

Oxygen / Acetylene Field Training

OSHA regulations on transporting, moving, and storing compressed gas cylinders.

1910.253 Inside buildings, cylinders shall be stored in a well-protected, well-ventilated, dry location, at least 20 feet from any highly combustible materials such as oil. Oxygen cylinders shall be separated from fuel-gas cylinders or combustible materials (especially oil and grease), a minimum of 20 feet or by a noncombustible barrier at least 5 feet high having a fire-resistance rating of at least one-half hour.

When Cylinders are transported in any powered vehicle, they will be secured in a vertical position. The protection caps must be in place. That means the regulators cannot be on the tanks while driving.

NOTE: I have seen some cylinder regulator protection caps that are made specifically for keeping regulators on while moving the cylinders.

Valve protection caps shall always be in place, hand-tight, except when in use.

When cylinders are in use, a cylinder cart, chain or other steadying device shall be used to keep cylinders from being knocked over.

When work is finished, when cylinders are empty, or when cylinders are moved at any time, the cylinder valve shall be closed. Valve covers must be installed unless the tanks are secured on a cylinder cart.

Before attaching a regulator to a tank always crack open the tank so that any dust, dirt, or particles are cleared, then close the valve again and install your regulator.

Some tanks require a wrench to open the valve. When using that type of tank, always leave the wrench in-place on the valve when using the tank. That way you can always turn it off quickly without looking for the wrench.

Like everything we use, all items should be inspected before we use them. Inspect the regulator, tank valve, hose, and torch before it is used.

If you store your hoses, regulators, or torch in a box, it must be ventilated.

Clogged torch tip openings will be cleaned with devices made specifically for that purpose. Nothing else.

Torches must only be lighted by a friction lighter and not by cigarette lighter or match.

Always keep oil and grease away from oxygen tanks and fittings.