

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPANE EXCHANGE CAGES

- All installation work shall be in accordance with the International Fire Code and National Fire Protection Association Standard 58 (2001 Edition), *Standard for the Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases*.
- Installations stored next to buildings are limited to an aggregate capacity of 720 pounds.
- Cages shall be located at least 20 feet from openings into buildings, fuel dispensing devices, or any portion of a building used as a means of egress.
- When stored outside of buildings protected with an automatic sprinkler system, the eaves, canopies, or overhangs where the cages are located shall be sprinklered.
- Cages and cage areas shall be kept free and clear of all combustible materials, including storage, for a distance of at least 10 feet on all sides.
- Cages shall be a lockable ventilated metal locker or rack that prevents tampering and pilfering.
- Cages shall be designed so that containers cannot be stacked on top of each other and designed so that containers are positioned upright with the pressure-relief valve in direct communication with the vapor space of the container.
- All containers shall be protected by screw-on type caps or collars and container outlet valves shall be closed and plugged when in storage.
- Defective containers or containers showing denting, bulging, or excessive corrosion shall be removed from service and properly disposed of.
- NO SMOKING signs and approved NFPA 704 hazard identification signs shall be posted on the exchange cage.
- Signs listing exchange procedures, company name and 24 hour phone numbers shall be posted on the cage.
- Signs requiring that customers leave LPG containers outside shall be posted at the building entrance(s).
- All employees with access to the exchange cage shall be trained in the proper handling and operating procedures, including the procedure for handling defective containers.
- A written inspection checklist for receiving empty containers as well as giving out full cylinders shall be available and used by employees when handling containers.

Thornton Fire Department
General Requirements for Propane Exchange Cages
Page 2 of 2

- Provisions shall be made for controlling and mitigating unauthorized discharges. A Hazardous Materials Management Plan shall be readily available on site.

- Cages shall be protected from vehicle damage by guard posts as follows:
 - Install 4-inch steel pipes filled with concrete.
 - Pipes shall be spaced no more than 4 feet apart.
 - Pipes shall be set not less than 3 feet deep in a concrete footing of not less than 15-inch diameter.
 - The top of the post shall be a minimum of 3 feet above the ground.
 - Posts shall not be located less than 3 feet from the cage.

- The Fire Department will conduct a final inspection of the propane exchange cage upon completion of installation and prior to the storage, display or sale of propane cylinders. Please schedule this inspection at least two working days in advance.