

# SULFUR DIOXIDE -- Chemical Fact Sheet

<b><i>What is it?<sup>1</sup></i></b>	Sulfur Dioxide is a colorless, corrosive gas with an irritating pungent odor. Some people perceive its odor as burnt matches. Its odor allows it to be detected at low concentrations.
<b><i>Where does it come from?</i></b>	Sulfur Dioxide is made by combustion of sulfur compounds such as Sulfuric Acid, Hydrogen Sulfide and high sulfur-containing fuels.
<b><i>What are the common uses for it?</i></b>	Sulfur Dioxide is an intermediate used in the production of Sulfuric Acid and elemental Sulfur. Sewage treatment
<b><i>How is it transported in CCC?</i></b>	Sulfur Dioxide is shipped by railcar and pipeline.
<b><i>How is it stored in CCC?</i></b>	Sulfur Dioxide is stored in pressurized tanks.

## Health Hazards from Exposure

<b><i>Exposure Route</i></b>	<b><i>Symptoms</i></b>	<b><i>First Aid</i></b>
Inhalation (low concentrations)	Irritates nose, throat and lungs Burning Sensation Coughing Asthma-like reaction	Remove to fresh air. Seek medical attention if symptoms persist.
Inhalation (high concentrations & prolonged exposure)	Burning sensation Coughing and gagging Asthma-like reaction Constriction of chest Fluid accumulation in lungs Suffocation, death	Remove to fresh air, get medical attention including oxygen administration. Initiate CPR if breathing has stopped.
Eyes	Severely irritates eyes Burning/discomfort Watering of eyes	Rinse eyes with water for at least 5 minutes. Seek medical attention.
Skin	Irritates skin Burning/discomfort	Wash skin with soapy water. Seek medical attention.

**Contra Costa RMP/CalARP Companies  
that Use, Store or Manufacture this Chemical<sup>2</sup>**

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The Dow Chemical Company  
General Chemical – Richmond  
Praxair Distribution  
Rhodia  
Tesoro Refinery

**For More Information**

US Environmental Protection Agency and Technology Transfer Network	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/swerceppo">www.epa.gov/swerceppo</a> <a href="http://www.epa.gov/ttn/uatw/hapindex.html">www.epa.gov/ttn/uatw/hapindex.html</a>	(800)535-0202 EPCRA Hotline (919)541-0888
National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/niosh">www.cdc.gov/niosh</a> <a href="http://atsdr1.atsdr.cdc.gov:8080/hazdat.html">http://atsdr1.atsdr.cdc.gov:8080/hazdat.html</a>	(800)477-1544
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	<a href="http://www.osha.gov">www.osha.gov</a> <a href="http://www.osha-slc.gov/ChemSamp_data">www.osha-slc.gov/ChemSamp_data</a>	(202)219-8151 or (202)219-7056
ChemFinder®	<a href="http://Chemfinder.camsoft.com">http://Chemfinder.camsoft.com</a>	(800)315-7300
International Safety Cards	<a href="http://siri.org/msds/mf/cards/list.html">http://siri.org/msds/mf/cards/list.html</a>	
MSDS Sites	<a href="http://www.chem.utah.edu/msds">www.chem.utah.edu/msds</a> <a href="http://www.msdonline.com">www.msdonline.com</a>	
Poison Control Center	<a href="http://www.calpoison.org">www.calpoison.org</a>	(800) 876 - 4766
California Health Service Department Sacramento	<a href="http://www.dhs.ca.gov">www.dhs.ca.gov</a>	(916) 540 - 3014
Contra Costa County Health Services – Hazardous Materials Department	<a href="http://www.cchealth.org/gourps/hazmat">www.cchealth.org/gourps/hazmat</a>	(925) 646 – 2286

*This is a brief summary of information on this chemical. For more detailed information you can obtain a Material Safety Data Sheet from Contra Costa Health Services. You can also call any of the companies listed above for more information.*

<sup>1</sup>This information was obtained from the websites listed above.

<sup>2</sup>The companies listed were obtained from Business Plans submitted to Contra Costa County Health Services Department.