

M19 GAS CYLINDERS



Gas cylinders are manufactured from metal and are often pressurised. Most gas cylinders may be coated in paint for identification purposes, instructions on use and return contact details. They are used for a wide range of applications and products, either purely for gas or as a gas propellant - for example fire extinguishers. They are of varying quality, size and markings to suit the type and pressure of gas, its function and the supplier. Most gas cylinders purely for gas may be returned or collected by the original supplier, including liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and compressed gas - refer to BCGA and UKLPG in further reading.

Gas Cylinders Metal 16 05 05

WASTE STREAMS

DISPOSAL

Gas cylinders should not be disposed to landfill.

RECOVERY

There are no options for the recovery of gas cylinders.

RECYCLE

Gas cylinders at the end of their life can be recycled by an appropriate and licensed recycler.

RECLAIM

Gas cylinders should be reclaimed and returned to their original supplier for checks and reuse.

USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Unwanted and unidentifiable gas cylinders (orphaned cylinders) are regularly found on derelict sites and in buildings. They may have been used for operational processes such as fuel for plant and equipment, or for functional activities such as cutting, welding, fire fighting or specialist equipment. They may be found in stairwells, fire fighting stations, hanging on wall brackets, inside cages, within store rooms, on a rack, in facilities management areas or in maintenance rooms.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).



REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Unwanted or unidentifiable gas cylinders (orphaned cylinders) should be stored carefully and safely and arrangements made for their return to the original supplier. They should be stored upright in a locked cage and chained together if possible. They should be stored away from all plant movements and other site activities. Gas cylinders destined for return, reuse or recycling should only be released to an appropriate and licensed supplier, carrier or recycler.

TOOLS

Crane and chains, trolley, lock and chain, lockable compound or cage, screwdriver, spanner, hand power tools.

FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Gas cylinders purely for gas are generally stored in a cage, a cradle, a rack, on a trolley or in a specialist holder designed specifically for that purpose. Fire fighting cylinders may be fitted to a fire station, hang from a wall bracket or stand in a molded well. Wall brackets may be fixed in place with expansion bolts, nuts & bolts, screws or studs. Some gas cylinders and those used outside for storing propane or butane, will be of a higher grade and design for use in harsh environments which may include farms, factories, processing plant, sewage works and maritime areas.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS). Use correct protective equipment for removing bolts and screws. Wear rubber coated gloves when handling gas cylinders to prevent irritation and to maintain a strong grip. Wear eye protection when using hand tools or handling gas cylinders. Only use crane and chains if properly trained.

FURTHER READING

Demolition Code of Practice
Cylinder Returns & Specialist Contact Numbers
LP Gas Trade Association
British Compressed Gases Association
Cylinder Recovery & Disposal 1
BCGA Safe Handling of Gas Cylinders
Cylinder Recovery & Disposal 2
HSE Orphaned Gas Cylinders Guidance

TRAINING

Manual Handling
Safe Use of Hand Tools