

## Great Western Painting

### Compressed Air

#### COMPRESSED AIR

##### 29 CFR 1910.101 Compressed gases (general requirements)

##### 29 CFR 1910.242 Hand and Portable Powered Tools and Other Hand-Held Equipment

##### 29 CFR 1910.169 Air Receivers

##### 29 CFR 1926.302 Tools – Power-operated hand tools

##### 29 CFR 1926.306 Air Receivers

Prior to using compressed air, employees will receive training in:

1. Safe use of compressed air.
2. Pneumatic power tools.
3. Inspection of compressed gas cylinders

#### **Safe Use of Compressed Air:**

The below applies to compressed air receivers, and other equipment used in providing and utilizing compressed air for performing operations such as cleaning, drilling, hoisting, and chipping.

1. Air receivers shall be so installed that all drains, handholes, and manholes therein are easily accessible. Under no circumstances shall an air receiver be buried underground or located in an inaccessible place.
2. A drain pipe and valve shall be installed at the lowest point of every air receiver to provide for the removal of accumulated oil and water. Adequate automatic traps may be installed in addition to drain valves. The drain valve on the air receiver shall be opened and the receiver completely drained frequently and at such intervals as to prevent the accumulation of excessive amounts of liquid in the receiver.
3. Every air receiver shall be equipped with an indicating pressure gage (so located as to be readily visible) and with one or more spring-loaded safety valves. The total relieving capacity of such safety valves shall be such as to prevent pressure in the receiver from exceeding the maximum allowable working pressure of the receiver by more than 10 percent.
4. No valve of any type shall be placed between the air receiver and its safety valve or valves.
5. Safety appliances, such as safety valves, indicating devices and controlling devices, shall be constructed, located, and installed so that they cannot be readily rendered inoperative by any means, including the elements.
6. All safety valves shall be tested frequently and at regular intervals to determine whether they are in good operating condition.

## **Pneumatic Power Tools:**

1. Pneumatic power tools shall be secured to the hose or whip by some positive means to prevent the tool from becoming accidentally disconnected.
2. Safety clips or retainers shall be securely installed and maintained on pneumatic impact (percussion) tools to prevent attachments from being accidentally expelled.
3. All pneumatically driven nailers, staplers, and other similar equipment provided with automatic fastener feed, which operate at more than 100 p.s.i. pressure at the tool shall have a safety device on the muzzle to prevent the tool from ejecting fasteners, unless the muzzle is in contact with the work surface.
4. Compressed air shall not be used for cleaning purposes except where reduced to less than 30 p.s.i. and then only with effective chip guarding and personal protective equipment which meets the requirements of 29 CFR 1926 Subpart E. This would include eye, face, hand, head, and foot protection. The 30 p.s.i. requirement does not apply for concrete form, mill scale and similar cleaning purposes.
5. The manufacturer's safe operating pressure for hoses, pipes, valves, filters, and other fittings shall not be exceeded,
6. The use of hoses for hoisting or lowering tools shall not be permitted.
7. All hoses exceeding 1/2-inch inside diameter shall have a safety device at the source of supply or branch line to reduce pressure in case of hose failure.
8. Airless spray guns of the type which atomize paints and fluids at high pressures (1,000 pounds or more per square inch) shall be equipped with automatic or visible manual safety devices which will prevent pulling of the trigger to prevent release of the paint or fluid until the safety device is manually released.

**Note:** In lieu of the above, a diffuser nut which will prevent high pressure, high velocity release, while the nozzle tip is removed, plus a nozzle tip guard which will prevent the tip from coming into contact with the operator, or other equivalent protection, shall be provided.

9. Lastly, abrasive blast cleaning nozzles shall be equipped with an operating valve which must be held open manually. A support shall be provided on which the nozzle may be mounted when it is not in use.

## **Inspection of compressed gas cylinders:**

We shall determine that compressed gas cylinders under our control are in a safe condition to the extent that this can be determined by visual inspection. Visual and other inspections shall be conducted as prescribed

in the Hazardous Materials Regulations of the Department of Transportation (49 CFR parts 171-179 and 14 CFR part 103).

Where those regulations are not applicable, visual and other inspections shall be conducted in accordance with Compressed Gas Association Pamphlets C-6-1968 and C-8-1962, which is incorporated by reference as specified in Sec. 1910.6.

**Note: Compressed gas cylinders, portable tanks, and cargo tanks shall have pressure relief devices installed and maintained in accordance with Compressed Gas Association Pamphlets S-1.1-1963 and 1965 addenda and S-1.2-1963, which is incorporated by reference as specified in Sec. 1910.6.**