

## Safe Work Procedure: Storing and Moving Compressed Oxygen Tanks

Department/Area:	Approved by:	Date Created:	Review/Revision Date:
Maintenance/Custodial	Workplace Safety and Health Committee	Nov. 15, 2023	Annually

Potential Hazard	Risk level
Awkward/sustained postures – poor lifting	Medium
Forceful exertions – tanks can be heavy	Medium
Combustibles/flammables	Medium
Explosion – risk if tank dropped or heated	High

Risk control devices, personal protective equipment, and other safety considerations	Training/Reference info
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety footwear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Injury prevention orientation</li> <li>On-the-Job Training</li> </ul>

**Note:** Common signs and symptoms of a musculoskeletal injury (MSI) can include pain, burning, swelling, stiffness, numbness/tingling, and/or loss of movement or strength in a body part. Report these to your supervisor.

**The direct supervisor must ensure that employees who report to him/her are trained and follow this safe work procedure.**

### Steps to complete this task safely:

- All oxygen tanks, full or empty, must be stored upright and secured against a secure, stable surface.
- Do not store tanks near hot surfaces.
- Remove regulators from empty cylinders before lifting them.
- To lift a tank, tilt it and grasp the bottom with one hand while the other hand supports the tank about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way up.
- With the knees and hips bent, back upright and elbows in, push through the legs to lift the tank. Don't hold your breath. Lower the tank slowly using the same technique but in reverse.
- If transporting, place and secure tank on a dolly or transport cart.
- Attach regulator to goose neck on filled tanks and test for leaks.