

GAS & CRYOGEN TRANSPORT

INTRO

Compressed gas cylinders and cryogenic Dewars must be handled with caution at all times, and especially during transport. Assume all cylinders contain gas under pressure and treat all gases as hazardous chemicals.



TRANSPORTING ON CAMPUS

- Disconnect regulators and other apparatus prior to transport.
- Always replace the valve cap before transporting cylinders.
- Cylinders must always be transported using a hand truck or cart designed for that purpose. Transport cylinders upright.
- When driving on campus with compressed gases such as propane, oxygen and acetylene, make sure the cylinder is secured within the vehicle and in non-passenger areas (i.e., truck bed) when possible. Be aware that gases or cryogenics may displace breathing air.
- When transporting compressed gases or cryogenics on **elevators** use service or freight elevators when available. In addition, when transporting cryogenics by elevator:
 - Post a sign reading "DO NOT ENTER - CRYOGEN GAS TRANSPORT" to exclude passengers.
 - When possible, have someone send the elevator up while another person waits on the receiving floor to take the cryogenics out of the elevator. If this is not possible, another plan should be devised to ensure that the cryogen is taken out of the elevator once it reaches the desired floor.

DELIVERIES

- The user must coordinate with the vendor for delivery so that the gases and cryogenics are not left unattended until they reach their end-use location.
- Compressed toxic gases may not be stored on loading docks or other temporary locations unless specifically approved by EH&S.
- Whenever possible, researchers should purchase compressed gas through the preferred supplier, Praxair.
- Inspect the cylinder when it arrives to make sure it is the gas you ordered.
- Never accept a cylinder with damaged labels, dents, gouges or burn/heat marks.

SHIPPING OFF CAMPUS

- If you are going to offer a cylinder for shipment commercially, you will need to be trained. See [Shipping Hazardous Materials](#) for more information about training.
- If you are going to transport a cylinder, please contact EH&S for guidance at [hazmat@uw.edu](mailto: hazmat@uw.edu).
- When returning cylinders to the vendor, make sure the status tag indicates whether the cylinder has any gas remaining.



Indicating whether cylinders are full or empty is critical when returning to the vendor

For questions about cylinder transport, contact EH&S at 206.543.7262.