



Australian Government

**Department of the Environment,
Water, Heritage and the Arts**



FACT SHEET 2

Are You Taking Proper Care of Your Gas Cylinders?

Under the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Regulations 1995 the use of untested or unsafe gas cylinders that do not meet Australian Standards (AS 2030.1 1-1999) is a direct breach of the conditions of holding a Refrigerant Trading Authorisation.

The Standards specify the requirements for the verification, filling, handling, inspection, testing and maintenance of refillable cylinders for the storage and transport of compressed gas.

Under the Standards certain conditions apply including the following:

1. Cylinders cannot be refilled unless the cylinder owner has given permission and confirmed the previous contents of the cylinder;
2. The cylinder and valve must be of a type and construction suitable for the intended contents;
3. The cylinder must carry a current stamp mark of a certified test station (and must be checked and stamped every 10 years);
4. The intended filling pressure or filling ratio must be appropriate to the test pressure;
5. The valve outlet must be in accordance with standards AS 2472, 2473 and AS 2474;
6. Safety devices must be checked to ensure they show no sign of corrosion, plugging of the discharge channel or mechanical defects; and
7. Examination of the entire cylinder should show no sign of the following: irregular treatment, mechanical damage, fire damage or contamination beyond that which is allowed under clause 8.7.

Industry members should remember that cylinders which have had their original structure altered are considered to be an environmental threat and occupational health and safety (OH&S) issue.

It is an offence to contravene a condition of an RTA. This is an offence of strict liability and subject to fines, suspension or cancellation of an RTA.

For more information on the Standards go to <http://www.saiglobal.com/default.htm> For the conditions for holding a Refrigerant Trading Authorisation visit www.arctick.org or call the Australian Refrigeration Council on 1300 884 483.