







# GOOD GAS - GOOD BUSINESS



**BE SAFE WITH  
DISPENSE GAS**








Dispense gas can be hazardous if used in the wrong way. Faulty or leaking cylinders can release excessive quantities of gas. In an enclosed space even a small increase in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) levels can lead to impaired judgement, but larger leaks of CO<sub>2</sub> and/or Nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) may reduce the amount of oxygen available, which can be fatal. Always carry out a risk assessment to determine if your cellar is a confined space. Ensure safe systems are in place to protect all personnel who enter the cellar.

-  **DO NOT** enter the cellar area if the alarm is sounding.
  -  **DO NOT** immediately enter a cellar to attempt to rescue someone who has collapsed. Put into action your emergency plan.
  -  **DO NOT** tamper with the alarm(s).
  
  -  **DO** install gas detection, where required following your risk assessment, including all areas where gas cylinders are stored and used.
  -  **DO** train staff in the actions to be undertaken if the alarm activates.
- Do you know what you should do if the alarm sounds?**
-  **DO** have an emergency plan to rescue personnel who are overcome following a gas release and collapse in the cellar area.



**CARBON  
DIOXIDE  
BE AWARE**

Ensure all your gas equipment is correctly installed and regularly maintained. Know what gases you have and how to work with them safely. Understand the correct way to changeover a gas cylinder.









-  **DO NOT** use damaged or faulty equipment. Replace or repair before further use.
-  **DO NOT** try to repair leaks. Carry out maintenance on gas equipment only if trained to do so.
-  **DO NOT** enter the cellar area without telling another member of staff.
  
-  **DO** tell somebody that you're going into the cellar area.
-  **DO** get trained in the correct cylinder changeover procedure.
-  **DO** leak test all connections with an approved leak test solution when you change drink dispense cylinders.
-  **DO** inspect connections for damage, undertake regular maintenance on all drink dispense systems and regularly change the 'O' ring seals.

For more advice – BCGA GN 30, *The safe use of gases in the beverage dispense industry.*



**DON'T USE  
DAMAGED  
CYLINDERS &  
GAS EQUIPMENT**

Rogue traders are stealing cylinders and filling them with non-food grade gases. These cylinders are cheaper than those supplied by reputable suppliers. The cylinders are not correctly checked and tested and could explode if they're corroded inside.

-  **DO NOT** put your profits at risk by buying gas from non-reputable suppliers.
-  **DO NOT** buy drinks dispense cylinders that are incorrectly labelled.
-  **DO NOT** buy cylinders with their identity markings ground off.
-  **DO NOT** buy dispense gas in cylinders which are designed for other gases, e.g. fire extinguishers.
-  **DO NOT** use poor quality gas. It will spoil the taste of the beer you sell.
  
-  **DO** buy your drinks dispense gases from a reputable supplier.
-  **DO** check cylinders to ensure they are correctly labelled with a product and a food traceability label.
-  **DO** check the cylinder is fitted with a complete coloured test date ring. These rings are only fitted by reputable suppliers who follow the law and correctly test and maintain their cylinders.

For more advice – BCGA Leaflet 10, *Profit through quality. Good gas, good business.*

If you see or have been offered bad dispense gas then you should contact the  
**BFBi Drinks Gas hotline on +44 (0)1902 795743**



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