



HEALTH ALERT



Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S)

H₂S gas can cause serious injury or death. H₂S is also referred to as Sewer Gas, Stink Damp, Swamp Gas, or Manure Gas.



YOU CANNOT RELY ON A SENSE OF SMELL TO MONITOR H₂S LEVELS

H₂S gas can quickly numb the sense of smell. While a miner may initially detect H₂S gas by a rotten egg smell, a sense of smell cannot be relied on for ongoing monitoring.

Where is H₂S found?

- H₂S can be released into the air during mining activities. It can also be found in various industrial operations, sulfur springs, sewers, and volcanic gas.
- Underground mines, confined spaces, and manholes can accumulate H₂S, making these areas especially dangerous when H₂S is present.

How do I protect myself from H₂S?

- Ensure that all work areas are well ventilated, especially enclosed areas.
- Always carry a gas detector when working or traveling in areas that may contain H₂S.
- If you are working in an area that contains H₂S, ensure that you have appropriate respiratory protection

What are the health effects of H₂S?

- H₂S can cause irritation to the eyes and respiratory system, disorientation, dizziness, headache, fatigue, sensitivity to light, fluid in the lungs, coma, seizures, and in severe exposures, death.

