

→ Transporting acetylene

 **BOC**
A Member of The Linde Group

Secure it. Ventilate it. Respect it.

Good practice in
acetylene handling.



Staying safe.

The benefits of using acetylene for welding and cutting applications are well established; acetylene has excellent thermal properties and is extremely efficient, and faster processing translates into significant time and cost savings. Because of its high flammability, however, acetylene – like any fuel gas – can present a serious safety hazard if it is not transported, stored and handled properly. Accidents involving acetylene are reported every year, with many of these resulting in serious injury or even death.

By following some simple guidelines, you can stay on the right road to handling and transporting acetylene safely – protecting yourself and those around you.

Secure it, ventilate it, respect it: ensure cylinders are safely secured in an upright position in a well-ventilated vehicle.





Secure it.

Ensure cylinders are fixed and secure before starting your journey. Many vehicles are not fitted with appropriate restraints to prevent cylinders from toppling over or moving around in the vehicle and this creates two potential hazards. During transport, the cylinder handwheel valve can knock against something which opens the valve. This allows gas to escape, and can result in a fire or explosion. Also, if you have to brake suddenly and your cylinders are not adequately secured, they will be propelled forward and may cause severe damage or injury.



Ventilate it.

Use a well-ventilated vehicle, ideally an open or flatbed truck, or a vehicle with a purpose-built sealed cabinet that is vented to the outside. Ventilation is essential, yet many acetylene cylinders are collected and transported in unventilated vehicles. This means that in the event of a leak – no matter how minor – gas can build up in the vehicle and result in a fire or explosion. This risk increases if the cylinders are stored in the vehicle for prolonged periods. The regulator can easily leak so you should always use the shutoff valve to stop the flow of gas and disconnect the regulator or other gas equipment prior to transporting acetylene cylinders.



Respect it.

Acetylene cylinders must be transported and stored vertically. If acetylene cylinders have been found laying on their side, allow them to stand in an upright position for at least 30 minutes before use. Acetylene cylinders contain a porous mass and liquid acetone that dissolves the gas. An upright position gives the liquid acetone time to settle back into its correct place in the porous mass. This prevents the release of solvent which can quickly vaporise and lead to problems that affect both safety and quality.

If you don't have the right vehicle or set up to transport acetylene safely, we can deliver it to you. Contact your local Gas & Gear or call our friendly Customer Service team on 131 262, if in Australia, and 0800 111 333, if in New Zealand, for more information.



Use a well-ventilated vehicle, ideally an open or flatbed truck, or a vehicle with a purpose-built, sealed cabinet that is vented to the outside.



Close the cylinder shut-off valve.



Don't rely on regulators or other gas equipment to shut off the gas. Remove regulators or other gas equipment from acetylene cylinders prior to transporting or storing cylinders.



Ensure cylinders are fixed and secure before starting your journey, in an upright, vertical position and separated from the driver's compartment.



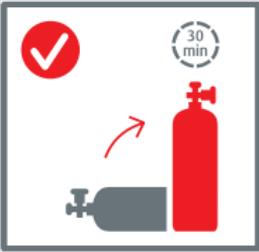
Ensure valves are protected from accidental opening.



Unload cylinders as soon as you reach your destination.



Never store acetylene cylinders in an unventilated vehicle.



Acetylene cylinders must be transported and stored vertically. If acetylene cylinders have been laying on their side, allow them to stand in an upright position for at least 30 minutes before use.



Make sure you are aware of and understand local regulations and governing signage, fire extinguishers, vehicle markings and completed safety training.



Do not smoke near flammable gas cylinders.



In the event of an emergency, tell the emergency services you are transporting acetylene.



Remember: Secure it. Ventilate it. Respect it.

Australian Customers

Visit your local Gas & Gear store or boc.com.au/acetylenesafe for more information and advice.

Call 1800 653 572 for BOC customer site or roadside assistance for any incidents involving BOC gas tankers, cylinders or storage vessels.

New Zealand Customers

Visit your local Gas & Gear store or boc.co.nz/acetylenesafe for more information and advice.

Call 0800 111 333 for BOC customer site or roadside assistance for any incidents involving BOC gas tankers, cylinders or storage vessels.

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