



COMPRESSED GAS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SAFETY ALERT

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ALUMINUM CYLINDERS — EXPOSURE TO HIGH HEAT

This alert applies to high pressure refillable aluminum cylinders made from alloy 6351 or 6061.

Aluminum cylinders can be damaged by exposure to temperatures above 350 °F (177 °C). Exposure to temperatures above this level could weaken the cylinder to such an extent that the cylinder could be unsafe to fill. Visual examination of the cylinder may not be sufficient to determine if the cylinder is safe to fill. In most cases overheating from a fire will be readily apparent by standard visual examination. However, other sources of heat (electric element, superheated steam, hot air) may not produce any visual sign or indicator of overheating. A system for indicating that heat damage has made an aluminum cylinder unsafe to fill is recommended for aluminum cylinders filled in the specialty gas, industrial, and medical markets.

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