

Methanol (Methyl Alcohol) – First Aid and Emergency Response

Methanol (Methyl Alcohol) is a highly flammable, highly toxic, colourless and volatile liquid, with pungent odour.

FIRST AID:

Eye Contact: Remove contact lenses if worn. In case of contact, immediately flush eyes with plenty of clean running water for at least 15 minutes, lifting the upper and lower eyelids occasionally. Obtain medical attention.

Skin Contact: In case of contact, remove contaminated clothing. In a shower, wash affected areas with soap and water for at least 15 minutes. Seek medical attention if irritation occurs or persists. Wash clothing before reuse.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

Do not walk through spilled product.

Release can cause an immediate fire/explosion hazard.

Eliminate all sources of ignition, stop leak and use absorbent materials. Collect liquid with explosion proof pumps.

Large Spills: If necessary, contain spill by diking. Fluorocarbon alcohol resistant foams may be applied to spill to diminish vapour and fire hazard. Maximize methanol recovery for recycling or reuse. Collect liquid with explosion proof pumps. For large fire, use water spray, alcohol resistant foam.

Small Spills: Soak up spill with non-combustible absorbent material. Recover methanol and dilute with water to reduce fire hazard. Prevent spilled methanol from entering sewers, confined spaces, drains, or waterways. For small fire, use DCP or CO₂ or alcohol resistant foam.

Restrict the access to unprotected personnel. Full.

Put material in suitable, covered, labeled containers. Flush area with water.