

# AGC Tool Box Safety Talk

## COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS

### INTRODUCTION

1. Review any accidents or “near accidents” from the past week.
2. Describe the hazards of the work as they relate to your project. Explain or show the SAFE way of doing the job.
3. Give the TOOL BOX SAFETY TALK

Compressed gas cylinders can be hazardous. Sudden release of the gas can cause a cylinder to become a missile-like projectile, destroying everything in its path. To prevent such a dangerous situation, follow procedures for safe handling:

- Store cylinders in an area specifically designated for that purpose. Ensure that the area is well ventilated, away from sources of heat, and protect cylinders from being struck by another object.
- Do not drop cylinders or allow them to fall. Secure them in an upright position during use and storage.
- Move cylinders with a compressed gas cylinder cart designed for that purpose.
- When moving a cylinder, even for a short distance, ensure that all the valves are closed, the regulator is removed, and the valve cap is installed.
- Do not remove a cylinder cap until the cylinder is secured in place and ready to use. Cylinder caps protect the valve on the top of the cylinder from damage if it is knocked over. Also, if gas is accidentally released through the valve, the cap will vent the gas out of both sides, minimizing the likelihood that the cylinder will topple.
- Before using the gas, install the proper pressure-reducing regulator on the valve and verify that the regulator is working, that all gauges are operating correctly, and that all connections are tight to ensure that there are no leaks.
- When you are ready to use the gas, open the valve with your hands. Never use a wrench or other tool. If you cannot open it with your hands, do not use it.

