



JOB AID HAZARD AWARENESS INFO

CYLINDER (GAS AND PROPANE)

A gas cylinder or tank is a pressure vessel used to store gases at above atmospheric pressure. High pressure gas cylinders are also called bottles.

Propane is denser than air. If a leak in a propane fuel system occurs, the gas will have a tendency to sink into any enclosed area and thus poses a risk of explosion and fire. The typical scenario is a leaking cylinder stored in a basement - the propane leak drifts across the floor to the pilot light on the furnace or water heater, and results in an explosion or fire.

Hazards Involved/Arise

- Explosion
- Gas leakage
- Improper storage (falling cylinders)
- Frostbite

People Affected

- Warehouse
- Mechanics

Existing Controls

- Cylinder handling: Training requirements every three years in addition to 18-month evaluation: Cylinder and Forklift
- Use approved tank transportation and storage methods
- Segregate full and empty cylinders
- Regular inspections
- Review regulations, codes and standards for details
- Preventive maintenance programs
- Obtain details from manufacturer on WHMIS and safe handling
- Analyze work area - ensure no heat sources or risk of spark
- Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - e.g., faceshield, eye protection, insulated gloves, safety shoes, and apron. Type of PPE will depend on potential of leak and hazard posed by contents



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