

What are the hazards and how might they harm?



Back and muscle strain from manual handling



Cold burns from leaking cylinders



Crush injuries as a result of falling cylinders



Asphyxiation from leaking CO₂



Impact injuries as a result of uncontrolled movement of cylinders caused by rapid release of CO₂

What PPE should the individual wear?



Storage, handling and use of CO₂ cylinders

Safety Task Card

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Unit Managers – use page overleaf to list any hazards and control measures specific to your site which are not listed below

Safe System of Work

1. CO₂ cylinders must be stored in designated storage areas and either secured in an upright position, on racks or laid flat and chocked to prevent movement and damage.
2. Designated storage areas should be undercover, protected from extremes of heat and cold, well ventilated and provided with CO₂ detection systems if appropriate.
3. Full cylinders should always be fitted with an outlet seal or dust cap to prevent contamination by grit or foreign material.
4. Lone working in internal storage areas should be avoided.
5. A COSHH Product Assessment for CO₂ should be completed and available.
6. Where possible, use a cylinder trolley or other suitable equipment to transport cylinders.
7. Wear appropriate PPE, including reinforced toe capped safety shoes and rigger gloves where handling cylinders forms a significant part of your duties.
8. CO₂ must not be released from cylinders to clean the valve.
9. CO₂ cylinders may only be used with the correct regulators fitted.
10. When in use CO₂ cylinders must be secured in an upright position.
11. Once connected to equipment, cylinder valves must be opened slowly.
12. Damaged cylinders and regulators should be isolated and clearly labelled to prevent their use.

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding.

Safety Task Card

Storage, handling and use of CO₂ cylinders continued

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List any additional hazards or risks you have identified, and control measures required to manage these.