ATTENTION
Food Truck Operators

Are you aware that your compressed gas cylinders must be inspected?

Cylinders are required to be requalified, or replaced every 5-12 years depending on the cylinder type, condition, and previous requalification method (Ref. 49 CFR §§ 180.205(d) and 180.209).

The original manufacture/test date and any requalification/retest dates must be presented in a specific manner. Cylinders that are overdue for requalification must not be refilled.

If propane tanks are manufactured to ASTM Standards and built into the truck's body making it difficult to remove, then these tanks are exempt from the DOT reinspection requirements.

For more information, contact the Hazmat Info-Center: 1-800-467-4922.

Original Manufacture/Test Date
If no requalification markings are found, the cylinder must be requalified within 12 years of the original manufacture date. (Must be requalified by 5/2017 in this example)

Requalification Date

Volumetric Test.
Basic Marking. Must be requalified within 12 years of stamped date. (Must be requalified by 7/2026 in this example)

Proof Pressure Test.
“S” indicates cylinder must be requalified within 7 years of stamped date. (Must be requalified by 7/2021 in this example)

External Visual Test.
“E” indicates cylinder must be requalified within 5 years of stamped date. (Must be requalified by 7/2019 in this example)

If cylinder is out of test find an approved requalifier to requalify your cylinder. A list of DOT approved requalifiers is available from the PHMSA website: https://portal.phmsa.dot.gov/rinlocator
Requalification Guidance for Propane Cylinders

Propane cylinders have identifying marks on the cylinder neckring (collar), or cylinder shoulder depending on the cylinder type. The diagram below depicts examples of several of the required markings.

Requalification/Retesting (49 CFR § 180.205)

The "requalification" date, also known as the "retest" date, is an important marking for fillers and/or consumers.

Propane cylinders must be requalified or replaced every 5-12 years depending on the cylinder type, condition, and previous requalification method. (Ref. 49 CFR § 180.205(d) and 180.209)

The original manufacture/test date and any requalification/retest date(s) must be presented in a specific manner, reviewed, and determined to be within test prior to filling.

Visual Cylinder Inspection

In accordance with 49 CFR § 173.301(a)(2), cylinders must undergo a visual inspection prior to being filled. If any of the defects noted in items 1 through 4 below are present, the cylinder must not be filled and may only be repaired, requalified, or rebuilt by an authorized U.S. DOT facility (see authorized RIN and VIN holders below):  

1. Damage to the cylinder’s exterior including dents; bulges; cuts; or cracks on the cylinder’s surface, or to welds; and any evidence of physical abuse; fire; or heat damage.
2. Detrimental rust, corrosion, or pitting on the cylinder, particularly on the bottom.
3. Absence of/damage to a cylinder footing, cylinder neckring (collar), or valve cover.
4. A leaking or defective valve or leaking or defective pressure relief device.

A cylinder conforming to the Visual Inspection criteria also must be examined for the most recent repair, requalification, or rebuid date prior to filling. Cylinders that are overdue for requalification must NOT be refilled.

- DOT 4-series propane cylinders must be requalified 12 years following their manufacture date and every 5, 7, or 12 years thereafter depending on how the last requalification, if any, was completed.
  
  » If no requalification date is present, 12-years from the date of manufacture.
  
  » If requalification was completed by the "Volumetric Expansion" method, as indicated by a valid RIN holder’s requalification mark, 12 years after that date.
  
  » If requalification was completed by the "Proof-Pressure" method, as indicated by a valid RIN holder’s requalification mark followed by an "S" 7-years after that date.
  
  » If requalification was completed by the "External Visual" method, as indicated by a valid RIN or VIN holder’s requalification mark followed by an "E" 5-years after that date.

Sample Requalification Marks (49 CFR § 180.213)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>01 A 1 3 2 07</th>
<th>01 A 1 3 2 07 “X”</th>
<th>V123456 0107 E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An approved RIN holder's marking &quot;A123&quot; certifying a 12-year Volumetric Expansion test conducted in January 2007</td>
<td>The same RIN holder's marking where &quot;X&quot; represents the symbol of the testing method used for requalification: &quot;E&quot;: 5-Year External Visual Method &quot;S&quot;: 7-Year Proof-Pressure Method</td>
<td>An External Visual marking for an approved VIN holder denoting the 5-Year External Visual method conducted in January 2007 (Ref. VIN Approval Letter)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Requalification Marks may only be applied by valid U.S. DOT RIN (Requalifier Identification Number) or VIN (Visual Identification Number) holders!

Authorized RIN and VIN holders are listed: http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/reqi-s/req-del/approvals/cylinders