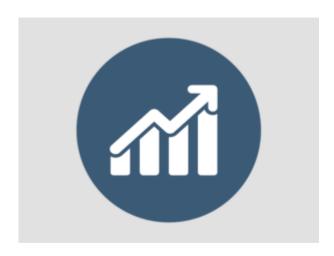
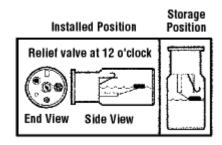
# Forklift Trucks — Safe Handling of Propane (LPG) Fuel — Fact Sheet



# WHAT SHOULD AN OPERATOR DO WHEN HANDLING PROPANE FUEL?

- Position the tank so the liquid propane does not come in contact with the relief valve.
- Make sure the locking pin engages into the cylinder.
- Make sure the valve is closed tightly.



- Put the cylinder down gently. Do not drop, dent or damage.
- Always protect the valve from any damage.
- Avoid contact with liquid propane, as it can cause frostbite.
- Wear protective gloves while making or breaking connections
- Ensure that only qualified persons repair carburetors and fuel supply systems.
- For repairs, use only components that agencies such as the CSA Group (Canadian Standards Association) have approved.
- Exchange removable cylinders outdoors or in well-ventilated areas, away from sources of ignition.
- Close the valve before breaking connections.

### What steps should operators follow when changing fuel tanks?

Procedure for changing propane (LPG) cylinders:

- 1. Wear eye protection and insulated, loose fitting gloves such as leather (dry) or insulated neoprene.
- 2. Close the valve on the cylinder.

- 3. Run the engine until it stops. This ensures that the connection hose is empty.
- 4. Shut off the engine.
- 5. Open the connecting nut and inspect valves for leaking. Do NOT use metal tools.
- 6. Disconnect the hose.
- 7. Disconnect the holding straps.
- 8. Remove the empty cylinder.
- 9. Inspect the replacement cylinder for damage.
- 10. Replace with a full cylinder in the proper position.
- 11. Connect the holding straps.
- 12. Tighten the connecting nut (wiggle hose).
- 13. Open the valve on the cylinder slowly and check for leaks. Use solution of soap and water. Smell listen look.
- 14. If the valve leaks:
- 1st time Tighten the nut and continue.
- 2nd time Change the cylinder.
- 3rd time Change the hose.
- 15. Open the valve fully (slowly).
- 16. Check that the hose is turned inward.
- 17. Secure the hose downward.
- 18. Secure the cylinder.
- 19. Start the engine and resume operation.

### What should an operator not do when changing a propane tank (cylinder)?

- Do not use metal tools when changing a cylinder.
- Do not use excessive force when opening valve.
- Do not let the cylinder get too hot.
- Do not drag, drop, roll or slide cylinder or allow it to bang against other objects.
- Do not use matches or a flame to check for leaks. Use soap or a leak detector.
- Do not mount more than two LPG cylinders on any forklift truck.
- Do not smoke when handling the cylinder or in the storage area.

# How should propane cylinders be stored?

- Store the cylinder in an upright position, in well-ventilated area away from ignition sources and sheltered from excessive temperature, where it can be secured and is protected from being struck.
- Protect cylinders from falling. Use a chain or adequate support system. Consider securing each cylinder separately to prevent other cylinders from falling when items are removed from storage.
- Do not store cylinders or park the forklift close to heat sources, doorways, aisles elevators, stairways, and exits.

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