

GASES IN CONTAINERS

BE AWARE OF THE RISKS!



Gases may be introduced into a container intentionally to protect the cargo, for example to combat pests, but they may also be released by the cargo, for example due to solvents.

CHECK THE CONTAINER BEFORE YOU OPEN IT

- Is there a specific policy in place at your company for this type of container?
- Are measurements (regularly) made to detect gases?
- Has a certificate of safe access been provided for this container?
- is there any other indication that you can enter the container safely?
- also check for the presence of gratings that have been covered over.



CHECKLIST

FOR OPENED CONTAINER



Visible indications such as:

- gratings that have been covered over;
- the presence of objects or materials that are apparently not part of the original cargo, such as bags, powders, tablets or tins;
- the presence of dead pests.

Strange odours such as:

- a penetrating and unpleasant odour resembling garlic or rotten fish;
- a biting and penetrating odour resembling chlorine or ammonia;
- a sweet smelling (almond like) odour.

Attention! Not all gases release an odour!

The presence of symptoms such as:

- coughing or a sore throat;
- irritation or tears in the eyes;
- a feeling of nausea / headache / dizziness;
- trembling / shaking / shivering;
- irritated airways / sore throat;
- any other unexplainable symptoms.

**RAISE
THE ALARM
IMMEDIATELY IF
YOU DETECT
ANY OF THESE
SITUATIONS**

What to do if any of the above occur:

- everyone should immediately leave the container;
- immediately warn your supervisor;
- report the symptoms to the ARBO (industrial health and safety) telephone line at FNV bondgenoten:

T 030 - 2738738 (open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 AM to 1 PM)

and/or the National Poisons Information Centre:

T 030 - 2748888 (open 24 hours a day)