

NEW INSPECTION REQUIREMENT FOR FILLING CYLINDERS

The 2020 edition of the *LP-Gas Code* has a new requirement to inspect the seal in certain propane cylinder connection types (valves) where the seal or gasket can be damaged by age, environment, user abuse, or other method. This damage may cause leakage during filling or when the cylinder is attached to the device it fuels. Such a leak could cause a fire, such as if the leak sent fuel toward the burner of a propane grill.

The code directs those who fill cylinders to inspect this seal prior to filling every time a cylinder with these valves is presented for filling. This seal is not replaceable, so the cylinder must not be filled until the valve is replaced. Not all dealers are prepared with the equipment or training to perform such valve replacement. If this is the case, filling the cylinder must be denied and the customer must be given written notification of the reason for this denial.

Failure to perform this part of the pre-fill inspection is subject to a notice of violation, including possible penalty. We strongly recommend that filling locations be provided with lighting suitable to see the seals. Magnification may also be needed.

This is applicable to CGA 791 and 793 connections. These are the connections used in nearly all cylinders of 4 to 40 pounds propane capacity.

The new requirement is found in section 7.2.2.7. There is additional information, including photos, in the annex in section A.7.2.2.7. Those photos are included below, enlarged and in color.

