

# NSW FACT SHEET – LP GAS CYLINDERS

Explosions and fires have occurred when flammable gas has leaked from cylinders and has ignited inside enclosed areas or vehicles.

## 1. INSPECTION AND TESTING

Gas cylinders require periodic testing, at least every 10 years. The last test date is stamped on the cylinder valve, collar or footing. It must not be refilled before it is re-tested and re-stamped. However, it is permissible to use a cylinder that is past its expiration, prior to re-testing.

Ensure cylinders are in good condition by:

- Checking for leaks from valves and connections by applying soapy water and looking for bubbles;
- Checking areas such as valve openings, screw threads (including where the valve attaches to the cylinder body) and bleeder valves;
- Replacing any removable valve protection caps and ensuring the cap remains in place when not in use.

## 2. STORAGE

Gas cylinders are to be stored:

- In a well-ventilated area (e.g. outdoors, mechanical or natural cross-ventilation at ground level);
- Not along an escape route or exit;
- Closed and upright;
- Secured to prevent dislodgement (e.g. cage, rack, chain);
- Protected from damage (e.g. impact, excessive load or temperature rise);



- Away from sources of heat, ignition or combustible materials and with a safety sign (e.g. no fire, naked flame, smoking).

## 3. TRANSPORTATION

When transporting cylinders, an open vehicle such as a utility provides the best ventilation and avoids the risk of gas accumulation. If an open vehicle is not an option, ensure:

- Car windows are kept open to provide cross flow and through ventilation;
- Cylinders are restrained to prevent movement with a suitable restraint;
- Cylinders are kept upright;
- Cylinders should be unloaded immediately on arrival at the destination.

## 4. INFORMATION SOURCES

- Section 363 of the *WHS Reg 2017*, visit [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au)
- *Managing Risks of Hazardous Chemicals in the Workplace, Code of Practice 2019*, visit [www.safework.nsw.gov.au](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au)
- Email us: [info@propertyrisk.com.au](mailto:info@propertyrisk.com.au)