



# Acetylene Cylinders

## SAFETY ALERT

Acetylene is a well known fuel gas used almost universally in gas welding. As a dangerous gas, its highly flammable and reactive; it should never be allowed to come into contact with certain metals such as unalloyed copper. Nor should it be stored or used at pressures greater than 15 psi. Cylinder pressures are rated for 250 psi but this is acceptable because the gas is dissolved in acetone.

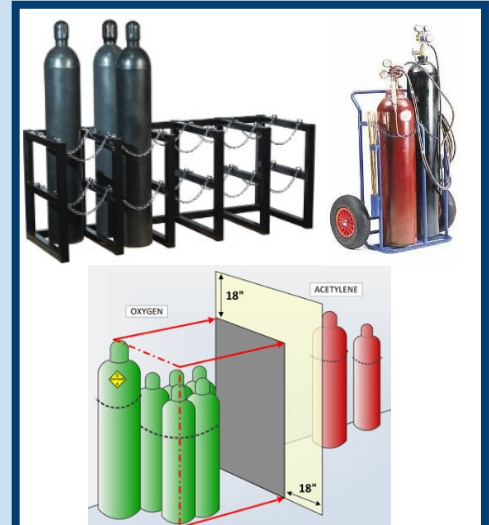
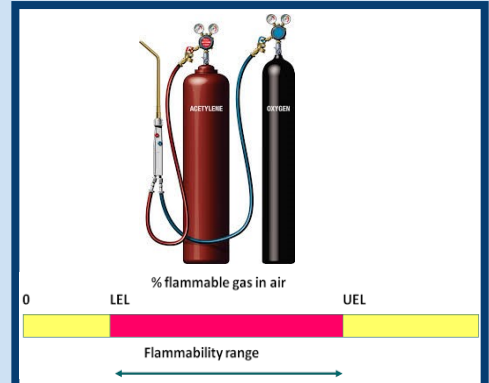
As acetylene gas is unstable, cylinders should be used and stored only in an upright position to avoid the possibility of the acetone leaking from the cylinder. Additionally, if this reaction or an ignition of acetylene occurs within the torch base or supply hose, it can propagate back into the storage cylinder causing it to explode violently. When mixed with air, acetylene has a very wide explosive and flammability range - the widest of any commonly used gas.

### Storage and Transportation

- Secure in an upright position to prevent from falling
- Separate oxygen from acetylene containers by a minimum of 20 feet or with a non combustible barrier
- Do not store near sources of ignition, oxidising agents, poisons, flammable liquids or combustible materials. They must be stored in a dry, well ventilated enclosure
- Below 45 degrees celsius
- Away from any areas of heavy traffic and emergency exits

### Use

- Close the cylinder valve before shutting off the regulator, to permit gas to bleed from the regulator
- Never allow the cylinder to empty as oxygen may back pressure into the cylinder



## STOP — THINK — DO

Need More Information

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