



COMPRESSED GAS ASSOCIATION, INC.

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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REQUIRED MARKINGS AND MANUFACTURER IDENTIFICATION ON POST-TYPE MEDICAL CYLINDER VALVES

Introduction

Every year, millions of medical gas cylinders and post-type medical cylinder valves are transported and used without incident. However, there may be occasions when fillers and users need to identify the valve manufacturer and manufacture date of the valve.

Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to outline required markings for manufacturers of post-type medical cylinder valves. This bulletin provides a simplified method to identify the manufacturer and manufacture date of the valve.

Background

The compressed gas industry has recognized the need to provide fillers and users of medical gas cylinders with a more definitive means to identify a manufacturer of a post-type medical cylinder valve and the date that a valve is manufactured. This technical bulletin is a collaborative effort of fillers, users, and manufacturers of these valves who agreed that a standard date code and a registered manufacturer name or identifying symbol should be marked on future valves.

To implement this program, manufacturers shall register their name and corresponding symbols with the Compressed Gas Association (see Appendix A).

Medical valve markings

Prior to January 16, 2002 there were no CGA requirements for traceability markings on post-type medical gas cylinder valves.

Effective January 16, 2002, all post-type medical gas cylinder valves are required to have traceability markings as follows:

- The manufacturer's name or identifying symbol and the manufacture date shall be permanently marked on the valve to be visible when installed in a cylinder;
- The manufacturer's name or identifying symbol and the manufacture date shall be located on the same side of the valve for ease of viewing;
- Markings shall be at least 3/32 in (2.4 mm) high;
- The inlet thread code per CGA TB-16, *Recommended Coding System for Threaded Cylinder Outlets and Threaded Valve Inlets* shall be marked on the valve body [1];
- The date marking shall represent the traceable manufacturing period for the valve;
- The required markings for the manufacturing period date shall be in accordance with the 2009 edition of CGA V-9, *Compressed Gas Association Standard for Compressed Gas Cylinder Valves* [2]; and

– Examples of the two options for the date marking format are:

- year - week 08-02 (i.e., 2008-second week)
- year / month 08/01 (i.e., 2008/January).

Refer to CGA V-9 and CGA TB-16 for information on additional valve marking requirements [1, 2].

NOTE—From January 16, 2002 to March 31, 2009 the date marking format was as follows:

- month / year 6/98, 6-98 or 6 98 (i.e., June 1998)
- month / day / year 6/12/98, 6-12-98 or 6 12 98 (i.e., June 12, 1998)
- week / year 52/98, 52-98 or 52 98 (i.e., 52nd week, 1998)

References

Unless otherwise specified, the latest edition shall apply.

[1] CGA TB-16, *Recommended Coding System for Threaded Cylinder Outlets and Threaded Valve Inlets*, Compressed Gas Association, Inc., 4221 Walney Rd., 5th Floor, Chantilly, VA 20151. www.cganet.com

[2] CGA V-9, *Compressed Gas Association Standard for Compressed Gas Cylinder Valves*, Compressed Gas Association, Inc., 4221 Walney Rd., 5th Floor, Chantilly, VA 20151. www.cganet.com