



## OPERATING & SAFETY GUIDE

# SAFE USE of PROPANE GAS

### When Using Propane

- Treat the cylinder with care to ensure that the valve is not damaged.
- Always use cylinders in the upright position.
- Return the cylinder when empty or when not in use for long periods.
- Read the instructions and labels provided with your appliance and keep them handy for future reference.
- Keep the appliance clean and have it serviced regularly.
- Ensure there is an adequate supply of fresh air in the room where your appliance is used. If a room has ventilators or grilles ensure these are open. If a room becomes stuffy, open a window or door immediately.
- Be careful when lifting cylinders. Full cylinders weigh approximately twice the nett weight shown on the cylinder.
- If you have any queries please contact the depot that supplied the equipment and cylinder.

### What Not To Do When Using Propane

- **Don't** subject a cylinder to heat as the pressure inside could build up to exceed the safe limit
- **Don't** attempt to disconnect or unscrew a regulator from any cylinder if the flame does not go out when the cylinder handwheel is turned off. Leave appliance alight and call your local Event Hire Depot.

- **Don't** store or use cylinders in cellars or below ground level. LPG is heavier than air and if there is an escape the gas will collect at low level, can be an asphyxiate, and can become dangerous in the presence of a flame or spark.
- For the same reason **do not** store cylinders any closer than 2 metres from untrapped drains, unsealed gullies or openings to cellars.
- Propane cylinders **must not** be used indoors at domestic premises or in high rise flats where a piped gas supply is prohibited
- **Don't** store Propane cylinders indoors or in high rise flats where a piped gas supply is prohibited.
- **Don't** attempt to force a regulator of one size on to a cylinder's valve of another size. If you have any difficulties contact your Event Hire Depot and have the appliance checked.
- **Don't** improvise or modify any gas appliance. Do not let unqualified people tamper with or service your equipment, it could become unsafe to use. Always ask your Event Hire Depot for advice.
- **Don't** obstruct access to cylinders

### Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a highly poisonous gas which can be produced if an appliance is not working correctly. It is difficult to recognise as it has no colour, smell or taste. Symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to that of a viral infection. It affects the mental ability causing a person to become incapable without realising

#### Symptoms of exposure to Carbon Monoxide

- Tightness across the forehead
- Headache
- Severe headache, weakness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting.
- Coma, intermittent convulsions
- Depressed heart action, slowed respiration.
- If the exposure has been severe it may cause death.

**If you suspect you are suffering from the symptoms above, open doors and windows and get out into fresh air immediately.**

**Obtain medical advice/assistance.**

#### Regulator

- A regulator must be included in the connection between the cylinder and the appliance.
- The regulator is precisely set by the manufacturer to control the pressure of the supply and **Must Not Be Adjusted.**
- If a Regulator shows signs of wear, it should be replaced.
- **Regulators must be marked BS3016 or BS EN12864**

### Flexible Hose

- Use only certified hoses to BS3212 or BSEN1763 which **bear the year and name of manufacturer**
- LPG attacks and erodes natural rubber.
- Keep hose lengths as short as possible. All hoses must be secured with proper hose clips.
- Make sure that the hoses are kept clear of 'hot spots' and inspect them from time to time.  
Replace any hose that shows signs of wear, cracking or other damage.

#### Emergency Advice

- If you suspect a leak, turn off the gas, open all the doors and windows and ensure there is no source of ignition nearby i.e. extinguish any cigarettes and switch off your mobile phone.
- If safe to do so, examine all pipes and connections. If the leak is not located, turn on the gas supply and brush over the connections with liquid detection fluid – it will bubble where there is a leak.
- **NEVER USE A NAKED FLAME** to search for a leak.
- A suitably calibrated Explosimeter may be used for testing the concentration of LPG in the air, but Propane has a special odorant added to help with the detection of leaks.

### In the Event of Fire

- Immediately raise the alarm and call the **Fire Brigade** advising them of the presence of LPG and how many cylinders there are.
- Shut all valves on cylinders.
- Keep cylinders cool by water spray if possible.
- Contact the Event Hire Depot that supplied your equipment.

### ANY PROBLEMS

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