



SYDNEY MARKETS

SAFETY NOTICE

Correct Storage of LPG & Ethylene Gas Bottles

Various businesses at Sydney Markets utilise different types of gas for running their operations, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) bottles are used on forklifts and Ethylene Gas is used during the ripening process.

Recent compliance activities conducted by SafeWork NSW has identified businesses throughout the markets are continually storing their spare or empty LPG bottles incorrectly.

Gas bottles should be stored in certified storage cabinet to eliminate risk of fire/explosion or damage caused by a gas bottle falling over and rupturing.

LPG bottle storage cabinets should always allow for the following;

- LPG bottles (Including Forklift Gas Bottles) are to be stored upright and securely.
- Storage cabinet should be designed to provide good air flow and placed in a well-ventilated area away from any flame, heat, or other ignition source.
- Businesses should store cylinders in cool areas away from sources of radiant heat (e.g. boilers, hot surfaces, and internal combustion engines). Where possible, store cylinders in the shade to avoid exposing cylinders to direct sunlight.
- **Do not** store flammable gas cylinders near sources of ignition such as naked lights or cigarette smoking.
- Wherever flammable gases are used, stored and handled, fire and explosion risks must be safely managed.



Businesses must ensure good housekeeping practices are used when storing LPG bottles, following these simple rules:

- **Do not store objects on top of gas cylinders.**
- **Store full and empty cylinders separately, in clearly marked areas.**
- **Rotate stock, ensuring a first-in-first-out process.**

- Ensure gas cylinders are stored at least 3 metres away from combustible materials and debris (e.g. timber, cardboard, packaging materials).
- Do not place or store gas cylinders where they may block stairs, exits, ladders or walkways, or where they may come in contact with forklifts or other vehicles.
- Keep an up-to-date and accurate inventory.
- Keep inventory quantities as low as possible.
- The storage cabinet should meet Australian Standards AS1596-2008, [AS/NZS 1596-2008 - Standards Australia](#). Such as the below cabinets.



For further information on safe use and storage of LPG bottles is available via the following links:

www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/hazardous-chemical/flammable-substances

https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/50729/storage-handling-dangerous-goods-1354.pdf

<https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/safety-alerts/safety-alerts/decanting-lpg>

SAFETY AT WORK IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY.

LEIGHTON FRENEY

Work Health & Safety Manager

15th February 2023

C.2033