



COMPRESSED GAS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SAFETY ALERT

SA-4—1997

4221 WALNEY ROAD, 5TH FLOOR
CHANTILLY, VA 20151
703-788-2700
cga@cganet.com

ACETYLENE CYLINDERS WITH PRESS-FIT FOOTRINGS

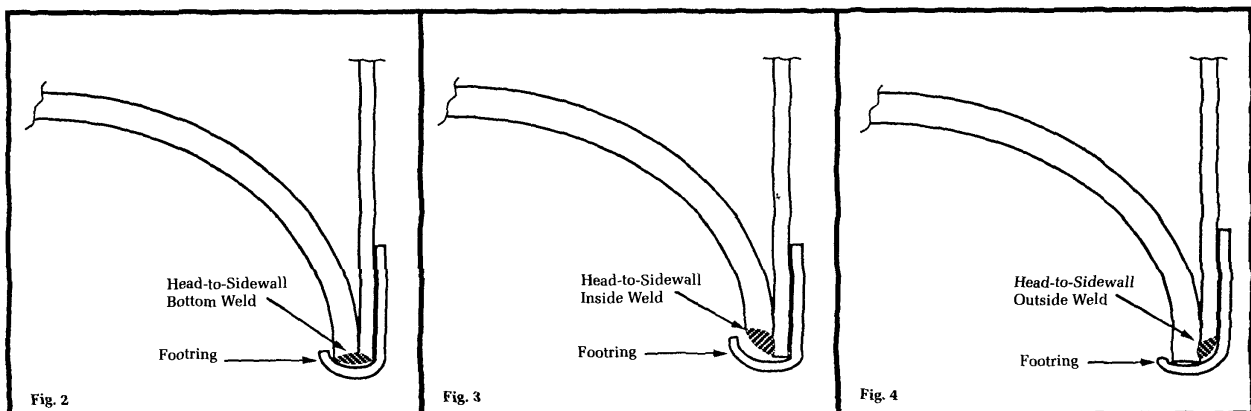
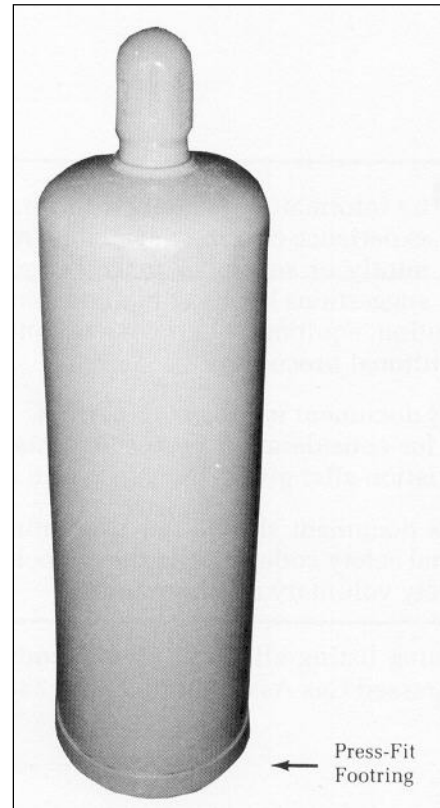
Certain acetylene cylinders manufactured from the mid-1930s until the late 1950s were designed with a press-fit footing. A cylinder of this design may be identified with the photograph shown in figure 1 and the drawings in figures 2, 3 and 4. A practice of removing the footing from these cylinders has recently been noted in the industry.

The pressed footing acetylene cylinder was designed with the footing to protect the bottom welds on the cylinder shell. If the footing is removed, the bottom welds are left exposed. Damage to the exposed bottom welds may result from repeated impact on hard surfaces.

Press-fit footing cylinders that have had the footrings removed may exhibit one or more of the following characteristics:

- cylinder manufacturing date from the mid-1930s until the late 1950s as stamped in the shoulder of the cylinder;
- a change in the stamped tare weight on the shoulder of the cylinder; and
- now visible bottom weld configuration of one of the types shown in figures 2, 3, or 4.

We urgently recommend all companies operating acetylene plants and/or requalification facilities to alert their employees to this problem. Any cylinder that has had the footing removed must be removed from service and scrapped or repaired in accordance with DOT and TC regulations. A copy of this safety alert should be posted in your acetylene fill plants and acetylene requalification areas.



Figs. 2, 3, and 4. Several types of bottom head-to-sidewall weld arrangements

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