



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Consumer and Business Services
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (OR-OSHA)
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Scott Prowell, Field Safety Coordinator
Anderson Construction Co., Inc.
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Portland, OR 97228

Dear Mr. Prowell:

Thank you for contacting us regarding oxygen and acetylene tank storage and their safe use. Compressed gas cylinders with the regulators installed are considered by OSHA to be "connected for use" if they are installed on a "special truck" which can be a vehicle or cart used for the specific purpose of transporting the gas cylinders in the workplace. The "special truck" must be designed so that the following conditions can be met:

1. When cylinders are on the special trucks, they must be held in an erect or nearly erect position; and
2. Protection of the cylinder valves and regulators must be provided.

The interval at which the unit is used is not the main consideration. The critical factor that distinguishes cylinders in storage (where valve protection caps are required) from those not in storage is that those not in storage must be in use or connected for use, with provisions made to protect the regulator and the valve. Also, in accordance with the requirement of 1910.253(b)(5)(ii)(G) and 1926.350(a)(8), cylinder valves must be closed when work is finished. Cylinders are not required to be separated for storage at the end of the day if the above conditions are met.

For further information contact the Oregon OSHA Technical Section at 503-378-3272. You are also invited to see the Oregon OSHA pages on the Internet at www.orosha.org.

Sincerely,

Peggy Munsell, Manager

Standards & Technical Resources Section
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division