



Standard Operating Procedure for Handling Compressed Gas Cylinders in Industrial Environments

1. Purpose

This procedure is intended to provide guidance on the safe handling of compressed gas cylinders in industrial environments.

2. Scope

This procedure applies to all compressed gas cylinders used in industrial environments.

3. Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all employees who handle compressed gas cylinders to follow this procedure.

4. Definitions

Compressed gas cylinder: A container designed to hold a gas or mixture of gasses under pressure.

Safety valve: A device that is designed to release pressure from a compressed gas cylinder if the pressure exceeds a predetermined level.

Relief valve: A device that is designed to release pressure from a compressed gas cylinder if the pressure exceeds a predetermined level and the safety valve fails to operate.

5. Procedures

5.1. Prior to handling a compressed gas cylinder, employees must:

- Inspect the cylinder for damage.
- Ensure that the cylinder is properly labeled.
- Verify that the cylinder is the correct type and size for the intended use.
- Obtain the proper training on the safe handling of compressed gas cylinders.

5.2. When handling a compressed gas cylinder, employees must:

- Use a cart or other appropriate lifting device to move the cylinder.
- Never lift a cylinder by the neck.
- Never strike or drop a cylinder.
- Store cylinders upright in a well ventilated, cool, dry location in approved quantities away from stairs and emergency exits.
- Oxygen and acetylene have special requirements for storage.



- Keep cylinders away from heat, sparks, and open flames, with proper distances and/or protective barriers.
- Never use a cylinder that is damaged or leaking.

5.3. In the event of a leak, employees must:

- Evacuate the area immediately.
- Notify the supervisor or emergency personnel.
- Do not attempt to repair the leak.

6. Records

A record of all compressed gas cylinders received, used, and disposed of must be maintained.

7. Training

All employees who handle compressed gas cylinders must be trained on the safe handling of compressed gas cylinders.

8. Inspection

This procedure must be inspected annually to ensure that it is being followed.

9. Changes

Any changes to this procedure must be approved by the supervisor.