



Training Bulletin

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Propane Cylinder Fire Tactics

Propane cylinder fires pose unique challenges, requiring precise techniques to ensure a safe and effective response. When dealing with such incidents, firefighters must wear full protective clothing and follow the correct fire procedures. Tactics are as follows. Approach from the upwind side and upright the tank if found on its side.



- Cool the vapor space or the top of the tank with 30-degree fog pattern which will provide the greatest cooling effect and the greatest safety reach.
- Shut off the gas by means of the control valve if possible. If the handle is melted or missing, or if the valve is leaking gas around the packing nut below the valve handle, a vise grip type of pliers maybe used to turn the valve stem or tighten the packing nut.
- Safety demands that correct procedures be followed when shutting off the cylinder valve. The fog stream is adjusted from a 30-degree stream to a wide-angle fog stream (This change decreases the likelihood of extinguishment). The fog stream is then positioned between the shut off valve and the burning outlet. Two fog streams angled in overlapping fashion may be used for maximum firefighter protection. **Never extinguish a propane gas fire.**
- If the flow of burning gas cannot be shut off, withdraw to a safe position, and allow the propane to cylinder to burn itself out.

Quote: Success is something you attract by the person you become. Jim Rohn

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