

§ 173.300 [Reserved]

§ 173.301 General requirements for shipment of compressed gases and other hazardous materials in cylinders, UN pressure receptacles and spherical pressure vessels.

(a) *General qualifications for use of cylinders.* Unless otherwise stated, as used in this section, the term “cylinder” includes a UN pressure receptacle. As used in this subpart, filled or charged means an introduction or presence of a hazardous material in a cylinder. A cylinder filled with a Class 2 hazardous material (gas) and offered for transportation must meet the requirements in this section and §§173.301a through 173.305, as applicable.

(1) Compressed gases must be in UN pressure receptacles built in accordance with the UN standards or in metal cylinders and containers built in accordance with the DOT and ICC specifications and part 178 of this subchapter in effect at the time of manufacture, and requalified and marked as prescribed in subpart C in part 180 of this subchapter, if applicable. The DOT and ICC specifications authorized for use are as follows:

Packagings

2P

2Q

ICC-3¹

¹ Use of existing cylinders is authorized. New construction is not authorized.

3A

3AA

3AL

3AX

3A480X

3AAX

3B

3BN

3E

3HT

3T

4AA480

4B

4B240ET

4BA

4BW

4D

4DA

4DS

4E

4L

8

8AL

39

(2) A cylinder must be filled in accordance with this part. Before each filling of a cylinder, the person filling the cylinder must visually inspect the outside of the cylinder. A cylinder that has a crack or leak, is bulged, has a defective valve or a leaking or defective pressure relief device, or bears evidence of physical abuse, fire or heat damage, or detrimental rusting or corrosion, may not be filled and offered for transportation. A cylinder may be repaired and requalified only as prescribed in subpart C of part 180 of this subchapter.

(3) Pressure relief devices must be tested for leaks before a filled cylinder is shipped from the cylinder filling plant. It is expressly forbidden to repair a leaking fusible plug device where the leak is through the fusible metal or between the fusible metal and the opening in the plug body, except by removal and replacement of the pressure relief device.

(4) A cylinder that previously contained a Class 8 material must be requalified in accordance with §180.205(e) of this subchapter.

(5) When a cylinder with a marked pressure limit is prescribed, another cylinder made under the same specification but with a higher marked pressure limit is authorized. For example, a cylinder marked "DOT-4B500" may be used when "DOT-4B300" is specified.

(6) No person may fill a cylinder overdue for periodic requalification with a hazardous material and then offer it for transportation. The prohibition against offering a cylinder for transportation that is overdue for periodic requalification does not apply to a cylinder filled prior to the requalification due date.

(7) A cylinder with an authorized service life may not be offered for transportation in commerce after its authorized service life has expired. However, a cylinder in transportation or a cylinder filled prior to the expiration of its authorized service life may be transported for reprocessing or disposal of the cylinder's contents. After emptying, the cylinder must be condemned in accordance with §180.205 of this subchapter.

(8) The pressure of the hazardous material at 55 °C (131 °F) may not exceed 5/4 of the service pressure of the cylinder. Sufficient outage must be provided so the cylinder will not be liquid full at 55 °C (131 °F).

(9) Specification 2P, 2Q, 3E, 3HT, spherical 4BA, 4D, 4DA, 4DS, and 39 cylinders must be packed in strong non-bulk outer packagings. The outside of the combination packaging must be marked with an indication that the inner packagings conform to the prescribed specifications.

(10) Any person who installs a valve into an aluminum cylinder in oxygen service must verify the valve and the cylinder have the same thread type.

(b) *Cylinder markings.* Required markings on a cylinder must be legible and must meet the applicable requirements of subpart C of part 180 of this subchapter. Additional information may be marked on the cylinder provided it does not affect the required markings prescribed in the applicable cylinder specification.

(c) *Toxic gases and mixtures.* Cylinders containing toxic gases and toxic gas mixtures meeting the criteria of Division 2.3 Hazard Zone A or B must conform to the requirements of §173.40 and CGA S-1.1 and S-7 (IBR; see §171.7 of this subchapter). The CGA S-1.1, 2001 edition should be used for DOT specification cylinders and the CGA S-1.1 2003 edition should be used for UN pressure receptacles (compliance with paragraph 9.1.1.1 of CGA S-1.1 is not required). A DOT 39 cylinder, UN non-refillable cylinder, or a UN composite cylinder certified to ISO-11119-3 may not be used for a toxic gas or toxic gas mixture meeting the criteria for Division 2.3, Hazard Zone A or B.

(d) *Gases capable of combining chemically.* A filled cylinder may not contain any gas or material capable of combining chemically with the cylinder's contents or with the cylinder's material of construction, so as to endanger the cylinder's serviceability.

(e) *Ownership of cylinder.* A cylinder filled with a hazardous material may not be offered for transportation unless it was filled by the owner of the cylinder or with the owner's consent.

(f) *Pressure relief device systems.* (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (f)(5), (f)(6), and (l)(2) of this section, a cylinder filled with a gas and offered for transportation must be equipped with one or more pressure relief devices sized and selected as to type, location, and quantity, and tested in accordance with CGA S-1.1 and S-7. The CGA S-1.1, 2001 edition should be used for DOT specification cylinders and the CGA S-1.1 2003 edition should be used for UN pressure receptacles (compliance with paragraph 9.1.1.1 of CGA S-1.1 is not required). The pressure relief device must be capable of preventing rupture of the normally filled cylinder when subjected to a fire test conducted in accordance with CGA C-14 (IBR, see §171.7 of this subchapter), or, in the case of an acetylene cylinder, CGA C-12 (IBR, see §171.7 of this subchapter).

(2) After December 31, 2003, a pressure relief device, when installed, must be in communication with the vapor space of a cylinder containing a Division 2.1 (flammable gas) material.

(3) For a specification 3, 3A, 3AA, 3AL, 3AX, 3AXX, 3B, 3BN, or 3T cylinder filled with gases in other than Division 2.2, beginning with the first requalification due after December 31, 2003, the burst pressure of a CG-1, CG-4, or CG-5 pressure relief device must be at test pressure with a tolerance of plus zero to minus 10%. An additional 5% tolerance is allowed when a combined rupture disk is placed inside a holder. This requirement does not apply if a CG-2, CG-3 or CG-9 thermally activated relief device or a CG-7 reclosing pressure valve is used on the cylinder.

(4) A pressure relief device is required on a DOT 39 cylinder regardless of cylinder size or filled pressure. A DOT 39 cylinder used for liquefied Division 2.1 materials must be equipped with a metal pressure relief device. Fusible pressure relief devices are not authorized on a DOT 39 cylinder containing a liquefied gas.

(5) A pressure relief device is not required on—

(i) A cylinder 305 mm (12 inches) or less in length, exclusive of neck, and 114 mm (4.5 inches) or less in outside diameter, except when the cylinder is filled with a liquefied gas for which this part requires a service pressure of 1800 psig or higher or a nonliquefied gas to a pressure of 1800 psig or higher at 21 °C (70 °F);

(ii) A cylinder with a water capacity of less than 454 kg (1000 lbs) filled with a nonliquefied gas to a pressure of 300 psig or less at 21 °C (70 °F), except for a DOT 39 cylinder or a cylinder used for acetylene in solution; or

(iii) A cylinder containing a Class 3 or a Class 8 material without pressurization, unless otherwise specified for the hazardous material.

(6) A pressure relief device is prohibited on a cylinder filled with a Division 2.3 or 6.1 material in Hazard Zone A.

(iv) A UN pressure receptacle transported in accordance with paragraph (k) or (l) or this section.

(g) *Manifolding cylinders in transportation.* (1) Cylinder manifolding is authorized only under conditions prescribed in this paragraph (g). Manifolled cylinders must be supported and held together as a unit by structurally adequate means. Except for Division 2.2 materials, each cylinder must be equipped with an individual shutoff valve that must be tightly closed while in transit. Manifold branch lines must be sufficiently flexible to prevent damage to the valves that otherwise might result from the use of rigid branch lines. Each cylinder must be individually equipped with a pressure relief device as required in paragraph (f) of this section, except that pressure relief devices on manifolled horizontal cylinders that are mounted on a motor vehicle or framework may be selected as to type, location, and quantity according to the lowest marked pressure limit of an individual cylinder in the manifolled unit. The pressure relief devices selected for the manifolled unit must have been tested in accordance with CGA pamphlets S-1.1 and S-7 (IBR, see §171.7 of this subchapter). Pressure relief devices on manifolled horizontal cylinders filled with a compressed gas must be arranged to discharge unobstructed to the open air. In addition, for Division 2.1 (flammable gas) material, the PRDs must be arranged to discharge upward to prevent any escaping gas from contacting personnel or any adjacent cylinders. Valves and pressure relief devices on manifolled cylinders filled with a compressed gas must be protected from damage by framing, a cabinet, or other method. Manifolding is authorized for cylinders containing the following gases:

(i) Nonliquefied (permanent) compressed gases authorized by §173.302.

(ii) Liquefied compressed gases authorized by §173.304. Each manifolled cylinder containing a liquefied compressed gas must be separately filled and means must be provided to ensure no interchange of cylinder contents can occur during transportation.

(iii) Acetylene as authorized by §173.303.

(2) For the checking of tare weights or replacing solvent, the cylinder must be removed from the manifold. This requirement is not intended to prohibit filling acetylene cylinders while manifolled.

(h) *Cylinder valve protection.* UN pressure receptacles must meet the valve protection requirements in §173.301b(c). A DOT specification cylinder used to transport a hazardous material must meet the requirements specified in this paragraph (h).

(1) The following specification cylinders are not subject to the cylinder valve protection requirements in this paragraph (h):

(i) A cylinder containing only a Division 2.2 material without a Division 5.1 subsidiary hazard;

(ii) A cylinder containing a Class 8 liquid corrosive only to metal;

(iii) A cylinder with a water capacity of 4.8 liters (293 in³) or less containing oxygen, compressed;

(iv) A cylinder containing oxygen, refrigerated liquid (cryogenic liquid);

(v) A Medical E cylinder with a water capacity of 4.9 liters (300 in³) or less;

(vi) A fire extinguisher; or

(vii) A "B" style cylinder with a capacity of 40 ft³ (1.13 m³) or an "MC" style cylinder with a capacity of 10 ft³ (0.28m³) containing acetylene.

(2) For cylinders manufactured before October 1, 2007, a cylinder must have its valves protected by one of the following methods:

(i) By equipping the cylinder with securely attached metal caps of sufficient strength to protect valves from damage during transportation;

(ii) By boxing or crating the cylinders so as to protect valves from damage during transportation;

(iii) By constructing the cylinder so that the valve is recessed into the cylinder or otherwise protected to the extent that it will not be subjected to a blow when the container is dropped onto a flat surface; or

(iv) By loading the cylinders in an upright position and securely bracing the cylinders in rail cars or motor vehicles, when loaded by the consignor and unloaded by the consignee.

(3) For cylinders manufactured on or after October 1, 2007, each cylinder valve assembly must be of sufficient strength or protected such that no leakage occurs when a cylinder with the valve installed is dropped 1.8 m (6 ft.) or more onto a non-yielding surface, such as concrete or steel, impacting the valve assembly or protection device at an orientation most likely to cause damage. The cylinder valve assembly protection may be provided by any method meeting the performance requirement in this paragraph (h)(3). Examples include:

(i) Equipping the cylinder with a securely attached metal cap.

(ii) Packaging the cylinder in a box, crate, or other strong outside packaging conforming to the requirements of §173.25.

(iii) Constructing the cylinder such that the valve is recessed into the cylinder or otherwise protected.

(i) *Cylinders mounted on motor vehicles or in frames.* MEGCs must conform to the requirements in §173.312. DOT specification cylinders mounted on motor vehicles or in frames must conform to the requirements specified in this paragraph (i). Seamless DOT specification cylinders longer than 2 m (6.5 feet) are authorized for transportation only when horizontally mounted on a motor vehicle or in an ISO framework or other framework of equivalent structural integrity. Cylinders may not be transported by rail in container on freight car (COFC) or trailer on flat car (TOFC) service except under conditions approved by the Associate Administrator for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration. The cylinder must be configured as follows:

(1) Each cylinder must be fixed at one end of the vehicle or framework with provision for thermal expansion at the opposite end attachment;

(2) The valve and pressure relief device protective structure must be sufficiently strong to withstand a force equal to twice the weight of the cylinder and framework assembly with a safety factor of four, based on the ultimate strength of the material used; and

(3) The pressure relief device must be arranged to discharge unobstructed to the open air. In addition, for Division 2.1 (flammable gas) material, the pressure relief devices must be arranged to discharge upward to prevent any escaping gas from contacting personnel or any adjacent cylinders.

(j) *Non-specification cylinders in domestic use.* Except as provided in §§171.12(a) and 173.23(g) of this subchapter, a filled cylinder manufactured to other than a DOT specification or a UN standard in accordance with part 178 of this subchapter, or a DOT exemption or special permit cylinder or a cylinder used as a fire extinguisher in conformance with §173.309(a), may not be transported to, from, or within the United States.

(k) *Metal attachments.* Metal attachments to cylinders must have rounded or chamfered corners, or be otherwise protected, so as to prevent the likelihood of causing puncture or damage to other hazardous materials packages. This requirement applies to anything temporarily or permanently attached to the cylinder, such as metal skids.

(o) *Cylinders made of aluminum alloy 6351–T6.* A DOT 3AL cylinder manufactured of aluminum alloy 6351–T6 may not be filled and offered for transportation or transported with pyrophoric gases. The use of UN cylinders manufactured of aluminum alloy 6351–T6 is prohibited.

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