

Possible complaints which develop after opening of the container	Possibly present gas	Additional information
Coughing, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, headache, dizziness, listlessness, coordination difficulties, shivering, pain in the chest, shortness of breath, convulsions and cramps.	Phosphoretted hydrogen Brand name: Phosphine	Residual substances which are encountered in or on the load must be handled with the greatest care with regard to fire and explosion danger. In the past, fires and explosions have developed from the storage of residual substances, as soon as they came into contact with liquid.
Sore throat, coughing, difficulty breathing, biting pain on the skin, redness or serious burns, biting pain in the eyes and/or difficulty seeing.	Ammonia	
Stinging eyes, hazy vision, redness/swelling and/or blisters on the skin, irritated airways, headache, dizziness, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, lack of appetite.	Methyl bromide	
Irritated eyes (eyes tearing up), shivering/trembling, feeling of general malaise, coughing, aching throat, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, itching, difficulties speaking, feeling of drunkenness, fits and tingling sensations, extreme deafness.	Sulfuryl fluoride + Chloropicrin	Sulfuryl fluoride is a poisonous gas. Short-term exposure to high concentrations of sulfuryl fluoride can cause irritation to the airways followed by pulmonary oedema, which can lead to death.
Blisters/sores on the skin, red, painful eyes and poor vision, burning sensation in the airways, coughing and shortness of breath, headache, nausea	Formaldehyde	Acute pulmonary oedema can set in after exposure to very high concentrations
First symptoms are pressure above the forehead and slight headache which increases and becomes violent with pounding pain in the temples. Ringing in the ears, dizziness, feeling of weakness, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, increasing pulse and respiratory frequency, pink facial colour, fainting, loss of consciousness	Carbon monoxide	Chance of losing consciousness due to lack of oxygen.
Faster breathing, perspiring, difficulty breathing, headache, dizziness.	Carbon dioxide	In some cases gases can be released from the products. It is not always known what gas is involved, so always watch out for the development of symptoms.
Miscellaneous symptoms	Unknown gas	



Protocol for recognising containers that may have been fumigated



Inspectie Verkeer en Waterstaat

Step 1:

Before you open and enter the container.

Check whether there is any data stated in or attached to the bill of lading which would indicate that the container has been fumigated. Examine the external sides of the container for any stickers (labels) or documents which may indicate that it has been fumigated. Also watch out for (half) torn-off or taped-over stickers (labels), taped-over ventilation grills or slits, etc. This can indicate that the container has been fumigated. If you smell or see anything strange at or on the container, take safety measures.

Step 2:

Measurements of the container for gases, oxygen and explosion danger.

Step 3:

Open the container, but don't enter it yet.

When doing this, use personal protective gear, e.g. independent breathing air.

Be alert when opening for "suspicious, strange or sharp odours", materials (residues of fumigants, bags, powder, boxes, etc.).

Recognition of "sharp or suspicious" odour and possible symptoms	Possibly present gaseous substance
A sharp, prickling, unpleasant odour which smells like rotten fish and/or garlic.	Phosphoretted hydrogen Brand name: Phosphine
A sharp, prickling, unpleasant odour. We are familiar with this odour from degreasing a surface with ammonia before painting it.	Ammonia
If it smells like chlorine, then you should assume that the container contains a high concentration. If, when opening, you get irritated eyes and/or airways and an irritating, penetrating odour hangs in the air, then you should assume that there is a very high concentration present	Methyl bromide
If there is a penetrating odour and you get tears in the eyes, then the container should be assumed to contain a high concentration.	Sulfuryl fluoride + Chloropicrin
If, when opening, you get irritated eyes and/or airways and a penetrating odour hangs in the air, then the container should be assumed to contain a high concentration	Formaldehyde
If, when opening, there is a "strange" and/or prickling smell, this can also mean that gases have been released from the product. Be alert to this !!	Unknown gas