

# Hydrogen sulfide

## IDLH Documentation

**CAS number:** 7783064

**NIOSH REL:** 10 ppm (15 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 10minute CEILING

**Current OSHA PEL:** 20 ppm CEILING, 50 ppm 10minute MAXIMUM PEAK

**1989 OSHA PEL:** 10 ppm (14 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) TWA, 15 ppm (21 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) STEL

**1993-1994 ACGIH TLV:** 10 ppm (14 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) TWA, 15 ppm (21 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) STEL

**Description of Substance:** Colorless gas with a strong odor of rotten eggs.

**LEL:** . . 4.0% (10% LEL, 4,000 ppm)

**Original (SCP) IDLH:** 300 ppm

**Basis for original (SCP) IDLH:** The chosen IDLH is based on the statements by Patty [1963] that 170 to 300 ppm is the maximum concentration that can be endured for 1 hour without serious consequences; 400 to 700 ppm is dangerous after exposure of 0.5 to 1 hour [Henderson and Haggard 1943]. AIHA [1963] reported that 400 to 700 ppm caused loss of consciousness and possible death in 0.5 to 1 hour [MCA 1950].

**Existing short-term exposure guidelines:** 1991 American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Emergency Response Planning Guidelines (ERPGs):

ERPG1: 0.1 ppm (60minute)

ERPG2: 30 ppm (60minute)

ERPG3: 100 ppm (60minute)

National Research Council [NRC 1985] Emergency Exposure Guidance Levels (EEGLs):

10minute EEGL: 50 ppm

24hour EEGL: 10 ppm

**ACUTE TOXICITY DATA:**

**Lethal concentration data:**

13.

7. NRC [1985]. Emergency and continuous exposure guidance levels for selected airborne contaminants. Vol. 4. Washington, DC: National Academy Press, Committee on Toxicology, Board on Toxicology and Environmental Health Hazards, Commission on Life Sciences, National Research Council, pp. 5568.

8. Patty FA, ed. [1963]. Industrial hygiene and toxicology. 2nd rev. ed. Vol. II. Toxicology. New York, NY: Interscience Publishers, Inc., p. 899.

9. Poda GA [1966]. Hydrogen sulfide can be handled safely. Arch Environ Health 12:795800.

10. Tab Biol Per [1933]; 3:231 (in German).

11. Tansey MF, Kendall FM, Fantasia J, Landin WE, Oberly R [1981]. Acute and subchronic toxicity studies of rats exposed to vapors of methyl mercaptan and other reduced sulfur compounds. J Toxicol Environ Health 8:7188.

12. ten Berge WF, Zwart A, Appelman LM [1986]. Concentration-time mortality response relationship of irritant and systematically acting vapours and gases. J Haz Mat 13:301309.

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