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MSDS NO: NICKEL ELECTRODES I  
REVISED 3-88

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET (MSDS)**

For Welding Consumables and Related Products  
Conforms to OSHA Hazard Communication Standard 29CFR 1910.1200  
Standard Must Be Consulted for Specific Requirements

**SECTION I - IDENTIFICATION**

Manufacturer/Supplier Name: Washington Alloy Company	Telephone No: 206-848-2230
Address: 9809 160th St. E., Puyallup, WA 98373	Emergency No: 206-848-2230
Trade Name: USA Nickel 55, USA Nickel 99	Classification: AWS A5.15 (Nickel Base Electrodes)

**SECTION II - HAZARDOUS MATERIALS\***

IMPORTANT: This section covers the materials from which the product is manufactured. The fumes and gases produced during welding with the normal use of this product are covered under Section V.

\*The term "HAZARDOUS MATERIALS" should be interpreted as a term required and defined in OSHA HAZARD COMMUNICATION STANDARD 29 CFR 1910.1200 however the use of this term does not necessarily imply the existence of any hazard.

Flux or other ingredients	CAS No.	Exposure Limit (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	
		OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV
Iron	7439-89-6	5	Not Reported
Nickel	7440-02-0	1	1
Copper	7440-50-8	1 (Dust)	2 **
Aluminum	7429-90-5	Nothing Found	10
Calcium Fluoride	7789-75-5	2.5 (as F)	2.5 (as F)
Sodium Silicate	1344-09-8	Nothing Found	Nothing Found
Calcium Carbonate	1317-65-3	Nothing Found	10
Silicon	7440-21-3	Nothing Found	10, 20 **
Graphite	7782-42-5	Nothing Found	5
Barium Carbonate	513-77-9	0.5	0.5
Strontium Carbonate	1633-05-2	Nothing Found	Nothing Found
Manganese	7439-96-5	5	1* (Fume)
Potassium Silicate	1312-76-1	Nothing Found	Nothing Found

Occupational Safety and Health Administration 29 CFR 1910.1000 Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL). American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Value (TLV(R)). \*Ceiling Limit \*\*Short Term Exposure Limit

**SECTION III - PHYSICAL DATA**

NOT APPLICABLE

**SECTION IV - FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA**

Non-Flammable: Welding arc and sparks can ignite combustibles. See Z-49.1 referenced in Section VI.

**SECTION V - REACTIVITY DATA**

**Hazardous Decomposition Products**

Welding fumes and gases cannot be classified simply. The composition and quantity of these fumes and gases are dependent upon the metal being welded, the procedures followed and the electrodes used.

Workers should be aware that the composition and quantity of fumes and gases to which they may be exposed, are influenced by: coatings which may be present on the metal being welded (such as paint, plating, or galvanizing), the number of welders in operation and the volume of the work area, the quality and amount of ventilation, the position of the welder's head with respect to the fume plume, as well as the presence of contaminants in the atmosphere (such as chlorinated hydrocarbon vapors from cleaning and degreasing procedures). When the electrode is consumed, the fumes and gas decomposition products generated are different in percent and form from the ingredients listed in Section II. The composition of these fumes and gases are the concerning matter and not the composition of the electrode itself. Decomposition products include those originating from the volatilization, reaction, or oxidation of the ingredients shown in Section II, plus those from the base metal, coating and the other factors noted above.

Reasonable expected fume constituents of this product would include: Complex oxides of aluminum, iron, manganese, silicon, sodium, potassium, nickel, calcium, and copper. Fluorides will also be present.

Substance	CAS No.	Exposure Limit (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	
		OSHA PEL	ALGIH TLV
Iron Oxide	1309-38-2	5	10 (as Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )
Manganese	7439-96-5	5*	1* (Fume)
Copper	7440-50-8	0.1 (Fume)	0.2 (Fume)
Nickel (Soluble)		1 (as Ni)	0.1 (as Ni)
Nickel Oxide	1313-99-1	Nothing Found	1 (as Ni)
Silicon Oxide	7631-86-9	5	3
Fluorides		2.5 (as F)	2.5 (as F)
Calcium Oxide	1305-78-8	5 (as CaO)	2 (as CaO)
Aluminum Oxide	1344-28-1	Nothing Found	10

\*Ceiling Limit \*\*Short Term Exposure Limit

Gaseous reaction products may include carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.

Ozone and nitrogen oxides may be formed by the radiation from the arc.

One method of determining the composition and quantity of the fumes and gases to which the workers are exposed is to take an air sample from inside the welder's helmet while worn or within the worker's breathing zone. See ANSI/AWS F1.1 publication available from the American Welding Society 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida 33126.

**SECTION VI - HEALTH HAZARD DATA**

Threshold Limit Value: The ACGIH recommended general limit for welding fume NOC (Not otherwise classified) is 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>. ACGIH - 1985 preface states: "The TLV-TWA should be used as guides in the control of health hazards and should not be used as fine lines between safe and dangerous concentrations." See section V for specific fume constituents which may modify this TLV.

Common Entry Is by Inhalation

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**Effects of Overexposure:** Inhalation of welding fumes and gases can be dangerous to your health. Short-term (acute) overexposure to welding fumes may result in discomfort such as dizziness, nausea, or dryness or irritation of nose, throat, or eyes. Inhalation of extremely high levels of fluorides may cause abdominal pain, diarrhea, muscular weakness and convulsions. Continued inhalation could cause loss of consciousness and death. Nickel oxides present in the fume may cause tightness around the chest, fever and allergic reactions in some people. Long-term (chronic) over-exposure to welding fumes can lead to siderosis (iron deposits in lung) and is believed to affect pulmonary function. Repetitive exposure to fluoride fumes and/or gases may cause excessive calcification of the bones and ligaments of the ribs, pelvis and spinal column. Repetitive overexposure to nickel oxides may lead to lung fibrosis or pneumoconiosis. Workers exposed to nickel oxides have a higher incidence of lung and nasal cancers. Nickel compounds are on the IARC (International Agency for Research of Cancer) list as posing a carcinogenic risks to humans.

Arc Rays can injure eyes and burn skin.

Electric shock can kill.

See Section VII.

**Emergency and First Aid Procedures:** Call for medical assistance. Use first aid procedures recommended by the American Red Cross. If breathing is difficult - give oxygen. If not breathing - use CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Consult a physician if irritation of the eyes and skin or flash burns develop after exposure.

**Carcinogenicity**

OSHA (29 CFR 1910.1200) lists Nickel as a possible carcinogen.

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#### SECTION VII - CONTROL MEASURES AND PRECAUTIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING AND USE

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Read and understand the manufacturer's instructions and precautionary label on this product. See American Standard Z49.1 Safety in Welding and Cutting, published by the AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY, 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida 33126 and OSHA Publication 2206 (29 CFR 1910), U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. 20402 for more details on the following topics.

**Ventilation:** Use plenty of ventilation and/or local exhaust at the arc, to keep the fumes and gases below the threshold limit value within the worker's breathing zone and the general work area. Welders should be advised to keep their head out of the fumes.

**Respiratory Protection:** Use respirable fume respirator or air supplied respirator when welding in a confined space or general work area where local exhaust and/or ventilation does not keep exposure below the threshold limit value.

**Eye Protection:** Wear a helmet or face shield with a filter lens shade number 12-14 or darker. Shield other workers by providing screens and flash goggles.

**Protective Clothing:** Wear approved head, hand and body protection which help to prevent injury from radiation, sparks and electrical shock. See ANSI Z-49.1. This would include wearing welder's gloves and a protective face shield and may include arm protectors, apron, hats, shoulder protection, as well as dark substantial clothing. Welders should be trained not to allow electrically live parts to contact the skin or wet clothing and gloves. The welders should insulate themselves from the work and ground.

**Waste Disposal Method:** Discard any product, residue, disposal container, or liner in an environmentally acceptable manner approved by Federal, State and Local regulations.

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Washington Alloy Co. believes that the information contained in this (MSDS) Material Safety Data Sheet is accurate. However, Washington Alloy Co. does not express or imply any warranty with respect to this information.