



MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

PRODUCT NAME: ALUSHIELD LIGHT, ALUSHIELD HEAVY AND HELISHIELD 50A (FORMERLY ARGOSHIELD #25, #50A, #75 AND #75A)

1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

**BOC Gases,
Division of,
The BOC Group, Inc.
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974**

**BOC Gases
Division of
BOC Canada Limited
5975 Falbourn Street, Unit 2
Mississauga, Ontario L5R 3W6**

**TELEPHONE NUMBER: (908) 464-8100
24-HOUR EMERGENCY TELEPHONE
NUMBER: CHEMTREC (800) 424-9300**

**TELEPHONE NUMBER: (905) 501-1700
24-HOUR EMERGENCY TELEPHONE
NUMBER: (905) 501-0802
EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN NO: 2-0101**

PRODUCT NAME: ALUSHIELD LIGHT, ALUSHIELD HEAVY AND HELISHIELD 50A (FORMERLY ARGOSHIELD #25, #50A, #75 AND #75A)

CHEMICAL NAME: Argon in Helium

COMMON NAMES/SYNONYMS: Argon in Helium; ARGOSHIELD #50A; ARGOSHIELD #75; ARGOSHIELD #75A; Helium in Argon

TDG (Canada) CLASSIFICATION: 2.2

WHMIS CLASSIFICATION: A

PREPARED BY: Loss Control (908)464-8100/(905)501-1700

PREPARATION DATE: 6/1/95

REVIEW DATES: 6/1/99

2. Composition, Information on Ingredients

EXPOSURE LIMITS¹:

INGREDIENT	% VOLUME	PEL-OSHA ²	TLV-ACGIH ³	LD ₅₀ or LC ₅₀ Route/Species
Argon FORMULA: Ar CAS: 7440-37-1 RTECS #: CF2300000	25.0 to 75.0	None Established	Simple Asphyxiant	Not Available
Helium FORMULA: He CAS: 7440-59-7 RTECS #: MH6520000	25.0 to 75.0	None Established	Simple Asphyxiant	Not Available

¹ Refer to individual state of provincial regulations, as applicable, for limits which may be more stringent than those listed here.

² As stated in 29 CFR 1910, Subpart Z (revised July 1, 1993)

³ As stated in the ACGIH 1998-1999 Threshold Limit Values for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents.

OSHA Regulatory Status: This material is classified as hazardous under OSHA regulations.

3. Hazards Identification

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

Odorless, colorless, nonflammable gas. Simple Asphyxiant – This product does not contain oxygen and may cause asphyxia if released in a confined area. Maintain oxygen levels above 19.5%. Contents under pressure. Use and store below 125 °F.

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ROUTE OF ENTRY:

Skin Contact No	Skin Absorption No	Eye Contact No	Inhalation Yes	Ingestion No
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HEALTH EFFECTS:

Exposure Limits No	Irritant No	Sensitization No
Teratogen No	Reproductive Hazard No	Mutagen No
Synergistic Effects None Reported		

Carcinogenicity: -- NTP: No IARC: No OSHA: No

EYE EFFECTS:

None known or expected.

SKIN EFFECTS:

None known or expected.

INGESTION EFFECTS:

None known or expected.

INHALATION EFFECTS:

Effects of oxygen deficiency resulting from simple asphyxiants may include: rapid breathing, diminished mental alertness, impaired muscular coordination, faulty judgement, depression of all sensations, emotional instability, and fatigue. As asphyxiation progresses, nausea, vomiting, prostration, and loss of consciousness may result, eventually leading to convulsions, coma, and death.

Oxygen deficiency during pregnancy has produced developmental abnormalities in humans and experimental animals.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE: None known.

NFPA HAZARD CODES

Health: 0
Flammability: 0
Instability: 0

HMIS HAZARD CODES

Health: 0
Flammability: 0
Reactivity: 0

RATINGS SYSTEM

0 = No Hazard
1 = Slight Hazard
2 = Moderate Hazard
3 = Serious Hazard
4 = Severe Hazard

4. First Aid Measures

EYES:

None normally required.

SKIN:

None normally required.

INGESTION:

None required.

MSDS: G-108

Revised: 6/1/99

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INHALATION:

PROMPT MEDICAL ATTENTION IS MANDATORY IN ALL CASES OF OVEREXPOSURE. RESCUE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS. Victims should be assisted to an uncontaminated area and inhale fresh air. Quick removal from the contaminated area is most important. Unconscious persons should be moved to an uncontaminated area. If they are not breathing, administer artificial resuscitation. Further treatment should be symptomatic and supportive.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

Conditions of Flammability: Nonflammable		
Flash point: None	Method: Not Applicable	Autoignition: Temperature: None
LEL(%): None		UEL(%): None
Hazardous combustion products: None		
Sensitivity to mechanical shock: None		
Sensitivity to static discharge: None		

FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:

Nonflammable. Cylinder may rupture violently from pressure when involved in a fire situation.

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:

Use extinguishing media suitable for the combustible materials involved in the fire. Use water spray to cool fire exposed containers.

FIREFIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Firefighters should wear respiratory protection (SCBA) and full turnout or Bunker gear. Continue to cool fire-exposed cylinders until well after flames are extinguished.

6. Accidental Release Measures

Evacuate all personnel from affected area. Use appropriate protective equipment. If leak is in container or container valve, contact the appropriate emergency telephone number listed in Section 1 or call your closest BOC location.

7. Handling and Storage

Electrical Classification:

Nonhazardous.

These mixtures are noncorrosive and may be used with any common structural material.

Use only in well-ventilated areas. Valve protection caps must remain in place unless container is secured with valve outlet piped to use point. Do not drag, slide or roll cylinders. Use a suitable hand truck for cylinder movement. Use a pressure reducing regulator when connecting cylinder to lower pressure (<3000 psig) piping or systems. Do not heat cylinder by any means to increase the discharge rate of product from the cylinder. Use a check valve or trap in the discharge line to prevent hazardous back flow into the system.

Protect cylinders from physical damage. Store in cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from heavily trafficked areas and emergency exits. Do not allow the temperature where cylinders are stored to exceed 125°F (52°C).

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Cylinders should be stored upright and firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Full and empty cylinders should be segregated. Use a "first in-first out" inventory system to prevent full cylinders being stored for excessive periods of time.

For additional storage recommendations, consult Compressed Gas Association's Pamphlets P-1, and Safety Bulletins SB-2 and SB-8.

Never carry a compressed gas cylinder or a container of a gas in cryogenic liquid form in an enclosed space such as a car trunk, van or station wagon. A leak can result in a fire, explosion, asphyxiation or a toxic exposure.

8. Exposure Controls, Personal Protection

ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

Use local exhaust to prevent accumulation of high concentrations and control air contaminants to at or below acceptable exposure guidelines. Maintain atmospheric oxygen at or above 19.5%.

EYE/FACE PROTECTION:

Safety goggles or glasses.

SKIN PROTECTION:

Protective industrial work gloves of any suitable material.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:

A supplied air respirator with full face piece equipped with an escape bottle or a self-contained breathing apparatus should be available for emergency use. Operate this equipment in the positive pressure demand mode.

OTHER/GENERAL PROTECTION:

Safety shoes.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

PARAMETER	VALUE	UNITS
Physical state (gas, liquid, solid)	: Gas	
Vapor pressure	: Not Available	
Vapor density (Air = 1)	: Not Available	
Evaporation point	: Not Available	
Boiling point	: Not Available	
Freezing point	: Not Available	
PH	: Not Available	
Specific gravity	: .76-(#50A), .45-(#75)	
Oil/water partition coefficient	: Not Available	
Solubility (H ₂ O)	: Very slight	
Odor threshold	: Not Applicable	
Odor and appearance	: Odorless; colorless gas	

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10. Stability and Reactivity

STABILITY:

Stable

INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS:

None

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:

None

HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:

Will not occur.

11. Toxicological Information

Oxygen deficiency during pregnancy has produced developmental abnormalities in humans and experimental animals.

12. Ecological Information

No data given.

13. Disposal Considerations

Do not attempt to dispose of residual waste or unused quantities. Return in the shipping container PROPERLY LABELED, WITH ANY VALVE OUTLET PLUGS OR CAPS SECURED AND VALVE PROTECTION CAP IN PLACE to BOC Gases or authorized distributor for proper disposal.

14. Transport Information

PARAMETER	United States DOT	Canada TDG
PROPER SHIPPING NAME:	Rare Gases Mixtures, Compressed	Rare Gases Mixtures
HAZARD CLASS:	2.2	2.2
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	UN 1979	UN 1979
SHIPPING LABEL:	NONFLAMMABLE GAS	NONFLAMMABLE GAS

15. Regulatory Information

SARA TITLE III NOTIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION

SARA TITLE III - HAZARD CLASSES:

Sudden Release of Pressure Hazard

MSDS: G-108

Revised: 6/1/99

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16. Other Information

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
DOT	Department of Transportation
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
NTP	National Toxicology Program
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit
TDG	Transportation of Dangerous Goods
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System

Compressed gas cylinders shall not be refilled without the express written permission of the owner. Shipment of a compressed gas cylinder which has not been filled by the owner or with his/her (written) consent is a violation of transportation regulations.

DISCLAIMER OF EXPRESSED AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES:

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