Encyclopedia of Ammonium Metatungstate

CTIA GROUP LTD

CTIA GROUP LTD

Global Leader in Intelligent Manufacturing for Tungsten, Molybdenum, and Rare Earth Industries

电话/TEL：0086 592 512 9696

sales@chinatungsten.com

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Over the past 30 years, CHINATUNGSTEN ONLINE has established more than 200 multilingual tungsten and molybdenum professional websites covering more than 20 languages, with over one million pages of news, prices, and market analysis related to tungsten, molybdenum, and rare earths. Since 2013, its WeChat official account "CHINATUNGSTEN ONLINE" has published over 40,000 pieces of information, serving nearly 100,000 followers and providing free information daily to hundreds of thousands of industry professionals worldwide. With cumulative visits to its website cluster and official account reaching billions of times, it has become a recognized global and authoritative information hub for the tungsten, molybdenum, and rare earth industries, providing 24/7 multilingual news, product performance, market prices, and market trend services.

Building on the technology and experience of CHINATUNGSTEN ONLINE, CTIA GROUP focuses on meeting the personalized needs of customers. Utilizing AI technology, it collaboratively designs and produces tungsten and molybdenum products with specific chemical compositions and physical properties (such as particle size, density, hardness, strength, dimensions, and tolerances) with customers. It offers full-process integrated services ranging from mold opening, trial production, to finishing, packaging, and logistics. Over the past 30 years, CHINATUNGSTEN ONLINE has provided R&D, design, and production services for over 500,000 types of tungsten and molybdenum products to more than 130,000 customers worldwide, laying the foundation for customized, flexible, and intelligent manufacturing. Relying on this foundation, CTIA GROUP further deepens the intelligent manufacturing and integrated innovation of tungsten and molybdenum materials in the Industrial Internet era.

Dr. Hanns and his team at CTIA GROUP, based on their more than 30 years of industry experience, have also written and publicly released knowledge, technology, tungsten price and market trend analysis related to tungsten, molybdenum, and rare earths, freely sharing it with the tungsten industry. Dr. Han, with over 30 years of experience since the 1990s in the e-commerce and international trade of tungsten and molybdenum products, as well as the design and manufacturing of cemented carbides and high-density alloys, is a renowned expert in tungsten and molybdenum products both domestically and internationally. Adhering to the principle of providing professional and high-quality information to the industry, CTIA GROUP's team continuously writes technical research papers, articles, and industry reports based on production practice and market customer needs, winning widespread praise in the industry. These achievements provide solid support for CTIA GROUP's technological innovation, product promotion, and industry exchanges, propelling it to become a leader in global tungsten and molybdenum product manufacturing and information services.

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DR. HANNS
CTIA GROUP
sales@chinatungsten.com
XIAMEN CHINA, MAR.3,2025

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Chapter 1: Ammonium Metatungstate Introduction

1.1 Definition and Importance of Ammonium Metatungstate

Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT), with the chemical formula $(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}·xH_2O$, is a crucial tungstate compound known for its high water solubility and chemical stability, securing a unique position in tungsten chemistry and industrial applications. As a white or slightly yellow crystalline powder, AMT exhibits exceptional solubility in water (approximately 300g WO_3/100ml H_2O at 25°C), distinguishing it significantly from Ammonium Paratungstate (APT), which only shows improved solubility under acidic conditions. The emergence of AMT has not only enriched the research on poly-tungstates but also provided a flexible raw material choice for industrial production, demonstrating great potential in catalyst preparation, tungsten compound synthesis, and emerging energy materials.

The history of AMT dates back to the early 20th century when the advancement of tungsten chemistry led scientists to recognize the structural and functional diversity of poly-tungstates. Compared to APT, which has long been the mainstream intermediate in tungsten metallurgy, AMT was developed relatively later. However, its unique water solubility quickly made it the preferred material for specific applications. For instance, in the petrochemical industry, AMT serves as a key precursor for the preparation of high-efficiency hydrodesulfurization catalysts; in the electronics industry, it is used in the production of high-purity tungsten trioxide (WO_3), which is further applied in electrochromic devices and photocatalytic materials. In this sense, the development of AMT not only encapsulates the progress of tungsten chemistry but also reflects the growing industrial demand for high-performance materials.

1.2 Ammonium Metatungstate Role in the Tungsten Industry Chain

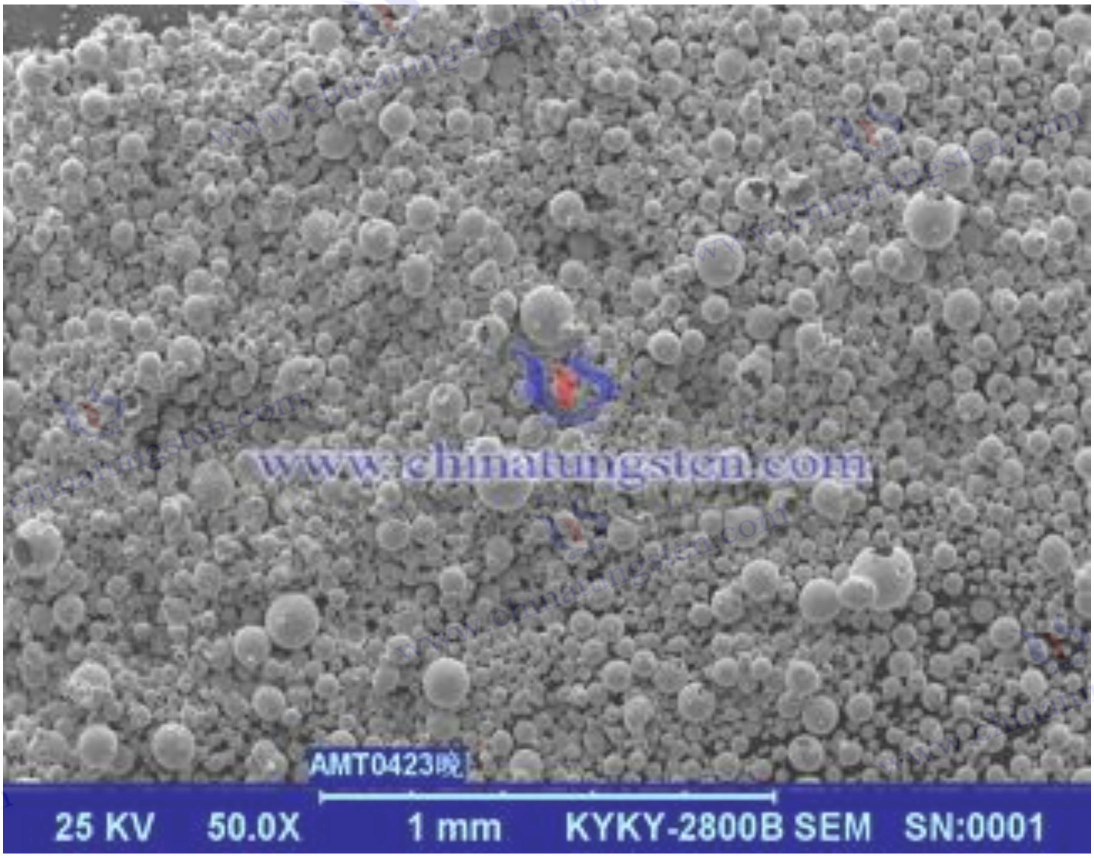
Although AMT does not hold as fundamental a position as APT in the tungsten industry chain, its significance cannot be overlooked. Tungsten, as a rare metal, is indispensable in aerospace, defense, electronics, and energy sectors due to its high melting point (3422°C), high density (19.25 g/cm^3), and excellent corrosion resistance. Within the processing chain from tungsten ore to final products, AMT acts as a "bridge," transforming the chemical potential of tungsten into practical applications. Unlike APT, AMT can be directly used in solution systems without requiring high-temperature decomposition or complex dissolution processes, making it particularly valuable in fine chemicals and nanomaterials. Furthermore, the production and application of AMT contribute to the efficient utilization of tungsten resources. With increasing environmental concerns, research into green synthesis technologies for AMT has gained significant attention.

1.3 CTIA GROUP Ammonium Metatungstate Specification

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate COA

Grade				AMT-A						
WO3 Content(≥%min)				91.0						
Impurities(%max)										
Element	Al	As	Bi	Ca	Cu	Fe	Mg	K	Mn	Mo
MAX	0.0010	0.0010	0.0001	0.0010	0.0005	0.0020	0.0005	0.0010	0.0010	0.0030
Element	Na	Ni	P	Pb	S	Sb	Si	Sn	Ti	V
MAX	0.0020	0.0005	0.0007	0.0001	0.0030	0.0005	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010	0.0010

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate SEM



1.4 Significance and Structure of This Book

Why is there a need for an "encyclopedia" on AMT? The answer lies in the scattered nature of its knowledge and the diversity of its applications. Although AMT has been widely used in industry, relevant information is often dispersed across academic papers, technical reports, and industry literature, lacking a systematic summary. Researchers may be interested in its chemical structure, engineers may focus on its preparation process, while entrepreneurs may care more about its market prospects and economic benefits. This book aims to bridge this gap by providing a comprehensive perspective on AMT—from its molecular essence to industrial practices and future potential—offering readers a one-stop knowledge repository. Whether you are a chemistry student or a professional in the tungsten industry, you will find the information you need.

This book is divided into eight sections, following a logical and progressive structure. First, we delve into the chemical essence of AMT, analyzing its molecular structure and physicochemical properties to establish a theoretical foundation. Next, we provide a detailed introduction to AMT's preparation processes, from laboratory-scale synthesis to industrial-scale production, revealing the technical intricacies behind its manufacturing. The analysis and testing section focuses on quality control methods to ensure its reliability in various applications. The industrial applications section showcases real-world examples of AMT's use in catalysts, tungsten materials, and specialized fields, highlighting its practical value. The market and economy section examines global supply, demand, and pricing trends, offering insights for business decisions. The environment and safety section explores the sustainability challenges associated with AMT's production and usage, while the research frontiers and future outlook section envisions AMT's prospects in new energy and advanced materials. Finally, the conclusion summarizes AMT's core value and future direction.

Through this *Encyclopedia of Ammonium Metatungstate*, we hope to present a comprehensive view of AMT and inspire further advancements in tungsten chemistry and industry. Just as tungsten has left a profound mark on human technological history, AMT, as one of its key derivatives, is carving out its own unique chapter. In the following sections, we invite you to explore the fascinating world of this compound, from its microscopic structure to its macroscopic applications, uncovering its mysteries step by step.

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 2: Ammonium Metatungstate Chemical Nature

Understanding the chemical nature of Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT) is fundamental to mastering its applications and preparation. As an important polyoxotungstate compound, AMT's unique properties stem from its complex molecular structure and high water solubility. This chapter will start with its molecular composition, thoroughly explore its physical and chemical properties, and compare it with related compounds such as Ammonium Paratungstate (APT) to highlight AMT's distinctive role in tungsten chemistry.

2.1 Ammonium Metatungstate Molecular Structure and Composition

AMT has the chemical formula $(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}\cdot xH_2O$, which may seem complex at first glance but is not difficult to understand when broken down. The core consists of 12 tungsten (W) atoms connected through oxygen (O) atoms, forming a cluster structure known as the Keggin-type heteropolyacid structure. This structure comprises 12 tungsten-oxygen octahedra with a central tetrahedral $[WO_4]$ unit, while the surrounding tungsten atoms share oxygen atoms to form a stable three-dimensional framework. To balance the substantial negative charge of this cluster, six ammonium (NH_4^+) ions surround the periphery, providing positive charge compensation. The "xH_2O" indicates that AMT typically exists in a hydrated form, with the number of water molecules varying depending on preparation conditions, usually ranging from 3 to 6. This structure endows AMT with high stability and lays the foundation for its remarkable water solubility.

Compared to APT ($(NH_4)_{10}(H_2W_{12}O_{42})\cdot 4H_2O$), AMT has a more compact structure. APT contains ten ammonium ions, and the coordination mode of its tungsten-oxygen clusters differs slightly, making its crystal morphology more prone to aggregation rather than existing as individual molecular units. This difference directly affects their solubility: AMT readily dissociates into individual molecules in water, whereas APT tends to retain its solid-state structure and only partially dissolves under acidic conditions. X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis reveals that AMT's crystalline structure exhibits high symmetry, typically belonging to the monoclinic system, further supporting its high solubility.

2.2 Ammonium Metatungstate Physical Properties

Visually, AMT appears as a white or slightly yellow crystalline powder with a fine, talc-like texture. Its density ranges from approximately 3.8 to 4.0 g/cm³, slightly lower than that of APT (around 4.6 g/cm³), but still significantly higher than most common salts. AMT does not have a well-defined melting point, as it does not directly melt upon heating but rather undergoes gradual decomposition. Typically, at 300–350°C, AMT begins to lose its crystalline water and ammonium groups, eventually converting into tungsten trioxide (WO_3), a process accompanied by mass loss and a color change from white to yellow.

The most remarkable physical property of AMT is its water solubility. At 25°C, approximately 300 grams of WO_3 equivalent AMT can dissolve in 100 mL of water, far surpassing APT, which has a solubility of less than 2% at 20°C. This means that AMT can form highly concentrated tungstate solutions in water, whereas it is insoluble in organic solvents such as ethanol and acetone. This property makes AMT highly advantageous in solution-based processes, such as catalyst preparation or tungsten coatings, where it can be directly used in solution form without additional dissolution steps. Additionally, AMT solutions are weakly acidic, with a pH typically ranging from 3 to 4, which is attributed to the presence of hydrogen ions (H_2) in its molecular structure.

2.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Chemical Properties

AMT's chemical properties are equally noteworthy. One key aspect is its thermal stability. At room temperature, AMT remains highly stable and can be stored for long periods without decomposition. However, when heated above 100°C, it gradually loses its crystalline water. Around 300°C, the ammonium groups begin to decompose, releasing ammonia (NH_3) and water vapor, ultimately forming WO_3. This thermal decomposition process can be represented by the following reaction equation:

$$(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}\cdot xH_2O \xrightarrow{\Delta} 12WO_3 + 6NH_3 + (x+1)H_2O$$

This process is not only the foundation for AMT's conversion into other tungsten compounds but also hints at its limitations in high-temperature applications.

2.4 AMT Comparison with APT

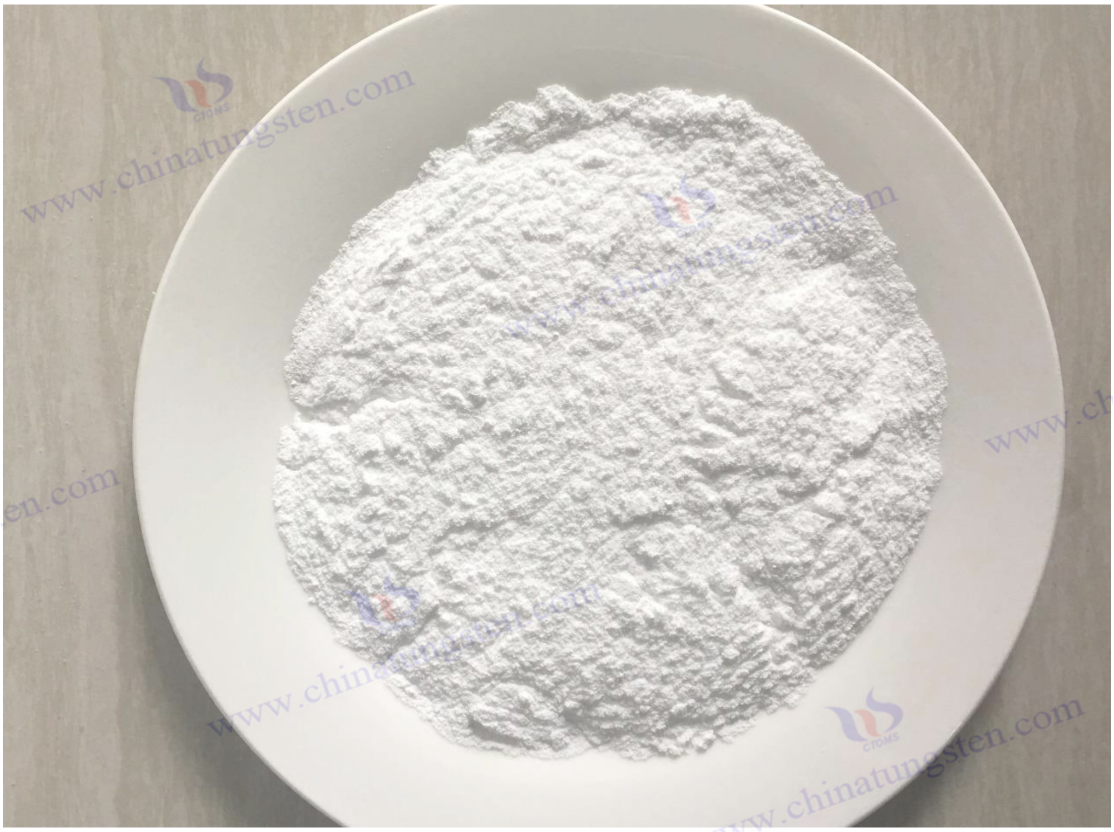
To fully grasp the nature of AMT, a comparison with APT is essential. Though both are ammonium tungstate compounds, their differences are significant. Structurally, AMT's Keggin-type molecular cluster allows for easy dissolution, whereas APT's aggregated structure results in poor solubility. Physically, AMT has lower density and extremely high water solubility, while APT is more stable and suitable for high-temperature solid-state processes. Chemically, AMT is more reactive and better suited for solution-based applications, while APT is primarily used as an intermediate in tungsten powder production.

For example, if a tungsten-based catalyst needs to be prepared, AMT can be directly dissolved and mixed with a support material, whereas APT would require acidification or decomposition first, making the process more cumbersome. This distinction highlights their respective strengths: AMT is the "chemist," offering flexibility, while APT is the "metallurgist," excelling in solid-state processing.

2.5 Practical Significance

AMT's chemical nature is not just a theoretical concept; its properties directly impact its performance in industrial and research applications. Its high solubility makes it ideal for solution-based processes, its thermal decomposition provides a convenient pathway to WO_3, and its chemical reactivity opens doors for catalyst and specialty material synthesis. These characteristics establish AMT as a vital component in tungsten chemistry, laying the groundwork for its synthesis and applications.

The following sections will continue along this trajectory, exploring how AMT is derived from tungsten ores and transformed into this remarkable compound, as well as the technical details behind its production. Understanding its chemical nature first will provide deeper insight into its "journey" from raw material to final product.



CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 3: Ammonium Metatungstate Preparation Process

The preparation process of Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT) is a crucial step in its transition from laboratory research to industrial applications. Due to its high water solubility and chemical stability, AMT has gained significant importance in catalysts and tungsten compound production. This chapter provides a detailed overview of AMT preparation methods, covering raw material selection, industrial production techniques, technical details, challenges, and optimization strategies.

3.1 Ammonium Metatungstate Raw Material Sources

AMT production relies on tungsten, which is primarily sourced from natural tungsten ores and tungsten salt intermediates. The two most common tungsten ores are wolframite ($FeMnWO_4$) and scheelite ($CaWO_4$). These ores are the main industrial sources of tungsten, with China being the world's largest tungsten producer. The Ganzhou region in Jiangxi Province is particularly renowned as the "Tungsten Capital of the World." After undergoing physical separation processes such as crushing and flotation, these ores enter the chemical refining stage to serve as the primary raw materials for AMT production.

Another common raw material is Ammonium Paratungstate (APT), with the chemical formula $(NH_4)_{10}(H_2W_{12}O_{42})\cdot 4H_2O$. APT is the dominant intermediate in tungsten metallurgy, typically extracted from tungsten ores and known for its high purity and stability. Consequently, APT is frequently used as a starting material for AMT production. Additionally, sodium tungstate (Na_2WO_4) and other tungsten salt solutions can serve as alternative precursors, particularly in laboratory settings or small-scale production. The choice of raw material depends on production objectives, cost considerations, and available equipment.

3.2 Ammonium Metatungstate Major Preparation Methods

Various methods exist for AMT preparation, each with specific advantages and limitations based on processing characteristics and application requirements. The primary methods include ion exchange, acidification, and thermal decomposition.

3.2.1 Ion Exchange Method

The ion exchange method is a classical approach widely employed in industrial AMT production. The core principle involves using cation exchange resins to replace sodium or ammonium ions in tungsten salt solutions with hydrogen ions, ultimately yielding AMT. The process consists of the following steps:

1. Raw Material Dissolution: APT or sodium tungstate is dissolved in water to form a tungstate solution. Since APT has low solubility, a small amount of ammonia solution ($NH_3 \cdot H_2O$) is often added to facilitate dissolution.
2. Ion Exchange: The solution is passed through a column containing strong acid-type cation exchange resin (H^+ form). The resin adsorbs NH_4^+ or Na^+ ions and releases H^+ ions, converting tungstate (WO_4^{2-}) into a poly-tungstate form.
3. Concentration and Crystallization: The solution pH is adjusted (typically controlled between 2 and 4), followed by heating to concentrate the solution. Upon cooling, AMT crystals precipitate.
4. Separation and Drying: The AMT crystals are separated through filtration or centrifugation, then dried to obtain the final product.

This method yields high-purity AMT with minimal impurities (such as Na and Mo), making it suitable for producing high-quality AMT required in catalyst applications. However, a notable drawback is the need for resin regeneration using acid washing, which increases waste treatment costs. In industrial settings, ion exchange remains a preferred method for high-purity AMT production due to its stringent impurity control.

3.2.2 Acidification Method

The acidification method is another common industrial route, which is relatively simple to operate and cost-effective. Its principle is to convert tungstate into AMT under acidic conditions:

1. Solution Preparation: Sodium tungstate (Na_2WO_4) is used as the raw material and dissolved in water to make a solution.
2. Acidification Reaction: Acid (such as nitric acid HNO_3 or hydrochloric acid HCl) is slowly added to adjust the pH to 2-3. At this point, the tungstate ions aggregate into polytungstate clusters, forming a precursor to AMT.
3. Evaporation Crystallization: The solution is heated and evaporated, with the temperature controlled between 80-100°C, allowing the AMT to crystallize.

4. Post-treatment: The AMT is filtered, washed, and dried to obtain AMT powder.

The reaction of the acidification method can be represented by a simplified chemical equation:

$$12Na_2WO_4 + 14HNO_3 + 6NH_4NO_3 \rightarrow (NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40} + 24NaNO_3 + 6H_2O$$

Advantages: The equipment is simple, making it suitable for large-scale production.

Disadvantages: The acidification process may introduce impurities (such as residual Na^+), requiring additional purification steps. Furthermore, the choice of acid significantly affects the results, with nitric acid often being preferred over hydrochloric acid due to its lower volatility and fewer residues.

3.2.3 Thermal Decomposition Method

The thermal decomposition method uses APT as the raw material and directly produces AMT through high-temperature treatment. The process is as follows:

1. **Heating Decomposition**: APT is placed in an environment at 200-300°C, causing partial decomposition and releasing some ammonia gas and water vapor.
2. **Solution Treatment**: The decomposition products are dissolved in water, and the pH is adjusted to generate AMT.
3. **Crystallization and Separation**: The solution is concentrated, cooled to crystallize, and then dried to obtain the product.

The reaction process is roughly as follows:

$$(NH_4)_{10}(H_2W_{12}O_{42})\cdot 4H_2O \xrightarrow{\Delta} (NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40} + 4NH_3 + 5H_2O$$

This method is simple but difficult to control. If the temperature is too high, it may directly produce WO_3, leading to a decrease in yield. Therefore, the thermal decomposition method is mostly used for laboratory research or small-scale production, with less industrial application.

3.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Industrial Production Process

On an industrial scale, the production of AMT typically combines the advantages of the ion exchange method and the acidification method, forming an integrated process. A typical industrial process includes:

• **Raw Material Pretreatment**: APT or sodium tungstate is extracted from tungsten ore as the starting material.

• **Reaction System**: Large reactors are used for acidification or ion exchange, equipped with stirring and temperature control devices.

• **Concentration and Crystallization**: The solution is concentrated using evaporators, and the crystallization tank cools to precipitate AMT.

• **Separation and Drying**: A centrifuge separates the crystals, and the oven dries them until the moisture content is below 5%.

Key process parameters include:

• **pH**: The optimal range for AMT stability is 2-4. If the pH is too low, tungstic acid is formed, and if too high, APT precipitates.

• **Temperature**: During crystallization, the temperature is controlled between 80-100°C. Excessive

电话/TEL：0086 592 512 9696
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sales@chinatungsten.com

temperatures can affect the quality of the crystals.

- **Concentration**: The WO_3 content in the solution needs to reach 200-300 g/L to ensure yield.

Industrial equipment typically includes acid-resistant stainless steel reactors, ion exchange columns, and high-efficiency evaporators. Online monitoring systems are also used in production to continuously detect pH and tungsten content, ensuring product quality.

3.4 Ammonium Metatungstate Technical Challenges and Optimization

The preparation of AMT is not without challenges. Several key issues deserve attention. The first is purity control. Tungsten ores are often contaminated with molybdenum (Mo), which has similar chemical properties to tungsten and is difficult to completely separate. In industry, molybdenum is often removed through multiple crystallizations or selective precipitation, but this increases costs. The second issue is the stability of the crystallization process. Slight fluctuations in solution concentration, temperature, or stirring speed can cause uneven crystal sizes, affecting downstream applications. Additionally, waste liquid treatment is a major challenge, as ammonia-containing wastewater from the acidification method and acid wash liquid from the ion exchange method need to be properly handled to comply with environmental protection requirements.

Optimization directions include:

- **Process Improvement**: Develop continuous production technologies to improve efficiency.
- **Green Synthesis**: Explore ammonia-free processes to reduce waste gas emissions.
- **Impurity Separation**: Use new resins or membrane technologies to enhance purity.

3.5 Ammonium Metatungstate Laboratory vs Industrial Scale

Laboratory preparation of AMT is usually small-scale, focusing on flexibility and purity. For example, researchers may use a few grams of APT in a beaker for acidification and adjust conditions as needed. Industrial production, on the other hand, aims for scale and cost-efficiency, with daily production reaching ton-level quantities, fixed process parameters, and high automation of equipment. Laboratory methods are suitable for exploring new processes, while industrial processes prioritize stability and economic viability.

3.6 Practical Significance

The preparation process of AMT directly determines its quality and application range. The high purity of the ion exchange method makes it suitable for catalysts, the low cost of the acidification method is ideal for large-scale tungsten compound production, and the thermal decomposition method provides convenience for laboratory research. Behind each method is a balance of technology and demand. Understanding these processes not only allows us to observe the "journey" of AMT from ore to powder, but also provides ideas for optimizing production.

Next, we will explore how to detect the quality of AMT to ensure it meets the required standards. This section will take you into the analysis laboratory and reveal the precise instruments and methods used.

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 4: Ammonium Metatungstate Analysis and Testing

The quality of Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT) directly affects its performance in industrial and scientific applications, and accurate analysis and testing are crucial to ensuring quality. From chemical composition to physical properties, every indicator of AMT needs to be verified through scientific methods to meet the requirements for various uses. This chapter will detail the analysis and testing techniques for AMT, including chemical composition analysis, physical property testing, and quality standards, taking you into the testing laboratory to understand how precision instruments and methods safeguard AMT's quality.

4.1 Ammonium Metatungstate Chemical Composition Analysis

The chemical composition analysis of AMT mainly focuses on determining its tungsten content, ammonium content, and impurity levels, ensuring that the product meets specification requirements. Below are some common analysis methods:

4.1.1 Tungsten Content Determination

Tungsten (W) is the core element in AMT, typically reported as the content of tungsten trioxide (WO_3). The WO_3 content of industrial-grade AMT is generally required to be between 89%-92%. Common determination methods include:

• Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS): AMT is dissolved in water, diluted, and introduced into the ICP-MS instrument to detect the characteristic spectrum of tungsten ions. This method has extremely high sensitivity and can detect at the ppm (parts per million) level, making it suitable for analyzing high-purity AMT.
• Gravimetric Method: AMT is heated to 600-800°C to decompose into WO_3, and the residue is weighed to calculate the WO_3 content. Although this traditional method is time-consuming, the results are reliable and suitable for laboratory verification.

4.1.2 Ammonium Content Determination

The ammonium ion (NH_4^+) content in AMT is usually determined using a distillation-titration method. The specific steps are:

1. The AMT sample is dissolved and a strong base (such as NaOH) is added, followed by heating to release ammonia gas (NH_3).
2. The ammonia gas is absorbed with an acidic solution (such as H_2SO_4) and then titrated with a standard alkali solution. This method is simple and has an accuracy of up to 0.1%, making it a routine technique in industrial testing.

4.1.3 Impurity Analysis

Common impurities in AMT include molybdenum (Mo), iron (Fe), sodium (Na), etc., which may come from raw materials or the production process. Detection methods include:
• ICP-MS: Simultaneously detects multiple elements, especially suitable for trace impurity analysis. For example, catalyst-grade AMT requires a Mo content of less than 0.01%.
• Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS): Measures absorbance after atomizing specific elements (such as Fe, Na) with a flame or graphite furnace. The level of impurities directly affects the downstream applications of AMT, so strict control is necessary.

4.2 Physical Property Testing

In addition to chemical composition, the physical properties of AMT (such as crystal structure and particle size) also need to be tested to ensure consistency and suitability.

4.2.1 Crystal Structure Analysis

The crystal structure of AMT is usually analyzed by X-ray Diffraction (XRD). The instrument emits X-rays to irradiate the sample, and the diffraction pattern is used to determine its crystal form and purity:
• The characteristic peaks of AMT appear in the $2\theta = 10°\text{-}30°$ range, showing monoclinic system features.
• If mixed with APT or WO_3, additional diffraction peaks will appear, indicating insufficient sample purity. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) can also assist in observing the crystal morphology and confirming whether the particles are uniform. AMT typically exhibits needle-like or plate-like crystals.

4.2.2 Particle Size Distribution

The particle size of AMT affects its dissolution rate and application performance. A laser particle size analyzer is the primary tool, using laser scattering to measure particle size:

• The average particle diameter (D50) of industrial-grade AMT is usually between 10-50 microns.

• Particles that are too fine (<5 microns) may cause dust problems, while those that are too coarse (>100 microns) may dissolve poorly. Test results are typically presented as a particle size distribution curve to ensure consistency between batches.

4.2.3 Moisture Content

AMT, as a hydrate, has moisture content as an important indicator. Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA) is a common method:

• Water of crystallization is lost at 50-150°C, and it decomposes into WO_3 above 300°C.

• The moisture content is generally controlled between 5%-10%, and excessive moisture may affect storage stability.

4.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Quality Standards

The quality standards for AMT vary depending on its use, and international and industry norms provide guidance:

• Industrial-grade AMT: $WO_3 \geq 89\%$, impurities (such as Mo, Fe) ≤ 0.05%, moisture ≤ 8%.

• Catalyst-grade AMT: $WO_3 \geq 91\%$, impurities ≤ 0.01%, with stricter requirements for alkali metal content (e.g., Na, K) <50 ppm.

• ISO Standards: Factories certified with ISO 9001 must adhere to quality management systems to ensure testing consistency. These standards are developed through discussions between manufacturers and downstream users and are commonly found in supplier technical data sheets (TDS).

4.4 Ammonium Metatungstate Comparison of Testing Techniques

Different testing methods each have their advantages and disadvantages, and the appropriate method should be chosen according to the needs:

• Traditional Methods vs. Modern Instruments: The gravimetric and titration methods are low-cost but time-consuming, while ICP-MS and XRD are fast and precise but require expensive equipment.

• Laboratory vs. Online Testing: Laboratory analysis offers high precision and is suitable for research and development, while online pH meters and spectrometers can monitor solution conditions in real-time in industrial production. For example, when testing tungsten content, the detection limit of ICP-MS can reach 0.1 ppm, while the gravimetric method can only reach 0.1%, but the latter does not require expensive equipment, making it suitable for small factories.

4.5 Practical Case

As an example, a catalyst manufacturer requires AMT with $WO_3 \geq 91\%$ and Mo ≤ 0.01%. The testing process is as follows:

1. ICP-MS is used to determine the WO_3 content as 91.5%, and Mo as 0.008%.
2. XRD confirms that there are no APT impurity peaks, and SEM shows uniform crystals.

3. TGA measures the moisture content as 6.2%. The results indicate that this batch of AMT meets the requirements and can be used for high-performance catalyst preparation.

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 5: Ammonium Metatungstate Industrial Applications

Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT) has shown extensive application value in the industrial field due to its high water solubility, chemical stability, and versatility. From catalyst preparation and tungsten compound production to emerging special applications, AMT is a key material driving technological progress. This chapter will explore the specific industrial applications of AMT, provide practical case studies, and demonstrate how it transforms from a chemical powder into a crucial material for advancing technology, while also comparing its uses with those of related compounds like Ammonium Paratungstate (APT), highlighting its unique advantages.

5.1 Ammonium Metatungstate Catalyst Preparation

AMT is one of the most representative applications in the catalyst industry, especially in petroleum chemistry and environmental protection-related processes.

5.1.1 Hydrotreating Desulfurization Catalysts

In petroleum refining, hydrotreating desulfurization (HDS) catalysts are used to remove sulfur compounds from crude oil and reduce pollutant emissions. AMT is an ideal precursor for preparing high-performance tungsten-based catalysts. The preparation process typically follows these steps:

1.AMT is dissolved in water to form a high-concentration tungstate solution.

2.It is mixed with supports like alumina (Al_2O_3) or silica (SiO_2), and nickel (Ni) or molybdenum (Mo) salts are added to form a composite.

3.After impregnation, drying, and calcination, Ni-W or Mo-W catalysts are prepared.

4.AMT's high solubility allows it to be evenly dispersed on the support, ensuring a uniform distribution of active sites on the catalyst. Compared to APT, AMT eliminates the need for acidification or decomposition steps, simplifying the process. For example, a refinery that uses AMT to prepare Ni-W catalysts achieves desulfurization efficiency of over 95%, outperforming traditional methods.

5.1.2 Other Catalysts

AMT is also used to prepare oxidation catalysts and photocatalysts. For example, in the methanol oxidation process to produce formaldehyde, AMT can serve as a tungsten source, which is combined with iron oxide (Fe_2O_3) to form the catalyst. Additionally, WO_3 derived from AMT holds potential in photocatalytic water splitting for hydrogen production, as its bandgap (approximately 2.6 eV) is suitable for visible light absorption.

5.2 Tungsten Compound Production

AMT is an essential raw material for the production of various tungsten compounds and is widely used in material manufacturing and surface treatment.

5.2.1 Tungsten Trioxide (WO_3)

AMT can be directly used to produce high-purity tungsten trioxide (WO_3) through thermal decomposition. The process is as follows:

$$(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}\cdot xH_2O \xrightarrow{300-600^\circ C} 12WO_3 + 6NH_3 + (x+1)H_2O$$

5.2.2 Tungsten Powder and Coatings

AMT solution can be spray-dried to produce ultrafine tungsten powder, with particle sizes controlled between 0.1 to 1 micrometer. This tungsten powder is widely used in thermal spray coatings, such as wear-resistant coatings for aircraft engine blades. The preparation process includes:

1. Spray-drying the AMT solution to form fine particles.
2. Reducing them to metallic tungsten powder under a hydrogen (H_2) atmosphere.
   Compared to APT, AMT's solution process is more suitable for preparing nanoscale tungsten powder, enhancing coating performance.

5.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Special Applications

AMT's high solubility and chemical properties also make it useful in some specialized fields.

5.3.1 Electrochemical Materials

AMT has made its mark in batteries and capacitors. For example, WO_3 can serve as the anode material for lithium-ion batteries, with AMT being its high-quality precursor. Through a sol-gel method, AMT solution can be used to prepare WO_3 films that improve battery cycling stability. Studies show that WO_3 electrodes derived from AMT can reach a capacity of 600 mAh/g, outperforming traditional methods.

5.3.2 Pigments and Ceramics

AMT can be used to produce tungsten yellow pigments (WO_3-based), widely used in ceramic glazes and coatings. Its preparation is simple: AMT solution is mixed with additives and then calcined. Compared to chemical precipitation methods, the AMT method produces more uniform colors and better high-temperature resistance, making it suitable for high-end porcelain decorations.

5.3.3 Flame Retardants

AMT's aqueous solution can be used as a flame retardant treatment for wood and textiles. Tungsten compounds form a protective layer at high temperatures, inhibiting combustion. A study has shown that AMT-treated wood can reach a flame retardant rating of B1, with promising application prospects.

5.4 AMT Comparison with APT Applications

While both AMT and APT are ammonium tungstate compounds, they have distinct application directions:

• **Catalyst Field:** AMT, due to its high solubility, is more suitable for solution impregnation processes, whereas APT is mostly used for preparing tungsten-based catalysts through roasting methods.

• **Tungsten Compounds:** AMT is more efficient in producing WO_3 and fine tungsten powder, while APT dominates the production of coarse tungsten powder and tungsten alloys.

• **Special Applications:** AMT has advantages in electrochemical and flame retardant fields, with fewer applications for APT. For instance, an electronics factory may prefer AMT for high-purity WO_3 because its process is simpler, whereas a metallurgy plant may lean toward APT for producing tungsten rods due to its suitability for large-scale solid-state reduction.

5.5 Ammonium Metatungstate Practical Cases

5.5.1 Catalyst Production Case

A petrochemical company needed to prepare hydrotreating desulfurization catalysts with high activity and long lifespan. They chose AMT as the tungsten source, mixing it with Ni salts and Al_2O_3, and calcined at 500°C to produce the catalyst. The test results showed a sulfur removal rate of 97%, and the catalyst's lifespan was extended by 20%, outperforming APT-based catalysts.

5.5.2 Thermal Spray Coating Case

An airline company developed a wear-resistant coating for engine blades using ultrafine tungsten powder (particle size of 0.5 micrometers) prepared from AMT, which was plasma-sprayed to form the coating. The results showed a 15% increase in coating hardness and a 30% improvement in wear resistance, significantly extending the blade's lifespan.

5.5.3 Electrochromic Device Case

A smart window manufacturer used an AMT solution to prepare WO_3 thin films, which were annealed to form an electrochromic layer. The thin film could change from transparent to dark blue under a 3V voltage, with a light transmission change of 80%, making it ideal for energy-efficient buildings.

5.6 Practical Significance

AMT's industrial applications demonstrate its ability to transition from the laboratory to the market. Its efficiency in the catalyst field, convenience in tungsten compound production, and versatility in special applications make it an indispensable part of the tungsten industry chain. Its unique advantage lies in the flexibility of its solution process, which meets the high demands of fine chemicals and emerging technologies. The complementarity with APT also makes tungsten applications more diversified.

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 6: Ammonium Metatungstate Market and Economy

6.1 Ammonium Metatungstate Global Production

The production of AMT is closely related to the distribution of tungsten resources, with China being the dominant player in this field. According to the International Tungsten Industry Association (ITIA), over 80% of global tungsten reserves are concentrated in China, particularly in provinces such as Jiangxi and Hunan. The annual production of AMT is difficult to estimate separately, as it is typically produced as part of the tungsten industry chain. However, industry estimates suggest that global AMT production ranges between 5,000 and 8,000 tons (in WO_3 equivalent), accounting for 5%-10% of the tungsten compound market.

Chinese companies account for over 90% of global AMT production, with major production bases in Ganzhou (Jiangxi) and Xiamen (Fujian). In contrast, production in the United States, Europe, and Japan is relatively low, and these regions rely on imports. Similar to ammonium paratungstate (APT), which has a global annual production of about 80,000-100,000 tons, AMT's production is smaller, but its demand in specific fields makes it indispensable. In recent years, stricter environmental policies in China regarding tungsten mining may affect the growth of AMT production.

6.2 Ammonium Metatungstate Price Trends

AMT's price is influenced by the overall fluctuations in the tungsten market, primarily determined by raw material costs, production processes, and downstream demand. In WO_3 equivalent terms, AMT's market price typically fluctuates between $25,000 and $40,000 per ton (approximately ¥170,000-280,000 RMB, estimated for March 2025). The trends in recent years are as follows:

• 2018-2020: Tungsten prices were low, and AMT prices remained stable between $25,000-$30,000 per ton due to global economic slowdown and excess inventory.

• 2021-2022: After the pandemic, industrial recovery boosted tungsten demand, and AMT prices rose to $35,000 per ton.

• 2023-2025: Prices are expected to stabilize, but small increases are likely due to rising demand from new energy and catalyst industries.

Compared to APT (approximately $20,000-$30,000 per ton), AMT is priced slightly higher due to its more complex production process (e.g., ion-exchange methods), and its market positioning tends to be for higher value-added products. The price of tungsten ore (approximately $15,000-$20,000 per ton of WO_3) is the main cost driver, accounting for 60%-70% of AMT's production costs.

6.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Supply and Demand Analysis

6.3.1 Demand Drivers

The demand for AMT primarily comes from the following fields:

• Catalyst Industry: Petroleum refining and environmental catalysts account for more than 50% of demand, especially the growth of hydrotreating desulfurization catalysts.

• Electronics and New Materials: The application of WO_3 in electrochromic devices and batteries has driven demand, accounting for about 20%-30%.

• Other Uses: Thermal spray coatings, flame retardants, etc., account for 10%-20%.

In recent years, global energy transition and the development of green technologies have brought new opportunities for AMT. For instance, the demand for photocatalytic WO_3 is expected to grow by more than 15% by 2030. In comparison to APT (mainly used for tungsten powder and hard alloys), AMT's demand is more concentrated in fine chemicals and emerging fields.

6.3.2 Supply Bottlenecks

There are several challenges on the supply side:

• Resource Scarcity: Tungsten is a rare metal, and global exploitable reserves are limited, with most of them concentrated in China.

• Policy Restrictions: China implements a quota system for tungsten mining, and the 2024 export quota is only 16,000 tons, which impacts the supply of AMT raw materials.
• Production Costs: The high-purity process of AMT (e.g., ion-exchange) is costly, and small manufacturers struggle to compete. This results in a tight supply of AMT, particularly in the international market, where price fluctuations are more sensitive.

6.4 Ammonium Metatungstate Key Manufacturers

• CTIA GROUP LTD: Focuses on the production of tungsten compounds, with AMT being one of its core products. Annual production is around 1,000-2,000 tons, known for technological innovation and international market services.

6.5 Ammonium Metatungstate Economic Impact

6.5.1 Contribution to the Tungsten Industry Chain

AMT production and application inject vitality into the tungsten industry chain. It transforms low value-added tungsten ore into high value-added products, improving the economic efficiency of the industry chain. For example, the catalyst produced from AMT can be worth several times more per ton than tungsten ore. In addition, AMT exports (e.g., to the US and Japan) generate foreign exchange for China. In 2023, the export value of tungsten compounds was about $1 billion, with AMT accounting for a certain proportion.

6.5.2 Regional Economic Impact

In key production hubs such as Ganzhou and Xiamen, AMT-related industries have driven employment and tax revenue. The annual output value of the tungsten industry in Ganzhou exceeds 50 billion RMB, while AMT production companies in Xiamen (e.g., CTIA GROUP LTD) contribute significantly to the local economy. However, excessive dependence on tungsten resources also brings risks. If there are fluctuations in the international market, local economies may be impacted.

6.5.3 Future Economic Potential

With the rise of new energy and smart manufacturing, AMT's economic potential is further unleashed. For instance, the application of WO_3 in batteries and photocatalysis is likely to increase demand, with the AMT market expected to grow by 20%-30% by 2030. However, high costs and supply limitations could constrain its expansion.

6.6 Practical Significance

The market and economic performance of AMT reveals its dual role in the global tungsten industry: both as a driver of high value-added products and as a reflection of resource-dependent economies. Its price and supply-demand fluctuations reflect the complexity of the tungsten market, while the competition among key manufacturers highlights the technological and cost battles. For enterprises, understanding the market dynamics of AMT is key to formulating procurement and investment strategies, while for policymakers, balancing resource development with environmental protection will be a future challenge.

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 7: Ammonium Metatungstate Environment and Safety

The production and use of Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT) have driven industrial progress but also brought environmental and safety challenges. From tungsten ore mining to AMT preparation, and to waste management during its application, every step requires attention to its potential impacts on ecology and human health. This chapter will explore the environmental impacts of AMT production, environmental protection measures, safety standards, and regulatory requirements, analyze its sustainability issues, and provide ideas for future green development.

7.1 Ammonium Metatungstate Environmental Impacts

The production of AMT is inseparable from the mining and processing of tungsten resources, and these processes have significant environmental impacts.

7.1.1 Impact of Tungsten Ore Mining

Tungsten ore (such as scheelite and wolframite) mining is the starting point of the AMT industrial chain, but this process is often accompanied by land destruction and water pollution. For example, open-pit mining leads to vegetation destruction and soil erosion, while chemicals used in ore processing (such as flotation agents) may leach into groundwater, causing heavy metal contamination. Statistics show that a tungsten mine in Jiangxi, China, produces about 5 million tons of tailings per year, containing trace amounts of tungsten and associated elements (such as arsenic and lead), which, if not properly handled, could threaten the surrounding ecosystem.

7.1.2 Waste in the Production Process

AMT preparation methods (such as ion exchange and acidification) generate wastewater, waste gases, and solid waste: • Wastewater: Nitric acid or hydrochloric acid used in the acidification process may remain in the wastewater, containing ammonia nitrogen and high concentrations of tungsten ions, with a low pH that could pollute water if directly discharged. • Waste Gas: Ammonia gas (NH_3) released during thermal decomposition or roasting processes may cause air pollution or acid rain if not treated. • Solid Waste: Residues from the crystallization process and waste ion exchange resins must be disposed of properly, or they may accumulate into environmental hazards.

7.1.3 Potential Risks During Use

The application of AMT in catalysts or pigments generally does not pose direct environmental problems. However, its derivatives (such as WO_3) may, if improperly disposed of, lead to the introduction of tungsten into the soil or water. Although there is no evidence to suggest tungsten is highly toxic, long-term accumulation may disrupt the ecological balance.

7.2 Ammonium Metatungstate Environmental Protection Measures

To address environmental issues in AMT production, the industry has adopted various measures to reduce pollution and resource waste.

7.2.1 Wastewater Treatment

Wastewater is the main pollution source in AMT production. Treatment technologies include: • Neutralization and Precipitation: Using lime ($Ca(OH)_2$) to neutralize acidic wastewater, precipitating tungstate and heavy metals, and recovering them for reuse. • Ammonia Nitrogen Recovery: Ammonia gas is recovered via distillation or membrane separation and converted into ammonia water for recycling. For example, one factory improved its ammonia recovery rate to 85%, significantly reducing emissions. • Deep Purification: Ion exchange or reverse osmosis technologies are used to remove residual tungsten ions, ensuring that wastewater meets discharge standards.

7.2.2 Waste Gas Control

Ammonia gas emissions can be controlled by: • Absorption Towers: Using dilute acids (such as H_2SO_4) to absorb NH_3, forming ammonium sulfate by-products. • Closed Systems: Using sealed equipment during thermal decomposition to reduce gas leakage.

7.2.3 Solid Waste Management

Solid waste treatment includes:

• Recycling: Tungsten is extracted from crystallization residues to reduce resource waste. •Safe

Landfill: Non-recyclable waste residues are solidified and landfilled to prevent secondary pollution.

7.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Safety Standards

Although the production and use of AMT are not as hazardous as some chemicals, safety standards still need to be followed to protect workers and the environment.

7.3.1 Toxicity of AMT

AMT itself has low toxicity. Acute toxicity tests (LD50) show that its oral toxicity to mice exceeds 2000 mg/kg, classifying it as a low-toxicity substance. However, if its dust is inhaled, it may cause respiratory irritation, and long-term exposure may lead to tungsten accumulation in the body, although there is no clear evidence of carcinogenicity.

7.3.2 Operational Safety

- Protective Measures: Workers must wear dust masks and gloves to avoid inhaling dust or skin contact.
- Storage Requirements: AMT should be stored in dry, ventilated environments, avoiding temperatures above 300°C to prevent decomposition.
- Emergency Handling: In the event of a leak, cover with sand and clean up, then dilute any remaining material with water to prevent direct discharge.

7.3.3 Transport Safety

AMT is transported as a non-hazardous material, but it must be sealed in packaging to prevent dust leakage in case of damage during transport. In the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, AMT is not listed as a hazardous material, but it is recommended to label it as "Avoid inhaling dust."

7.4 Ammonium Metatungstate Regulations and Standards

The production and use of AMT are governed by national and international regulations to ensure environmental and safety compliance.

7.4.1 Chinese Regulations

• Environmental Protection Law: Requires tungsten enterprises to control "three wastes" emissions. Tailings management projects have been implemented in areas like Ganzhou. • Tungsten Industry Access Conditions: Specifies that tungsten mining and processing must meet environmental standards, such as wastewater COD < 100 mg/L. • Emission Standards: For example, GB 25467-2010 specifies that the tungsten content in tungsten smelting wastewater should not exceed 5 mg/L.

7.4.2 International Standards

• REACH Regulations (EU): AMT must be registered as a chemical, proving its safety, and must meet impurity limits when exported to Europe.

• OSHA (USA): Specifies a tungsten dust concentration limit of 5 mg/m³ in workplaces to ensure worker health.

7.5 Ammonium Metatungstate Practical Cases

7.5.1 Practice of CTIA GROUP LTD

CTIA GROUP LTD, one of the major AMT producers, actively addresses environmental challenges. The company uses ion exchange to produce AMT and has equipped its factory with a wastewater recycling system, increasing tungsten recovery to 90% and reducing ammonia emissions by 70%. The factory is also ISO 14001 certified, demonstrating its commitment to sustainable development.

7.6 Sustainability Challenges and Prospects

The environmental and safety issues associated with AMT reflect the common challenges in the tungsten industry. Challenges include:

• Resource Dependence: Tungsten ore reserves are limited, and mining costs are rising year by year.
• High Energy Consumption: The evaporation and roasting processes in AMT production consume significant energy, and carbon emissions are a concern.
• Technological Bottlenecks: Green technologies (such as ammonia-free synthesis) are not yet mature and are difficult to promote.

Looking to the future, sustainable development paths include:

• Circular Economy: Strengthening tungsten waste recycling to reduce dependence on primary ore.
• Low-carbon Technologies: Developing low-temperature preparation methods to reduce energy consumption.
• Policy Support: The government can encourage enterprises to upgrade environmental protection equipment through subsidies.

7.7 Practical Significance

The environmental and safety management of AMT is not only a regulatory requirement but also the cornerstone of its industry's sustainable development. Effective environmental protection measures can reduce pollution, safety standards can protect workers, and regulatory constraints can promote industry standardization. The practices of companies like CTIA GROUP LTD show that technological innovation and responsibility awareness are key to solving these issues.

7.8 CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT) Material Safety Data Sheet

Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT), as one of the key products of CTIA GROUP LTD (Xiamen) Manu. & Sales Corp., is critical for ensuring safe production, transportation, and application. This section, based on the properties of AMT from CTIA GROUP LTD, follows the standard format of a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), providing a detailed overview of its identification, hazard summary, safety instructions, emergency measures, and regulatory requirements, offering comprehensive safety guidance for users.

7.8.1 Product Identification and Basic Information

AMT is a high-purity tungstate compound produced by CTIA GROUP LTD, with the chemical formula $(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}\cdot xH_2O$. It appears as a white or light yellow crystalline powder. Its main applications include catalyst preparation, tungsten compound production, and special material use.

- Product Name: Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT)
- CAS Number: 12028-48-7
- Supplier: CTIA GROUP LTD (Xiamen) Manu. & Sales Corp., Xiamen, Fujian, China
- Emergency Contact: +86-592-5129696
- Recommended Uses: Industrial manufacturing, scientific research
- Restricted Uses: Not for food, pharmaceuticals, or direct human contact

7.8.2 Hazard Summary

AMT poses a low hazard under normal usage conditions, but as a chemical, its potential risks should still be considered.

- GHS Classification (Globally Harmonized System):
  - Acute Toxicity (Oral): Category 4 (H302: Harmful if swallowed)
  - Serious Eye Damage: Category 1 (H318: Causes serious eye damage)
  - Chronic Aquatic Toxicity: Category 3 (H412: Harmful to aquatic life with long-lasting effects)
- Main Hazards:
  - Swallowing: Ingestion may cause gastrointestinal discomfort, such as nausea and vomiting.
  - Eye Contact: Dust or solution may cause severe irritation or damage.
  - Inhalation: Long-term inhalation of dust may irritate the respiratory tract.
  - Environmental: Large spills into water may cause chronic harm to aquatic organisms.

7.8.3 Composition and Information on Ingredients

- Chemical Name: Ammonium Metatungstate
- Molecular Formula: $(NH_4)_6H_2W_{12}O_{40}\cdot xH_2O$
- Main Components: Tungsten (W, approximately 89%-92% as WO_3), Ammonium (NH_4^+), Water (H_2O)
- Impurities: May contain trace amounts of Molybdenum (Mo), Iron (Fe), Sodium (Na), typically <0.05%
- Stability and Reactivity: Stable at room temperature, decomposes into WO_3, NH_3, and H_2O at high temperatures (>300°C).

7.8.4 Personal Protection Measures

- Protective Equipment: Wear safety goggles, dust mask, rubber gloves, and protective clothing during operation.
- Operational Recommendations: Use in well-ventilated areas, avoid dust generation. Eating or smoking is prohibited during operations.

- Skin Contact: Avoid direct contact, wash with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes if contact occurs.

7.8.5 Storage Requirements

- Storage Conditions: Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area, avoiding high temperatures and moisture.
- Container Requirements: Use sealed plastic or glass containers, avoid mixing with acidic substances.

7.8.6 Transportation Safety

- Packaging: Use sealed packaging that complies with UN standards, label as "Non-Hazardous" with safety warnings.
- Transportation Notes: Avoid severe vibrations and damage, ensure adequate ventilation during transportation.

7.8.7 Emergency Measures

7.8.7.1 First Aid Measures

- Inhalation: Move the victim to fresh air, seek medical attention immediately if breathing difficulties occur.
- Eye Contact: Rinse immediately with flowing water for at least 15 minutes, seek medical attention if necessary.
- Skin Contact: Wash thoroughly with soap and water, remove contaminated clothing.
- Ingestion: Rinse mouth immediately, drink plenty of water, do not induce vomiting, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

7.8.7.2 Spill Handling

- Small Spill: Use a damp cloth or absorbent material to collect, avoid dusting, and rinse the area with water.
- Large Spill: Isolate the area, cover with sand or inert material, collect and dispose of as hazardous waste, prevent discharge into water bodies.

7.8.7.3 Fire Response

- Extinguishing Media: AMT is non-flammable, but in case of surrounding fire, use water mist, dry powder, or CO_2 for extinguishing.
- Precautions: Decomposes to release ammonia gas at high temperatures, fire-fighting personnel should wear respiratory protective equipment.

7.8.8 Waste Disposal

- Disposal Method: Collect waste AMT in sealed containers, dispose of according to local hazardous waste regulations, and avoid direct discharge into sewers or the environment.
- Recycling Suggestion: Tungsten components may be recovered for recycling if conditions permit, reducing resource waste.

7.8.9 Regulations and Compliance

- Chinese Regulations:
  - "Regulations on the Safety Management of Hazardous Chemicals": AMT is not a regulated hazardous substance but must comply with general chemical management requirements.
  - GB 25467-2010 "Pollutant Emission Standards for the Tungsten Industry": Tungsten content in wastewater discharge must not exceed 5 mg/L.
- International Regulations:
  - REACH (EU): AMT must be registered and prove its safety, limiting impurity content.
  - OSHA (USA): Workplace dust concentration limit is 5 mg/m^3 (as tungsten).
- Transportation Labeling: No UN number assigned, but it is recommended to label with "Harmful if swallowed" and GHS hazard symbols.

CTIA GROUP LTD Ammonium Metatungstate Photo

Chapter 8: Ammonium Metatungstate Research Frontiers and Future Prospects

Ammonium Metatungstate (AMT), as a multifunctional tungsten compound, not only occupies an important position in traditional industries but also increasingly attracts attention for its potential in emerging fields. With advances in technology and the push for greener solutions, AMT research and applications are advancing to a new stage. This chapter will explore the latest preparation technologies, cutting-edge application areas, and future development prospects of AMT, looking at how it can play a greater role in new energy, new materials, and sustainable development.

8.1 Ammonium Metatungstate New Preparation Technologies

Although traditional preparation methods for AMT (such as ion exchange and acidification) have matured, issues such as high energy consumption and excessive waste have driven researchers to explore more efficient and environmentally friendly processes.

8.1.1 Green Synthesis

Green synthesis aims to reduce ammonia gas emissions and chemical reagent usage. An emerging method is the "ammonia-free process," which uses electrochemical or ultrasonic-assisted technologies to directly produce AMT from sodium tungstate (Na_2WO_4):

- Electrochemical Method: In an electrolytic cell, an electric field drives tungstate ions to aggregate into AMT, with by-products being only small amounts of hydrogen and oxygen.
- Ultrasonic Method: Ultrasound accelerates the aggregation of tungstate ions in solution, shortening reaction times and reducing acid usage. CTIA GROUP LTD and other companies have begun piloting this technology, with preliminary results showing a 60% reduction in ammonia emissions and a 20% reduction in energy consumption.

8.1.2 Nano-AMT Preparation

Nano-sized AMT (particle size <100 nm) exhibits excellent performance in catalysis and battery materials due to its high surface area. Preparation methods include:

- Sol-Gel Method: AMT solution is mixed with surfactants, controlling the gelation process to form nanoparticles.
- Spray Pyrolysis: AMT solution is atomized and then thermally decomposed at low temperatures (300-400°C) to directly generate nano-powder. While these techniques are more costly, they offer possibilities for high-value applications such as photocatalysis.

8.2 Ammonium Metatungstate Cutting-Edge Applications

AMT research is expanding from traditional fields to new energy and smart materials, demonstrating its cross-disciplinary potential.

8.2.1 Energy Sector

- Lithium-Ion Batteries: WO_3 derived from AMT is used as an anode material, receiving attention for its high capacity (theoretical value of 693 mAh/g) and stability. Research has shown that coating carbon nanotubes with AMT solution improves the cycling life of WO_3 electrodes by 50%.
- Fuel Cells: Tungsten-based catalysts (e.g., Pt-WO_3) show excellent performance in the oxygen reduction reaction (ORR) of fuel cells. AMT serves as a high-quality precursor, reducing the platinum requirement and cutting costs.
- Photocatalytic Hydrogen Production: WO_3's bandgap (2.6 eV) is suitable for visible light-driven water splitting. AMT-derived nano-WO_3 shows a 30% higher photocatalytic

efficiency than traditional methods.

8.2.2 Smart Materials

- Electrochromic Devices: WO_3 films made from AMT are widely used in smart windows, allowing for transparent-to-dark blue switching under voltage. Recent research has enhanced response speed and cycling stability by doping with Mo or Ti.
- Gas Sensors: WO_3 is sensitive to gases like NO_2 and H_2S. AMT-produced porous WO_3 sensors have detection limits as low as ppb levels, making them suitable for environmental monitoring.

8.2.3 Biomedical Applications

Tungsten compounds from AMT are emerging in biomedical fields. For example, WO_3 nanoparticles, due to their photothermal conversion ability, are being explored for cancer photothermal therapy. Studies show that WO_3 nanoparticles prepared from AMT solution via hydrothermal methods rapidly heat under near-infrared light and are biocompatible.

8.3 Cross-Disciplinary Research

The combination of AMT with nanotechnology and artificial intelligence is pushing the boundaries of its applications:

- Nano-Composites: AMT is combined with graphene and carbon nanotubes to create high-strength conductive materials for flexible electronics.
- AI Optimization: Artificial intelligence is being used to optimize AMT preparation parameters, such as predicting the best pH and temperature, to improve yield and purity.

8.3 Ammonium Metatungstate Interdisciplinary Research

The integration of AMT with nanotechnology and artificial intelligence is pushing the boundaries of its applications:

• Nano Composites: AMT is combined with graphene and carbon nanotubes to create high-strength, conductive materials for flexible electronics.

• AI Optimization: Artificial intelligence is used to optimize AMT preparation parameters, such as predicting the ideal pH and temperature, improving yield and purity.

电话/TEL：0086 592 512 9696
CTIAQCD-MA-E/P 2018-2024V
sales@chinatungsten.com