

Be careful when you receive back a batch of cylinders.
OUT OF CIRCULATION!
DO NOT ACCEPT.



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I DENTITY
V ISIBILITY
U SABILITY

Background

For the industrial gas business, customers need to know how the supplier acquired the gas, the purity level, the cylinder fill details, the quantity and pressure, and the date of any completed or future delivery. Suppliers, therefore, must be able to manage and document end-to-end knowledge of the product.

Due to intense competition, gas price realisation shows a downward trend. At the same time, the price of cylinder stock has soared. Suppliers must know the location of individual cylinders to maintain their inventory, eliminate cylinder loss, retrieve the idle cylinders, and manage customers/distributors holding cylinders longer than expected or getting them filled by your competition.



cylotrak

Three Essential Elements of Cylinder Management Systems: Individual Cylinder Control | Data Accuracy | Traceability

Gas cylinder suppliers must know how to meet their customers' demands for quick results and transparency in the internet age. Without the capacity to provide proof of reliability, businesses find it increasingly difficult to maintain their relationships with established customers or continue growing their customer base.

Advantages

These three essential elements provide a win-win situation for manufacturers and their customers:



They guarantee customer satisfaction and supplier profitability.



Customers receive delivery of a usable product – the right gas, correct valve, correct pressure, and a filled cylinder.



Traceability gives customers confidence and peace of mind that they are receiving quality products.



The manufacturer can remove loopholes and make fewer ad-hoc decisions on processes, simplify and make procedures efficient for its employees, follow good manufacturing practices, and comply with regulatory requirements.



You and your customer can trust your data and you know where your money is.

INDIVIDUAL CYLINDER CONTROL

ICC is the optimal way to simplify compliance with regulatory standards and maintain knowledge and control of inventory status.



Compliance with test standards ensures customer and user safety.

The current practice of eyeballing the test date and the test ring on each cylinder at the filling station is ineffective. Most test dates or test rings are missing or illegible. Therefore, this method is impractical and not recorded.

ICC ensures safety as out-of-test cylinders may not participate in the production process. It helps eliminate the most significant safety challenge of using cylinders past their test due date.



Mobile technology provides users with real-time data, reinforcing accurate delivery and retrieval of individual gas cylinders.

Remote data acquisition enables suppliers to know the status of their stock and maintain inventory levels.

ICC helps remove the “last mile” mix-up of cylinder delivery between customers.

ICC makes it easy to digitally document damage to cylinders made by customers in front of them at the time of pickup, eliminating customer questions later on.

ICC enables quick recalling of cylinders due to any possible issue.



Know where your critical cylinder assets are and apply controls to maximise return on assets.

Cylinders outstanding for more than 90 days are typically never returned.



Companies can know the location of outstanding cylinders, whether standing idle, lost, or getting filled by a competitor.

DATA ACCURACY, INTEGRITY, GOVERNANCE, AND ACTIONABLE INFORMATION

The above-mentioned concepts constitute the next most essential elements that suppliers need to trust data and enhance their knowledge about their cylinder inventory.



Data Accuracy

The prevalent practice of reading and writing cylinder identifiers on paper followed by reading and entering them into a system has an error rate of up to 20%. These errors multiply exponentially.

If you cannot trust your data, your customer or distributor can't either. So how do you expect to demand your cylinder back?

In harsh industrial conditions, routine identification devices become non-useable. They could become unreadable due to poor lighting, paint peeling off the cylinder, scratches, or the presence of mud or oil, and cylinders often do not match.

With ICC and the use of permanent tamper-proof IDs, automate data acquisition. The cylinder data acquired is error-free, automatic and faster to obtain. The process eliminates manual data entry and the need for data entry staff.



Data Integrity

Data acquisition implies an asset is physically available.

Record cylinder delivery/return/filling data for effective control over and knowledge of the constant movement of the inventory as a whole.

May not change a posted record.



Data Governance

Eliminate back-dating of documents.

The process is in place to close data entry by date. As a result, it facilitates accurate inventory and outstanding customer cylinders.



Actionable Data

Availability of real-time data at the point of use.

Moving data from one activity to another.

Processes are built on actionable data.

■ TRACEABILITY

This is the last essential element of a cylinder management system – you and your customer know the source, purity, composition, when the gas was filled, who delivered it, and its shelf life.



Wrong gas in the wrong cylinder or delivery of empty versus filled cylinder

You eliminate all problems – cylinders with wrong gas, no gas, or gas under wrong pressure.

Source batch, source batch analysis, and fill batch.

Print and stick the fill batch label on the cylinder.

Allow customers to view cylinder data.