	-186 °C
<b>Sublimation Point:</b>	not applicable.
<b>Critical Temp. (°C):</b>	-122.0 °C
<b>Flash Point:</b>	Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	Not applicable to gases and gas mixtures.
<b>Flammability (solid, gas):</b>	This product is not flammable.
<b>Flammability limit - upper (%):</b>	not applicable.
<b>Flammability limit - lower(%):</b>	not applicable.
<b>Vapour pressure:</b>	No reliable data available.
<b>Vapour density (air=1):</b>	1.38
<b>Relative density:</b>	1.4
<b>Solubility(ies)</b>	
<b>Solubility in Water:</b>	61 mg/l
<b>Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water):</b>	Not known.
<b>Autoignition Temperature:</b>	not applicable.
<b>Decomposition Temperature:</b>	Not known.
<b>Viscosity</b>	
<b>Kinematic viscosity:</b>	No data available.
<b>Dynamic viscosity:</b>	No data available.
<b>Explosive properties:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Oxidising Properties:</b>	not applicable.

**9.2 Other information:** Gas/vapour heavier than air. May accumulate in confined spaces, particularly at or below ground level.

**Molecular weight:** 40 g/mol (Ar)

## SECTION 10: Stability and Reactivity

<b>10.1 Reactivity:</b>	No reactivity hazard other than the effects described in sub-section below.
<b>10.2 Chemical Stability:</b>	Stable under normal conditions.
<b>10.3 Possibility of Hazardous Reactions:</b>	None.
<b>10.4 Conditions to Avoid:</b>	None.
<b>10.5 Incompatible Materials:</b>	No reaction with any common materials in dry or wet conditions.
<b>10.6 Hazardous Decomposition Products:</b>	Under normal conditions of storage and use, hazardous decomposition products should not be produced.

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**SECTION 11: Toxicological Information**

**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.

**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.



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#### 12.2 Persistence and Degradability

##### Product

The substance is naturally occurring.

#### 12.3 Bioaccumulative Potential

##### Product

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

#### 12.4 Mobility in Soil

##### Product

The substance is a gas, not applicable.

#### 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.

### SECTION 14: Transport Information

#### ADR

14.1 UN Number:	UN 1006
14.2 UN Proper Shipping Name:	ARGON, 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:	-

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**RID**

14.1 UN Number: UN 1006  
14.2 UN Proper Shipping Name: ARGON, 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 1006  
14.2 UN Proper Shipping Name: ARGON, COMPRESSED  
14.3 Transport Hazard Class(es)  
Class: 2.2  
Label(s): 2.2  
EmS No.: F-C, S-V  
14.3 Packing Group: -  
14.5 Environmental hazards: not applicable  
14.6 Special precautions for user: -

**IATA**

14.1 UN Number: UN 1006  
14.2 Proper Shipping Name: Argon, 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  
Passenger and cargo aircraft: Allowed.  
Cargo aircraft only: Allowed.

**14.7 Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL73/78 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:**

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#### 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) 453/2010.

**15.2 Chemical safety assessment:** No Chemical Safety Assessment has been carried out.

#### SECTION 16: Other Information

**Revision Information:** Not relevant.

**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.  
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 R-phrases and H-statements in sections 2 and 3**

H280 Contains gas under pressure; may explode if heated.

**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.

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**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).

**Last revised date:**

03.08.2016

**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.