

Health and Safety Solution

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland

Attaching a LPG cylinder to a forklift

What is the problem?

Forklift operators and others are exposed to a risk of sustaining serious freeze burns when liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders are attached to a forklift incorrectly.

What are the risks?

LPG cylinders are manufactured with a designated relief valve. When the cylinder is attached to a forklift this valve should be located at the top of the cylinder (see image).

Placing an LPG cylinder incorrectly on a forklift with the relief valve at the bottom of the cylinder could lead to the valve being submerged in LPG. This could result in the valve opening, putting workers at risk of death or serious injury from an explosion, fire or freeze burns from escaping gas.

What is a solution to the problem?

LPG needs to be stored and handled in accordance with Australian Standard AS/NZ 1596 – *the storage and handling of LP gas*.

The risks of using an LPG cylinder on a forklift can be eliminated or reduced by:

- ensuring the relief valve is in the upward position when the cylinder is connected to a forklift
- turning the cylinder valve off when the forklift is not in use
- ensuring that removal and replacement of LPG cylinders is only carried out by trained workers

- handling and storing LPG cylinders in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards
- providing appropriate training to workers
- ensuring that information (such as work procedures) is easy to understand and follow (pictures may be useful).



Image: LPG cylinder on a forklift showing the relief valve located in the correct position at the top.

Further information

For further information, call the Workplace Health and Safety Infoline on 1300 369 915 or visit www.worksafe.qld.gov.au

More information about forklift safety is available in [Forklift safety – reducing the risks](#).

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