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IMMEDIATELY DANGEROUS TO LIFE OR HEALTH (IDLH) VALUE PROFILE

FOR

1,3-BUTADIENE

[CAS No. 106-99-0]

Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

**External Review Draft Document
March 2015**

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1 **Foreword**

2 Chemicals are a ubiquitous component of the modern workplace. Occupational exposures to chemicals have the
3 potential to adversely affect the health and lives of workers. Acute or short-term exposures to high concentrations
4 of some airborne chemicals have the ability to quickly overwhelm workers, resulting in a spectrum of undesirable
5 health outcomes that may inhibit the ability to escape from the exposure environment (e.g., irritation of the eyes
6 and respiratory tract or cognitive impairment), cause severe irreversible effects (e.g., damage to the respiratory
7 tract or reproductive toxicity), and in extreme cases, cause death. Airborne concentrations of chemicals capable
8 of causing such adverse health effects or of impeding escape from high-risk conditions may arise from a variety of
9 non-routine workplace situations, including special work procedures (e.g., in confined spaces), industrial
10 accidents (e.g., chemical spills or explosions), and chemical releases into the community (e.g., during
11 transportation incidents or other uncontrolled-release scenarios).

12
13 The “immediately dangerous to life or health air concentration values (IDLH values)” developed by the National
14 Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) characterize these high-risk exposure concentrations and
15 conditions [NIOSH 2013]. IDLH values are based on a 30-minute exposure duration and have traditionally
16 served as a key component of the decision logic for the selection of respiratory protection devices [NIOSH 2004].
17 Occupational health professionals have employed these values beyond their initial purpose as a component of the
18 NIOSH Respirator Selection Logic to assist in developing Risk Management Plans for non-routine work practices
19 governing operations in high-risk environments (e.g., confined spaces) and the development of Emergency
20 Preparedness Plans.

21
22 The approach used to derive IDLH values for high priority chemicals is outlined in the Current Intelligence
23 Bulletin (CIB) 66: Derivation of Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health Values [NIOSH 2013]. CIB 66
24 provides 1) an update on the scientific basis and risk assessment methodology used to derive IDLH values, 2) the
25 rationale and derivation process for IDLH values, and 3) a demonstration of the derivation of scientifically
26 credible IDLH values using available data resources.

27
28 The purpose of this technical report is to present the IDLH value for 1,3-butadiene (CAS # 106-99-0). The
29 scientific basis, toxicologic data and risk assessment approach used to derive the IDLH value are summarized to
30 ensure transparency and scientific credibility.

31
32 John Howard, M.D.
33 Director
34 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

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1 Abbreviations

2		
3	ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
4	AEGL	Acute Exposure Guideline Levels
5	AIHA	American Industrial Hygiene Association
6	BMC	benchmark concentration
7	BMCL	benchmark concentration lower confidence limit
8	C	ceiling
9	CAS	chemical abstract service
10	ERPG	Emergency Response Planning Guidelines
11	IDLH	immediately dangerous to life or health
12	LC ₅₀	median lethal concentration
13	LC _{Lo}	lowest concentration of a chemical that caused death in humans or animals
14	LEL	lower explosive limit
15	LOAEL	lowest observed adverse effect level
16	mg/m ³	milligram(s) per cubic meter
17	NAC	National Advisory Committee
18	NAS	National Academy of Sciences
19	NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
20	NOAEL	no observed adverse effect level
21	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
22	PEL	permissible exposure limit
23	ppm	parts per million
24	RD ₅₀	concentration of a chemical in the air that is estimated to cause a 50% decrease in the respiratory rate
25		
26	REL	recommended exposure limit
27	SCP	Standard Completion Program
28	STEL	short term exposure limit
29	TLV	threshold limit value
30	TWA	time weighted average
31	UEL	upper explosive limit
32	WEEL	workplace environmental exposure level

1 **Glossary**

2
3 **Acute Exposure:** Exposure by the oral, dermal, or inhalation route for 24 hours or less.

4 **Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGLs):** Threshold exposure limits for the general public applicable to
5 emergency exposure periods ranging from 10 minutes to 8 hours. AEGL-1, AEGL 2, and AEGL-3 are
6 developed for five exposure periods (10 and 30 minutes, 1 hour, 4 hours, and 8 hours) and are distinguished
7 by varying degrees of severity of toxic effects ranging from transient, reversible effects to life-threatening
8 effects [NAS 2001]. AEGLs are intended to be guideline levels used during rare events or single once-in-a-
9 lifetime exposures to airborne concentrations of acutely toxic, high-priority chemicals [NAS 2001]. The
10 threshold exposure limits are designed to protect the general population, including the elderly, children or
11 other potentially sensitive groups that are generally not considered in the development of workplace exposure
12 recommendations (additional information available at <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/aegl/>).

13 **Acute Reference Concentration (RfC):** An estimate (with uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude)
14 of a continuous inhalation exposure for an acute duration (24 hours or less) of the human population
15 (including sensitive subgroups) that is likely to be without an appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a
16 lifetime. It can be derived from a NOAEL, LOAEL, or benchmark concentration, with uncertainty factors
17 (UFs) generally applied to reflect limitations of the data used. Generally used in USEPA noncancer health
18 assessments [USEPA 2014].

19 **Acute Toxicity:** Any poisonous effect produced within a short period of time following an exposure, usually 24
20 to 96 hours.

21 **Adverse Effect:** A substance-related biochemical change, functional impairment, or pathologic lesion that affects
22 the performance of an organ or system or alters the ability to respond to additional environmental challenges.

23 **Benchmark Dose/Concentration (BMD/BMC):** A dose or concentration that produces a predetermined change
24 in response rate of an effect (called the benchmark response, or BMR) compared to background [USEPA
25 2014] (additional information available at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/bmds/>).

26 **Benchmark Response (BMR):** A predetermined change in response rate of an effect. Common defaults for the
27 BMR are 10% or 5%, reflecting study design, data variability, and sensitivity limits used.

28 **BMCL:** A statistical lower confidence limit on the concentration at the BMC [USEPA 2014].

29 **Bolus Exposure:** A single, relatively large dose.

30 **Ceiling Value ("C"):** U.S. term in occupational exposure indicating the airborne concentration of a potentially
31 toxic substance that should never be exceeded in a worker's breathing zone.

32 **Chronic Exposure:** Repeated exposure for an extended period of time. Typically exposures are more than
33 approximately 10% of life span for humans and >90 days to 2 years for laboratory species.

34 **Critical Study:** The study that contributes most significantly to the qualitative and quantitative assessment of risk
35 [USEPA 2014].

36
37 **Dose:** The amount of a substance available for interactions with metabolic processes or biologically significant
38 receptors after crossing the outer boundary of an organism [USEPA 2014].

39 **EC₅₀:** A combination of the effective concentration of a substance in the air and the exposure duration that is
40 predicted to cause an effect in 50% (one half) of the experimental test subjects.

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- 1 **Emergency Response Planning Guidelines (ERPGs):** Maximum airborne concentrations below which nearly all
2 individuals can be exposed without experiencing health effects for 1-hour exposure. ERPGs are presented in a
3 tiered fashion with health effects ranging from mild or transient to serious, irreversible, or life threatening
4 (depending on the tier). ERPGs are developed by the American Industrial Hygiene Association [AIHA 2006].
- 5 **Endpoint:** An observable or measurable biological event or sign of toxicity ranging from biomarkers of initial
6 response to gross manifestations of clinical toxicity.
- 7 **Exposure:** Contact made between a chemical, physical, or biological agent and the outer boundary of an
8 organism. Exposure is quantified as the amount of an agent available at the exchange boundaries of the
9 organism (e.g., skin, lungs, gut).
- 10 **Extrapolation:** An estimate of the response at a point outside the range of the experimental data, generally
11 through the use of a mathematical model, although qualitative extrapolation may also be conducted. The
12 model may then be used to extrapolate to response levels that cannot be directly observed.
- 13 **Hazard:** A potential source of harm. Hazard is distinguished from risk, which is the probability of harm under
14 specific exposure conditions.
- 15 **Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) condition:** A situation that poses a threat of exposure to
16 airborne contaminants when that exposure is likely to cause death or immediate or delayed permanent adverse
17 health effects or prevent escape from such an environment [NIOSH 2004, 2013].
- 18 **IDLH value:** A maximum (airborne concentration) level above which only a highly reliable breathing apparatus
19 providing maximum worker protection is permitted [NIOSH 2004, 2013]. IDLH values are based on a 30-
20 minute exposure duration.
- 21 **LC₀₁:** The statistically determined concentration of a substance in the air that is estimated to cause death in 1% of
22 the test animals.
- 23 **LC₅₀:** The statistically determined concentration of a substance in the air that is estimated to cause death in 50%
24 (one half) of the test animals; median lethal concentration.
- 25 **LC_{L0}:** The lowest lethal concentration of a substance in the air reported to cause death, usually for a small
26 percentage of the test animals.
27
- 28 **LD₅₀:** The statistically determined lethal dose of a substance that is estimated to cause death in 50% (one half) of
29 the test animals; median lethal concentration.
- 30 **LD_{L0}:** The lowest dose of a substance that causes death, usually for a small percentage of the test animals.
- 31 **LEL:** The minimum concentration of a gas or vapor in air, below which propagation of a flame does not occur in
32 the presence of an ignition source.
- 33 **Lethality:** Pertaining to or causing death; fatal; referring to the deaths resulting from acute toxicity studies. May
34 also be used in lethality threshold to describe the point of sufficient substance concentration to begin to cause
35 death.
- 36 **Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL):** The lowest tested dose or concentration of a substance that
37 has been reported to cause harmful (adverse) health effects in people or animals.

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- 1 **Mode of Action:** The sequence of significant events and processes that describes how a substance causes a toxic
2 outcome. Mode of action is distinguished from the more detailed mechanism of action, which implies a more
3 detailed understanding on a molecular level.
- 4 **No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL):** The highest tested dose or concentration of a substance that has
5 been reported to cause no harmful (adverse) health effects in people or animals.
- 6 **Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL):** Workplace exposure recommendations developed by governmental
7 agencies and non-governmental organizations. OELs are intended to represent the maximum airborne
8 concentrations of a chemical substance below which workplace exposures should not cause adverse health
9 effects. OELs may apply to ceiling, short-term (STELs), or time-weighted average (TWA) limits.
- 10 **Peak Concentration:** Highest concentration of a substance recorded during a certain period of observation.
- 11 **Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):** Occupational exposure limits developed by OSHA (29 CFR 1910.1000) or
12 MSHA (30 CFR 57.5001) for allowable occupational airborne exposure concentrations. PELs are legally
13 enforceable and may be designated as ceiling, STEL, or TWA limits.
- 14
- 15 **Point of Departure (POD):** The point on the dose–response curve from which dose extrapolation is initiated.
16 This point can be the lower bound on dose for an estimated incidence or a change in response level from a
17 concentration–response model (BMC), or it can be a NOAEL or LOAEL for an observed effect selected from
18 a dose evaluated in a health effects or toxicology study.
- 19 **RD₅₀:** The statistically determined concentration of a substance in the air that is estimated to cause a 50% (one
20 half) decrease in the respiratory rate.
- 21 **Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):** Recommended maximum exposure limit to prevent adverse health
22 effects based on human and animal studies and established for occupational (up to 10-hour shift, 40-hour
23 week) inhalation exposure by NIOSH. RELs may be designated as ceiling, STEL, or TWA limits.
- 24 **Short-Term Exposure Limit (STEL):** A worker’s 15-minute time-weighted average exposure concentration that
25 shall not be exceeded at any time during a work day.
- 26 **Target Organ:** Organ in which the toxic injury manifests in terms of dysfunction or overt disease.
- 27 **Threshold Limit Values (TLVs®):** Recommended guidelines for occupational exposure to airborne
28 contaminants, published by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH). TLVs
29 refer to airborne concentrations of chemical substances and represent conditions under which it is believed
30 that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed, day after day, over a working lifetime, without adverse
31 effects. TLVs may be designated as ceiling, short-term (STELs), or 8-hr TWA limits.
- 32 **Time-Weighted Average (TWA):** A worker’s 8-hour (or up to 10-hour) time-weighted average exposure
33 concentration that shall not be exceeded during an 8-hour (or up to 10-hour) work shift of a 40-hour week.
34 The average concentration is weighted to take into account the duration of different exposure concentrations.
- 35 **Toxicity:** The degree to which a substance is able to cause an adverse effect on an exposed organism.
- 36
- 37 **Uncertainty Factors (UFs):** Mathematical adjustments applied to the POD when developing IDLH values. The
38 UFs for IDLH value derivation are determined by considering the study and effect used for the POD, with
39 further modification based on the overall database.

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1 **Workplace Environmental Exposure Levels (WEELs):** Exposure levels developed by the American Industrial
2 Hygiene Association (AIHA) that provide guidance for protecting most workers from adverse health effects
3 related to occupational chemical exposures expressed as a TWA or ceiling limit.
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Overview of the IDLH Value for 1,3-Butadiene

IDLH Value: 1,400 ppm (>10% LEL)

Basis for IDLH Value: Despite the availability of toxicity data capable of being used to calculate health-based estimates for 1,3-butadiene (see Tables 4 and 5), these estimates are all are greater than 10% of the lower explosive limit (>10% LEL). NIOSH has adopted a threshold of 10% LEL as a default basis for the IDLH values based on explosivity concerns [NIOSH 2014]. Safety considerations related to the potential hazard of explosion must be taken into account and the IDLH value is set at the 10% LEL for 1,3-butadiene of **1,400 ppm**.

1.2 Purpose

This *IDLH Value Profile* presents (1) a brief summary of technical data associated with acute inhalation exposures to 1,3-butadiene and (2) the rationale behind the Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) value for 1,3-butadiene. IDLH values are developed based on the scientific rationale and logic outlined in the Current Intelligence Bulletin (CIB) 66: Derivation of Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) values [NIOSH 2013]. As described in CIB 66, NIOSH performs in-depth literature searches to ensure that all relevant data from human and animal studies with acute exposures to the substance are identified. Information included in CIB 66 on the literature search includes pertinent databases, key terms, and guides for evaluating data quality and relevance for the establishment of an IDLH value. The information that is identified in the in-depth literature search is evaluated with general considerations that include description of studies (i.e., species, study protocol, exposure concentration and duration), health endpoint evaluated, and critical effect levels (e.g., NOAELs, LOAELs, LC₅₀ values). For 1,3-butadiene, the in-depth literature search was conducted through February 2014.

1.3 General Substance Information

Chemical: 1,3-Butadiene

CAS No: 106-99-0

Synonyms: Butadiene; Divinyl; Biethylene; Erythrene*

Chemical category: Unsaturated, aliphatic hydrocarbons; Organic gases[†]

1
2
3
4 **Structural formula:**



8 Table 1 highlights selected physiochemical properties of 1,3-butadiene relevant to IDLH conditions. Table 2
9 provides alternative exposure guidelines for 1,3-butadiene. Table 3 summarizes the Acute Exposure Guidelines
10 Level (AEGL) values for 1,3-butadiene.

11
12 **Table 1: Physiochemical Properties of 1,3-Butadiene**
13

Property	Value
Molecular weight	54.09*
Chemical formula	C ₄ H ₆
Description	Colorless gas
Odor	Mild aromatic or gasoline-like
Odor Threshold	0.45 ppm*
UEL	16.3% [†]
LEL	1.4% [†]
Vapor pressure	2110 mmHg at 25°C (77°F) [‡]
Flash point	-76.11°C (-105°F) [‡]
Ignition temperature	414.44°C (788°F) [‡]
Solubility	Slightly soluble in water [†]

14 **Abbreviation:** °C – Celsius; °F – Fahrenheit; mmHg – millimeter mercury; LEL – lower explosive limit; UEL – upper explosive limit

15 * AIHA [1989]

16 [†] IFA [2013]

17 [‡] HSDB [2013]

18
19
20 **Table 2: Alternative Exposure Guidelines for 1,3-Butadiene**
21

Organization	Value
Revised (1994) IDLH value	2000 ppm [LEL]
NIOSH REL	Not available
OSHA PEL [2014]	1 ppm TWA; 5 ppm STEL
ACGIH TLV [2014]	2 ppm, TWA
AIHA ERPG [2010]	ERPG-1: 10 ppm; ERPG-2: 200 ppm; ERPG-3: 5,000 ppm
AIHA WEEL [2010]	Not available

22 **Abbreviation:** ACGIH – American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists; AIHA – American Industrial Hygiene
23 Association; ERPG – Emergency Response Preparedness Guidelines; IDLH – immediately dangerous to life or health; NIOSH – National
24 Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration; PEL – permissible exposure limit;
25 REL – recommended exposure limit; SCP – Standards Completion Program; TWA – time-weighted average; WEEL – workplace
26 environmental exposure level

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1 **Table 3: AEGL Values for 1,3-Butadiene**

2

Classification	10-min	30-min	1-hour	4-hour	8-hour	Endpoint [reference]
AEGL-1	670 ppm	Difficulty in focusing in humans [Carpenter et al. 1944]				
	1,500 mg/m ³					
AEGL-2	6,700 ppm*	6,700 ppm*	5,300 ppm*	3,400 ppm*	2,700 ppm*	No effects in humans [Carpenter et al. 1944]
	15,000 mg/m ³	15,000 mg/m ³	12,000 mg/m ³	7,500 mg/m ³	6,000 mg/m ³	
AEGL-3	27,000 ppm†	27,000 ppm†	22,000 ppm†	14,000 ppm‡	6,800 ppm*	Lethality in rats [Shugaev 1969]
	60,000 mg/m ³	60,000 mg/m ³	49,000 mg/m ³	31,000 mg/m ³	15,000 mg/m ³	

3 **Abbreviation:** AEGL – acute exposure guideline levels; mg/m³ – milligrams per cubic meter; min – minute; NR – not recommended due to insufficient data; ppm – parts per million

4 **References:** NAS [2008]

5 * Safety considerations against the hazard(s) of explosion(s) must be taken into account.

6 † Extreme safety considerations against the hazard(s) of explosion(s) must be taken into account.

7 ‡ Extreme safety considerations against the hazard(s) of explosion(s) must be taken into account.

2.0 Animal Toxicity Data

Several lethality studies in animals were available. The lowest LC₅₀ value of 122,000 ppm was reported by Shugaev [1969]. In this study, mice were exposed to varying concentrations of 1,3-butadiene for 2 hours. Prior to death, deep narcosis was seen. The authors also reported a LC₁₆ value of 91,000 ppm and a LC₈₄ value of 169,000 ppm.

In a carcinogenicity study, Bucher et al. [1993] exposed mice to 0, 1,000, 5,000, or 10,000 ppm of 1,3-butadiene for a single 2-hour period and held the animals for 2 years prior to microscopic examination of tissues. Even at the highest concentration, there was no mortality. No effects were reported.

Although metabolism is qualitatively similar across species, there are substantial quantitative differences, with the toxic epoxide metabolite formed at much higher levels in mice than in rats. The higher susceptibility of mice compared to rats is attributed to this difference, together with the higher ventilation rate in mice. Based on the lower ventilation rate in humans and the limited *in vitro* metabolism data, humans are considered to be more similar to rats than mice.

1,3-butadiene is carcinogenic to rats and mice, with mice being more susceptible than rats [IARC 1999; EC 2002; USEPA 2002]. EC [2002] and USEPA [2002] concluded that 1,3-butadiene is carcinogenic to humans, while IARC [1999] concluded that there is limited evidence for the carcinogenicity of 1,3-butadiene. No increase in tumor incidence was observed in the study by Bucher et al. [1993], in which mice were exposed to concentrations up to 10,000 ppm for a single 2-hour period and held for 2 years prior to microscopic examination of tissues. Based on this acute study, no additional factor was added to account for 1,3-butadiene carcinogenicity, even though extrapolation from the chronic data indicates a risk greater than 1×10^{-3} for a 30-minute exposure at the level of the IDLH value.

Table 4 summarizes the LC data identified in animal studies and provides 30-minute equivalent derived values for 1,3-butadiene. Table 5 provides non-lethal data reported in animal studies with 30-minute equivalent derived values. Information in these tables includes species of test animals, toxicological metrics (i.e., LC, BMCL, NOAEL, LOAEL), adjusted 30-minute concentration, and the justification for the composite uncertainty factors applied to calculate the derived values.

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1 **Table 4: Lethal Concentration Data for 1,3-Butadiene**

2

Reference	Species (reference)	LC ₅₀ (ppm)	Other Lethality (ppm)	Time (min)	Adjusted 30-min Concentration* (ppm)	Composite Uncertainty Factor	Derived Value (ppm)†
Shugaev [1969]	Mouse	122,000	--	120	193,663	30 [±]	6,455
Shugaev [1969]	Mouse	--	91,000 [‡]	120	144,454	10 [^]	14,445
Shugaev [1969]	Rat	128,000	--	240	256,000	30 [±]	8,533
Von Oettingen [1940]	Rat	130,000	--	240	260,000	30 [±]	8,667
AIHA [2010]	Rat	--	200,000 [§]	30	200,000	30 [±]	6,667
Shugaev [1969]	Rat	--	79,000 [‡]	240	158,000	10 [^]	15,800
Shugaev [1969]	Rat	--	207,000 ^{**}	240	414,000	10 [^]	41,400

3 **Abbreviation:** LC – lethal concentration; LC₅₀ – median lethal concentration; LC_{Lo} – lowest concentration of a chemical that caused death in humans or animals; min – minute; ppm – parts
4 per million

5
6
7 * For exposures other than 30 minutes the ten Berge et al. [1986] relationship is used for duration adjustment ($C^n \times t = k$); no empirically estimated n values were
8 available, therefore the default values were used, n = 3 for exposures greater than 30 minutes and n = 1 for exposures less than 30 minutes.

9 †The derived value is the result of the adjusted 30-minute concentration divided by the composite uncertainty factor.

10 ‡Composite uncertainty factor to account for adjustment of LC₅₀ values to LC₀₁ values, use of lethal concentration threshold in animals, interspecies differences and
11 human variability.

12 ‡ Reported as LC₁₆

13 ^ Composite uncertainty factor to account for use of lethal concentration threshold in animals, interspecies differences and human variability.

14 § Deaths in 2/5 rats

15 ** Reported as LC₈₄

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Table 5: Non-lethal Concentration Data for 1,3-Butadiene

Reference	Species (reference)	NOAEL (ppm)	LOAEL (ppm)	Time (min)	Adjusted 30-min Concentration* (ppm)	Composite Uncertainty Factor	Derived Value (ppm)†
Bucher et al. [1993]	Mouse	10,000	--	120	15,874	3 [±]	5,291
Carpenter et al. [1944]	Human	--	4,000	360	9,160	3 [‡]	3,053
Carpenter et al. [1944]	Human	--	2,000	420	4,820	3 [‡]	1,607
Carpenter et al. [1944]	Human	--	8,000	480	20,159	3 [‡]	6,720

Abbreviation: NOAEL – no observed adverse effect level; min – minute; LOAEL – lowest observed adverse effect level; ppm – parts per million

* For exposures other than 30 minutes the ten Berge et al. [1986] relationship is used for duration adjustment ($C^n \times t = k$); no empirically estimated n values were available, therefore the default values were used, n = 3 for exposures greater than 30 minutes and n = 1 for exposures less than 30 minutes.

†The derived value is the result of the adjusted 30-minute concentration divided by the composite uncertainty factor.

[±] Composite uncertainty factor to account for interspecies differences and human variability.

[‡]Composite uncertainty factor to account for adjustment from a severe effect threshold in humans and human variability.

3.0 Human Data

No information was located on concentrations lethal to humans. Information regarding human exposure to 1,3-butadiene is available from several clinical and epidemiological studies. Larionov et al. [1934] exposed volunteers to 10,000 ppm of 1,3-butadiene for 5 minutes. Blood pressure and respiration were monitored, but only nose and throat irritation were reported. Exposure to 10,000 ppm for 5 minutes resulted in slight irritation and dryness of the nose and mouth with some increase in pulse rate but no effect on blood pressure or respiration [Shugaev 1968].

Carpenter et al. [1944] exposed two males to 2,000 ppm 1,3-butadiene for 7 hours, 4,000 ppm for 6 hours, or 8,000 ppm for 8 hours, with a 1-hour lunch break in the middle of the exposure period; exposure concentrations were monitored regularly. Effects reported included slight smarting of the eyes and difficulty in focusing. There was no effect on a tapping test or steadiness test.

4.0 Summary

Despite the availability of toxicity data capable of being used to calculate health-based estimates for 1,3-butadiene (see Tables 4 and 5), these estimates are all greater than 10% of the lower explosive limit (>10% LEL). NIOSH has adopted a threshold of 10% LEL as a default basis for the IDLH values based on explosivity concerns [NIOSH 2014]. Safety considerations related to the potential hazard of explosion must be taken into account and the IDLH value is set at the 10% LEL for 1,3-butadiene of **1,400 ppm**.

If the explosive hazards of 1,3-butadiene are controlled or toxicity issues are the primary concern, a health-based IDLH value could be derived from numerous datasets. Based on effects seen in humans, a NOAEL for escape-impairing effects was identified at 8,000 ppm for a 6-hour exposure [Carpenter et al. 1944]. The exposure concentration adjusted for a 30-minute exposure is 20,159 ppm. A composite uncertainty factor of 3 was applied to account for extrapolation from a severe effect threshold in humans, taking into account uncertainties with regard to the quality of the study. This results in an IDLH value of 6,720 ppm. This value is supported by lethality studies. Shugaev [1969] reported a rat 4-hour LC₅₀ value of 128,000 ppm, while Bucher et al. [1993] reported a mouse 2-hour LC₅₀ value of 122,000 ppm. Extrapolating to a 30-minute duration and applying a composite uncertainty factor of 30 to account for extrapolation from a concentration that is lethal to animals,

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- 1 animal to human differences and human variability results in potential IDLH values of 8,533 ppm and 6,455 ppm,
- 2 respectively. Based on the overall data, and taking into account that the rat is a better model for humans than the
- 3 mouse, this would result in a health-based IDLH value of 6,720 ppm.

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