

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3% x 3% AR-AFFF Concentrate

Description

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF (Alcohol Resistant Aqueous Film-Forming Foam) Concentrate from Williams Fire & Hazard Control delivers exceptional firefighting performance, continuing the renowned heritage of THUNDERSTORM® products. THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate combines fluoro- and hydrocarbon-surfactant technologies to provide superior fire and vapor suppression for Class B, polar solvent and hydro-carbon fuel fires. This synthetic foam concentrate is intended for forceful or gentle firefighting applications at 3% solution on hydrocarbon fuels and gentle firefighting applications at 3% solution on polar solvent fuels in fresh, salt, or hard water.

THUNDERSTORM® W833A foam solution utilizes three suppression mechanisms intended for rapid fire knockdown and superior burnback resistance:

- The foam blanket blocks oxygen supply to the fuel.
- Liquid drains from the foam blanket and forms either:
 - An aqueous film on a hydrocarbon fire, or
 - A polymeric membrane on a polar solvent fire which suppresses the vapor and seals the fuel surface.
- The water content of the foam solution produces a cooling effect for additional fire suppression.

TYPICAL PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES AT 77 °F (25 °C)

Appearance	Viscous green liquid
Density	1.03 ± 0.02 g/ml
pH	7.0 – 8.5
Refractive Index	1.3490 minimum
Viscosity*	2800 ± 500 cPs at 30 rpm
Viscosity*	1550 ± 300 cPs at 60 rpm
Spreading Coefficient	3 dynes/cm minimum at 3% dilution
Pour Point	28 °F (-2 °C)
Freeze Point	27 °F (-3 °C)

*Brookfield Viscometer Spindle #4

THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate is a non-Newtonian fluid that is both pseudoplastic and thixotropic; therefore, dynamic viscosity will decrease as shear increases.

The THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate formulation contains short-chain, C6 fluorochemicals manufactured using a telomer-based process that does not produce PFOS.



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Approvals, Listings, and Standards

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate is designed in accordance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 11 for Low-, Medium-, and High-Expansion Foam. The concentrate is approved, listed, qualified under, or meets the requirements of the following specifications and standards:

- UL Standard 162, Foam Liquid Concentrates
- ULC S564, Category 2 Foam Liquid Concentrates

The THUNDERSTORM® W833A formulation has been successfully evaluated in accordance with the Williams Fire & Hazard Control Plunging Test protocol.



Application

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate is intended for use on both types of Class B fires: hydrocarbon fuels with low water solubility, such as crude oils, gasolines, diesel fuels, and aviation fuels; and polar solvent fuels with appreciable water solubility, such as methyl and ethyl alcohol, acetone, and methyl ethyl ketone. To provide even greater fire protection capability, THUNDERSTORM® W833A foam solution may be applied simultaneously with WILLIAMS FIRE & HAZARD CONTROL PKW dry chemical for a twin-agent system. When using twin-agent application on polar solvent fuels, care must be taken with the velocity of the dry chemical discharge to minimize submergence of the polymeric membrane below the fuel surface.

THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate can be ideal for fixed, semi-fixed, and emergency response firefighting applications such as:

- Flammable liquid in depth and spill fires
- Fuel or chemical storage tanks
- Industrial chemical and petroleum processing facilities
- Truck/rail loading and unloading facilities
- Mobile equipment

Foaming Properties

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate may be effectively applied using most conventional foam discharge equipment at the correct dilution with fresh, salt, or hard water. For optimum performance, water hardness should not exceed 500 ppm expressed as calcium and magnesium.

THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate requires low energy to foam and the foam solution may be applied with aspirating and non-aspirating discharge devices. Non-aspirating devices, such as handline water fog/stream nozzles or standard sprinkler heads, typically produce expansion ratios from 2:1 to 4:1. Aspirating low-expansion discharge devices typically produce expansion ratios from 3.5:1 to 10:1, depending on the type of device and the flow rate. Medium-expansion discharge devices typically produce expansion ratios from 20:1 to 60:1.

Typical Foaming Characteristics* (Fresh and Sea Water)

Proportioning Rate	3%
Expansion Ratio	≥ 7
25% Drain Time (min:sec)	≥ 10
50% Drain Time (min:sec)	≥ 15

*per EN 1568-3: 2008 protocol using UNI86 aspirating nozzle

Proportioning

The recommended operational temperature range for THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate is 35 °F to 120 °F (2 °C to 49 °C) per UL-162. This foam concentrate can be correctly proportioned using most conventional, properly calibrated, in-line proportioning equipment such as:

- Balanced and in-line balanced pressure pump proportioners
- Balanced pressure bladder tanks and ratio flow controllers
- Around-the-pump type proportioners
- Fixed or portable in-line venturi type proportioners
- Handline nozzles with fixed eductor/pick-up tubes

Storage and Handling

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate should be stored in the original supplied package (HDPE totes, drums, or pails) or in the recommended foam system equipment as outlined in Johnson Controls Technical Bulletin *Storage of Foam Concentrates*. A thin layer up to 1/4 in. (6 mm) thick of appropriate-grade mineral oil may be applied to the surface of the foam concentrate stored in a fixed, atmospheric storage container to help minimize evaporation. Consult Johnson Controls for further guidance regarding the use of mineral oil to help seal the surface of AR-AFFF concentrates.

The concentrate should be maintained within the recommended operational temperature range. Freezing of the product should be avoided. If, however, the product freezes during transport or storage, it must be thawed and inspected for signs of separation. If separation has occurred, or is suspected, the THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate should be mechanically mixed until homogeneous, and additional testing may be required after mixing to verify product quality.

Factors affecting the foam concentrate's long-term effectiveness include temperature exposure and cycling, storage container characteristics, air exposure, evaporation, dilution, and contamination.

The effective life of THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate can be maximized through optimal storage conditions and proper handling. THUNDERSTORM® foam concentrates have demonstrated effective firefighting performance with contents stored in the original package under proper conditions for more than 10 years.

Mixing THUNDERSTORM® W833A Concentrate with other foam concentrates for long-term storage is not recommended. Use in conjunction with comparable 3x3 AR-AFFF products for immediate incident response is appropriate.

Materials of Construction Compatibility

To help avoid corrosion, galvanized pipe and fittings should never be used in contact with undiluted THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate. Refer to Johnson Controls Technical Bulletin *Acceptable Materials of Construction* for recommendations and guidance regarding compatibility of foam concentrate with common materials of construction in the firefighting foam industry.

Inspection

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate should be inspected periodically in accordance with NFPA 11, EN 13565-2 or other relevant standards. A representative concentrate sample should be sent to Johnson Controls Foam Analytical Services or other qualified laboratory for quality analysis per the applicable standard. An annual inspection and sample analysis is typically sufficient, unless the product has been exposed to unusual conditions.

Quality Assurance

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate is subject to stringent quality controls throughout production, from incoming raw materials inspection to finished product testing, and is manufactured in an ISO 9001:2008 certified facility.

Ordering Information

THUNDERSTORM® W833A 3x3 AR-AFFF Concentrate is available in pails, drums, totes, or bulk shipment.

Part No.	Description	Approximate Shipping Weight
Pails		
704597	5 gal (19 L)	45 lb (20.4 kg)
704597E	5 gal (19 L)	45 lb (20.4 kg)
Drums		
704599	55 gal (208 L)	495 lb (224.5 kg)
704599E	55 gal (208 L)	495 lb (224.5 kg)
Totes*		
704601	265 gal (1,003 L)	2,463 lb (1,117 kg)
704601E	1,000 L	1,110 kg
704603	320 gal (1,211 L)	2,963 lb (1,344 kg)

For bulk orders, consult an account representative.

*Totes are not UL/ULC approved packaging.

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are available at www.williamsfire.com.

If any foam product is discharged into the environment, efforts should be made to control, contain and collect the discharge for proper disposal, while following all applicable laws, regulations, and codes. Further information regarding the use, discharge, and disposal of firefighting foams can be found at www.williamsfire.com.

Note: The converted values in this document are provided for dimensional reference only and do not reflect actual measurement.

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