



TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET 8 - Revision 2: 2015

**INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS COLLECTING GAS CYLINDERS
(Flammable, inert and oxidising gases)**

This leaflet should be read in conjunction with BCGA GN 3, GN 27, TIS 12 and TIS 17.

1

Understand the hazards and properties of the gas you are collecting

Read the Safety Data Sheets which are provided by the gas supplier. Take time to understand the properties and hazards associated with the gas before transporting or using it. Know what to do in an emergency, for example, when to evacuate the vehicle / room / workspace. If in doubt ask the gas supplier for advice.



2

No smoking

Never smoke when transporting or working with gases and their cylinders. This includes e-cigarettes.



3

Use appropriate personal protective equipment

When moving cylinders wear safety boots / shoes, footwear with metatarsal protection is recommended. Protect hands with gloves and when opening cylinder valves wear safety goggles. Refer to the safety data sheet for more information.

Ensure, when you arrive at your destination, that you have sufficient manpower or equipment available to unload cylinders safely.



4

Check you have the correct gas

Read the cylinder label and confirm that it is the gas you require.

Gas suppliers use a variety of colour schemes on their cylinders and therefore colour should not be used to identify the contents.



5

Check cylinder valve closed

Ensure the cylinder valve is closed before moving the cylinder. Check for leaks, as necessary use a leak detection fluid. **DO NOT USE A NAKED FLAME.**



6

Handle cylinders with care

Cylinders are heavy; handle with care. Whenever possible use mechanical handling aids, for short distances use a cylinder trolley, or seek help.

Do not drop cylinders. Never try to catch a falling cylinder. For guidance on manual handling gas cylinders refer to BCGA Guidance Note 3 and TIS 12 and 17.



7

Transport safely on open vehicles

An open vehicle is recommended for the carriage of all cylinders. Cylinders should be secured in an upright position with the valves at the top. They are not to protrude over the sides or the ends of the vehicle.



8

Transport safely in closed vehicles

Where transporting cylinders in a closed vehicle is unavoidable, secure the cylinder in the boot / load area. A closed vehicle is a confined space and leaking gas will displace breathable air. A gas will fill all the available space. Ensure there is adequate ventilation, drive with a window open. Refer to BCGA Guidance Note 27.



9

Store correctly

Remove the cylinder from the vehicle as soon as the journey is completed, do not use the vehicle as a store. Store the cylinder in a secure and well ventilated location, away from sources of ignition, where it cannot be damaged or tampered with. The storage area is to be appropriately labelled, particularly if acetylene cylinders are being stored. Refer to BCGA Guidance Note 2.



10

Protect cylinders

Do not use direct heat on a cylinder. Keep cylinders at ambient temperatures and away from heat sources, oils and greases, flammable or corrosive material.



11

Protect valves

Never use oil or grease on a cylinder valve, it is dangerous. Do not use excessive force to open the valve, if the valve is tight return the cylinder to the gas supplier and obtain a replacement. Turn the cylinder valve off when it is not being used.



12

Control the outlet pressure

Do not connect equipment directly to the cylinder valve. Always use a regulator suitable for the gas and pressure. The pressure within the cylinder can be up to 300 bar (some 150 times the pressure you put into your car tyre). Use in a well-ventilated area.



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Return the cylinder

When the cylinder is empty or you have finished with it, please return it to the supplier. Valves are to be closed before transporting.



For further technical and safety information, please contact your gas supplier.

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