

Quality Products, Superior Services...Coast to Coast



# **Chlorine Safe Handling**

Gander Workshop, NL. March 21, 2007

Brenntag Canada Inc.



# Agenda

- Introduction
- Product Characteristics
- First Aid
- Storage & Transportation
- Handling
- Preventative Measures
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Chlorine Releases
- Summary
- Application of A and/or B Kit



## **Uses of Chlorine**

- Water Purification
- Sewage Treatment
- PVC Plastic Manufacture
- Chemical Intermediate
- Metal Precipitate



#### **Characteristics of Chlorine**

- Liquefied Compressed Gas
- Sold in Bulk Railcars, Trucks and Barges
- Large Packages Tonners
- Small Packages Cylinders
- Greenish/Yellow Gas (when concentration > 1000ppm)
- Amber Liquid (while liquid is boiling)
- Potent bleach like smell (subjective 0.02 0.3 ppm perception)



#### **Characteristics of Chlorine Cont...**



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## **Hazard Identification**

- WHMIS Symbols:
  - A-Compressed Gas
  - C-Oxidizer
  - D-1A-Very Toxic (Acute Effects)
  - D-2A-Very Toxic (Chronic Effects)
  - E-Corrosive





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## Hazard Identification Cont...

- Liquefied Compressed Gas
- Boiling Point Liquid to Gas -34degC
- Freezing Point -101degC
- Heavier than air (2.5:1) lies in low areas
- 1 volume liquid = 460 volume gas
- Vapor pressure in cylinder at 20degC is about 85psig (temperature dependant)
- Slightly soluble in Water



#### Hazard Identification Cont...

- Accelerates burning (like oxygen)
  - avoid sparks, high temperature, open flames
- Chemically reactive
  - combines with water to form acid that will react with steel (avoid high humidity)

- reacts with organics, combustibles and nitrogen based products (sometimes violently)

- avoid hydrocarbons, cleaning solvents, paints & thinners, oil, grease, etc.



#### Hazard Identification Cont...

- Dry chlorine is NOT Corrosive
- Wet Chlorine (reacted with moisture in Air) IS Corrosive
- Chlorine reacts with moisture to form hydrochloric or hypochlorous acid which can/will corrode most steels
- Chlorine gas combines with moisture on skin and in eyes to cause burning and irritation



#### **First Aid Procedures**

- Inhalation
- Skin Contact
- Eye Contact

Note: Please refer to MSDS for additional information.



## Inhalation

- 30 ppm shortness of breath, chest pain, possible vomiting
- 40 60 ppm severe irritation of lungs, fluid collecting
- Prolonged exposure above 50 ppm: unconsciousness & death
- 100 ppm may cause lethal dose
- Average Lethal Dose: 300 400 ppm for 30 minutes



## Inhalation Cont...

- Move victim to fresh air
- Give Artificial Respiration if breathing has stopped
- Give CPR if there is no pulse
- Administering of Oxygen should only be done by trained professionals
- Seek medical attention immediately



## **Skin Contact**

- Gaseous Contact
  - Itching will develop as acid is formed on the skin
  - Flush area with a continuous stream of tepid water for 20 minutes and seek medical attention
  - Do NOT use ointments without medical direction
- Liquid Contact
  - Liquid will boil to gas drawing heat from skin and generating a gaseous exposure

- Treat area for frostbite and chemical exposure with a continuous stream of tepid water for 20 minutes and seek medical attention

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## **Eye Contact**

- Acids produced in eyes can cause blindness
- Flush eyes with tepid running water for 20 minutes holding eyes open
- Do not transport victim until flushing has completed



## **Storage Area**

- Store Containers in a dedicated, well marked, secure area that allows full access to containers
- Ideal temperature is between 10 and 27degC and away from heat sources
- Detector equipped (low level mounting)
- Adequate ventilation
- Secure container in position



## **Transportation**

- TDG 2.3(8) Poison Gas, Corrosive
- Packaging Group: X
- UN1017
- Marine Pollutant
- Reportable Release Quantity is 10lbs
- Railcar shipments are chlorine alone/RC
- Tonner truck shipments maybe combined with sulphur dioxide and/or anhydrous ammonia
- Cylinders are delivered by common carrier van trucks
- Cylinders must be stored and transported in an upright position.



## **Container Handling**

- Container Valves
- Cylinder Features & Design
- Cylinder Handling
- Tonner Features & Design
- Tonner Handling



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# **Cylinder Valves**

- Valve Wrench
- Valves
  - Metal/metal contact seal
  - Packing gland material and packing nut tensio
  - Outlet plug valve leak containment
  - Valve Threads
  - Fusible plug pressure relief (cylinder only)





#### **Valve Opening Procedure**

- Verify valve is closed
- Remove Outlet cap and check that the outlet valve face is clean and smooth
- Connect the "pigtail" using proper yoke and a new washer
- Tighten connection, close upstream valve preparing to allow a small amount of chlorine into the line
- Open the valve momentarily and close
- Check for leaks using full strength aqua ammonia VAPORS
- Open the valve one complete turn and leave the wrench on the valve

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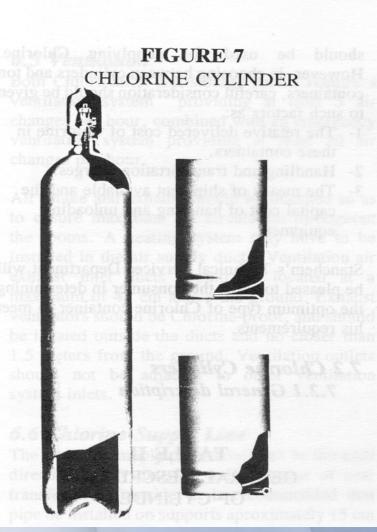
## **Valve Closing Procedure**

- Close cylinder valve after verifying that the cylinder is empty
- Allow the system to draw any chlorine remaining in line from the valve connection area and then close the upstream valve
- Loosen the yoke connection and check for leaks with ammonia VAPOR
- Disconnect cylinder and protect process line from moist air pick up
- Reapply Outlet cap with a "blind" gasket tightly
- Apply valve "bonnet" before returning cylinder to empty pile



## **Cylinder Features & Design**

- 1/4" steel package with approximately 80lb tare weight (base dependant)
- Protective valve cover (bonnet)
- Capable of dispensing liquid or gas (depending cylinder orientation)
- High Temperature Pressure relief device in valve (fuse plug)
- Emergency Capping Kit A





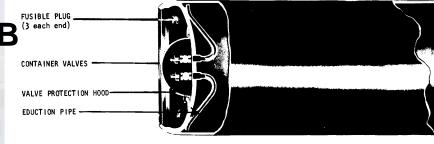
# **Cylinder Handling**

- Normal Transport & Hook Up
  - Transport vertically and secured (cages, carts, chains)
  - Store and transport with bonnet and outlet cap in position except while in use
  - While in use, cylinder should be secured to prevent falls and a wrench should be left on the valve for quick closing if necessary.
- Emergency Cylinder Handling
  - Isolate cylinder
  - Correct leak at source
  - Contain leak if not correctable (A Kit, Iron Lung)



## **Tonner Features & Design**

- 3/8" steel package with approximate tare weight of 1400lbs
- Capacity of 2000lbs/907Kg
- protective valve cover (bonnet)
- capable of dispensing liquid (bottom valve) or gas (top valve)
- 6 High Temperature Pressure relief devices in tonner (fuse plugs)
- Emergency Capping Kit B





# **Tonner Handling**

- Normal Transport & Hook Up
  - Transport horizontally and secure to prevent rolling
  - Store and transport with bonnet and outlet caps in position
  - Top valve dispenses gas, bottom valve dispenses liquid
  - Use proper Chlorine Wrench only for valve operation (no cheating)
- Emergency Cylinder Handling
  - Correct leak at source
  - Contain leak if not correctable (B Kit)



## **Tonner Handling Cont...**





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#### **Brenntag's Preventative Measures**

- All containers are cleaned, inspected & tested every 5 years
- New or reconditioned valves installed
- New Washers shipped with every tonner & cylinder
- Containers held for 24hrs before shipping



#### **Personal Protective Gear**

- Changing Bottles
  - Low risk of contact local rules govern
  - Eye protection recommended (No contact lenses)
  - Gloves to protect hands from impact and dirt
  - Respirator fitted for corrosive gas readily accessible
  - Steel toed shoes or boots
- Emergency Gear Minor Leaks
  - Full face respirator plus equipment above
- Emergency Gear Major Leaks
  - SCBA and possibly fully contained chemical suit



#### **Accidental Release Measures**

- Have an action plan and train to that plan
- Secure affected and potentially affected areas
- Inform people before taking any action yourself
- Assess extent of leak and/or problem
- Determine your ability to deal with it (equipment, personnel, training)
- Deal with the situation
- Call supplier for advice
- Call Emergency Responders for Action 911



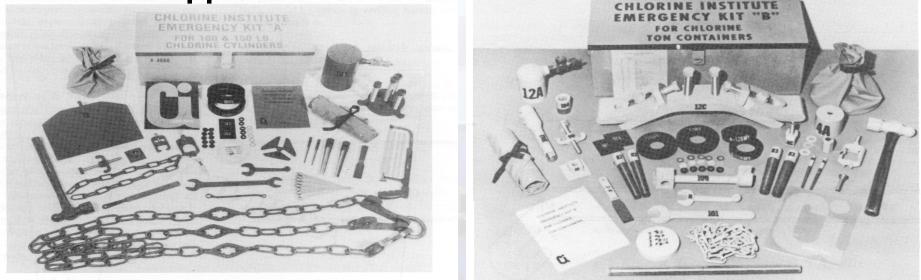
#### **Minor Valve & System Leaks**

- Stop leak at source (upstream)
- If the valve can not be closed, apply outlet cap with good gasket
- Inform supplier and carrier of problem by appropriately marking container
- If leak can not be corrected, apply containment
- Chlorine Capping Kit A or B
- Inform supplier to make arrangements for return



#### **Major Container or System Leaks**

- Have an Emergency Action Plan Rehearsed
- Call Emergency Responders for Action 911
- Secure the area to protect public and employees
- Call supplier for advice



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## **Fire Fighting Measures**

- Not Flammable
- Hazardous and Toxic Decomposition Products
- Fuse Plugs will melt if the container is involved in fire (70degC or 165degF)
- Keep containers cool
- Use Extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding material



#### **Environmental Impact**

- Chlorine will have an adverse effect on the environment due to the properties that make it effective (toxic and corrosive)
- It will kill anything if exposed in high enough concentrations



## Summary

- Chlorine is a hazardous chemical
- Treat it with respect by knowing the risks and proper handling techniques
- Focus on preventing accidental releases
- Chlorine is handled safely by thousands of people daily
- Nothing gives a residual like Chlorine !!