

## 8. INORGANIC CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Possible emissions from the manufacture and use of inorganic chemicals and chemical products are high but, because of economic necessity, they are usually recovered. In some cases, the manufacturing operation is run as a closed system, allowing little or no emissions to escape to the atmosphere. Emission sources from chemical processes include heaters and boilers; valves, flanges, pumps, and compressors; storage and transfer of products and intermediates; waste water handling; and emergency vents.

The emissions that do reach the atmosphere from the inorganic chemical industry generally are gaseous and are controlled by adsorption or absorption. Particulate emissions also could be a problem, since the particulate emitted is usually extremely small, requiring very efficient treatment for removal.

Emissions data from chemical processes are sparse. It has been frequently necessary, therefore, to make estimates of emission factors on the basis of material balances, yields, or process similarities.