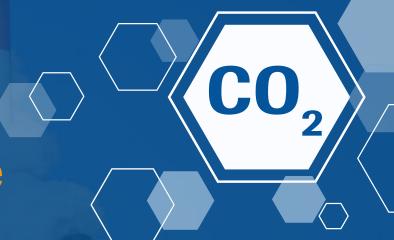
Understanding Gases

Carbon Dioxide



Unlike other toxic gases, carbon dioxide (CO₂) is all around us, although at levels that are low not to cause health issues under normal circumstances.



 $\mathrm{CO_2}$ is colourless, odourless and has a density that is heavier than air, resulting in pockets of $\mathrm{CO_2}$ gathering low on the ground gradually increasing in size.

Carbon dioxide is a gas consisting of one part carbon and two parts oxygen.



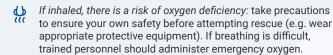
Carbon dioxide is used as a refrigerant, in fire extinguishers, for inflating life rafts and life jackets, blasting coal, foaming rubber and plastics, promoting the growth of plants in greenhouses, immobilising animals before slaughter, and in the food and beverage industry.

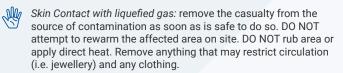
CO₂ is generated in huge amounts during fermentation and can pose a risk in confined spaces such as vats, cellars or cylinder storage areas, this can be fatal to workers in the surrounding environment, therefore Health and Safety managers must ensure the correct equipment and detectors are in place.

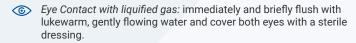
What is carbon dioxide?

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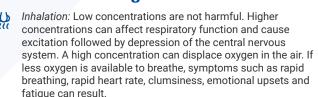
What should you do if you are exposed?

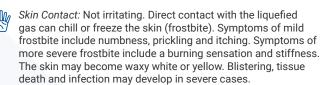






What are the dangers?





Eye Contact: May cause mild irritation. Direct contact with the liquefied gas can freeze the eye. Permanent eye damage or blindness can result.



CO₂ being 5 times heavier than air, making it a silent and deadly gas



Carbon dioxide occurs naturally in the atmosphere (typically 0.04% in air)



Exposures to 7% CO₂ can cause death in only 5 minutes

