

Safety Alert

Gas Cylinder Storage and Restraint



Issue Date: 02 September 2026

Context:

During a recent Property Services safety inspection, multiple compressed gas cylinders were observed stored without effective restraint. The observation included cylinders that were:

- **Freestanding or leaning against surrounding structures.**
- **Not secured within a designated cylinder storage rack/cage or equivalent restraint system.**
- **Positioned on a cylinder trolley without visible restraint.**

This Safety Alert reinforces the requirements for safe gas cylinder storage and handling across RMIT Property Services-managed areas.

Hazard:

Unsecured gas cylinders can fall, be struck or otherwise become damaged. This may result in:

- **Cylinder or valve damage.**
- **Uncontrolled release of pressurised gas.**
- **A damaged cylinder becoming a dangerous projectile.**
- **Fire or explosion, depending on the gas involved.**
- **Toxic, oxidising or asphyxiation hazards, depending on the cylinder contents.**
- **Injury to personnel from falling or moving cylinders.**

Actions Taken:

The responsible person was notified, and the cylinders were relocated to the designated Chemical Bottle Store/Gas Storage facility.



Figure 1: Unsafe gas cylinder storage



Figure 2: Corrected storage arrangement

Actions Required for Contractors and Property Services Personnel:

- **Store cylinders upright and securely restrained.**
- **Use chains, straps, racks or approved cylinder cages.**
- **Do not lean cylinders against walls, fences or equipment.**
- **Keep cylinders secured on trolleys and protected from impact.**
- **Segregate incompatible gases** and report damaged or leaking cylinders.

Comments:

For additional information see:

WorkSafe Victoria – Code of Practice: The storage and handling of dangerous goods

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/resources/code-practice-storage-and-handling-dangerous-goods>