

Safety and health alert

01/08 Stamping of Gas Cylinders (Fire extinguishers)

Incident

Certified gas cylinder test stations have recently expressed concern about the incorrect stamping of fire extinguisher gas cylinders. These cylinders are normally stamped on a thickened portion of the cylinder or on a marking permanently attached to the cylinder.

Only a certified test station can stamp gas cylinders that comply with Australian Standard 2030.1.

Factors to consider

- Fire extinguisher gas cylinders may be stamped by unauthorised persons.
- Incorrect stamping can lead to unacceptable intrusion into the wall thickness of the pressure vessel.
- Incorrect stamping can dent and weaken the pressure vessel beyond acceptable limits.
- Using incorrect type of stamps can cause stress-raisers.

Recommendations

1. Fire extinguisher gas cylinders should only be stamped by a certified test station with a certificate of conformity for the particular type and classification, following testing and inspection.
2. Fire extinguisher gas cylinders can only be refilled if appropriately marked by a current certified test station.

Further information

- Refer to AS 2030.1. The verification, filling, inspection, testing and maintenance of cylinders for storage and transport of compressed gases, Section 9 - Marking, Identification and Repairs.
- Refer to AS 2337.1 section 6 - 'Visual Inspections', inc. table 6.1 for limits of defects.
- Refer to 'Gas cylinder test stations Newsletter' for updated information (issued by SAI Global).

Further information can be obtained from WorkSafe's internet site www.worksafe.wa.gov.au or by contacting customer service on 1300 307 877 or email safety@docep.wa.gov.au

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