

**SUBJECT:** Storage of Compressed Gas Cylinders

**Purpose:** To clarify the requirements for secure storage of compressed gas cylinders in general industry.

**Scope:** This instruction applies MNOSHA-wide.

**References:** Compressed Gas Association Pamphlet P-1-1965 and P-1-2006  
29 CFR 1910.101 and 1910.253(b)(2)(ii).

**Cancellation:** This instruction supercedes 1-10.1, dated April 18, 2005

**Background:**

29 CFR 1910.101(b) refers to Compressed Gas Association (CGA) pamphlet P-1-1965, which contains instructions for storage of cylinders as follows:

- A. Cylinders in use are required to be "properly supported to prevent them being knocked over during use."
- B. Cylinders in storage\_ There is no requirement to always support or secure cylinders in storage. "The user shall store containers standing upright where they are not likely to be knocked over or containers shall be secured in an upright position." Valve protection caps shall remain in place hand tight until hooked up ready for use.

CGA Pamphlet P-1-2006 contains more specific requirements for storage. However since 29CFR 1910.101(b) does not incorporate the most current CGA pamphlet, its requirements are not enforceable. OSHIs should share the most current requirements with employers (reference, interpretation dated 9/26/02 Inspection and maintenance requirements for compressed natural gas storage cylinders; use of updated Compressed Gas Association pamphlets for guidance).

**ACTION:**

In any instance where a cylinder could be knocked over, causing injury to an employee, a means of securely storing the cylinder must be provided. Compressed gas cylinders located in the corner of a storeroom may comply with the requirements. Compressed gas cylinders need not be chained if the OSHI determines they are securely stored. For citation purposes, use the following:

- A. For cylinders not used in welding process, citations will be issued using 1910.101(b); Reference CGA pamphlet P-1-1965, section 3.4.4.
- B. For cylinders used in welding process, citations will be issued using 1910.253(b)(2)(ii).

If employers are using the nesting method for securing cylinders make sure each cylinder is in contact with at least three other surfaces. Examples are shown in Attachment A

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James Krueger, Director MNOSHA Compliance  
For the OSHA Management Team

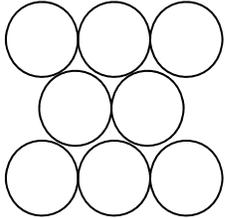
**Distribution:** OSHA Compliance and WSC Director

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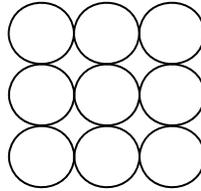
Attachment A- Nesting Methods for Securing Cylinders

## Attachment A – Nesting Methods for Securing Cylinders

### IMPROPERLY NESTED CYLINDERS

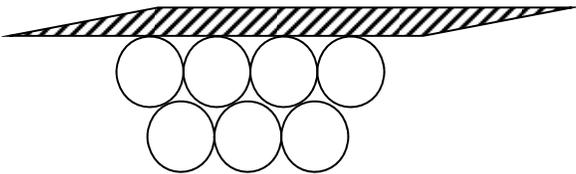


**NESTED UNSUPPORTED**



Properly Nested Cylinders

**WALL SUPPORTED**



**NESTED**

