

JUNE 2014 SAFETY MEETING

Cylinders Filled on Site at the Point of Use

Effective May 16th, 2014, the Alabama Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board adopted the 2011 Edition of NFPA 58. This edition changed the title of section 5.2.3 from “Cylinders Filled on Site” to “Cylinders Filled on Site at the Point of Use”. Below are the changes to this edition.

5.2.3 Cylinders Filled on Site at the Point of Use

Subsection 5.2.3 addresses the need to inspect stationary cylinders and provides a method to recertify cylinders filled where they are used. Cylinders not “in transportation” are not subject to DOT regulations for recertification; however, they are required to be recertified by NFPA 58.

5.2.3.1 DOT cylinders in stationary service that are filled on site at the point of use and, therefore, are not under the jurisdiction of DOT shall comply with one of the following criteria:

- (1) They shall be requalified in accordance with DOT requirements.
- (2) They shall be visually inspected within 12 years of the date of manufacture and within every 5 years thereafter, in accordance with 5.2.3.2 through 5.2.3.4.

5.2.3.2 Any cylinder that fails one or more of the criteria in 5.2.3.4 shall not be refilled or continued in service until the condition is corrected.

5.2.3.3 Personnel shall be trained and qualified to perform inspections. Training shall be documented in accordance with Section 4.4.

Per 5.2.3.3 Training received by persons visually inspecting stationary cylinders filled on site must be documented. As with any documentation required by the code, training documentation should be placed in the employee’s file so that it can be located if needed. Copies of documentation can also be kept by employees.

5.2.3.4 Visual inspection shall be performed in accordance with the following:

- (1) The cylinder is checked for exposure to fire, dents, cuts, digs, gouges, and corrosion according to CGA C-6, *Standard for Visual Inspection of Steel Compressed Gas Cylinders*, except that 4.2.1.1(1) of that standard (which requires tare weight verification) shall not be part of the required inspection criteria.
- (2) The cylinder protective collar (where utilized) and the foot ring are intact and are firmly attached.
- (3) The cylinder is painted or coated to minimize corrosion.
- (4) The cylinder pressure relief valve indicated no visible damage, corrosion of operating components, or obstructions.
- (5) There is no leakage from the cylinder or its appurtenances that is detectable without the use of instruments.
- (6) The cylinder is installed on a firm foundation and is not in contact with the soil.

- (7) A cylinder that passes the visual examination is marked with the month and year of the examination followed by the letter E (e.g. “10-01E”, indicating requalification in October 2001 by the external inspection method).
- (8) The results of the visual inspection are documented, and a record of the inspection is retained for a 5-year period.

Note the Phrase “minimize corrosion” in 5.2.3.4(3). The technical committee intends that the painting or coating prevent excessive corrosion from occurring.

In 5.2.3.4(5) The use of liquid leak detection is allowed.

The marking requirements of 5.2.3.4(7) are similar to those used for cylinders that are requalified. An important difference is that a requalification identification number (RIN) is not an appropriate marking to apply, because the inspection is different from that performed for requalification of the cylinder. In fact, if the cylinder is inspected using the method outlined in this section, then it does not meet the DOT requirements and the RIN should not be applied. It is also important to note that the person who performs this inspection is not required to have a RIN. Applying the RIN would imply that the cylinder had received a requalification according to the requirements outlined in 5.2.2.2.

Summary

Stationary cylinders are filled on site from the bulk propane delivery vehicle. When recertifying these cylinders, the weight requirement has been revised to drop the re-weigh requirement because of potential safety issues.

Remember to also read the training requirements in section 4.4 of NFPA-58.

JUNE 2014 Test
Cylinders Filled on Site at the Point of Use

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Read and answer each of the following questions. When complete, grade the test and review incorrect answers so each employee is “armed” with the correct answers before they leave the training.

1. Cylinders that are filled on site at the point of use must be visually inspected within 12 years of the manufactured date and within 5 years thereafter.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. Personnel shall be trained and qualified to perform inspection and receive refresher training every 3 years.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. The cylinder is installed on a firm foundation and is not in contact with the soil.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. The person who performs the cylinder inspection is not required to have a RIN.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. Stationary cylinders that are filled on site at the point of use are not required to be weighed.
 - a. True
 - b. False

JUNE 2014 TEST ANSWERS

1. TRUE
2. TRUE
3. TRUE
4. TRUE
5. TRUE