

# Helium

## Safety Data Sheet P-4602

according to U.S. Code of Federal Regulations 29 CFR 1910.1200, Hazard Communication.

Date of issue: 01/01/1979    Revision date: 06/23/2015    Supersedes: 09/30/2014

### SECTION 1: Product and company identification

#### 1.1. Product identifier

Product form : Substance  
Name : Helium  
CAS No : 7440-59-7  
Formula : He  
Other means of identification : Helium-4, refrigerant gas R-704, LaserStar Helium, Medipure Helium, UltraLift Helium, Helium - Diving Grade

#### 1.2. Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

Use of the substance/mixture : Industrial use  
Medical applications.  
Diving Gas (Underwater Breathing)

#### 1.3. Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Praxair, Inc.  
39 Old Ridgebury Road  
Danbury, CT 06810-5113 - USA  
T 1-800-772-9247 (1-800-PRAXAIR) - F 1-716-879-2146  
[www.praxair.com](http://www.praxair.com)

#### 1.4. Emergency telephone number

Emergency number : Onsite Emergency: 1-800-645-4633

CHEMTREC, 24hr/day 7days/week — Within USA: 1-800-424-9300, Outside USA: 001-703-527-3887 (collect calls accepted, Contract 17729)

### SECTION 2: Hazards identification

#### 2.1. Classification of the substance or mixture

##### Classification (GHS-US)

Compressed gas H280

#### 2.2. Label elements

##### GHS-US labeling

Hazard pictograms (GHS-US) :



GHS04

Signal word (GHS-US) : WARNING  
Hazard statements (GHS-US) : H280 - CONTAINS GAS UNDER PRESSURE; MAY EXPLODE IF HEATED  
OSHA-H01 - MAY DISPLACE OXYGEN AND CAUSE RAPID SUFFOCATION.  
Precautionary statements (GHS-US) : P202 - Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood  
P271 - Use and store only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.  
P403 - Store in a well-ventilated place  
CGA-PG05 - Use a back flow preventive device in the piping.  
CGA-PG10 - Use only with equipment rated for cylinder pressure.  
CGA-PG06 - Close valve after each use and when empty.  
CGA-PG02 - Protect from sunlight when ambient temperature exceeds 52°C (125°F).

#### 2.3. Other hazards

Other hazards not contributing to the classification : Asphyxiant in high concentrations.



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### 2.4. Unknown acute toxicity (GHS-US)

No data available

## SECTION 3: Composition/information on ingredients

### 3.1. Substance

Name : Helium  
CAS No : 7440-59-7

Name	Product identifier	%
Helium	(CAS No) 7440-59-7	99.5 - 100

### 3.2. Mixture

Not applicable

## SECTION 4: First aid measures

### 4.1. Description of first aid measures

First-aid measures after inhalation : Immediately remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, qualified personnel may give oxygen. Call a physician.

First-aid measures after skin contact : Adverse effects not expected from this product.

First-aid measures after eye contact : Adverse effects not expected from this product. In case of eye irritation: Rinse immediately with plenty of water. Consult an ophthalmologist if irritation persists.

First-aid measures after ingestion : Ingestion is not considered a potential route of exposure.

### 4.2. Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

No additional information available

### 4.3. Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

None.

## SECTION 5: Firefighting measures

### 5.1. Extinguishing media

Suitable extinguishing media : Use extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.

### 5.2. Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

No additional information available

### 5.3. Advice for firefighters

Firefighting instructions : Evacuate all personnel from the danger area. Use self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and protective clothing. Immediately cool containers with water from maximum distance. Stop flow of gas if safe to do so, while continuing cooling water spray. Remove ignition sources if safe to do so. Remove containers from area of fire if safe to do so. On-site fire brigades must comply with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.156 and applicable standards under 29 CFR 1910 Subpart L—Fire Protection.

Protection during firefighting : Compressed gas: asphyxiant. Suffocation hazard by lack of oxygen.

Special protective equipment for fire fighters : Use self-contained breathing apparatus. Standard protective clothing and equipment (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) for fire fighters.

Specific methods : Use fire control measures appropriate for the surrounding fire. Exposure to fire and heat radiation may cause gas containers to rupture. Cool endangered containers with water spray jet from a protected position. Prevent water used in emergency cases from entering sewers and drainage systems.

Stop flow of product if safe to do so.

Use water spray or fog to knock down fire fumes if possible.

## SECTION 6: Accidental release measures

### 6.1. Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

General measures : Evacuate area. Ensure adequate air ventilation. Wear self-contained breathing apparatus when entering area unless atmosphere is proven to be safe. Stop leak if safe to do so.

### 6.1.1. For non-emergency personnel

No additional information available

### 6.1.2. For emergency responders

No additional information available

### 6.2. Environmental precautions

Try to stop release.

### 6.3. Methods and material for containment and cleaning up

No additional information available

### 6.4. Reference to other sections

See also sections 8 and 13.

## SECTION 7: Handling and storage

### 7.1. Precautions for safe handling

Precautions for safe handling

: Wear leather safety gloves and safety shoes when handling cylinders. Protect cylinders from physical damage; do not drag, roll, slide or drop. While moving cylinder, always keep in place removable valve cover. Never attempt to lift a cylinder by its cap; the cap is intended solely to protect the valve. When moving cylinders, even for short distances, use a cart (trolley, hand truck, etc.) designed to transport cylinders. Never insert an object (e.g., wrench, screwdriver, pry bar) into cap openings; doing so may damage the valve and cause a leak. Use an adjustable strap wrench to remove over-tight or rusted caps. Slowly open the valve. If the valve is hard to open, discontinue use and contact your supplier. Close the container valve after each use; keep closed even when empty. Never apply flame or localized heat directly to any part of the container. High temperatures may damage the container and could cause the pressure relief device to fail prematurely, venting the container contents. For other precautions in using this product, see section 16.

Safe use of the product

: **The suitability of this product as a component in underwater breathing gas mixtures** is to be determined by or under the supervision of personnel experienced in the use of underwater breathing gas mixtures and familiar with the physiological effects, methods employed, frequency and duration of use, hazards, side effects, and precautions to be taken.

### 7.2. Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Storage conditions

: Store in a cool, well-ventilated place. Store and use with adequate ventilation. Store only where temperature will not exceed 125°F (52°C). Firmly secure containers upright to keep them from falling or being knocked over. Install valve protection cap, if provided, firmly in place by hand. Store full and empty containers separately. Use a first-in, first-out inventory system to prevent storing full containers for long periods.

OTHER PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING, STORAGE, AND USE: When handling product under pressure, use piping and equipment adequately designed to withstand the pressures to be encountered. Never work on a pressurized system. Use a back flow preventive device in the piping. Gases can cause rapid suffocation because of oxygen deficiency; store and use with adequate ventilation. If a leak occurs, close the container valve and blow down the system in a safe and environmentally correct manner in compliance with all international, federal/national, state/provincial, and local laws; then repair the leak. Never place a container where it may become part of an electrical circuit.

### 7.3. Specific end use(s)

None.

## SECTION 8: Exposure controls/personal protection

### 8.1. Control parameters

Helium (7440-59-7)	
ACGIH	Not established
USA OSHA	Not established
Helium (7440-59-7)	
ACGIH	Not established
USA OSHA	Not established

### 8.2. Exposure controls

Appropriate engineering controls	: Use a local exhaust system with sufficient flow velocity to maintain an adequate supply of air in the worker's breathing zone. Mechanical (general): General exhaust ventilation may be acceptable if it can maintain an adequate supply of air.
Eye protection	: Wear safety glasses with side shields.
Skin and body protection	: Wear metatarsal shoes and work gloves for cylinder handling, and protective clothing where needed. Wear appropriate chemical gloves during cylinder changeout or wherever contact with product is possible. Select per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.132, 1910.136, and 1910.138.
Respiratory protection	: When workplace conditions warrant respirator use, follow a respiratory protection program that meets OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134, ANSI Z88.2, or MSHA 30 CFR 72.710 (where applicable). Use an air-supplied or air-purifying cartridge if the action level is exceeded. Ensure that the respirator has the appropriate protection factor for the exposure level. If cartridge type respirators are used, the cartridge must be appropriate for the chemical exposure (e.g., an organic vapor cartridge). For emergencies or instances with unknown exposure levels, use a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

## SECTION 9: Physical and chemical properties

### 9.1. Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Physical state	: Gas
Appearance	: Colorless gas.
Molecular mass	: 4 g/mol
Color	: Colorless.
Odor	: Odorless.
Odor threshold	: No data available
pH	: Not applicable.
Relative evaporation rate (butyl acetate=1)	: No data available
Relative evaporation rate (ether=1)	: Not applicable.
Melting point	: -272 °C
Freezing point	: No data available
Boiling point	: -268.93 °C
Flash point	: No data available
Critical temperature	: -268 °C
Auto-ignition temperature	: Not applicable.
Decomposition temperature	: No data available
Flammability (solid, gas)	: No data available
Vapor pressure	: Not applicable.
Critical pressure	: 230 kPa
Relative vapor density at 20 °C	: No data available
Relative density	: No data available
Density	: 0.166 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Relative gas density	: 0.14
Solubility	: Water: 1.5 mg/l
Log Pow	: Not applicable.
Log Kow	: Not applicable.
Viscosity, kinematic	: Not applicable.
Viscosity, dynamic	: Not applicable.
Explosive properties	: Not applicable.
Oxidizing properties	: None.
Explosion limits	: No data available

### 9.2. Other information

Gas group	: Compressed gas
Additional information	: None.



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### SECTION 10: Stability and reactivity

#### 10.1. Reactivity

No additional information available

#### 10.2. Chemical stability

Stable under normal conditions.

#### 10.3. Possibility of hazardous reactions

None.

#### 10.4. Conditions to avoid

None under recommended storage and handling conditions (see section 7).

#### 10.5. Incompatible materials

None.

#### 10.6. Hazardous decomposition products

None.

### SECTION 11: Toxicological information

#### 11.1. Information on toxicological effects

- Acute toxicity : Not classified
- Skin corrosion/irritation : Not classified  
pH: Not applicable.
- Serious eye damage/irritation : Not classified  
pH: Not applicable.
- Respiratory or skin sensitization : Not classified
- Germ cell mutagenicity : Not classified
- Carcinogenicity : Not classified
- Reproductive toxicity : Not classified
- Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure) : Not classified
- Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure) : Not classified
- Aspiration hazard : Not classified

### SECTION 12: Ecological information

#### 12.1. Toxicity

Ecology - general : No ecological damage caused by this product.

#### 12.2. Persistence and degradability

<b>Helium (7440-59-7)</b>	
Persistence and degradability	No ecological damage caused by this product.

<b>Helium (7440-59-7)</b>	
Persistence and degradability	No ecological damage caused by this product.

#### 12.3. Bioaccumulative potential

<b>Helium (7440-59-7)</b>	
Log Pow	Not applicable.
Log Kow	Not applicable.
Bioaccumulative potential	No ecological damage caused by this product.

<b>Helium (7440-59-7)</b>	
Log Pow	Not applicable for inorganic gases.
Log Kow	Not applicable.

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Helium (7440-59-7)	
Bioaccumulative potential	No ecological damage caused by this product.

### 12.4. Mobility in soil

Helium (7440-59-7)	
Mobility in soil	No data available.
Ecology - soil	No ecological damage caused by this product.

Helium (7440-59-7)	
Mobility in soil	No data available.
Ecology - soil	No ecological damage caused by this product.

### 12.5. Other adverse effects

Effect on ozone layer : None.  
 Effect on the global warming : None.

## SECTION 13: Disposal considerations

### 13.1. Waste treatment methods

Waste disposal recommendations : Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local/regional/national/international regulations. Contact supplier for any special requirements.

## SECTION 14: Transport information

In accordance with DOT  
 Transport document description : UN1046 Helium, compressed, 2.2  
 UN-No.(DOT) : UN1046  
 Proper Shipping Name (DOT) : Helium, compressed  
 Transport hazard class(es) (DOT) : 2.2 - Class 2.2 - Non-flammable compressed gas 49 CFR 173.115  
 Hazard labels (DOT) : 2.2 - Non-flammable gas



### Additional information

Emergency Response Guide (ERG) Number : 120 (UN1963);121 (UN1046)  
 Other information : No supplementary information available.  
 Special transport precautions : 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 there is adequate ventilation. - Ensure that containers are firmly secured. - Ensure cylinder valve is closed and not leaking. - Ensure valve outlet cap nut or plug (where provided) is correctly fitted. - Ensure valve protection device (where provided) is correctly fitted.

### Transport by sea

UN-No. (IMDG) : 1046  
 Proper Shipping Name (IMDG) : HELIUM, COMPRESSED  
 Class (IMDG) : 2 - Gases  
 MFAG-No : 121

### Air transport

UN-No.(IATA) : 1046  
 Proper Shipping Name (IATA) : Helium, compressed  
 Class (IATA) : 2  
 Civil Aeronautics Law : Gases under pressure/Gases nonflammable nontoxic under pressure

### SECTION 15: Regulatory information

#### 15.1. US Federal regulations

##### Helium (7440-59-7)

Listed on the United States TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act) inventory

SARA Section 311/312 Hazard Classes	Sudden release of pressure hazard
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

All components of this product are listed on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) inventory.

This product or mixture does not contain a toxic chemical or chemicals in excess of the applicable de minimis concentration as specified in 40 CFR §372.38(a) subject to the reporting requirements of section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 and 40 CFR Part 372.

#### 15.2. International regulations

##### CANADA

##### Helium (7440-59-7)

Listed on the Canadian DSL (Domestic Substances List)

##### Helium (7440-59-7)

Listed on the Canadian DSL (Domestic Substances List)

#### EU-Regulations

##### Helium (7440-59-7)

Listed on the EEC inventory EINECS (European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances)

#### 15.2.2. National regulations

##### Helium (7440-59-7)

Listed on the AICS (Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances)  
 Listed on IECSC (Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances Produced or Imported in China)  
 Listed on the Korean ECL (Existing Chemicals List)  
 Listed on NZIoC (New Zealand Inventory of Chemicals)  
 Listed on PICCS (Philippines Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances)

#### 15.3. US State regulations

##### Helium(7440-59-7)

U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Carcinogens List	No
U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Developmental Toxicity	No
U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Reproductive Toxicity - Female	No
U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Reproductive Toxicity - Male	No
State or local regulations	U.S. - Massachusetts - Right To Know List U.S. - New Jersey - Right to Know Hazardous Substance List U.S. - Pennsylvania - RTK (Right to Know) List

California Proposition 65 - This product does not contain any substances known to the state of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive harm

##### Helium (7440-59-7)

U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Carcinogens List	U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Developmental Toxicity	U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Reproductive Toxicity - Female	U.S. - California - Proposition 65 - Reproductive Toxicity - Male	No significance risk level (NSRL)
No	No	No	No	

**Helium (7440-59-7)**

U.S. - Massachusetts - Right To Know List  
 U.S. - New Jersey - Right to Know Hazardous Substance List  
 U.S. - Pennsylvania - RTK (Right to Know) List

**SECTION 16: Other information**

Revision date : 6/23/2015 12:00:00 AM  
 Other information : When you mix two or more chemicals, you can create additional, unexpected hazards. Obtain and evaluate the safety information for each component before you produce the mixture. Consult an industrial hygienist or other trained person when you evaluate the end product. Before using any plastics, confirm their compatibility with this product.

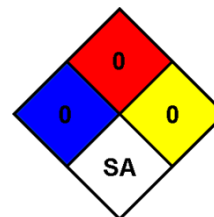
Praxair asks users of this product to study this SDS and become aware of the product hazards and safety information. To promote safe use of this product, a user should (1) notify employees, agents, and contractors of the information in this SDS and of any other known product hazards and safety information, (2) furnish this information to each purchaser of the product, and (3) ask each purchaser to notify its employees and customers of the product hazards and safety information.

The opinions expressed herein are those of qualified experts within Praxair, Inc. We believe that the information contained herein is current as of the date of this Safety Data Sheet. Since the use of this information and the conditions of use are not within the control of Praxair, Inc., it is the user's obligation to determine the conditions of safe use of the product.

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PRAXAIR and the Flowing Airstream design are trademarks or registered trademarks of Praxair Technology, Inc. in the United States and/or other countries.

NFPA health hazard : 0 - Exposure under fire conditions would offer no hazard beyond that of ordinary combustible materials.  
 NFPA fire hazard : 0 - Materials that will not burn.  
 NFPA reactivity : 0 - Normally stable, even under fire exposure conditions, and are not reactive with water.  
 NFPA specific hazard : SA - This denotes gases which are simple asphyxiants.



**HMIS III Rating**

Health : 0 Minimal Hazard - No significant risk to health  
 Flammability : 0 Minimal Hazard  
 Physical : 3 Serious Hazard

SDS US (GHS HazCom 2012) - Praxair

*This information is based on our current knowledge and is intended to describe the product for the purposes of health, safety and environmental requirements only. It should not therefore be construed as guaranteeing any specific property of the product.*