

DRY ICE HANDLING

HANDLING

Dry ice is the solid form of carbon dioxide. Dry ice temperature is extremely cold at -78.5°C . Always handle dry ice with care and wear protective gloves

If touched briefly it is harmless, but prolonged contact exposure to dry ice can cause severe skin damage through cold burns. Seek medical advice urgently if dry ice burn is sustained.

STORAGE

Store dry ice in an insulated container. Do not store dry ice in a completely airtight container. The sublimation of dry ice to Carbon Dioxide gas may cause an airtight container to expand or possibly explode.

When shipped by air or water, dry ice is regulated as a dangerous good and IATA packing instructions require that it be labeled specially, including a diamond-shaped black-and white label, UN 1845. Also, arrangements must be in place to ensure adequate ventilation so that pressure build-up does not rupture the packaging.

DISPOSAL

Do not dispose of dry ice into a sink or cistern as it will cause freezing and may cause damage to plumbing.

Simply leave dry ice at room temperature in a well-ventilated area. It will sublimate from a solid to a gas.

Dry Ice sublimates at 10%, every 24 hours. Because dry ice sublimates into large quantities of carbon dioxide gas which could displace oxygen-containing air and pose a danger of asphyxiation, dry ice should only be exposed to open air in a well-ventilated environment. The sublimated Carbon Dioxide gas will sink to low areas and replace oxygenated air. This could cause suffocation if breathed exclusively.

If dry ice has been in a closed area for more than 10 minutes, allow adequate ventilation before entering the area. Leave area containing dry ice if you experience difficulty breathing.