

T E C H N I C A L B U L L E T I N

#82 May 12, 1993

LUXFER TECHNICAL BULLETIN ENTITLED “COMPOSITE CYLINDER SAFETY NOTICE” (APRIL, 1993)

Luxfer USA Limited has asked manufacturers who have sold SCBA which utilize Luxfer cylinders to assist them in disseminating the attached bulletin. Please read it and take whatever action is appropriate. If you have customers who may have the cylinders described in the bulletin, contact them immediately and distribute the Luxfer bulletin to them.

If you need additional copies of the Luxfer Technical Bulletin, please contact Luxfer directly, or call Survivair's Technical Services Department.

Attachment



Luxfer USA Limited

Aluminum Compressed Gas Cylinders

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

SUBJECT: COMPOSITE CYLINDER SAFETY NOTICE

DATE: April 1993

WARNING

**FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED
IN THIS NOTICE COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY
OR DEATH.**

All Luxfer 4500 psi hoop wrapped SCBA cylinders manufactured before May, 1985 have the potential to rupture. Several recall notices have been issued. As a result, more than 85% of these cylinders have been retrofitted with a protective steel neck ring or have been removed from service.

Recently, one of the few remaining cylinders not retrofitted with a protective steel neck ring ruptured while being filled. This resulted in a fatality.

Luxfer is once again urging you to immediately examine all your hoop wrapped high pressure cylinders to determine if they are safe to use.

1. Examine only cylinders as shown in Figure 1.

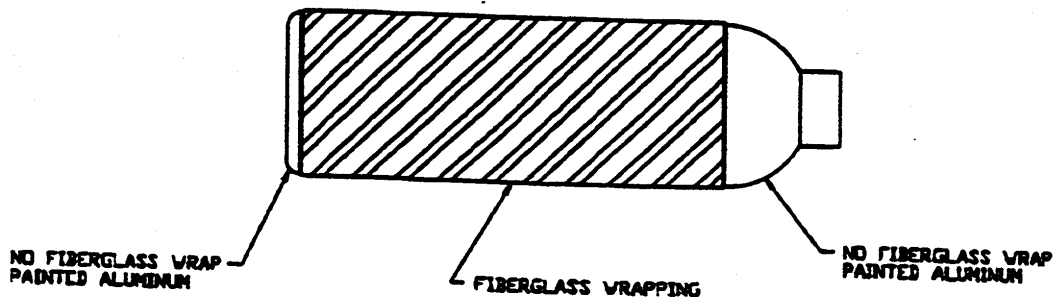


Figure 1. Hoop Wrapped Cylinder Identification

P.O. Box 5300

Riverside, CA 92517

(909) 684-5110

2. Examine the hoop wrapped cylinder for the protective steel ring on the cylinder neck as shown in Figure 2.

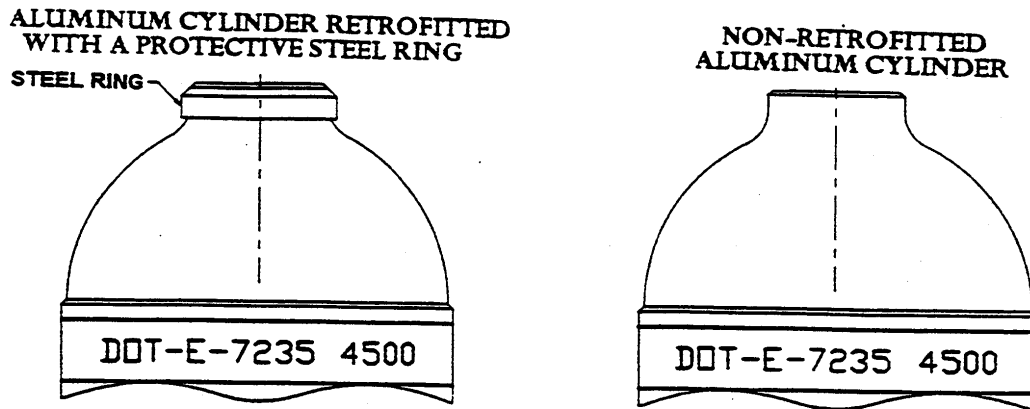


Figure 2. Protective Steel Ring Location

3. Protective steel rings may be difficult to identify on repainted cylinders. Apply a magnet to the neck area. A protective steel ring is present if the magnet sticks to the neck.
4. Cylinders without protective steel rings must be depressurized immediately. See paragraph 8 for depressurization instructions.

WARNING

Do not use cylinders without protective steel rings. These cylinders could rupture at any time causing injury or death. Call Luxfer Customer Service immediately at (909) 684-5110 Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Pacific time. Luxfer will arrange to retrofit cylinders free of charge.

5. Cylinders with protective steel rings can be returned to service if:
- No more than three years have elapsed since the latest stamped hydrostatic test date. Hoop wrapped cylinders may have the retest markings stamped on the top head of the cylinder or placed on a label securely affixed to the cylinder and overcoated with epoxy. See Figures 3 and 4.
 - No more than 15 years have elapsed since the date of manufacture. See Figures 3 and 4.

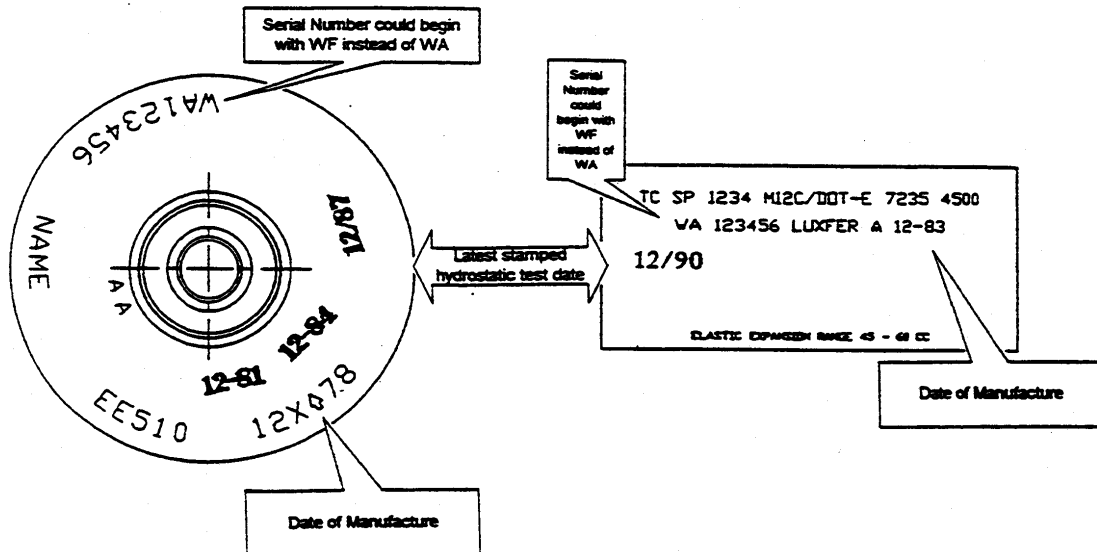


Figure 3. Hydrostatic Test Date Location
Cylinder Crown (top view)

Figure 4. Location of Manufacturing Date
Cylinder Label

NOTE

There are two possible locations of the cylinder date of manufacture.

- The cylinder crown
- The cylinder label

Review both areas. If you need assistance, call Luxfer.

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6. If the last hydrostatic test date is older than three years, depressurize the cylinder and have it hydrostatically tested. See paragraph 8 for depressurization instructions.
7. If the manufacturing date is older than 15 years, depressurize the cylinder and then destroy it by drilling at least one hole (minimum 1/4" diameter) in the cylinder side wall. See paragraph 8 for depressurization instructions.
8. Depressurize your cylinders by doing the following:
 - a. Secure the cylinder in a holding device or place in a restraining fixture to keep cylinder from moving about, slowly turn valve handwheel to slowly release cylinder contents.
 - b. Protect the sidewall of the cylinder from damage to the fiberglass wrap by covering a chain gripping device with cloth or rubber material.