



## Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

TALARC

Chemwatch: 5189-78

Version No: 2.1.1.1

Safety Data Sheet according to WHS and ADG requirements

Chemwatch Hazard Alert Code: 2

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Initial Date: **Not Available**

L.GHS.AUS.EN

### SECTION 1 IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE / MIXTURE AND OF THE COMPANY / UNDERTAKING

#### Product Identifier

Product name	Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding
Synonyms	Hyundai ST-50.3, ST-50.6 and ST-72
Other means of identification	Not Available

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

Relevant identified uses	Welding.
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#### Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Registered company name	TALARC
Address	10-16 Syme Street Brunswick 3056 VIC Australia
Telephone	+61 3 9388 0588
Fax	+61 3 9388 0710
Website	http://talarc.com
Email	sales@talarc.com

#### Emergency telephone number

Association / Organisation	Not Available
Emergency telephone numbers	+61 3 9388 0588 (Hours 9am-5pm AEST)
Other emergency telephone numbers	Not Available

### SECTION 2 HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

#### Classification of the substance or mixture

**HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL. NON-DANGEROUS GOODS.** According to the Model WHS Regulations and the ADG Code.

#### CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS

	Min	Max
Flammability	0	
Toxicity	2	
Body Contact	1	
Reactivity	0	
Chronic	2	


0 = Minimum  
1 = Low  
2 = Moderate  
3 = High  
4 = Extreme

Poisons Schedule	Not Applicable
GHS Classification <sup>[1]</sup>	Acute Toxicity (Inhalation) Category 4, Carcinogen Category 2
Legend:	1. Classified by Chemwatch; 2. Classification drawn from HSIS ; 3. Classification drawn from EC Directive 1272/2008 - Annex VI

#### Label elements

Continued...

Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

GHS label elements	
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SIGNAL WORD	<b>WARNING</b>
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**Hazard statement(s)**

<b>H332</b>	Harmful if inhaled
<b>H351</b>	Suspected of causing cancer

**Precautionary statement(s) Prevention**

<b>P201</b>	Obtain special instructions before use.
<b>P271</b>	Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.
<b>P281</b>	Use personal protective equipment as required.
<b>P261</b>	Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.

**Precautionary statement(s) Response**

<b>P308+P313</b>	IF exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention.
<b>P312</b>	Call a POISON CENTER/doctor/physician/first aider/if you feel unwell.
<b>P304+P340</b>	IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.

**Precautionary statement(s) Storage**

<b>P405</b>	Store locked up.
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**Precautionary statement(s) Disposal**

<b>P501</b>	Dispose of contents/container to authorised chemical landfill or if organic to high temperature incineration
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**SECTION 3 COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS**

**Substances**

See section below for composition of Mixtures

**Mixtures**

CAS No	%[weight]	Name
		solid carbon steel solid wire
		which upon use generates:
Not avail.	>60	<u>welding fumes</u>
		as
1309-37-1.		<u>iron oxide fume</u>
7439-96-5.		<u>manganese fume</u>

**SECTION 4 FIRST AID MEASURES**

**Description of first aid measures**

<b>Eye Contact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Particulate bodies from welding spatter may be removed carefully.</li> <li>▶ <b>DO NOT attempt to remove particles attached to or embedded in eye.</b></li> <li>▶ Lay victim down, on stretcher if available and pad <b>BOTH</b> eyes, make sure dressing does not press on the injured eye by placing thick pads under dressing, above and below the eye.</li> <li>▶ Seek urgent medical assistance, or transport to hospital.</li> </ul> <p>Arc rays can injure eyes</p>
<b>Skin Contact</b>	<p>If skin or hair contact occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).</li> <li>▶ Seek medical attention in event of irritation.</li> </ul> <p>Arc rays can burn skin</p>

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<b>Inhalation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If fumes or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.</li> <li>▶ Lay patient down. Keep warm and rested.</li> <li>▶ Prostheses such as false teeth, which may block airway, should be removed, where possible, prior to initiating first aid procedures.</li> <li>▶ Apply artificial respiration if not breathing, preferably with a demand valve resuscitator, bag-valve mask device, or pocket mask as trained. Perform CPR if necessary.</li> <li>▶ Transport to hospital, or doctor.</li> </ul>
<b>Ingestion</b>	Not normally a hazard due to physical form of product.

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

Copper, magnesium, aluminium, antimony, iron, manganese, nickel, zinc (and their compounds) in welding, brazing, galvanising or smelting operations all give rise to thermally produced particulates of smaller dimension than may be produced if the metals are divided mechanically. Where insufficient ventilation or respiratory protection is available these particulates may produce "metal fume fever" in workers from an acute or long term exposure.

- ▶ Onset occurs in 4-6 hours generally on the evening following exposure. Tolerance develops in workers but may be lost over the weekend. (Monday Morning Fever)
- ▶ Pulmonary function tests may indicate reduced lung volumes, small airway obstruction and decreased carbon monoxide diffusing capacity but these abnormalities resolve after several months.
- ▶ Although mildly elevated urinary levels of heavy metal may occur they do not correlate with clinical effects.
- ▶ The general approach to treatment is recognition of the disease, supportive care and prevention of exposure.
- ▶ Seriously symptomatic patients should receive chest x-rays, have arterial blood gases determined and be observed for the development of tracheobronchitis and pulmonary edema.

[Ellenhorn and Barceloux: Medical Toxicology]

## SECTION 5 FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

### Extinguishing media

- ▶ There is no restriction on the type of extinguisher which may be used.

### Special hazards arising from the substrate or mixture

<b>Fire Incompatibility</b>	Welding electrodes should not be allowed to come into contact with strong acids or other substances which are corrosive to metals. Welding arc and metal sparks can ignite combustibles.
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### Advice for firefighters

<b>Fire Fighting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Alert Fire Brigade and tell them location and nature of hazard.</li> <li>▶ Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves in the event of a fire.</li> <li>▶ Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.</li> <li>▶ Use fire fighting procedures suitable for surrounding area.</li> <li>▶ <b>DO NOT</b> approach containers suspected to be hot.</li> <li>▶ Cool fire exposed containers with water spray from a protected location.</li> <li>▶ If safe to do so, remove containers from path of fire.</li> <li>▶ Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.</li> </ul>
<b>Fire/Explosion Hazard</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Non combustible.</li> <li>▶ Not considered to be a significant fire risk, however containers may burn.</li> <li>▶ In a fire may decompose on heating and produce toxic / corrosive fumes.</li> </ul>

## SECTION 6 ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

<b>Minor Spills</b>	<p>Clean up all spills immediately.          Avoid contact with skin and eyes.          Wear impervious gloves and safety glasses.          Use dry clean up procedures and avoid generating dust.          Place in suitable containers for disposal.</p>
<b>Major Spills</b>	<p>Minor hazard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Clear area of personnel.</li> <li>▶ Alert Fire Brigade and tell them location and nature of hazard.</li> <li>▶ Control personal contact with the substance, by using protective equipment if risk of overexposure exists.</li> <li>▶ Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.</li> <li>▶ Contain spill/secure load if safe to do so.</li> <li>▶ Bundle/collect recoverable product and label for recycling.</li> <li>▶ Collect remaining product and place in appropriate containers for disposal.</li> <li>▶ Clean up/sweep up area. Water may be required.</li> <li>▶ If contamination of drains or waterways occurs, advise emergency services.</li> </ul>

## Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

Personal Protective Equipment advice is contained in Section 8 of the SDS.

## SECTION 7 HANDLING AND STORAGE

## Precautions for safe handling

<b>Safe handling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Limit all unnecessary personal contact.</li> <li>▶ Wear protective clothing when risk of exposure occurs.</li> <li>▶ Use in a well-ventilated area.</li> <li>▶ Avoid contact with incompatible materials.</li> <li>▶ When handling, <b>DO NOT eat, drink or smoke.</b></li> <li>▶ Keep containers securely sealed when not in use.</li> <li>▶ Avoid physical damage to containers.</li> <li>▶ Always wash hands with soap and water after handling.</li> <li>▶ Work clothes should be laundered separately.</li> <li>▶ Use good occupational work practice.</li> <li>▶ Observe manufacturer's storage and handling recommendations contained within this MSDS.</li> <li>▶ Atmosphere should be regularly checked against established exposure standards to ensure safe working conditions are maintained.</li> </ul>
<b>Other information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Keep dry.</li> <li>▶ Store under cover.</li> <li>▶ Protect containers against physical damage.</li> <li>▶ Observe manufacturer's storage and handling recommendations contained within this MSDS.</li> </ul>

## Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

<b>Suitable container</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Packaging as recommended by manufacturer.</li> <li>▶ Check that containers are clearly labelled</li> </ul>
<b>Storage incompatibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Avoid reaction with oxidising agents</li> <li>▶ Avoid strong acids, acid chlorides, acid anhydrides and chloroformates.</li> </ul>

## SECTION 8 EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

## Control parameters

## OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE LIMITS (OEL)

## INGREDIENT DATA

Source	Ingredient	Material name	TWA	STEL	Peak	Notes
Australia Exposure Standards	iron oxide fume	Iron oxide fume (Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) (as Fe)	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Australia Exposure Standards	manganese fume	Manganese, fume (as Mn)	1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Not Available	Not Available

## EMERGENCY LIMITS

Ingredient	Material name	TEEL-1	TEEL-2	TEEL-3
iron oxide fume	Iron oxide; (Ferric oxide)	15 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	360 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	2200 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
manganese fume	Manganese	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1800 mg/m <sup>3</sup>

Ingredient	Original IDLH	Revised IDLH
welding fumes	Not Available	Not Available
iron oxide fume	N.E. mg/m <sup>3</sup> / N.E. ppm	2,500 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
manganese fume	N.E. mg/m <sup>3</sup> / N.E. ppm	500 mg/m <sup>3</sup>

## MATERIAL DATA

## Exposure controls

<b>Appropriate engineering controls</b>	<p>Engineering controls are used to remove a hazard or place a barrier between the worker and the hazard. Well-designed engineering controls can be highly effective in protecting workers and will typically be independent of worker interactions to provide this high level of protection.</p> <p>The basic types of engineering controls are:</p> <p>Process controls which involve changing the way a job activity or process is done to reduce the risk.</p> <p>Enclosure and/or isolation of emission source which keeps a selected hazard "physically" away from the worker and ventilation that strategically "adds" and "removes" air in the work environment. Ventilation can remove or dilute an air contaminant if designed properly. The design of a ventilation system must match the particular process and chemical or contaminant in use.</p>
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## Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

Employers may need to use multiple types of controls to prevent employee overexposure. Special ventilation requirements apply for processes which result in the generation of barium, chromium, lead, or nickel fume and in those processes which generate ozone.

The use of mechanical ventilation by local exhaust systems is required as a minimum in all circumstances (including outdoor work). (In confined spaces always check that oxygen has not been depleted by excessive rusting of steel or snowflake corrosion of aluminium)

Local exhaust systems must be designed to provide a minimum capture velocity at the fume source, away from the worker, of 0.5 metre/sec. Air contaminants generated in the workplace possess varying "escape" velocities which, in turn, determine the "capture velocities" of fresh circulating air required to effectively remove the contaminant.

Type of Contaminant:	Air Speed:
welding, brazing fumes (released at relatively low velocity into moderately still air)	0.5-1.0 m/s (100-200 f/min.)

Within each range the appropriate value depends on:

Lower end of the range	Upper end of the range
1: Room air currents minimal or favourable to capture	1: Disturbing room air currents
2: Contaminants of low toxicity or of nuisance value only.	2: Contaminants of high toxicity
3: Intermittent, low production.	3: High production, heavy use
4: Large hood or large air mass in motion	4: Small hood-local control only

Simple theory shows that air velocity falls rapidly with distance away from the opening of a simple extraction pipe. Velocity generally decreases with the square of distance from the extraction point (in simple cases). Therefore the air speed at the extraction point should be adjusted, accordingly, after reference to distance from the contaminating source. The air velocity at the extraction fan, for example, should be a minimum of 1-2 m/s (200-400 f/min.) for extraction of welding or brazing fumes generated 2 meters distant from the extraction point. Other mechanical considerations, producing performance deficits within the extraction apparatus, make it essential that theoretical air velocities are multiplied by factors of 10 or more when extraction systems are installed or used.

If risk of inhalation or overexposure exists, wear SAA approved respirator or work in fume hood.

## Personal protection



## Eye and face protection

Welding helmet with suitable filter. Welding hand shield with suitable filter.

- ▶ Contact lenses may pose a special hazard; soft contact lenses may absorb and concentrate irritants. A written policy document, describing the wearing of lens or restrictions on use, should be created for each workplace or task. This should include a review of lens absorption and adsorption for the class of chemicals in use and an account of injury experience. Medical and first-aid personnel should be trained in their removal and suitable equipment should be readily available. In the event of chemical exposure, begin eye irrigation immediately and remove contact lens as soon as practicable. Lens should be removed at the first signs of eye redness or irritation - lens should be removed in a clean environment only after workers have washed hands thoroughly. [CDC NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin 59], [AS/NZS 1336 or national equivalent]
- ▶ Goggles or other suitable eye protection shall be used during all gas welding or oxygen cutting operations. Spectacles without side shields, with suitable filter lenses are permitted for use during gas welding operations on light work, for torch brazing or for inspection.
- ▶ For most open welding/brazing operations, goggles, even with appropriate filters, will not afford sufficient facial protection for operators. Where possible use welding helmets or handshields corresponding to EN 175, ANSI Z49:12005, AS 1336 and AS 1338 which provide the maximum possible facial protection from flying particles and fragments. [WRIA-WTIA Technical Note 7]
- ▶ An approved face shield or welding helmet can also have filters for optical radiation protection, and offer additional protection against debris and sparks.
- ▶ UV blocking protective spectacles with side shields or welding goggles are considered primary protection, with the face shield or welding helmet considered secondary protection.
- ▶ The optical filter in welding goggles, face mask or helmet must be a type which is suitable for the sort of work being done. A filter suitable for gas welding, for instance, should not be used for arc welding.
- ▶ Face masks which are self dimming are available for arc welding, MIG, TIG and plasma cutting, and allow better vision before the arc is struck and after it is extinguished.

## Skin protection

See Hand protection below

## Hands/feet protection

Welding Gloves  
Safety footwear

## Body protection

See Other protection below

## Other protection

Overalls  
▶ Eyewash unit.  
Aprons, sleeves, shoulder covers, leggings or spats of pliable flame resistant leather or other suitable materials may also be required in positions where these areas of the body will encounter hot metal.

## Thermal hazards

Not Available

**Recommended material(s)****GLOVE SELECTION INDEX**

Glove selection is based on a modified presentation of the:

**"Forsberg Clothing Performance Index".**

The effect(s) of the following substance(s) are taken into account in the **computer-generated** selection:

Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding Not Available

Material	CPI
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\* CPI - Chemwatch Performance Index

A: Best Selection

B: Satisfactory; may degrade after 4 hours continuous immersion

C: Poor to Dangerous Choice for other than short term immersion

**NOTE:** As a series of factors will influence the actual performance of the glove, a final selection must be based on detailed observation. -

\* Where the glove is to be used on a short term, casual or infrequent basis, factors such as "feel" or convenience (e.g. disposability), may dictate a choice of gloves which might otherwise be unsuitable following long-term or frequent use. A qualified practitioner should be consulted.

**Respiratory protection**

Not Available

Not Applicable

**SECTION 9 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES****Information on basic physical and chemical properties**

<b>Appearance</b>	Solid metal welding wire, shaped as wire of various diameters.		
<b>Physical state</b>	Manufactured	<b>Relative density (Water = 1)</b>	Not Available
<b>Odour</b>	Not Available	<b>Partition coefficient n-octanol / water</b>	Not Available
<b>Odour threshold</b>	Not Available	<b>Auto-ignition temperature (°C)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>pH (as supplied)</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Decomposition temperature</b>	Not Available
<b>Melting point / freezing point (°C)</b>	Not Available	<b>Viscosity (cSt)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Initial boiling point and boiling range (°C)</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Molecular weight (g/mol)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Flash point (°C)</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Taste</b>	Not Available
<b>Evaporation rate</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Explosive properties</b>	Not Available
<b>Flammability</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Oxidising properties</b>	Not Available
<b>Upper Explosive Limit (%)</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Surface Tension (dyn/cm or mN/m)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Lower Explosive Limit (%)</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Volatile Component (%vol)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Vapour pressure (kPa)</b>	Not Applicable	<b>Gas group</b>	Not Available
<b>Solubility in water (g/L)</b>	Immiscible	<b>pH as a solution (1%)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Vapour density (Air = 1)</b>	Not Available	<b>VOC g/L</b>	Not Available

**SECTION 10 STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

<b>Reactivity</b>	See section 7
<b>Chemical stability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Unstable in the presence of incompatible materials.</li> <li>▶ Product is considered stable.</li> <li>▶ Hazardous polymerisation will not occur.</li> </ul>
<b>Possibility of hazardous reactions</b>	See section 7
<b>Conditions to avoid</b>	See section 7
<b>Incompatible materials</b>	See section 7

**Hazardous decomposition products**

See section 5

**SECTION 11 TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION****Information on toxicological effects**

<b>Inhaled</b>	<p>Manganese fume is toxic and produces nervous system effects characterised by tiredness. Acute poisoning is rare although acute inflammation of the lungs may occur. A chemical pneumonia may also result from frequent exposure. Inhalation of freshly formed metal oxide particles sized below 1.5 microns and generally between 0.02 to 0.05 microns may result in "metal fume fever". Symptoms may be delayed for up to 12 hours and begin with the sudden onset of thirst, and a sweet, metallic or foul taste in the mouth. Other symptoms include upper respiratory tract irritation accompanied by coughing and a dryness of the mucous membranes, lassitude and a generalised feeling of malaise. Mild to severe headache, nausea, occasional vomiting, fever or chills, exaggerated mental activity, profuse sweating, diarrhoea, excessive urination and prostration may also occur. Tolerance to the fumes develops rapidly, but is quickly lost. All symptoms usually subside within 24-36 hours following removal from exposure.</p> <p>Harmful levels of ozone may be found when working in confined spaces. Symptoms of exposure include irritation of the upper membranes of the respiratory tract and lungs as well as pulmonary (lung) changes including irritation, accumulation of fluid (congestion and oedema) and in some cases haemorrhage. Exposure may aggravate any pre-existing lung condition such as bronchitis, asthma or emphysema.</p> <p>Shielding gases may act as simple asphyxiants if significant levels are allowed to accumulate. Oxygen monitoring may be necessary.</p>
<b>Ingestion</b>	Not normally a hazard due to physical form of product.
<b>Skin Contact</b>	<p>The material may accentuate any pre-existing dermatitis condition</p> <p>Ultraviolet radiation (UV) is generated by the electric arc in the welding process. Skin exposure to UV can result in severe burns, in many cases without prior warning.</p> <p>Exposure to infrared radiation (IR), produced by the electric arc and other flame cutting equipment may heat the skin surface and the tissues immediately below the surface. Except for this effect, which can progress to thermal burns in some situations, infrared radiation is not dangerous to welders. Most welders protect themselves from IR (and UV) with a welder's helmet (or glasses) and protective clothing.</p>
<b>Eye</b>	Fumes from welding/brazing operations may be irritating to the eyes.
<b>Chronic</b>	<p>Principal route of exposure is inhalation of welding fumes from electrodes and workpiece. Reaction products arising from electrode core and flux appear as welding fume depending on welding conditions, relative volatilities of metal oxides and any coatings on the workpiece. Studies of lung cancer among welders indicate that they may experience a 30-40% increased risk compared to the general population. Since smoking and exposure to other cancer-causing agents, such as asbestos fibre, may influence these results, it is not clear whether welding, in fact, represents a significant lung cancer risk. Whilst mild steel welding represents little risk, the stainless steel welder, exposed to chromium and nickel fume, may be at risk and it is this factor which may account for the overall increase in lung cancer incidence among welders. Cold isolated electrodes are relatively harmless.</p> <p>Welding fume with high levels of ferrous materials may lead to particle deposition in the lungs (siderosis) after long exposure. This clears up when exposure stops. Chronic exposure to iron dusts may lead to eye disorders.</p> <p>Ozone is suspected to produce lung cancer in laboratory animals; no reports of this effect have been documented in exposed human populations.</p> <p>Other welding process exposures can arise from radiant energy UV flash burns, thermal burns or electric shock</p> <p>The welding arc emits ultraviolet radiation at wavelengths that have the potential to produce skin tumours in animals and in over-exposed individuals, however, no confirmatory studies of this effect in welders have been reported.</p>

<b>Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding</b>	<b>TOXICITY</b>	<b>IRRITATION</b>
	Not Available	Not Available
<b>welding fumes</b>	<b>TOXICITY</b>	<b>IRRITATION</b>
	Not Available	Not Available
<b>iron oxide fume</b>	<b>TOXICITY</b>	<b>IRRITATION</b>
	Oral (rat) LD50: >5000 mg/kg <sup>[1]</sup>	Not Available
<b>manganese fume</b>	<b>TOXICITY</b>	<b>IRRITATION</b>
	Oral (rat) LD50: >2000 mg/kg <sup>[1]</sup>	Eye (rabbit) 500mg/24H Mild Skin (rabbit) 500mg/24H Mild
<b>Legend:</b>	1. Value obtained from Europe ECHA Registered Substances - Acute toxicity 2.* Value obtained from manufacturer's SDS. Unless otherwise specified data extracted from RTECS - Register of Toxic Effect of chemical Substances	

## Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

## WELDING FUMES

**WARNING:** This substance has been classified by the IARC as Group 2B: Possibly Carcinogenic to Humans.

Most welding is performed using electric arc processes - manual metal arc, metal inert gas (MIG) and tungsten inert gas welding (TIG) – and most welding is on mild steel.

There has been considerable evidence over several decades regarding cancer risks in relation to welding activities.

Several case-control studies reported excess risks of ocular melanoma in welders. This association may be due to the presence in some welding environments of fumes of thorium-232, which is used in tungsten welding rods.

Different welding environments may present different and complex profiles of exposures. In one study to characterise welding fume aerosol nanoparticles in mild steel metal active gas welding showed a mass median diameter (MMMD) of 200-300 nm. A widespread consensus seems to have formed to the effect that some welding environments, notably in stainless steel welding, do carry risks of lung cancer. This widespread consensus is in part based on empirical evidence regarding risks among stainless steel welders and in part on the fact that stainless steel welding entails moderately high exposure to nickel and chromium VI compounds, which are recognised lung carcinogens. The corollary is that welding without the presence of nickel and chromium VI compounds, namely mild-steel welding, should not carry risk. But it appears that this line of reasoning is not supported by the accumulated body of epidemiologic evidence. While there remained some uncertainty about possible confounding by smoking and by asbestos, and some possible publication bias, the overwhelming evidence is that there has been an excess risk of lung cancer among welders as a whole in the order of 20%-40%. The most begriending explanation is that there is an as-yet unexplained common reason for excess lung cancer risks that applies to all types of welders. It has been proposed that iron fumes may play such a role, and some Finnish data appear to support this hypothesis, though not conclusively. This hypothesis would also imply that excess lung cancer risks among welders are not unique to welders, but rather may be shared among many types of metal working occupations.

Welders are exposed to a range of fumes and gases (evaporated metal, metal oxides, hydrocarbons, nanoparticles, ozone, oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) ) depending on the electrodes, filler wire and flux materials used in the process, but also physical exposures such as electric and magnetic fields (EMF) and ultraviolet (UV) radiation. Fume particles contain a wide variety of oxides and salts of metals and other compounds, which are produced mainly from electrodes, filler wire and flux materials. Fumes from the welding of stainless-steel and other alloys contain nickel compounds and chromium[VI] and [III].

Ozone is formed during most electric arc welding, and exposures can be high in comparison to the exposure limit, particularly during metal inert gas welding of aluminium. Oxides of nitrogen are found during manual metal arc welding and particularly during gas welding. Welders who weld painted mild steel can also be exposed to a range of organic compounds produced by pyrolysis.

In one study particle elemental composition was mainly iron and manganese. Ni and Cr exposures were very low in the vicinity of mild steel welders, but much higher in the background in the workshop where there presumably was some stainless steel welding.

Personal exposures to manganese ranged from 0.01-4.93 mg/m<sup>3</sup> and to iron ranged from 0.04-16.29 mg/m<sup>3</sup> in eight Canadian welding companies. Types of welding identified were mostly (90%) MIG mild steel, MIG stainless steel, and TIG aluminum. Carbon monoxide levels were less than 5.0 ppm (at source) and ozone levels varied from 0.4-0.6 ppm (at source).

Welders, especially in shipyards, may also be exposed to asbestos dust. Physical exposures such as electric and magnetic fields (EMF) and ultraviolet (UV) radiation are also common.

In all, the in vivo studies suggest that different welding fumes cause varied responses in rat lungs in vivo, and the toxic effects typically correlate with the metal composition of the fumes and their ability to produce free radicals. In many studies both soluble and insoluble fractions of the stainless steel welding fumes were required to produce most types of effects, indicating that the responses are not dependent exclusively on the soluble metals.

Lung tumourigenicity of welding fumes was investigated in lung tumour susceptible (A/J) strain of mice. Male mice were exposed by pharyngeal aspiration four times (once every 3 days) to 85 ug of gas metal arc-mild steel (GMA-MS), GMA-SS, or manual metal arc-SS (MMA-SS) fume. At 48 weeks post-exposure, GMA-SS caused the greatest increase in tumour multiplicity and incidence, but did not differ from sham exposure. Tumour incidence in the GMA-SS group versus sham control was close to significance at 78 weeks post exposure. Histopathological analysis of the lungs of these mice showed the GMA-SS group having an increase in preneoplasia/tumour multiplicity and incidence compared to the GMA-MS and sham groups at 48 weeks. The increase in incidence in the GMA-SS exposed mice was significant compared to the GMA-MS group but not to the sham-exposed animals, and the difference in incidence between the GMA-SS and MMA-SS groups was of border-line significance (p = 0.06). At 78 weeks post-exposure, no statistically significant differences.

A significantly higher frequency of micronuclei in peripheral blood lymphocytes (binucleated cell assay) and higher mean levels of both centromere-positive and centromere-negative micronuclei was observed in welders (n=27) who worked without protective device compared to controls (n=30). The rate of micronucleated cells did not correlate with the duration of exposure.

Not available. Refer to individual constituents.

Acute Toxicity	✓	Carcinogenicity	✓
Skin Irritation/Corrosion	⊘	Reproductivity	⊘
Serious Eye Damage/Irritation	⊘	STOT - Single Exposure	⊘
Respiratory or Skin sensitisation	⊘	STOT - Repeated Exposure	⊘
Mutagenicity	⊘	Aspiration Hazard	⊘



**Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding**

- Legend:** ✔ – Data required to make classification available  
✘ – Data available but does not fill the criteria for classification  
○ – Data Not Available to make classification

**SECTION 12 ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

**Toxicity**

NOT AVAILABLE

Ingredient	Endpoint	Test Duration	Effect	Value	Species	BCF
welding fumes	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
iron oxide fume	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
manganese fume	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

**Persistence and degradability**

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air
	No Data available for all ingredients	No Data available for all ingredients

**Bioaccumulative potential**

Ingredient	Bioaccumulation
	No Data available for all ingredients

**Mobility in soil**

Ingredient	Mobility
	No Data available for all ingredients

**SECTION 13 DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Waste treatment methods**

Product / Packaging disposal	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.</li> <li>▶ Consult State Land Waste Management Authority for disposal.</li> <li>▶ Bury residue in an authorised landfill.</li> <li>▶ Recycle containers if possible, or dispose of in an authorised landfill.</li> </ul>

**SECTION 14 TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

**Labels Required**

Marine Pollutant	NO
HAZCHEM	Not Applicable

**Land transport (ADG): NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS**

**Air transport (ICAO-IATA / DGR): NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS**

**Sea transport (IMDG-Code / GGVSee): NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS**

**SECTION 15 REGULATORY INFORMATION**

**Safety, health and environmental regulations / legislation specific for the substance or mixture**

**WELDING FUMES(NOT AVAIL.) IS FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING REGULATORY LISTS**

Not Applicable

**IRON OXIDE FUME(1309-37-1.) IS FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING REGULATORY LISTS**

Australia Exposure Standards	Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)
Australia Hazardous Substances Information System - Consolidated Lists	International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Classified by the IARC Monographs

**MANGANESE FUME(7439-96-5.) IS FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING REGULATORY LISTS**

Australia Exposure Standards	Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)
Australia Hazardous Substances Information System - Consolidated Lists	

## Carbon Steel Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

National Inventory	Status
Australia - AICS	Y
Canada - DSL	Y
Canada - NDSL	N (manganese fume; iron oxide fume)
China - IECSC	Y
Europe - EINEC / ELINCS / NLP	Y
Japan - ENCS	N (manganese fume)
Korea - KECI	Y
New Zealand - NZIoC	Y
Philippines - PICCS	Y
USA - TSCA	Y
<b>Legend:</b>	<i>Y = All ingredients are on the inventory N = Not determined or one or more ingredients are not on the inventory and are not exempt from listing(see specific ingredients in brackets)</i>

**SECTION 16 OTHER INFORMATION****Other information**

Classification of the preparation and its individual components has drawn on official and authoritative sources as well as independent review by the Chemwatch Classification committee using available literature references.

A list of reference resources used to assist the committee may be found at:

[www.chemwatch.net](http://www.chemwatch.net)

The (M)SDS is a Hazard Communication tool and should be used to assist in the Risk Assessment. Many factors determine whether the reported Hazards are Risks in the workplace or other settings. Risks may be determined by reference to Exposures Scenarios. Scale of use, frequency of use and current or available engineering controls must be considered.

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