

SAFETY & TECHNOLOGY ORGANIZER

AUGUST 2016

ENCLOSED

Safety Topic: Nitrous Oxide Safety

Please contact Mike Dodd, GAWDA DOT, Security, OSHA & EPA Consultant for more information.

Traffic Bulletin: Driver Supervisor Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training

Please contact Mike Dodd for more information.

Medical Gas Bulletin:

1. **GMO Labeling for Food/Beverage Gases?**
2. **Professional Compliance Seminar – Audit Survival October 18-20, 2016**
4. **August Medical Gas Roundtable (08/26/2016) – CGMP – Practical validation for the cylinder plant**
5. **Webinars: ISO 17025 - ISO 17025 – Establishing NIST Traceability for analytical measurements; Specialty Gas - Fuel/Oxidizer Mixture Safe Practices; Food Gas Roundtable – Part 117 Subpart C - Corrective actions and corrections, Verification, Validation.**
6. **Micro Audit Suggestions**

Please contact GAWDA Medical Gas Consultant, Tom Badstubner for more information.

GAWDA is pleased to distribute this information to: Distributor and Supplier Key Contacts and all Compliance Manual Owners. Please carefully review this mailing and be sure the information is passed to the appropriate person within your organization. Timely Safety data is a benefit of Membership in GAWDA.



Safety Meetings are important!

They: get your employees actively involved
encourage safety awareness
help identify problems before they become accidents
motivate employees to follow proper safety procedures

We are happy to provide you with a monthly topic for your agenda.

ROUTE TO:

- General Manager
- Safety Coordinator
- Supervisor Dept. _____
- Other _____
- Date of Meeting _____

Nitrous Oxide Safety

It has been over 3 years since GAWDA has reminded our members about nitrous oxide safety concerns. Here are some points from the last Safety Topic.

One of our members brought to the attention of the GAWDA Safety Committee an incident of nitrous oxide abuse at a music concert. The 3-day concert had about 20,000 people floating around for the weekend. The sheriff's dept. contacted the member and asked if he could dispose of 63 small nitrous oxide cylinders they confiscated. The cylinders they dropped off were mostly CO2 but some were actual nitrous with the proper CGA valve. All apparently had been refilled by someone, most had wrong labels or no labels, some were within hydro, and some just recently reconditioned. The police told the member to Google "nitrous mafia", which he did and found the following website: <http://www.villagevoice.com/2010-07-06/music/hippie-crack-nitrous-mafia-boston/>. It is a long article with foul words but it unfortunately is very insightful to the extent of the problem.

There was an excellent article published in the November 2010 Welding & Gases Today Online entitled "**Who Is Accountable for Product Abuse? And Other Conundrums...**" I highly suggest reading or refreshing your memory with this article. <http://www.weldingandgases.com/index.php/2010/11/who-is-accountable-for-product-abuse-and-other-conundrums/>

CGA has a Safety Bulletin, SB-6 - 2008, *Nitrous Oxide Security and Control* that has very good guidelines on the security and sales of nitrous oxide. It will offer you guidelines on storage, securement of the cylinders on your property, reporting incidents, suggested security measures to take, and sales to customers.

Additional security guidance can be found in the following publications:
CGA P-50, *Site Security Standard*, which provides guidance to the compressed gas industry for assessing security risks and identifying and implementing preventive security measures at fixed sites;



CGA P-51, *Transportation Security Standard for the Compressed Gas Industry*, which provides guidance for securing product during shipment; and CGA P-52, *Security Standard for Qualifying Potential Customers of Compressed Gases*, which provides guidance to the compressed gas industry for qualifying potential customers who purchase products that are considered at risk for illegal use.

Unfortunately, nitrous oxide theft and abuse is still with us. Therefore, we need to use proper due diligence to minimize the risk to our membership.

If you have signed up for the CGA / GAWDA, then you can download these publications and more for free. If you need to sign up, then go to this website:
<http://www.cganet.com/customer/gawda.aspx>

Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

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Traffic Bulletin

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Driver Supervisor Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training

49 CR 382.603 requires an employer to ensure all persons designated to supervise drivers receive the following:

- 60 minutes of training on alcohol misuse, and
- 60 minutes of training on drug use.

Supervisors will use the training to determine whether reasonable suspicion exists to require a driver to undergo testing. The key point is that in order to send someone for reasonable suspicion testing, you must have been properly trained. The training must cover the physical, behavioral, speech, and performance indicators of probable alcohol misuse and use of drugs. Recurrent training is not required. There are some good programs sold to help you with this training. JJ Keller sells a training program for this. The drug and alcohol testing company that you have contracted with might be able to provide this training. In larger cities, there are organizations that conduct this training as well.

Please read 49 CFR 382.307 for all the details and requirements for reasonable suspicion testing. Here are a few of the key points found in 382.307:

- An employer shall require a driver to submit to an alcohol test when the employer has reasonable suspicion to believe that the driver has violated the prohibitions of 382.201- 382.215 concerning alcohol or controlled substances.
- The employer's determination that reasonable suspicion exists to require the driver to undergo an alcohol or controlled substances test must be based on specific, contemporaneous, articulable observations concerning the appearance, behavior, speech or body odors of the driver. The observations may include indications of the chronic and withdrawal effects of controlled substances. (The mere possession of alcohol does not constitute a need for reasonable suspicion testing, which must be based on observations concerning the driver's appearance, behavior, speech, or body odor.)



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- The required observations for alcohol and/or controlled substances reasonable suspicion testing shall be made by a supervisor or company official who is trained in accordance with §382.603. The person who makes the determination that reasonable suspicion exists to conduct an alcohol test shall not conduct the alcohol test of the driver. (Under the Part 382 rules, only one supervisor or company official is required to make the observations necessary to require a test. The FHWA believes requiring only one supervisor or company official to make a reasonable suspicion determination responds to the operational realities of motor carrier operations.)
- A driver may be directed by the employer to only undergo reasonable suspicion testing while the driver is performing safety-sensitive functions, just before the driver is to perform safety-sensitive functions, or just after the driver has ceased performing such functions. (This is why you are required to define “safety-sensitive work” in your company written drug and alcohol program.)
- If a reasonable suspicion alcohol test is not administered within two hours following the observations, the employer shall prepare and maintain on file a record stating the reasons the alcohol test was not administered promptly. If the test was not administered within eight hours, the employer shall cease attempts to administer the test, and shall prepare and maintain the record listed above.
- If reasonable suspicion is observed but a reasonable suspicion test has not yet been administered, a driver shall not perform safety-sensitive functions until: an alcohol test is administered and the driver's alcohol concentration measures less than 0.02; or twenty-four hours have elapsed following the determination that there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the driver has violated the prohibitions in this part concerning the use of alcohol.



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- A written record shall be made of the observations leading to an alcohol or controlled substances reasonable suspicion test, and signed by the supervisor or company official who made the observations, within 24 hours of the observed behavior or before the results of the alcohol or controlled substances tests are released, whichever is earlier.

If there are any questions regarding this Bulletin, please contact:

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Medical Gas Bulletin

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08/01/2016

GMO Labeling for Food/Beverage Gases?

The first edition of CGA PS-50, CGA Position Statement on Food Gases and Genetically Modified Organisms, has been published and is available to download from CGA's website at

<https://www.cganet.com/member/Publication/Details.aspx?id=PS-50>.

This publication answers the following question: Do food gases in high pressure or liquid containers contain genetically modified organisms at a level exceeding the food industry accepted threshold maximum level of 0.9% (w/w) as identified by some government bodies, which would invoke a requirement for labeling regarding the GMO material content?

The short answer is, "No, food/beverage gases do not require GMO labeling." Food and beverage gases do not contain measurable amounts of protein, even if produced from genetically modified corn and the fermentation process. We encourage you to download the position statement from CGAnet.com for a full description of the rationale and resources.

In addition, Congress has recently passed a national GMO labeling bill that is less intrusive than the present regulations in Vermont. The national bill, if signed by the President, would supersede the state level regulations.

If you have any questions about this or Food/Beverage Gases please contact the GAWDA Medical Gas Consultant, Tom Badstubner (tom@asteriskllc.com).

GAWDA Professional Compliance Seminar – Audit Survival

Hold The Date (October 18-20, 2016)... GAWDA Professional Compliance Seminar at Weldcoa, Aurora, IL. This seminar focuses on DOT/FDA certified training and Food/Beverage Gas Compliance.

August Medical Gas Roundtable (08/26/2016) – CGMP – Practical validation for the cylinder plant

These GAWDA Medical Gas roundtables are excellent sources of CGMP training and the latest industry compliance news. In August we will be discussing practical process validation techniques for cylinder fill operations:

- sample systems
- check valves
- fill processes
- portable fill manifolds



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This seminar focuses on ways to save money while improving compliance.

For your information, we are also conducting the following webinars in August:

- **ISO 17025** - ISO 17025 – Establishing NIST Traceability for analytical measurements
- **Specialty Gas** - Fuel/Oxidizer Mixture Safe Practices
- **Food Gas Roundtable** – Part 117 Subpart C - Corrective actions and corrections, Verification, Validation

These and other webinars are available as a streaming recording at a time convenient to you. If you are unable to view the webinar live, just let us know and we will send you the link to the recording. If you would like to receive invitations to the training webinars, just send an email to trinh@asteriskllc.com.

Micro-audit

This section of the Medical Gas Bulletin lists small steps you can take each month to improve your medical gas management system. These steps are not designed to be a full audit, but rather small steps to sample your compliance.

For this month, simply do these items:

1. **Portable Oxygen Manifolds** – If you are using a portable oxygen manifold, be sure you have validated and documented the manifold.
2. **Automatic, mechanical or electronic equipment** – Be sure all major equipment used to produce your medical gases are covered in a maintenance program. The equipment that needs calibration should be within the calibration date (gauges, thermometers, etc.).

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