



# Customer Focus on Loss Control

*Innovative Safety and Health Solutions<sup>SM</sup>*

## Propane Tanks In Construction

Propane is a liquid petroleum gas that is frequently used on the construction site as an energy source for temporary heat.

In the pressurized storage container, it exists as a liquid and a gas.

Since the outside air temperature is well above the boiling point (-42.5°C) of the liquid, the liquid boils inside the tank when in use and converts to a gas.

Follow these general guidelines when handling or using propane tanks.



- Always store propane outside of the building.
- Transport, store, use, and secure propane cylinders in the upright position (unless they are specifically designed for horizontal use).
- Do not allow liquid propane to contact the cylinder relief valve. Liquid escaping through this valve will release large volumes of gas. Too much gas will be fed to the device being fueled if the valve is open and the cylinder is on its side. Large amounts of gas will escape from a cylinder if it falls over and the valve is damaged. Both situations could result in fire or explosion.
- Keep heaters at least six feet away from the tank.
- Ensure that all flexible piping is approved and 250 psig rated.
- Avoid physical damage to the tanks.
- Never weld on the tanks or expose them to open flame.
- In vehicle traffic, protect the tanks and plumbing from contact.
- Always store empty cylinders secured and upright.

Always use common sense when handling and using LP gas cylinders and attached devices.