

CGA P-79 — 2024

2ND EDITION

**GUIDELINE FOR
COMMON CARRIER
VEHICLE SHIPMENTS
OF COMPRESSED GAS
CYLINDERS AND
CONTAINERS**



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1 Introduction

The Compressed Gas Association (CGA) has determined that there is a need to provide recommendations and guidelines for the safe loading and unloading of cylinders and containers in transportation.

2 Scope and purpose

This publication provides guidelines for those common carriers handling compressed gas cylinders and containers. It includes recommendations for temporary storage and handling at their terminals. For additional information, refer to CGA P-1, *Standard for Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Containers* [1].¹

3 Definitions

For the purpose of this publication, the following definitions apply.

3.1 Publication terminology

3.1.1 Shall

Indicates that the procedure is mandatory. It is used wherever the criterion for conformance to specific recommendations allows no deviation.

3.1.2 Should

Indicates that a procedure is recommended.

3.1.3 May

Indicates that the procedure is optional.

3.1.4 Will

Is used only to indicate the future, not a degree of requirement.

3.1.5 Can

Indicates a possibility or ability.

3.2 Technical definitions

3.2.1 Cylinder

Pressure vessel designed for pressures higher than 40 psia and having a circular cross section [2].

NOTE—Cylinders do not include portable tanks, multi-unit tank car tanks, cargo tanks, or tank cars.

3.2.2 Container (compressed gas)

Vessel meeting the specifications of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Transport Canada (TC), or U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) of various shape, size, material of construction, and design.

NOTE—Containers include cylinders, portable tanks, spheres, or stationary tanks.

3.2.3 Venting

Process of intentionally releasing product from a container or filling system by design.

4 Hazard recognition

Each cylinder or container of compressed gas is required, under applicable transportation regulations, to be legibly marked with a proper shipping name, identification number, and labeled with a color-coded diamond. Cylinders may be marked in accordance with CGA C-7, *Guide to Classification and Labeling of Compressed Gases* (see Title 49 of the U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* [49 CFR] for more information) [3, 2]. Containers in transportation not exceeding 454 kg (1000 lb) water capacity shall be labeled with diamond-shaped symbols

¹ References are shown by bracketed numbers and are listed in order of appearance in the reference section.