

Risks of Gases

Innumerable risks may result from the storage, handling and/or use of gases.

Fire Procedure

In the event of a fire, the safety of all personnel must be the top priority. It is recommended for all the establishments to have an operational policy which details the roles and responsibilities in the event of a fire. The responsible personnel have to be trained in the actions they must do in the event of a fire.

Once the immediate actions have been taken, close the cylinder valve to stop the flow of gas and move the cylinders away from the source of heat, if safe to do so.

Do not attempt to fight a fire in which cylinders are directly involved. If you are trained, attempt to keep the cylinder cool by using a fire hose from a protected position. Do not take any unnecessary risks.

Risks may include, for example, asphyxiation (risk of oxygen deficiency), cryogenic (risk of being contact with very low temperature), oxygen enrichment and flammability risks, etc.

NIGP Safety Data Sheet (SDS) should read, understood and properly communicated with entire team for all the information related to the gases storage and handling. The person in charge should share relevant aspects of this safety data with all relevant peoples such as drivers, operators, contractors, etc. including those, such as managers, safety officers who assess and manage your workplace risks.

Typical initial actions in the event of a fire are:

- Activate the fire alarm
- Notify the fire services, warning them of the presence of gases.
- Turn off the regulator valve, if safe to do so.
- Evacuate the peoples immediately.

After the fire, cylinder(s) which have been involved in the fire should be identified and separated from other cylinders. Under any circumstances do not use the gas of the affected cylinders. All the affected cylinders to be returned to NIGP with details of the incident for retesting the cylinders in order to confirm the integrity.