

# Chlorine

Product Outreach Information

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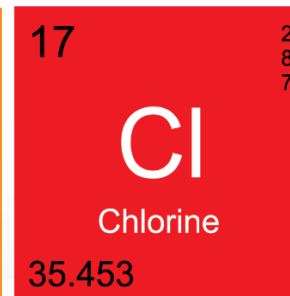
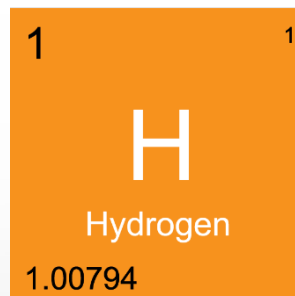
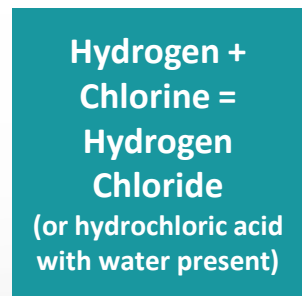
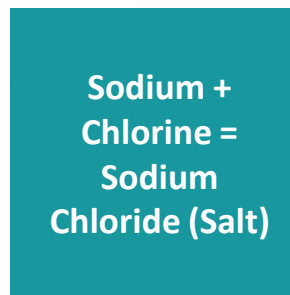
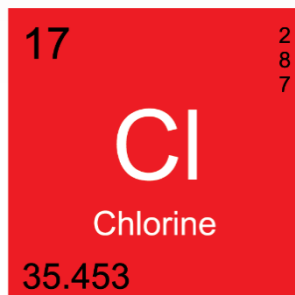
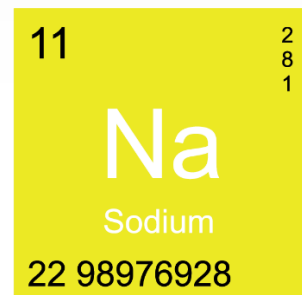
Transportation

References

Questions

# What is Chlorine?

**11<sup>th</sup>**  
MOST ABUNDANT  
NATURAL ELEMENT



# What is Chlorine?

## Chlorine is essential to health and society

- 40% of industries use chlorine directly
- Water disinfection
- Water delivery (plastic containers and piping)
- Food production and transportation
  - Insecticide & herbicide manufacture
  - Refrigerant component
- Pharmaceutical production
- Polyurethane foam manufacture
- Paint component



# What is Chlorine?

**PURIFIED SALT WATER (BRINE) +  
ELECTRICITY**

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**$\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2$  + WEAK ALKALI**

**1 TON OF  
CHLORINE**

**PRODUCES**

**~1.1 TONS  
OF NaOH**  
(~1.6 TONS OF KOH)



# What is Chlorine?

17

Cl

Chlorine

35.453

2  
8  
7

## Physical Properties of Chlorine

- At atmospheric temperature and pressure it exists as gas
- It is normally compressed and cooled to a liquid for shipping
- Pungent odor, like bleach but much stronger



### Liquid

- Amber in color
- About 1.5 times as heavy as water



### Gas

- Greenish-yellow color
- About 2.5 times as heavy as air
- Gathers in low, confined spaces

# Volume of Liquid Chlorine

1 volume gas = 1/460 volume liquid

1 volume liquid = 460 volume gas

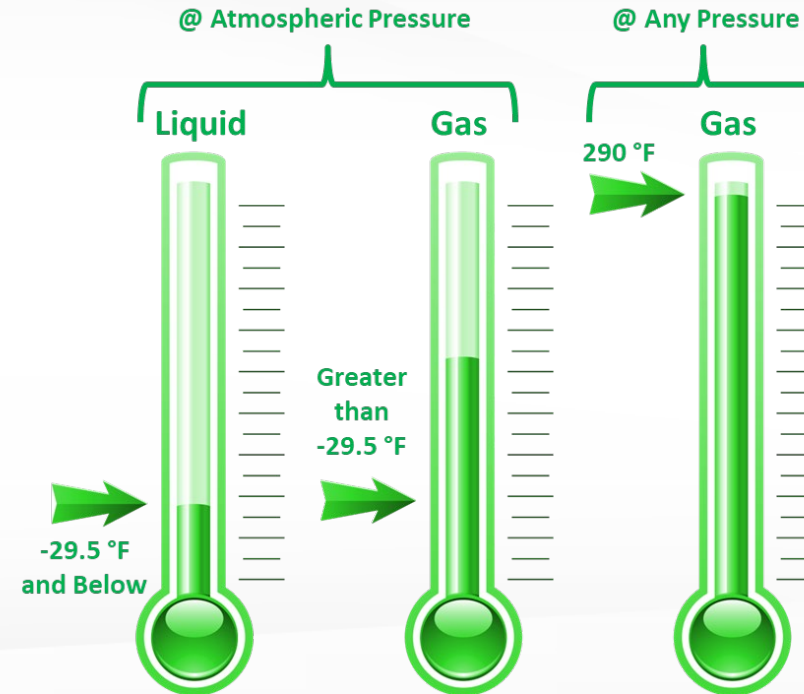
**460 volume gas = 1 volume liquid**





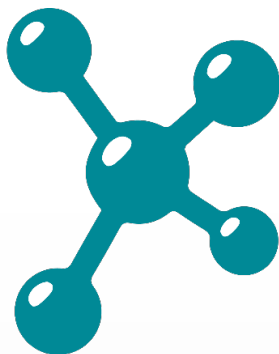
# Chlorine Atmospheric Pressure

- Chlorine's boiling point =  $-29.5^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-34^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Chlorine is liquid below boiling point
- Chlorine is gas above boiling point

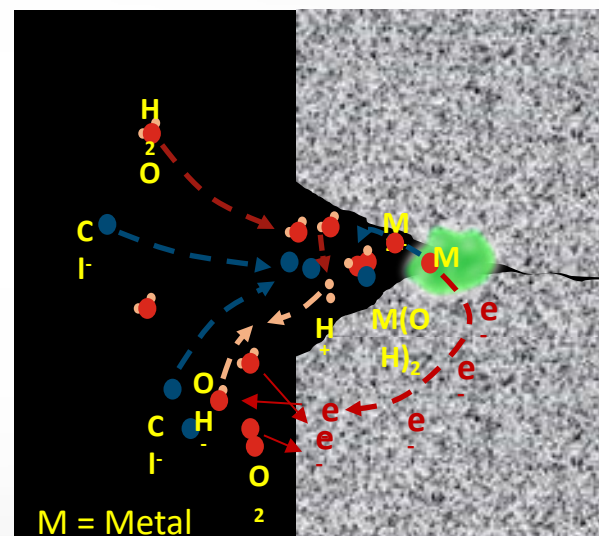


**NOTE:** Chlorine is always a gas above  $290^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $143^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

# Chemical Properties of Chlorine



- Corrosive with moisture
- Reactive with organic materials and most metals
- Strong oxidizer
- Can support combustion (under specific conditions)



# Chlorine readily combines with most substances. However, reacts violently with:

- Petroleum products
- Solvents
- Hydrogen compounds
- Some organic materials



**Violent reactions may lead to potentially dangerous consequences.**

# Handling Considerations

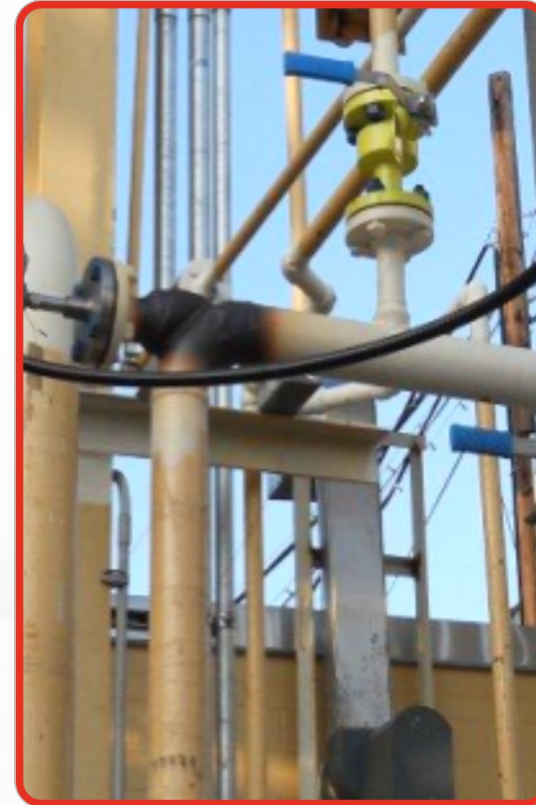
# Handling Considerations

## Dry chlorine

- Non-corrosive to most metals, including carbon steel (black iron)
- Incompatible metals and chlorine may result in fires

### DO NOT USE:

- Titanium
- Aluminum
- Tin



# Handling Considerations

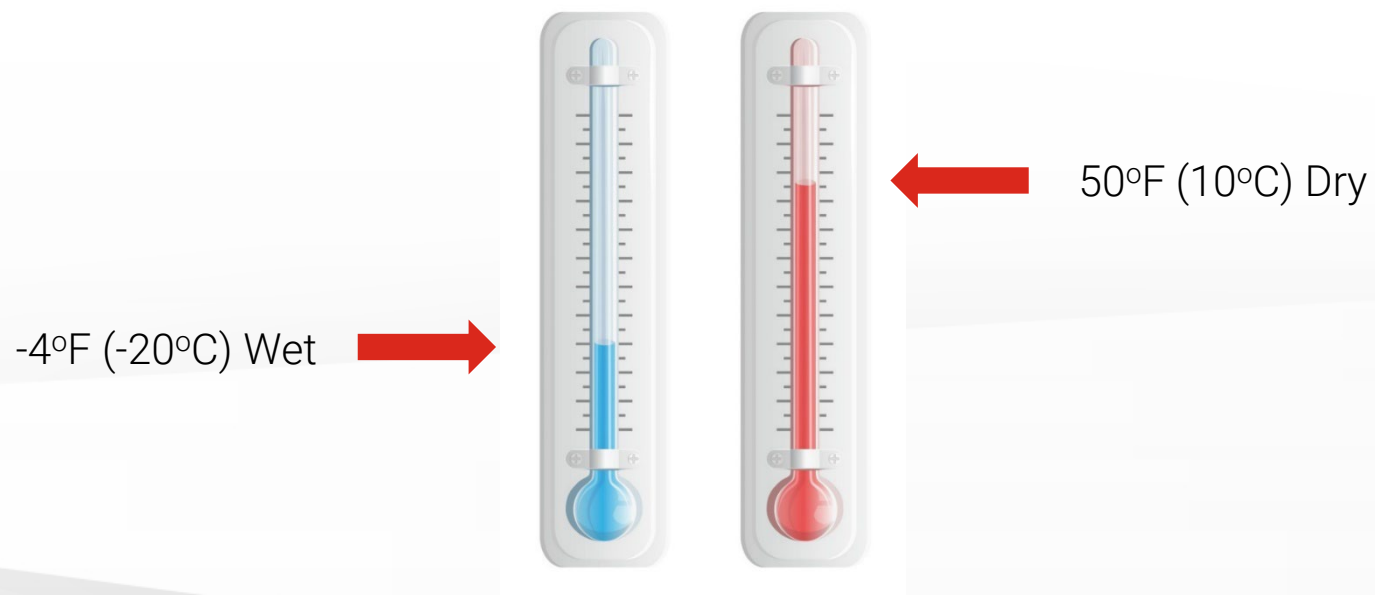
## Wet chlorine

- When water is not dissolved in the chlorine
- Water exists as a liquid
- Highly corrosive



# Temperature Effect on Moisture in Chlorine

Liquid chlorine at 30 ppm water can be considered wet or dry, dependent on temperature



# Handling Considerations

## Wet chlorine handling

Wet chlorine produces corrosive acids



- Hydrochloric acid
- Hypochlorous acid

Handle with appropriate materials:

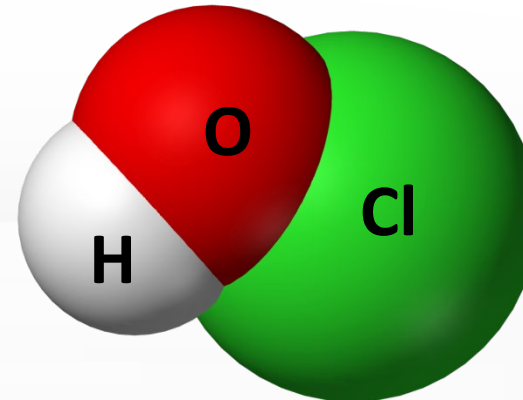
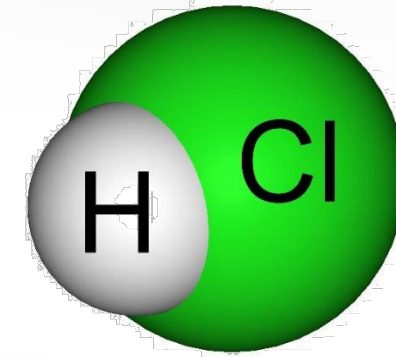


- Titanium
- Fully halogenated fluorocarbons (TFE, Kynar)
- FRP (Fiber Reinforced Plastic)

Materials NOT to use



- Carbon Steel
- Monel and Stainless Steel





# Handling Chlorine Equipment Safely

- Keep piping, hoses and coupling dry and clean
- Cap and seal ALL unused piping



# Handling Considerations

## Organic oils and greases

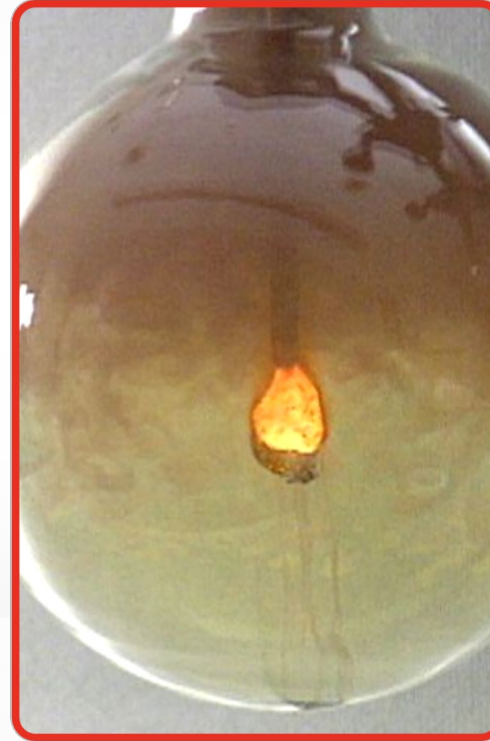
- Chlorine reacts violently with oils, greases, and petroleum products
- Use non-reactive lubricants on chlorine equipment
- Acceptable Oils, Greases, Sealants and Lubricants
  - Krytox®
  - Fluorolube®
- See Chlorine Institute Pamphlet 164 for other acceptable lubricants



# Handling Considerations

## Specific conditions for chlorine combustion

- Chlorine is not flammable but will support combustion under certain conditions.
- Many materials that burn in oxygen (air) atmosphere will also burn in chlorine atmosphere.
- Chlorine combustion can occur when:
  - Steel is exposed to temperatures as low as 300 F (149 C)
  - In presence of finely divided metals such as powders, shavings, etc.



Steel Wool in chlorine

# Handling Considerations

## Precautions with chlorine equipment

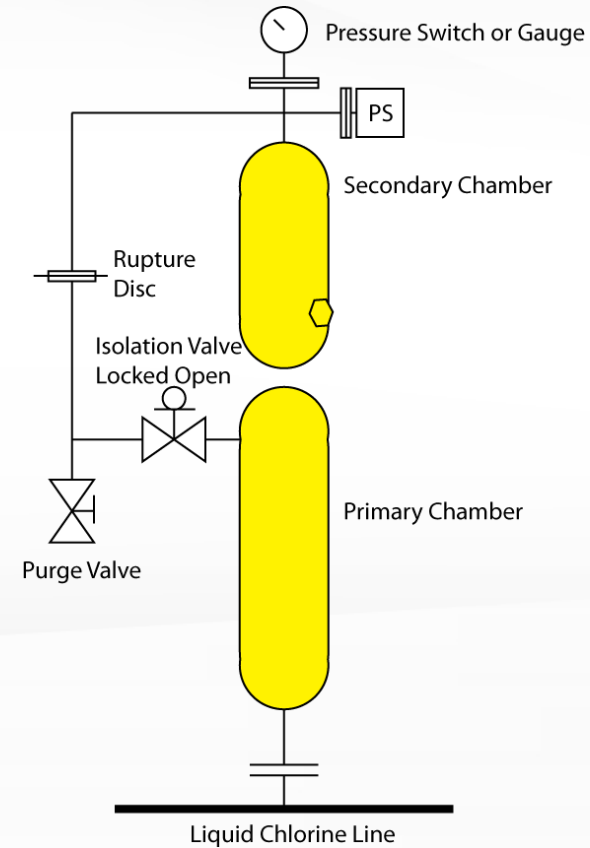
- Keep away from sources of heat or fire
- Evacuate chlorine from component
- Hot work permitting required for use of welding/cutting torches, etc.



# Handling Considerations

## Causes of rupture

- Liquid chlorine expands as temperature increases
- Pressure build-up due to the thermal expansion of liquid chlorine in a section of piping between two isolation points
- A 5° F temperature rise in a liquid full line can increase pressure >500 psig



# Handling Considerations

## Runaway reactions can occur due to:

- Improper control of chlorine flows
- Backflow of process reactants into chlorine system
  - Moisture/Liquids from process



# Systems Design

# Systems Design

## Pipe Stabbers

- Stabbers constructed of appropriately rated materials
- Shall be installed so that access to connectors are free of obstructions
- Shall be inspected prior to each use to ensure threads are adequate
- Shall have a defined replacement plan



Threads on a new connector passing the thread inspection



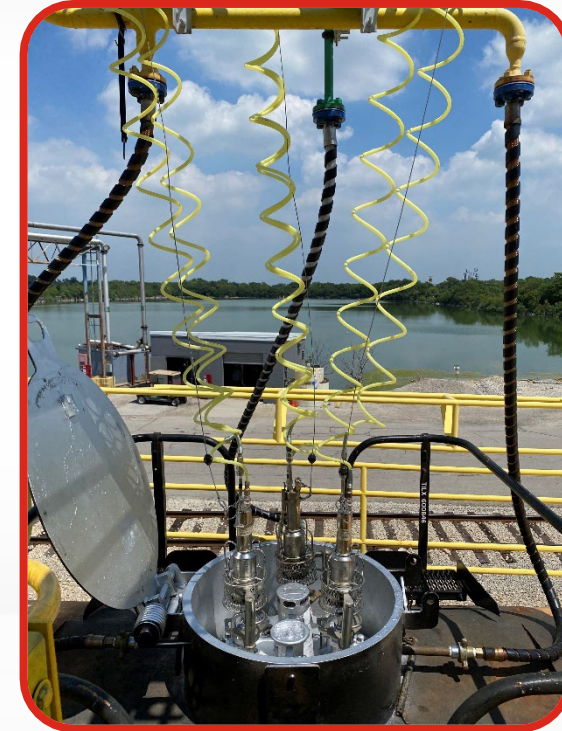
Threads of a worn connector failing the thread inspection



# Systems Design

## Chlorine Hoses

- Shall be constructed with appropriate materials of construction for use.
- Shall be installed so that hoses are not kinked / stressed when connected or stored after use.
- Shall be inspected prior to each use to ensure no signs of wear or deterioration exists
- Shall be replaced at **least** every 24 months



# Systems Design

## Hose / Stabber Connectors

Two or Four-bolt flanged connector

Ammonia 'knock' or 'hammer' union

Hil-Tap half-turn connector

HiLoSeal Coupling



# Systems Design

## Valves

- Shall be constructed with appropriate materials of construction for Chlorine use.
- Shall be installed so vents within cavities vent upstream when closed.
- Shall be carefully chosen based on service to be used; isolation vs continued cycling
- Shall have a defined replacement schedule



# Systems Design

## Rail Controls

- Movement Prevention
- Unauthorized tank car movements still occur
- Positive control deterrents are required

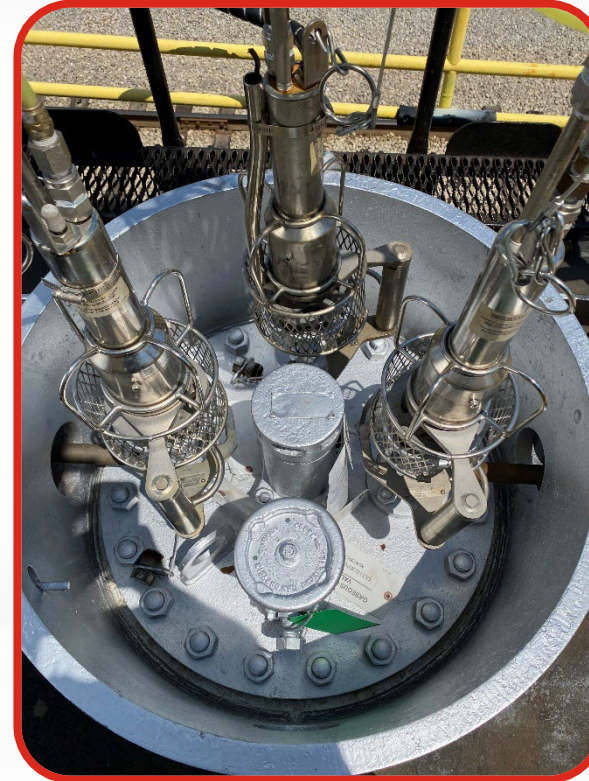




# Systems Design

## Auto Closures

- Shall be carefully chosen based on service to be used – direct mount / inline
- Shall have a defined maintenance schedule to include and meet manufacturers guidance (auto closures)
- Inline units should be bench tested to ensure actuated unit, as well as valve work/seal properly



# Systems Design

## Pressure Transmitters

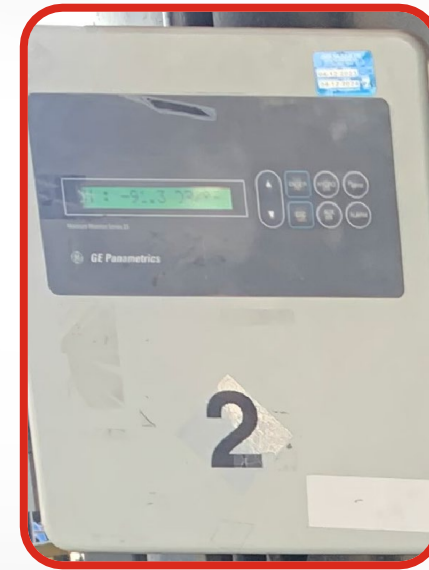
- Shall be carefully chosen based on service to be used
- Shall have a defined maintenance schedule to ensure units work accurately



# Systems Design

## Dew Point

- Shall have means to continuous monitor
- Shall have a means to validate accuracy of single installed unit.
- Shall have a defined replacement/calibration schedule
- Shall have a minimum dew point of -40 deg F



# Systems Design

## Detection Systems

- Shall have means to continuous monitor & detect close to source
  - Connection / end use
- Shall be set to meet permissible exposure limit set by OSHA 1PPM
- Shall have a defined calibration schedule
- Shall operate to notify in the event leak occurs/is present.





# Personal Safety

# Personal Safety



## Acute Chlorine Exposure & Clinical Effects:

**0.2 – 0.4 ppm**

Odor detection threshold

**1 – 3 ppm**

Mild mucous membrane irritation,  
tolerated up to 1 hour

**5 – 15 ppm**

Moderate irritation of the respiratory tract

**25 – 60 ppm**

Visibility threshold (dependent on humidity)

**30 ppm**

Immediate chest pain, vomiting,  
dyspnea & cough

**40 – 60 ppm**

Toxic pneumonitis & pulmonary edema

**430 ppm**

Lethal over 30 minutes

**1000 ppm**

Fatal within a few minutes

# Personal Safety



## One Liter Liquid Chlorine => 460 Liters Chlorine Gas:

- In a medium size auditorium 16 ft X 35 ft X 65 ft:
  - One liter liquid  $\text{Cl}_2$  is enough to fill room with 430 ppm
  - Two liters liquid  $\text{Cl}_2$  is enough to fill room with 1000 ppm
  - Few deep breath's, can't exit room...
- In a typical room 8 ft X 10 ft X 12 ft:
  - It takes only 25 mL of liquid  $\text{Cl}_2$  to get 430 ppm
  - It takes only 60 mL of liquid  $\text{Cl}_2$  to get 1000 ppm
- Do not mix Bleach and Vinegar to clean bathroom tiles
  - Chlorine Gas !!!

# Personal Safety

## Acute chlorine gas exposure

- What is the odor threshold for chlorine?
  - As low as 0.25 ppm, varies from person to person
- Exposure to respiratory system is primary concern, followed by eye exposure
- Impact of exposure effects dependent on both chlorine concentration and length of exposure time
- Dosage = chlorine concentration X length of exposure time

Reference: Cl<sub>2</sub> Chlorine Basics

# Personal Safety

## Acute chlorine gas exposure- what are the hazards of chlorine?

- Toxic gas: respiratory tract and eye irritant
- Corrosive: chemical burns
- Strong oxidizer: fire hazard & heat-related burns
- Liquid is very cold: frostbite



Reference: Cl<sub>2</sub> Chlorine Basics

# Personal Safety

## Following acute exposure

- Delayed Symptoms
  - Up to 4 hours
- Normally complete recovery
- Some decreased lung function may occur



Reference: Cl<sub>2</sub> Chlorine Basics

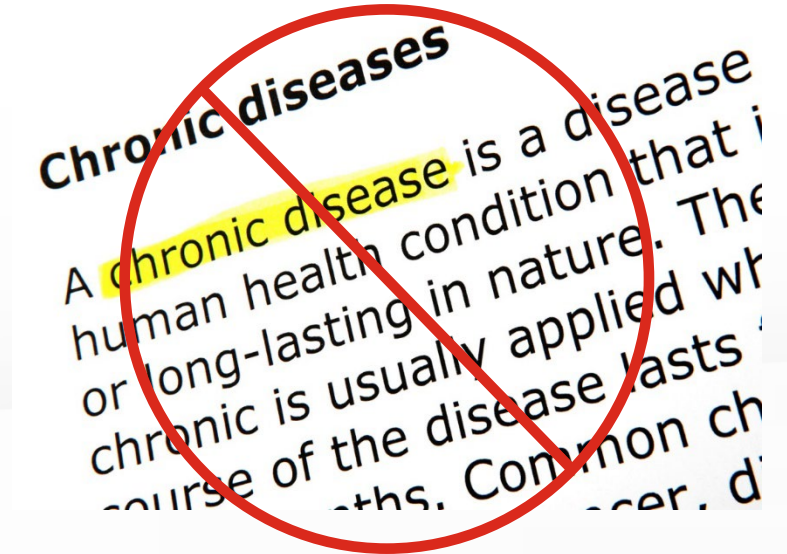
# Personal Safety

PPM	EXPOSURE CONTROL
0.5 PPM	ACGIH 8 hr. Time Weighted Average (TWA)
1 PPM	ACGIH Short Term Exposure Limit (STEL)
1 PPM	OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) Ceiling Limit (CEIL)
10 PPM	NIOSH Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH)

# Personal Safety

## Chronic (long term exposure)

- No evidence of work-related health dangers





# Personal Safety

## Treatment for inhalation

- Move person to fresh air
- If difficult breathing, give oxygen
- If unconscious, perform CPR
- Remove contaminated clothing
- Seek advice from medical personnel for further treatment

# Personal Protective Equipment

## General Recommendations

- Hard Hat
- Protective Footwear
- Safety Glasses
- NIOSH/MSHA Escape Respirators
- PPE noted above is for general everyday use in a Chlorine facility.



# Personal Protective Equipment

## Line Breaking & Connecting/ Disconnecting

### Chlorine:

- Hard Hat
  - Footwear Protection
  - Neoprene Gloves
  - Respiratory Protection
    - Full Face / \* SCBA
    - \* Based on site specific requirements
- 
- PPE noted above is for Chlorine operations whereas a review/analysis has been performed to determine level of protection required for functional tasks..



# Personal Protective Equipment

## Unknown or High Concentrations

### Chlorine Gas or Liquid:

- Hard Hat & Footwear Protection
  - Chemical Resistant Suit
    - Level A or Enhanced Level B
  - Neoprene Gloves
  - SCBA
- PPE to be worn will vary and should be evaluated based on conditions and situations present. Ideally, trained responders will don and execute response required to address materials/conditions.



# Personal Protective Equipment

## Emergency Situations

- Level A PPE:
- Gas Tight Chemical Suit (One Piece)
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)



# Personal Protective Equipment

## PPE maintenance is critical:

- Have a scheduled inspection program of all components
- Date & track respirators
- Properly store when not in use (sealed containers)

# Emergency Preparedness

# Emergency Preparedness

## Planning for emergencies

- Plan ahead
- Have an up-to-date documented written emergency action/response plan
- TRAIN workers frequently for knowledge & fluency
- ASSESS for adequate PPE copies/stock.





# Emergency Preparedness

## Planning for emergencies

- All departments should be involved in emergency planning
- Conduct scheduled inspections of emergency equipment
  - Shut-down systems and alarms
  - Emergency kits
  - PPE
- Test plan by running periodic drills
  - Have varying drills on different scenarios



# Emergency Preparedness

## Active training

- Involvement with local agencies and response groups
- Periodic testing



# Emergency Preparedness

## General smart practices

- Have a solid and up to date Emergency response plan
- Clearly visible wind direction indicators (multiple)
- Well-known evacuation routes
- Store emergency equipment in well-marked, easy-to-reach locations
  - Out of hot zone areas.



# Leak Response

# Leak Response

## Chlorine leaks/spills

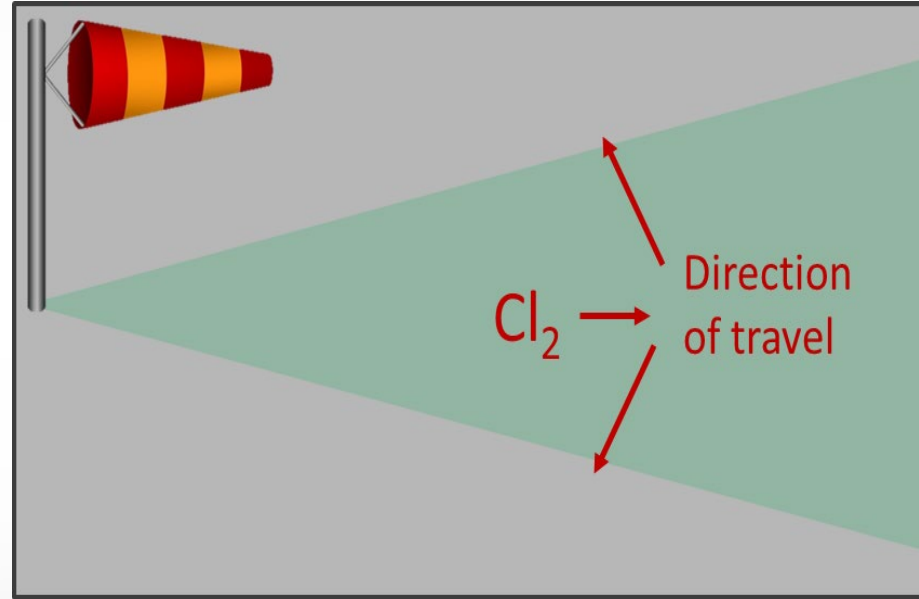
- Typically, first detected by atmospheric monitoring equipment / alarm
- Very strong, pungent odor
- Don escape respirator - Evacuate
- Evacuate area immediately along quickest route
- Once safe, notify management



# Leak Response

## Evacuating Release Area

- Proceed upwind or crosswind (if possible)
- NEVER proceed downwind





# Leak Response

## Finding and isolating leaks

- Spray ammonia vapor – NEVER ammonia liquid – to pinpoint
- Turn off valve closest to leak



# Leak Response

## Leak containment kits

**Used by qualified / trained personnel ONLY**

- Kit C
  - Rail Cars
  - Barges - Special kits available from supplier





# Chlorine Emergency Response

## The Chlorine Institute

### UNITED STATES

CHEMTREC  
Emergency Response Plan Activation  
and Technical Assistance  
1-800-424-9300

### CANADA

Emergency Response  
Plan Activation - 1-800-567-745

Technical Assistance (CANUTEC)  
1-613-996-6666

Always notify supplier of railcar Immediately.



# Chlorine Transportation

# Stencils & Markings



# Tank Car Construction

- Carbon Steel Rating of 500 or 600 PSIG
- Insulated
- Metal jacketed car
- Top outlet only
- Double shelf couplers



# Stencils & Markings

## Loaded tank car

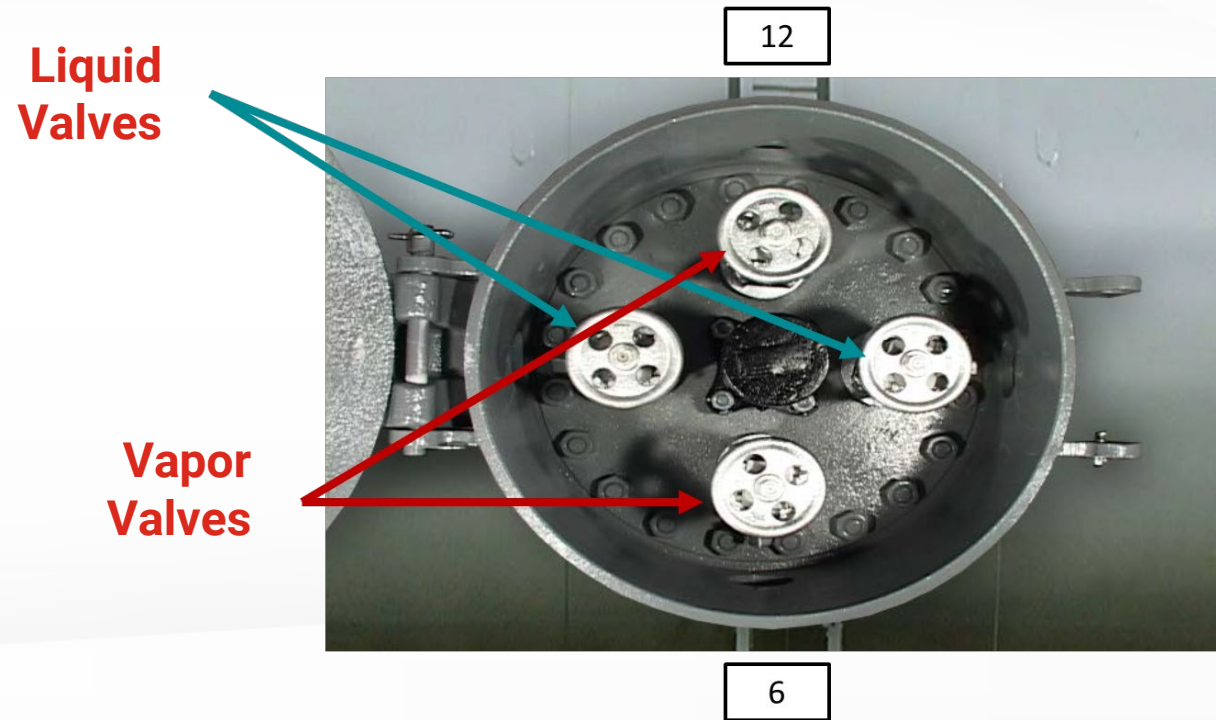
- 80% Liquid Full
- Loaded pressures 60-100 PSIG
  - May increase dependent upon ambient temperatures during transport and or storage
  - Will vary and may increase dependent upon ambient temps and duration exposed to excessively high temps.

## Residue tank car

- Residue = 3000 +/- Pounds Mix Vapor & Liquid
- Depressure tank car
  - Always ensure departing pressures are less than 150psig.



# Valve Arrangement –Tank Car



# Procedure & Detailed Inspection is Critical

- Improper tank car preparation can result in leakage events
- Leakage evidence might not be observed during pre-release inspection
- Inadequate inspection or poor procedural diligence can place others at risk
  - Carrier
  - Community
  - Receiving personnel



# Tank Car Information

## Returned to Olin with Leak Residues

### Possible Causes

- Angle valve left slightly open
- Angle valve plug not too tight
- Pressure relief device activation
- Leaking pipe stabber connector (during unloading)
- Tattle tale valve on pressure relief device not closed





# Tank Car Information

## Typical Root Causes & Next Steps

- Improperly-trained staff
- Inadequate procedures
- Lack of robust checklist
- Lack of pre-departure leak check
  - Remember, you are the shipper of record!

Review your Process Safety Management Program for:

- Adequate detail – procedures & checklists
- Adequate knowledge
- Adequacy of testing program
  - Re-train personnel – either procedures are too generic or personnel don't understand the risks & consequences

# For Further Information

## **OLIN'S TECHNICAL SERVICES**

Olin Chlor Alkali Products and Vinyls  
490 Stuart Road, NE  
Cleveland, TN 37312  
Tel: (423) 336-4850 / Fax: (423) 336-4830

## **THE CHLORINE INSTITUTE**

1300 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 525  
Arlington, VA 22209  
Tel: (703) 894-4140 / Fax: (703) 894-4130  
<http://www.chlorineinstitute.org>

# References

# Useful References

<i>Pamphlet № 1 – Chlorine Basics</i>	<i>Pamphlet № 5 – Bulk Storage of Chlorine</i>
<i>Pamphlet № 6 – Piping Systems for Chlorine</i>	<i>Pamphlet № 57 – Emergency Shut off Systems</i>
<i>Pamphlet № 60 – Chlorine Pipelines</i>	<i>Pamphlet № 65 – Personal Protective Equipment</i>
<i>Pamphlet № 66 – Handling Chlorine Tank Cars</i>	<i>Pamphlet № 72 – Atmospheric Monitoring</i>
<i>Pamphlet № 89 – Chlorine Scrubbing Systems</i>	<i>Pamphlet № 164 – Reactivity and Compatibility of Chlorine and NaOH with various materials.</i>

These publications are provided through The Chlorine Institute.  
To obtain any C.I. publication, please call (703)894-4140 or visit [www.chlorineinstitute.org](http://www.chlorineinstitute.org)

# Web Sites – Key Resources

- **Olin Chlor Alkali Products and Vinyls**

<http://www.olinchloralkali.com>

- **The Chlorine Institute**

<http://www.chlorineinstitute.org>

