

NFPA 51A

Standard for Acetylene Cylinder Charging Plants

2006 Edition



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Standard for

Acetylene Cylinder Charging Plants

2006 Edition

This edition of NFPA 51A, *Standard for Acetylene Cylinder Charging Plants*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Industrial and Medical Gases. It was issued by the Standards Council on January 27, 2006, with an effective date of February 16, 2006, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 51A was approved as an American National Standard on February 16, 2006.

Origin and Development of NFPA 51A

Although acetylene cylinder charging plants have been built and operated for several decades, a limited number of concerns were involved and these possessed a high degree of design and operating capability. As a result, fire experience was good and there was no need for national standard guidance.

In recent years, a number of other firms have entered this industry and the need for a national standard became evident. Work on this standard was initiated and its subsequent promulgation materially assisted by a committee of the Compressed Gas Association, Inc., which submitted a text to the NFPA Technical Committee on Industrial and Medical Gases.

This standard was adopted as a tentative standard in 1970. Amended editions were adopted in 1971, 1973, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, and 1996.

The 2001 edition contained editorial changes made to conform to the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

The 2006 edition of NFPA 51A has been completely revised to make it conform with the current edition of the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*. The order of Chapters 2 through 12 has been changed. In addition, several definitions have been changed so that they are consistent with other NFPA documents. There have also been changes made throughout the document to increase clarity of the text and ease of use.

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NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on the storage, transfer, and use of industrial gases. Included are the storage and handling of such gases in their gaseous or liquid phases; the installation of associated storage, piping, and distribution equipment; and operating practices. The Committee also has a technical responsibility for contributions in the same areas for medical gases and clean rooms.

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