

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

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**This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

Danger: Do not use industrial/commercial propane cylinders for household products, such as barbeques. These cylinders supply liquid propane; barbeque cylinders use propane already in a vapor state. To do so can result in serious injury and property damage.

Propane Leaks: If you detect or suspect a gas leak, immediately turn off all sources of propane at the cylinder or tank, and clear the area. If there is any accumulation of propane, decrease the concentration by ventilating the area and insure that no sources of ignition are present. To locate a gas leak, use a mixture of soap and water or a leak detector solution. If the relief valve opens, apply cold water to the container to decrease pressure and allow the relief valve to close.

General: Since propane is heavier than air and invisible, it is a special concern when it is used on the job site. All installations and use of this product on the job site must comply with the Government Legislation set out for its safe use. Suppliers delivering the product or setting up the equipment at the site must be part of the safe work practice.

1. Nylon slings must be used in a "choker" fashion when loading, off-loading or lifting propane tanks.
2. "Lifting Lugs" provided on tanks are not to be used. Slings are to be wrapped around the shell of the tank.
3. Tank valves and regulators are to be removed prior to any movement of the tank.
4. Crane hooks must be equipped with a "safety latch".
5. Prior to transporting, close the valve and secure the cylinder in an upright position. If the cylinder is placed in a trunk, prop the trunk lid open. Never leave a cylinder in a parked, air-tight vehicle during hot weather.
6. All trucks, cranes or equipment used to handle propane tanks must be equipped with a fire extinguisher appropriate for the size and type of tank being handled.
7. Except in an emergency, any movement or repositioning of tanks shall be performed by a competent worker.
8. Tanks are not to be heated to increase flow.

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9. Prior to connecting a propane cylinder to any equipment, ensure the equipment is approved for use with propane. If in doubt, ask your supervisor.
10. Uses only approved hoses and protect it from heat or damage.
11. Repairs to propane heaters, cylinders, tanks, hoses and other components must be done by licensed service people.
12. Only competent workers who are instructed and/or trained are permitted to remove and replace cylinders.
13. When in use or being stored, propane bottles are to be securely held in an upright position.
14. Tanks are not to be hooked up and used without proper regulators.
15. Never drop cylinders or strike them against a hard object. Always put the cylinder down in an upright position.
16. Never use propane indoors or in a poorly ventilated area.
17. Be careful when handling propane – it can cause frostbite if it comes in contact with the skin
18. If the cylinder valve is not closed during storage, if air has entered while the cylinder is empty, or if the valve is changed, the cylinder must be purged to remove any contaminants. Purging may only be done by a qualified person.