

## Crane transport of cylinder packages

### Introduction

Different gas associations have asked for clear guidance on how to react to customer requests to move cylinder packages using a crane.

In particular single cylinders with guards may be mishandled.

### Scope

Clarify how to handle safe moving of single cylinder packages based on published ISO standards (see ISO 11117 and ISO 11623).

### Guidance

EIGA strongly recommends not to transport single cylinder packages by crane without using an appropriate lifting device. Lifting must not be attempted by wrapping the crane chain directly around the cylinder body or by using the valve guard as a lifting attachment. This approach is supported by relevant international standards (see ISO 11623 item 5.2.16).

#### 5.2.16 Handling of cylinders

*Users shall not roll or drag cylinders in the horizontal position in order to move them. A suitable hand truck, forklift truck or similar material-handling device may be used with the cylinder securely held by the device, especially for large or heavy cylinders. However, for short distances, larger cylinders may be manoeuvred manually by wheeling the cylinder on the base ring with the cylinder slightly tilted. Caution shall be used to guard against dropping or permitting cylinders to violently strike against each other or other surfaces.*

*Do not lift cylinders by using the valve protection device unless they have been designed for that purpose. Do not use ropes, chains or slings to suspend cylinders unless the supplier has installed appropriate lifting attachments such as lugs. Suitable cradles, platforms or pallets to hold the cylinders may be used for lifting.*

*NOTE 1 - Certain smaller cylinders are designed to have a carrying handle that also serves as the valve protection device. It is safe to carry these cylinders using such handles/shrouds.*

*NOTE 2 - Personnel handling cylinders should wear appropriate protective equipment (e.g. safety shoes).*

EIGA recommends to follow the above principles with these additions:

- A typical device for horizontal movement is a cylinder trolley. Some trolleys are designed to be lifted by crane;
- Lifting by crane can also be done using cages;
- Addition to Note 1: Do not carry more than one cylinder in one hand;
- Addition to Note 2: Recommendation to use gloves;
- ISO 11117 (guard standard) does not specify all the requirements that may be necessary to enable the valve protection device to be used for lifting the cylinder.

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