BEFORE THE TALK PREPARATION TIPS

1. Pass around the Attendance Sheet.
2. Be prepared to discuss:
   - Safe work practices and policies pertaining to compressed gases at your location.
   - The safe segregation and storage policies of compressed gases at your location.
   - How to report unsafe cylinders, defective cylinders, and what to do with "empties".
3. Suggested readings and videos:
   - http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2004-101/chklists/r1n29c~1.htm
   - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPuTQYHnfoc
   - https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/compressed/compress.html

NOTES

AFTER THE TALK CHECKLIST

- ■ Provided extra training to workers who did poorly on quiz
  Date: _____
- ■ Observed workers
  Date: _____
- ■ Refresher training
  Date: _____
- ■ Other (describe)

Date: _____

Date: _____

Location: _____

Meeting conducted by: _____

MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY: Each participant is to sign below, for record kept on file.

Answers to T201701-03 Quiz: **1. False, 2. True, 3. False, 4. C**

Don't Let the Pressure of Compressed Gas Get to You

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

The hazards associated with compressed gas include oxygen displacement, fires, explosions, toxic effects from certain gases, reactivity and projectile concerns.

WHAT'S THE DANGER?

An employee was killed when a compressed gas cylinder turned into a projectile because its valve was knocked off. Another worker suffocated after entering a space filled with nitrogen from a leaking cylinder. A massive explosion and fire at an industrial plant sent huge fireballs and gas cylinders flying hundreds of feet into the sky. These are all real-life examples of what can happen when compressed gas is not used, handled or stored correctly.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Read and Follow Labels and Safety Data Sheets

- Compressed gas cylinders must be properly labeled. Empty cylinders must also be marked as such. If you see a cylinder improperly marked, fix it or report it.
- Read the safety data sheet carefully for information about handling, storage and use and emergency procedures.

Know and Use Safe Work Practices for Handling and Use

- Wear required PPE.
- Use regulators that are compatible with the gas and regulators and gauges rated for the pressure in the system.
- Replace cap when not in use. This protects the valve to prevent leaks and other hazards.
- Never roll a cylinder to move it. Instead, use the appropriate cart, cradle or platform.
- Never attempt to refill a cylinder and never mix gases in a cylinder.
- Tag defective cylinders. Notify your supervisor of any problems, including difficult-to-open valves, so they can be addressed by the supplier. Do not try to fix it yourself.
- If a gas cylinder begins to leak, evacuate the area and call for emergency assistance.

Follow Safe Storage Procedures

- Select a dry, secure location well vented to the outdoors.
- Keep cylinders away from heat and any source of ignition.
- Keep cylinders upright and secured so they cannot fall or be knocked over.
- Store fuel gases and other flammable or combustible gases away from oxygen cylinders.

FINAL WORD

Remain calm when working with gases under pressure. Follow safe use, handling and storage procedures. ■

Meeting material to go: *Safety meeting materials such as presentation tips, PowerPoint presentations, quiz answers and more are downloadable at* ***www.SafetySmart.com***

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. You can roll or drag a cylinder if you use a team-lift technique.
   ☐True ☐False
2. It is never safe to mix gases or transfer remnants from one cylinder to another.
   ☐True ☐False
3. If the regulator fits you can use it, it doesn't matter if it is compatible with the gas.
   ☐True ☐False
4. If a cylinder begins to leak what's the safest course of action?
   a. Try and fix it immediately
   b. Light a match to see if you can tell where the leak is coming from
   c. Get everyone out of the area and call for emergency assistance
   d. Any of the above

What Would You Do?

You find an unmarked cylinder near your work area. The color of the cylinder is green, just like the other oxygen cylinders at your location. Would you use this cylinder and just assume it contains oxygen? Would you open the valve a bit to see if you can identify the gas by its odor? Or would you do something else?