



BRITISH COMPRESSED GASES ASSOCIATION

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BCGA PUBLICATIONS

Information Note

BCGA provide a range of publications providing safety information and advice on best practice as well as guidance on associated legal requirements within the UK as part of BCGA's Mission to promote safety in the use, storage, transportation and handling of industrial, food and medical gases.

BCGA publications are produced by and for BCGA members within the gases industry but they are also used by their customers.

When writing documents, BCGA takes into account relevant UK legislation, standards and documents written by other professional associations. Alongside many years of practical experience of working with gases, our members provide their expert technical knowledge to ensure our documents are accepted as providing an appropriate and safe way of working and give positive examples of best practice.

BCGA involve and keep informed government bodies, Competent Authorities and Regulators, such as the Department for Transport and the national Environment Agencies, during the development of our publications. They are recognised as best practice and are used by the enforcement agencies, such as the Health and Safety Executive. It should be noted that in the event of any legal action, either criminal or civil, the courts are likely to use BCGA documents as a measure of what may be reasonably practicable.

All publications are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. They are available electronically and can be downloaded for free. Selected publications are only available to BCGA members; please login to gain access. In exceptional circumstances where a printed (hard copy) of a document is required, a charge will be made. If you require a printed document, please contact the BCGA office.

Please note: Printed copies of a publication can take a minimum of 5 working days to be delivered.

All BCGA publications are expected to be used by BCGA members, as well as their contractors. Under the terms of their membership, it is mandatory for BCGA members to comply with Codes of Practice.

Definitions on each of the different types of BCGA publications are given below:

1: Code of Practice

Codes of Practice provide industry best practice, usually on a specific topic. Typically, each will cover a number of activities which are required to be carried out to achieve a common goal.

Available to BCGA members and the general public, but in some cases may be restricted to BCGA members.

2: Guidance Note

Guidance Notes provide industry best practice, usually on a generic topic. Typically, each will cover a number of activities which are required to be carried out to achieve a common goal.

Available to BCGA members and the general public.

3: Technical Information Sheet

A Technical Information Sheet is intended to cover a specific technical subject that may not on its own require the subject to be covered in a Code of Practice or a Guidance Note, or that supports information partly covered in other documents. It may also be used to provide safety information.

Available to both BCGA members and the general public.

4: Leaflet

A leaflet provides basic general guidance and safety information. It is used to inform and advise on relevant technical and safety issues, as well as good practices.

Available to both BCGA members and the general public.

5: Safety Alert

Safety Alerts are a high priority communication tool intended to provide immediate notification of a significant risk or imminent danger. Generally, they will be one-off documents highlighting a specific subject / issue of high concern and should include details of action(s) to be taken to reduce danger or mitigate risk.

Available to both BCGA members and the general public.

6: Position Paper

Position Papers set out a particular policy which is supported by the gases industry. These are typically used by BCGA to lobby Government, or other organisations, in order to achieve the policy objective.

7: Technical Report

Technical Reports are generally one-off reports into a specific subject matter and may be in-depth investigations using very technical and / or scientific language. They may be written by a third party, but are published through the BCGA.

Available to both BCGA members and the general public.

8: Historic documents

Historic documents contain content which may no longer be current, but which continue to be of interest. These documents are available as electronic downloads. Readers of these documents should pay due regard to any relevant legislation or authoritative recommendations that may have evolved subsequent to their original publication. The Reader of these documents should use due diligence to check the current status of any information.