



Fire Prevention – Flammable Compressed Gas

Dangers of Flammable Compressed Gas

Compressed gas cylinders may explode when:

- Handled roughly
- Exposed to excessive heat or an ignition source, such as a spark or flame
- Vapors travel to an ignition source to cause flashback

How to Use a Cylinder

- Read the label, cylinder markings, or bills of lading *before* handling the container
 - The color or shape of the cylinder changes by manufacturer, and therefore, cannot be used as a coding system
- Contact the supplier if the cylinder does not have legible written identification
- Examine compressed gas cylinders upon their arrival
- Isolate cylinders showing signs of damage or leakage and return them to the supplier as soon as possible
- When handling cylinders, do not drop or bang them against each other
- Check hoses and connections:
 - Are they in good condition?
 - Are they leak-free?
 - Will they tighten properly?
- Point the valve outlet away from you when opening a cylinder
- Keep the steel protective cap on over the valve and screwed down to the last thread when the cylinder is not in use

Want to know more?

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