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## PRESS RELEASE

The British Compressed Gases Association is pleased to announce a revision of its Guidance Note GN3 as follows:

### **GN3: Safe Cylinder Handling and the Application of the Manual Handling Operations Regulations to Gas Cylinders, Revision 1 : 2005**

Guidance Note GN3 provides a short summary of the duties of employers and employees under the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992, SI 1992 No. 2793, (1) as amended by the Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2002, SI 2002 No. 2174 (2) with regard to the handling of gas cylinders by users. It also takes account comment from the staff of HSE's and of HSE's revised Guidance L23 on The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended) in 2004 and of HSE's Research Report 228 – "Review of the risks associated with pushing and pulling heavy loads".

Gas cylinders are difficult objects to move safely. Large cylinders weigh more than 100kg. They are tall and thin and can quite easily be toppled over. GN3 has been prepared by producers and distributors of compressed, dissolved and liquefied cylinder gases and cylinder manufacturers for the benefit of all users

The purpose of this guidance is to provide a basis for good practice when handling and moving cylinders, a basic understanding of the Manual Handling Operations Regulations as relating to gas cylinders and to give specific guidance to managers and their staff in handling cylinders.

The scope of GN3 is to define the principles of safe practice for users on the handling of compressed, dissolved and liquefied gas cylinders at work places within the limitations given below. Though it encourages the use of lift trucks and other mechanical handling aids, specific guidance on their use should be sought from the manufacturers. For guidance on handling LPG cylinders, please refer to the LP Gas Association.

Copies of GN3 are available from BCGA at a cost of £25.00 including postage.

Titles of other publications and synopses of their contents are available from BCGA's website: [www.bcgga.co.uk](http://www.bcgga.co.uk)

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