

Cool Facts On Helium

- Helium, known as He, is the second most abundant element in the universe after hydrogen
- Helium was discovered on the sun before it was found on the earth and is found in great abundance in hotter stars which accounts for the energy of the sun and stars
- Almost a quarter of the mass of sun is helium and is produced by fusion inside stars like the Sun
- Helium is colourless and tasteless
- Helium is lighter than air and is non-flammable and non-reactive
- Helium is one of the six naturally occurring " noble gases" – so- called because they have little or no chemical reactivity
- Helium is commercially recovered from natural gas deposits
- Helium can be used in many medical and industrial applications:
 - **Rockets:** Helium is used to clean out rocket engines, pressurise the interior of liquid fuel rockets, condense hydrogen and oxygen to make rocket fuel, and force fuel into the engines during rocket launches
 - **Deep Sea Diving:** Deep sea Divers use mixtures of helium and oxygen to breathe underwater, avoiding the problems caused by breathing ordinary air (predominantly nitrogen and oxygen) under high pressure, including disorientation and debilitating joint injuries
 - **Cryogenic material:** Liquid helium is an important cryogenic material and is used to study superconductivity and to create superconductive magnets.
 - **MRI:** Liquid helium's use in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) continues to increase as the medical profession accepts and develops new uses for the equipment.
 - **Blimps, airships and balloons:** Helium is used to inflate blimps, scientific balloons and party balloons
 - **Rocks and minerals:** Helium can be used to estimate the age of rocks and minerals containing uranium and thorium by measuring their retention of helium
 - **Solar telescopes:** Helium is used in solar telescopes to reduce the distorting effects of temperature variations in the space between lenses

RasGas and Helium

Design capacity	1.3 billion standard cubic feet /year
Start of Construction	May 2010
Production start-up	June 2013
Estimated Production	1.3 billion standard cubic feet /year
Technology	Air Liquide's patented advanced helium recovery process
Developers	Qatar Liquefied Gas Company Limited (Qatargas 2) Qatar Liquefied Gas Company Limited 3 (Qatargas 3) Qatar Liquefied Gas Company Limited 4 (Qatargas 4) Ras Laffan Liquefied Natural Gas Company Limited (RL 3) RasGas Company Ltd (RasGas)
Operator	
Production	Helium 1 & 2 will together produce 25 percent of world supply