

**SAFETY DATA SHEET**

**1. SUBSTANCE AND SOURCE IDENTIFICATION**

**Product Identifier**

**SRM Number:** 4334I  
**SRM Name:** Plutonium-242 Radioactivity Standard  
**Other Means of Identification:** Not applicable.

**Recommended Use of This Material and Restrictions of Use**

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended primarily for the calibration of instruments that are used to measure radioactivity and for the monitoring of radiochemical procedures. A unit of SRM 4334I consists of 5 mL of a 3.2 mol/L (18 %) nitric acid solution in which a certified quantity of radioactive Plutonium-242 is dissolved. The solution is contained in a 5 mL flame sealed borosilicate glass ampoule.

**Company Information**

National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 Standard Reference Materials Program  
 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2300  
 Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-2300

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**2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION**

**Radiological Hazard**

**Warning: THIS MATERIAL SHOULD ONLY BE USED BY PERSONS QUALIFIED TO HANDLE RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL!**

This product contains licensed radioactive material and is therefore subject to the requirements of 10 CFR Part 20 (e.g., public and occupational exposure limits, waste disposal). At a minimum, the basic radiation safety principles of time, distance, and shielding, and appropriate radiation contamination control should be practiced to avoid/minimize any external and/or internal exposure. Consult with your Radiation Safety office for your facility's radiation safety requirements/precautions specific to the radionuclide(s) (including its activity and chemical/physical form) in this Radioactive SRM.

**SRM 4334I is a radioactive material, Plutonium-242, with a massic activity of 26.77 Bq·g<sup>-1</sup> in a nitric acid solution. Plutonium-242 decays by alpha-particle emission. None of the alpha particles escape from the SRM ampoule. During the decay process X-rays and gamma rays with energies from 10 keV to 160 keV are also emitted. THIS SRM SHOULD ONLY BE USED BY PERSONS QUALIFIED TO HANDLE RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL!**

**Classification**

**Physical Hazard:** There are no known physical hazards associated with this material.  
**Health Hazard:** Skin Corrosion/Irritation Category 1B  
 Serious Eye Damage/Irritation Category 1

**Label Elements**

**Symbol**



**Signal Word**  
 DANGER

**Hazard Statement(s)**

H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

**Precautionary Statement(s)**

P260 Do not breathe fumes, mists, vapors, or spray.

P264 Wash hands thoroughly after handling.

P280 Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, and eye protection.

P301 + P330 + P331 If swallowed: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.

P303 + P361 + P353 If on skin (or hair): Remove immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water.

P304 + P340 If inhaled: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.

P305 + P351 + P338 If in eyes: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

P310 Immediately call a doctor.

P363 Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

P405 Store locked up.

P501 Dispose of contents and container according to local regulations.

**Hazards Not Otherwise Classified:** None.

**Ingredients(s) with Unknown Acute Toxicity:** None.

**3. COMPOSITION AND INFORMATION ON HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS**

**Substance:** Plutonium-242 in nitric acid, solution.

**Other Designations:**

**Nitric Acid:** Aqua fortis; hydronitrate; azotic acid; engraver's acid.

**Plutonium-242:** Not applicable.

Components are listed in compliance with OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.1200; for the actual values see the NIST Certificate.

<b>Hazardous Component(s)</b>	<b>CAS Number</b>	<b>EC Number (EINECS)</b>	<b>Nominal Mass Concentration (%)</b>
Nitric acid	7697-37-2	231-714-2	18
Plutonium-242	not applicable	not applicable	0.000 018 3
<b>Non-Hazardous Component(s)</b>			
Water	7732-18-5	231-791-2	82

**4. FIRST AID MEASURES****Description of First Aid Measures:**

**Inhalation:** If adverse effects occur, remove to uncontaminated area. If not breathing, give artificial respiration or oxygen by qualified personnel. Seek immediate medical attention.

**Skin Contact:** Rinse affected area with copious amounts of water followed by washing with soap and water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing. Seek medical attention, if needed.

**Eye Contact:** Immediately flush eyes, including under the eyelids with copious amounts of water for at least 30 minutes. Seek immediate medical attention.

**Ingestion:** Contact a poison control center immediately for instructions. Wash out mouth with water, but do not induce vomiting. Seek medical aid at once, and bring the container or label.

**Most Important Symptoms/Effects, Acute and Delayed:** Acid burns to skin, eyes, and lungs.

**Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed, if necessary:** If any of the above symptoms are present, seek immediate medical attention.

**5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES**

**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** Negligible fire hazard. See Section 9, "Physical and Chemical Properties" for flammability properties.

**Extinguishing Media:**

Suitable: Use extinguishing media appropriate to the surrounding fire.

Unsuitable: None listed.

**Specific Hazards Arising from the Chemical:** Oxides of nitrogen.

**Special Protective Equipment and Precautions for Fire-Fighters:** Avoid inhalation of material or combustion byproducts. Wear full protective clothing and NIOSH approved self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

**NFPA Ratings:** (0 = Minimal; 1 = Slight; 2 = Moderate; 3 = Serious; 4 = Severe)

Health = 3

Fire = 0

Reactivity = 0

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**6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

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**This material is radioactive. DO NOT touch spilled material. Immediately notify safety personnel of a spill.**

**Personal Precautions, Protective Equipment, Methods and Materials for Containment and Clean up:**

**Radiological Emergency Procedures:**

*The following is a guide for first responders. The following actions, including remediation, should be carried out by qualified individuals. In cases where a life-threatening injury occurs concurrent with personal contamination, treat the injury first.*

Do not touch damaged packages or spilled material. Handle as a radioactive material spill. In addition to those actions described below, the guidelines in the 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) provide more specific measures that should be followed.

**Spill and Leak Control:**

Alert and clear everyone from the area affected by the spill.

Take actions to limit the spread of contamination.

Summon aid.

**Damage to the Radioactive Source:**

Evacuate the immediate vicinity around the source.

Place a barrier at a safe distance from the source.

Identify area as a radiation hazard.

**Suggested Emergency Protective Equipment:**

Gloves

Footwear Covers

Outer layer or easily removed protective clothing (as situation requires)

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**7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**

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**Safe Handling Precautions and Storage:** This material is radioactive. Store and handle in accordance with all current regulations and standards. See NRC 10 CFR 20 or state regulations. See Section 8, "Exposure Controls and Personal Protection". Keep separated from incompatible substances (see Section 10, "Stability and Reactivity").

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**8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION**

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**Exposure Limits****Pu-242**

ALI<sub>inh</sub>: 0.007  $\mu$ Ci (See NRC 10 CFR 20 Appendix B)

ALI<sub>ing</sub>: 0.8  $\mu$ Ci

OSHA: See OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1096 and NRC 10 CFR 20.

ACGIH: See International Commission on Radiological Protection Guidelines

**Nitric Acid:**

NIOSH (REL): 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (2 ppm; TWA); 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (4 ppm; STEL); 65 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (25 ppm; IDLH)

ACGIH (TLV): 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (2 ppm; TWA); 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (4 ppm; STEL)

OSHA (PEL): 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (2 ppm; TWA)

**Engineering Controls:** Provide local exhaust or process enclosure ventilation system. Ensure compliance with applicable exposure limits.

**Personal Protection:** In accordance with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.132, subpart I, wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to minimize exposure to this material.

**Respiratory Protection:** If workplace conditions warrant a respirator, a respiratory protection program that meets OSHA 29CFR 1910.134 must be followed. Refer to NIOSH 42 CFR 84 for applicable certified respirators.

**Eye/Face Protection:** Wear splash resistant safety goggles with a face shield. An eye wash station should be readily available near areas of use.

**Skin and Body Protection:** Wear protective clothing to prevent contact with skin. Wear appropriate gloves.

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## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

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### Descriptive Properties

**Appearance (physical state, color, etc.):**

**Molecular Formula:**

**Molar Mass (g/mol):**

**Odor:**

**Odor threshold:**

**pH:**

**Evaporation rate:**

**Melting point/freezing point (°C):**

**Relative Density (g/L) as specific gravity (water = 1):**

**Vapor Pressure (mmHg):**

**Vapor Density (air = 1):**

**Viscosity (cP):**

**Solubility(ies):**

**Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water):**

### Nitric acid

**(18 % of this SRM)**

colorless to yellow liquid

HNO<sub>3</sub>

63.01

irritating odor

not available

1 (1 M)

not available

-42 (-43 °F)

1.5027 at 25 °C

47.9 at 20 °C

3.2

not available

miscible with water and ether

not available

### Thermal Stability Properties

**Autoignition Temperature (°C):**

**Thermal Decomposition (°C):**

**Initial boiling point and boiling range (°C):**

**Explosive Limits, LEL (Volume %):**

**Explosive Limits, UEL (Volume %):**

**Flash Point (°C):**

**Flammability (solid, gas):**

not applicable

not applicable

83 (181 °F)

not applicable

not applicable

not applicable

not applicable

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## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

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**Reactivity:** Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.

**Stability:**   X   Stable        Unstable

**Possible Hazardous Reactions:** None listed.

**Conditions to Avoid:** Avoid contact with combustible materials and incompatible materials.

**Incompatible Materials:** Acids, combustible materials, halo carbons, amines, bases, oxidizing materials, metals, halogens, metal salts, metal oxides, reducing agents, peroxides, metal carbide, cyanides.

**Fire/Explosion Information:** See Section 5, "Fire Fighting Measures".

**Hazardous Decomposition:** Oxides of nitrogen.

**Hazardous Polymerization:**        Will Occur   X   Will Not Occur

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## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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**Route of Exposure:**   X   Inhalation   X   Skin   X   Ingestion

**Symptoms Related to the Physical, Chemical and Toxicological Characteristics:** Acid burns to skin, eyes, and lungs.

**Potential Health Effects (Acute, Chronic and Delayed):**

**Inhalation:** Nitric acid, if inhaled, can damage the mucous membranes and respiratory tract. Short term exposure may cause irritation and inflammation of the upper respiratory tract, coughing, choking, sore throat, shortness of breath, headache, dizziness, and nausea. Long term exposure to acid fumes may cause damage to teeth, bronchial irritation, chronic cough, bronchial pneumonia, and gastrointestinal disturbances.

**Skin Contact:** Nitric acid can cause severe skin burns. Severity of the damage depends on the concentration and duration of exposure. Effects of acid burns may be delayed.

**Eye Contact:** Nitric acid can cause severe eye irritation, corneal burns, permanent eye damage, or blindness. Severity of the damage depends on the concentration and duration of exposure.

**Ingestion:** If ingested, nitric acid can cause severe burns and damage to the gastrointestinal tract.

**Numerical Measures of Toxicity:**

**Acute Toxicity:** Not classified.

Nitric acid, Rat, Inhalation LC50: 130 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (4 h)

**Skin Corrosion/Irritation:** This SRM contains 18 % nitric acid and it is classified as Category 1B.

**Serious Eye Damage/Eye Irritation:** This SRM contains 18 % nitric acid and it is classified as Category 1.

**Respiratory Sensitization:** No data available.

**Skin Sensitization:** No data available.

**Germ Cell Mutagenicity:** No data available.

**Carcinogenicity:** Not classified.

**Listed as a Carcinogen/Potential Carcinogen** \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ X No

Nitric acid is not listed by NTP, IARC or OSHA as a carcinogen/potential carcinogen.

**Radiological Hazard:** Plutonium-242

Ionizing radiation is a known carcinogen.

**Reproductive Toxicity:** No data available.

**Specific Target Organ Toxicity, Single Exposure:** No data available.

**Specific Target Organ Toxicity, Repeated Exposure:** No data available.

**Aspiration Hazard:** No data available.

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## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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**Ecotoxicity Data:**

Nitric acid: Fish, hooknose or pogge (*Agonus cataphractus*) LC50: 100 mg/L to 330 mg/L (48 h)

Plutonium-242: No ecotoxicity data listed.

**Persistence and Degradability:** No data available.

**Bioaccumulative Potential:** No data available.

**Mobility in Soil:** No data available.

**Other Adverse Effects:** No data available.

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## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

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**Waste Disposal:** This material is radioactive. Dispose in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations for **RADIOACTIVE** materials. See NRC 10 CFR 20 subpart K.

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## 14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

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**U.S. DOT and IATA:** UN2031, Corrosive liquid, n.o.s. (contains nitric acid), Hazard Class 8, Packing Group II, Excepted Quantity E2.

Subsidiary Risk: None.

Comments: Not radioactive for shipping purposes.

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## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

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**U.S. Regulations:**

CERCLA Sections 102a/103 (40 CFR 302.4): Nitric acid, 1000 lbs (454 kg) RQ

SARA Title III Section 302 (40 CFR 355.30): Nitric acid, 1000 lbs (454 kg) TPQ

SARA Title III Section 304 (40 CFR 355.40): Nitric acid, 1000 lbs (454 kg) EPCRA RQ

SARA Title III Section 313 (40 CFR 372.65): Nitric acid, 1.0 % de minimis concentrations.

OSHA Process Safety (29 CFR 1910.119): Nitric acid at higher concentrations ( $\geq 94.5$  %) is regulated.

SARA Title III Sections 311/312 Hazardous Categories (40 CFR 370.21):

ACUTE HEALTH: Yes  
CHRONIC HEALTH: Yes  
FIRE: No  
REACTIVE: No  
PRESSURE: No

**State Regulations:**

California Proposition 65: No components are regulated.

**U.S. TSCA Inventory:** Nitric acid is listed.

**TSCA 12(b), Export Notification:** No components are listed.

**Canadian Regulations:** WHMIS Information is not provided for this material.

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**16. OTHER INFORMATION**

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**Issue Date:** 22 December 2014

**Sources:** ChemAdvisor, Inc., SDS *Nitric Acid*, 10 September 2014.

CDC; NIOSH; *NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards*; Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institute for Safety and Health; *Nitric Acid*, 18 November 2010; available at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/npgd0447.html> (accessed Dec 2014).

Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB), National Library of Medicine's TOXNET system, *Nitric Acid CAS No. 7697-37-2*; available at <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov> (accessed Dec 2014).

HSDB, *Plutonium, Radioactive*; available at <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov> (accessed Dec 2014).

OSHA 29 CFR, Subpart Z, Ionizing radiation, 1910.1096.

NRC 10 CFR 20, Standards for Protection Against Radiation.

DOT 49 CFR 173, Shippers General Requirements for Shipments and Packages.

**Key of Acronyms:**

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists	NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
ALI	Annual Limit on Intake	NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
CAS	Chemical Abstracts Service	NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
CEN	European Committee for Standardization	NTP	National Toxicology Program
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
CPSU	Coal Mine Dust Personal Sample Unit	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
DOT	Department of Transportation	REL	Recommended Exposure Limit
EC50	Effective Concentration, 50 %	RM	Reference Material
EINECS	European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances	RQ	Reportable Quantity
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act	RTECS	Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer	SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
IATA	International Air Transportation Agency	SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
IDLH	Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health	SRM	Standard Reference Material
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit
LC50	Lethal Concentration, 50 %	TDLo	Toxic Dose Low
LD50	Lethal Dose, 50 %	TLV	Threshold Limit Value
LEL	Lower Explosive Limit	TPQ	Threshold Planning Quantity
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet	TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association	TWA	Time Weighted Average
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration	UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
		WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System

**Disclaimer:** Physical and chemical data contained in this SDS are provided only for use in assessing the hazardous nature of this material. The SDS was prepared carefully, using current references; however, NIST does not certify the data in the SDS. The certified values for this material are given in the NIST Certificate.

Users of this SRM should ensure that the SDS in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program: telephone (301) 975-2200; fax (301) 948-3730; e-mail [srmmsds@nist.gov](mailto:srmmsds@nist.gov); or via the Internet at <http://www.nist.gov/srm>.