

A *Sleeping* GIANT!



Compressed Gas Safety Alert



Compressed gas cylinders pose an ever present hazard to miners. Each compressed gas cylinder is a sleeping giant and must be used, maintained, and handled with great care.

Since 2001, there have been 22 accidents in coal mines involving explosions or fires resulting from ruptured compressed gas cylinders, hoses, gauges, or regulators.

Best Practices

- Ensure cylinders are secured from falling and are away from the path of moving mobile equipment.
- Immediately replace damaged cylinders and any damaged cylinder accessory.
- Perform gas checks before and during work.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment when cutting and welding.
- Follow proper procedures when using compressed gas equipment to perform work.
- Ensure area is well ventilated before and during work.
- Apply rock dust and remove combustible materials.
- Search the worksite for evidence of fire or smoldering materials. Wet down worksite when work is finished.
- Remove cylinder accessories when not in use and replace the cylinder cap.