

Nuclear Gauge Emergency Response Information for Transportation

Reference DOT p5800.5 ERG93, and 49CFR

Potential Hazard

1) Proper Shipping Name

- Radioactive Material Type A Package, special Form, Non-Fissile or Fissile-Excepted, 7, UN3332 RQ

2) Health Hazards

- Radiation presents minimal risk to lives of persons during transportation accidents.
- Undamaged packages are safe; damaged packages or materials released from packages can cause external radiation hazards. Contamination is not suspected.
- Packages (cartons, boxes, drums, articles, etc.) identified as “Type A” by marking on packages or by shipping papers contain non-Life endangering amounts. Radioactive sources may be released if packages are damaged in moderately severe accidents.
- Packages (large and small, usually metal) identified as “Type B” by marking on packages or by shipping papers contain potentially life endangering amounts. Because of design, evaluation, and testing of packages, life endangering releases are not expected in accidents except those of utmost severity.
- Commonly available instruments can detect most of these materials.
- Water from cargo fire control is not expected to cause pollution.

3) Fire or Explosion

- Packaging can be consumed without content loss from sealed source capsule.
- Radioactive source capsules and Type B packages are designed to withstand temperatures of 1475°F (800°C)

Emergency Action

4) Immediate Precautions

- Priority response actions can be performed before taking radiation measurements.
- Priorities are life saving, control of fire and other hazards, and first aid.
- Isolate hazard area and deny entry. Notify Radiation Authority of accident conditions.
- Delay final cleanup until instruction or advice of Radiation Authority.
- Positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and structural firefighter’s protective clothing will provide adequate protection against internal radiation exposure, but not external radiation exposure.
- Call the following numbers depending on the gauge model:
 - InstroTek, Inc. 1-800-424-9300

5) Fire

- Do not move damaged packages; move undamaged packages out of fire zone.
- Small Fires: Dry chemical, CO₂ water spray or regular foam.
- Large Fires: Water spray, fog (flooding amounts)

6) Spill or Leak

- Do not touch damaged packages or spilled material.
- Slightly damaged or damp outer surfaces seldom indicate failure of inner container.
- If source is identified as being out of package, stay away and await advice from Radiation Authority.

7) First Aid

- Use First aid treatment according to the nature of the injury.
- Persons expose to special form sources are not likely to be contaminated with radiation material.