




# SECTION 1 – SAFETY PRECAUTIONS – READ BEFORE USING

 Protect yourself and others from injury—read, follow, and save these important safety precautions and operating instructions.

## 1-1. Symbol Usage

 **DANGER!** – Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury. The possible hazards are shown in the adjoining symbols or explained in the text.

 Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. The possible hazards are shown in the adjoining symbols or explained in the text.


**NOTICE** – Indicates statements not related to personal injury.


 Indicates special instructions.





This group of symbols means Warning! Watch Out! ELECTRIC SHOCK, MOVING PARTS, and HOT PARTS hazards. Consult symbols and related instructions below for necessary actions to avoid these hazards.

## 1-2. Arc Welding Hazards

 The symbols shown below are used throughout this manual to call attention to and identify possible hazards. When you see the symbol, watch out, and follow the related instructions to avoid the hazard. The safety information given below is only a summary of the more complete safety information found in the Principal Safety Standards. Read and follow all Safety Standards.

 Only qualified persons should install, operate, maintain, and repair this equipment. A qualified person is defined as one who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, has successfully demonstrated the ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project and has received safety training to recognize and avoid the hazards involved.

 During operation, keep everybody, especially children, away.

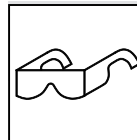
 Do not use this equipment unless you are trained in its proper use or are under competent supervision. Follow the procedures described in this manual every time you use the equipment. Failure to follow these instructions can cause fire, explosion, asphyxiation, property damage, or personal injury. This equipment must be used in accordance with all Federal, State, and local regulations as well as DOT (Department of Transportation) and CGA (Compressed Gas Association) regulations. Contact your gas supplier for more information on the proper use of compressed gases.

- Wear an approved welding helmet fitted with a proper shade of filter lenses to protect your face and eyes from arc rays and sparks when welding or watching (see ANSI Z49.1 and Z87.1 listed in Safety Standards).
- Wear approved safety glasses with side shields under your helmet.
- Use protective screens or barriers to protect others from flash, glare, and sparks; warn others not to watch the arc.
- Wear body protection made from leather or flame-resistant clothing (FRC). Body protection includes oil-free clothing such as leather gloves, heavy shirt, cuffless trousers, high shoes, and a cap.



### BUILDUP OF GAS can injure or kill.

- Shut off compressed gas supply when not in use.
- Always ventilate confined spaces or use approved air-supplied respirator.



### FLYING METAL OR DIRT can injure eyes.

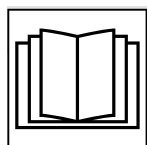
- Welding, chipping, wire brushing, and grinding cause sparks and flying metal. As welds cool, they can throw off slag.
- Wear approved safety glasses with side shields even under your welding helmet.



### WELDING can cause fire or explosion.

Welding on closed containers, such as tanks, drums, or pipes, can cause them to blow up. Sparks can fly off from the welding arc. The flying sparks, hot workpiece, and hot equipment can cause fires and burns. Accidental contact of electrode to metal objects can cause sparks, explosion, overheating, or fire. Check and be sure the area is safe before doing any welding.

- Remove all flammables within 35 ft (10.7 m) of the welding arc. If this is not possible, tightly cover them with approved covers.
- Do not weld where flying sparks can strike flammable material.
- Protect yourself and others from flying sparks and hot metal.
- Be alert that welding sparks and hot materials from welding can easily go through small cracks and openings to adjacent areas.
- Watch for fire, and keep a fire extinguisher nearby.
- Be aware that welding on a ceiling, floor, bulkhead, or partition can cause fire on the hidden side.
- Do not cut or weld on tire rims or wheels. Tires can explode if heated. Repaired rims and wheels can fail. See OSHA 29 CFR 1910.177 listed in Safety Standards.



### READ INSTRUCTIONS.

- Read and follow all labels and the Owner's Manual carefully before installing, operating, or servicing unit. Read the safety information at the beginning of the manual and in each section.
- Use only genuine replacement parts from the manufacturer.
- Perform installation, maintenance, and service according to the Owner's Manuals, industry standards, and national, state, and local codes.



### HOT PARTS can burn.

- Do not touch hot parts bare handed.
- Allow cooling period before working on equipment.
- To handle hot parts, use proper tools and/or wear heavy, insulated welding gloves and clothing to prevent burns.



### ARC RAYS can burn eyes and skin.

Arc rays from the welding process produce intense visible and invisible (ultraviolet and infrared) rays that can burn eyes and skin. Sparks fly off from the weld.

- Do not weld on containers that have held combustibles, or on closed containers such as tanks, drums, or pipes unless they are properly prepared according to AWS F4.1 (see Safety Standards).
- Do not weld where the atmosphere can contain flammable dust, gas, or liquid vapors (such as gasoline).
- Connect work cable to the work as close to the welding area as practical to prevent welding current from traveling long, possibly unknown paths and causing electric shock, sparks, and fire hazards.
- Do not use welder to thaw frozen pipes.
- Remove stick electrode from holder or cut off welding wire at contact tip when not in use.
- Wear body protection made from leather or flame-resistant clothing (FRC). Body protection includes oil-free clothing such as leather gloves, heavy shirt, cuffless trousers, high shoes, and a cap.
- Remove any combustibles, such as a butane lighter or matches, from your person before doing any welding.
- After completion of work, inspect area to ensure it is free of sparks, glowing embers, and flames.
- Use only correct fuses or circuit breakers. Do not oversize or bypass them.
- Follow requirements in OSHA 1910.252 (a) (2) (iv) and NFPA 51B for hot work and have a fire watcher and extinguisher nearby.
- Read and understand the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and the manufacturer's instructions for adhesives, coatings, cleaners, consumables, coolants, degreasers, fluxes, and metals.

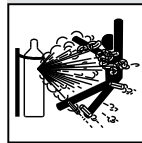


### FUMES AND GASES can be hazardous.

Welding produces fumes and gases. Breathing these fumes and gases can be hazardous to your health.

- Keep your head out of the fumes. Do not breathe the fumes.
- Ventilate the work area and/or use local forced ventilation at the arc to remove welding fumes and gases. The recommended way to determine adequate ventilation is to sample for the composition and quantity of fumes and gases to which personnel are exposed.
- If ventilation is poor, wear an approved air-supplied respirator.
- Read and understand the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and the manufacturer's instructions for adhesives, coatings, cleaners, consumables, coolants, degreasers, fluxes, and metals.

- Work in a confined space only if it is well ventilated, or while wearing an air-supplied respirator. Always have a trained watchperson nearby. Welding fumes and gases can displace air and lower the oxygen level causing injury or death. Be sure the breathing air is safe.
- Do not weld in locations near degreasing, cleaning, or spraying operations. The heat and rays of the arc can react with vapors to form highly toxic and irritating gases.
- Do not weld on coated metals, such as galvanized, lead, or cadmium plated steel, unless the coating is removed from the weld area, the area is well ventilated, and while wearing an air-supplied respirator. The coatings and any metals containing these elements can give off toxic fumes if welded.

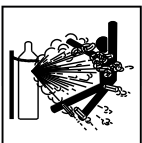


### CYLINDERS can explode if damaged.

Compressed gas cylinders contain gas under high pressure. If damaged, a cylinder can explode. Since gas cylinders are normally part of the welding or cutting process, be sure to treat them carefully.

- Protect compressed gas cylinders from excessive heat, mechanical shocks, physical damage, slag, open flames, sparks, and arcs.
- Install cylinders in an upright position by securing to a stationary support or cylinder rack to prevent falling or tipping.
- Keep cylinders away from any welding or other electrical circuits.
- Never drape a welding torch over a gas cylinder.
- Never allow a welding electrode to touch any cylinder.
- Never weld on a pressurized cylinder—explosion will result.
- Use only correct compressed gas cylinders, regulators, hoses, and fittings designed for the specific application; maintain them and associated parts in good condition.
- Turn face away from valve outlet when opening cylinder valve. Do not stand in front of or behind the regulator when opening the valve.
- Keep protective cap in place over valve except when cylinder is in use or connected for use.
- Use the proper equipment, correct procedures, and sufficient number of persons to lift, move, and transport cylinders.
- Read and follow instructions on compressed gas cylinders, associated equipment, and Compressed Gas Association (CGA) publication P-1 listed in Safety Standards.

## 1-3. Additional Safety Precautions



### REGULATOR MISUSE can be hazardous.

- Use regulator only with inert welding gases. Do not use this regulator with gases other than those for which it is intended. Contact the gas supplier and consult the SDS sheet to be sure the compressed gas is compatible with regulator components. Do not interchange regulators or other equipment unless the gases that were used are compatible.
- Inspect all equipment before use. Do not use damaged, defective, or improperly adjusted equipment.

Make sure levers and valves work properly, threads on equipment are clean (no grease or oil) and not deformed, gauges are intact and easy to read, regulator is clean and free of oil or dirt, and fittings are properly sized for the cylinder. Make sure hoses are clean (no grease or oil) and ferrules are properly installed so the fitting does not slip inside the hose. Be sure all connections are tight.

- Check compressed gas system for leaks with an approved leak detection solution or leak detector.
- Do not lubricate regulator, gauges, or compressed gas fittings. Stop using the regulator immediately and contact the gas supplier if oil or grease is found in these components. Take regulator and other components to a qualified repair station for cleaning. Do not use sealing tape on cylinder connections.
- Do not use adapters on cylinder connections. Use a regulator with the correct compressed gas fitting.
- Do not open the cylinder valve more than necessary to clear the valve port. Opening the valve too much can cause the cylinder to tip over due to the force of the escaping gas. Never stand in front of the valve port.
- Do not use regulator as a shut-off device. Close cylinder valve when system is not in use.

## 1-4. California Proposition 65 Warnings

**⚠ WARNING – This product can expose you to chemicals including lead, which are known to the state of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.**

For more information, go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).

## 1-5. Principal Safety Standards

*Safety in Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes*, American Welding Society standard ANSI Standard Z49.1. Website: [www.aws.org](http://www.aws.org).

*Safe Practices for the Preparation of Containers and Piping for Welding and Cutting*, American Welding Society Standard AWS F4.1. Website: [www.aws.org](http://www.aws.org).

*Safe Handling of Compressed Gases in Cylinders*, CGA Pamphlet P-1 from Compressed Gas Association. Website: [www.cganet.com](http://www.cganet.com).

*Safety in Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes*, CSA Standard W117.2 from Canadian Standards Association. Website: [www.csagroup.org](http://www.csagroup.org).

*Safe Practice For Occupational And Educational Eye And Face Protection*, ANSI Standard Z87.1, from American National Standards Institute. Website: [safetyequipment.org](http://safetyequipment.org).

*Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting, and Other Hot Work*, NFPA Standard 51B from National Fire Protection Association. Website: [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health Standards for General Industry, Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 1910.177 Subpart N, Part 1910 Subpart Q, and Part 1926, Subpart J. Website: [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

OSHA *Important Note Regarding the ACGIH TLV, Policy Statement on the Uses of TLVs and BEIs*. Website: [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

*Applications Manual for the Revised NIOSH Lifting Equation* from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Website: [www.cdc.gov/NIOSH](http://www.cdc.gov/NIOSH).

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