1,1,1-TRICHLOROETHANE

CHAPTER 4. CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION

4.1 CHEMICAL IDENTITY

1,1,1-Trichloroethane is a man-made chlorinated hydrocarbon chemical that was widely used as a solvent and in metal degreasing. It is a synthetic compound. U.S. production of 1,1,1- trichloroethane was to be cut incrementally as per Section 604 of the Clean Air Act and Montreal Protocol, eventually being completely phased out by January 2002, and cease production by 2012 as a result of ozone depletion agreements from the Montreal Protocol (Kapp 2014). While the Montreal Protocol reduced the production of 1,1,1-trichloroethane, some production does continue with a steady decline in the ambient air levels. Table 4-1 lists common synonyms, trade names, and other pertinent identification information for 1,1,1-trichloroethane.

Table 4-1. Chemical Identity of 1,1,1-Trichloroethane			
Characteristic	Information	Reference	
Chemical Name	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	HSDB 2015	
Synonym(s) and Registered trade name(s)	Methylchloroform; Chlorothene; Chloroetene; Inhibisol; Aerothene MM; Aerothene TT; Solvent 111; Alpha T	HSDB 2015	
Chemical formula	C ₂ H ₃ Cl ₃	Haynes et al. 2015	

Chemical structure

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CAS registry number 71-55-6

Haynes et al. 2015

CAS = Chemical Abstracts Service; HSDB = Hazardous Substances Data Bank

4.2 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

1,1,1-Trichloroethane is a volatile organic compound. It is slightly soluble in water, and the Henry's law constant suggests it is readily volatilized from water. Based on the log K_{ow} and log K_{oc} values, 1,1,1-trichloroethane is expected to have high mobility in soil. With a vapor pressure of 124 mm Hg at 25°C, 1,1,1-trichloroethane exists in the atmosphere in the vapor phase. Table 4-2 lists important physical and chemical properties of 1,1,1-trichloroethane.

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Table 4-2. Physical and Chemical Properties of 1,1,1-Trichloroethane			
Property	Information	Reference	
Molecular weight	133.4	Haynes et al. 2015	
Color	Colorless	NIOSH 2019	
Physical state	Liquid	Haynes et al. 2015	
Melting point	-30°C	Haynes et al. 2015	
Boiling point	74°C	Haynes et al. 2015	
Density: At 20°C/4°C	1.3376	Haynes et al. 2015	
Odor	Mild, chloroform-like	NIOSH 2019	
Odor threshold: Water Air	No data 120 ppm 500 ppm	Amoore and Hautala 1983 Reist and Rex 1977	
Taste threshold	No data		
Solubility: Water Organic solvent(s)	1.29 g/L H2O at 25°C; slightly soluble in Haynes et al. 2015 H2O Soluble in ethanol and chloroform, miscible in diethyl ether Soluble in acetone, benzene, methanol, O'Neil 2013 carbon tetrachloride, and ether		
Partition coefficients: Log K _{OW} Log K _{OC}	2.49 2.03 2.02	Haynes et al. 2015 Friesel et al. 1984 Chiou and Freed 1979	
Vapor pressure At 20°C	16.5 kPa (123.8 mmHg) at 25°C	Haynes et al. 2015	
Henry's law constant	0.0163 atm-cu m/mole at 25°C	Warneck 2007	
Autoignition temperature	500°C	HSDB 2015	
Flashpoint	>200°F	OSHA 2021	
Conversion factors ppm (v/v) to mg/m³ in air (20°C) mg/m³ to ppm (v/v) in air (20°C)	1 ppm = 5.46 mg/m ³ 1 mg/m ³ = 0.185 ppm	NIOSH 2019 Chiou et al. 1980	
Explosive limits	7.5–12.5% in air	NIOSH 2019	

HSDB = Hazardous Substances Data Bank; NIOSH = National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health