

# Handling and Use

- ✓ Wear stout gloves. Never lift a container by the cap or guard unless the supplier states it is designed for that purpose.
- ✓ Use a trolley or other suitable device or technique for transporting heavy containers, even for a short distance.
- ✓ Leave valve protection caps (where provided) in place until the container has been secured against a wall or bench or placed in a stand and is ready for use. Never remove valve guards or cages which permit access to the container valve. This type of valve protection is intended to be permanently attached.
- ✓ Where necessary wear suitable eye and face protection. The choice between safety glasses, chemical goggles, or full face shield will depend on the pressure and nature of the gas being used.
- ✓ Where necessary for toxic gases see that self-contained positive pressure breathing apparatus or a full face air line respirator is available in the vicinity of the working area. Check for gas leaks using a suitable method. Flammable and toxic gas monitors are available. Where a gas is toxic check special procedures specified by supplier.
- ✓ Ascertain that an adequate supply of water is available for first aid, fire fighting, or dilution of corrosive material in the event of leakage.
- ✓ Employ suitable pressure regulating devices on all containers when the gas is being emitted to systems with a lower pressure rating than that of the container. Before connecting the container for use ensure that back feed from the system into the container is prevented.
- ✓ Ascertain that all electrical systems in the area are suitable for service with each gas. Never use direct flame or electrical heating devices to raise the pressure of a container. Containers should not be subjected to temperatures above 45°C.
- ✗ **Never** re-compress a gas or a gas mixture from a container without consulting the supplier.
- ✗ **Never** attempt to transfer gases from one container to another.
- ✗ **Do not** attempt to increase liquid draw-off rate by pressurising the container without first checking with the supplier
- ✗ **Do not** use containers as rollers or supports, or for any other purpose than to contain the gas as supplied.
- ✗ **Never** permit oil, grease or other readily combustible substances to come into contact with valves of containers containing oxygen or other oxidants.
- ✓ Keep container valve outlets clean and free from contaminants, particularly oil and water.
- ✗ **Do not** subject containers to abnormal mechanical shocks which may cause damage to their valves or safety devices. Never attempt to repair or modify container valves or safety relief devices. Damaged valves should be reported immediately to the supplier.
- ✓ Close the container valve whenever gas is not required, even if a container is still connected to equipment.
- ✓ Replace outlet caps or plugs and container caps (where provided) as soon as container is disconnected from equipment.

If in any doubt, please phone us on **020 8807 4633**

