

COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS

SAFETY TALK

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Many work sites rely on compressed gas cylinders, but they can be dangerous. Follow safety rules for using, storing, and working with compressed gas cylinders to ensure your employees' safety.

PREVENTING ACCIDENTS CAN BE EASY

DO NOT:

1. Place cylinders where they could come in contact with an electrical circuit or near areas of extreme heat or open flame
2. Use cylinders as rollers
3. Store cylinders near the edge of a dock or platform where they could be bumped off
4. Use valve protection caps to lift
5. Allow cylinders to be dropped, struck, or violently banged against each other
6. Take compressed gas cylinders into confined spaces
7. Move uncapped cylinders
8. Allow oil, grease, or other lubricants to contaminate cylinders, valves, hoses, or fittings
9. Use compressed gas for cleaning, especially skin or clothing
10. Attempt to mix gases in a cylinder

If you find a damaged or defective cylinder, tag it and notify your supervisor immediately. Use the following checklist for appropriate handling of compressed gas cylinders.

CHECKLIST

- Do you use a cylinder hand truck or cart to move cylinders safely?
- Have you ensured that there is adequate ventilation in storage areas?
- Do you always keep valves closed when cylinders are not in use?
- Are oxygen cylinders separated from all combustibles, including other cylinders, by at least 20 feet or a 5-foot-high barrier with a 1-hour rating?
- Do you treat empty cylinders as if they are full? Even "empty" cylinders can contain residual product.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Is smoking strictly prohibited where flammable gases are used or stored?
2. Are there any specific points or problems you wish to discuss?

ACCIDENTS ARE PREVENTABLE. LEARN MORE AT GRINNELLMUTUAL.COM.

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