

Spotlight On Safety

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SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF GAS CYLINDERS

The cylinders that contain compressed gases are primarily shipping containers and should not be subjected to rough handling or abuse. Such misuse can seriously weaken the cylinder and make it unfit for further use or transform it into a rocket having sufficient thrust to drive it through masonry walls.

The Sleeping Giant

- ✦ Weighs 155 pounds when filled
- ✦ Is pressurized at 2,200 pounds per square inch (psi)
- ✦ Contains about 850,000 ft-lb of stored energy
- ✦ Can be ruthless and deadly in the hands of the careless and uninformed
- ✦ Can be toppled and valve can be damaged or even snapped off, unleashing all its power through an opening no larger than a lead pencil
- ✦ Has on rare occasions burst faster than any dragster
- ✦ It may smash through brick walls, fly through the air, spin, ricochet, crash and slash through anything in its path

Transportation

- ✦ Wear PPE corresponding to the Cylinder hazards
- ✦ The cover cap should be screwed on (hand tightened), and on until the cylinder is in place and ready for use to protect the valve
- ✦ Never transport a cylinder with the regulator in place
- ✦ Cylinders should never be rolled, slid or dragged
- ✦ Don't drop a cylinder, or permit them to strike each other violently or be handled roughly
- ✦ When moving full-sized cylinders, they should be strapped to a properly designed wheeled cart to ensure stability
- ✦ Only one cylinder should be handled (moved) at a time

Precautions

- ✦ Full or empty - see to it that its cap is on, straight and snug
- ✦ **Never** leave it standing alone - secure it so that it can't fall



Visit www.ehs.ucr.edu for additional information or call EH&S at 951- 827-5528.