**Guidelines for Liquefied Petroleum Gas Cylinders**

**BACKGROUND:** The use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in the domestic and industrial sectors has increased the number of retail/distribution premises selling LPG-filled cylinders in the Emirate of Dubai. The potential risk of fire and explosion from gas escaping from a cylinder and the consequences of fire either at or near an LPG filled cylinder should be known to all concerned. With a view to safeguard the general public and people at work, these Guidelines regulating the filling, storage and transporting of LPG cylinders have been made.

The Local Order No. 27/1985 and other safety Directives issued by the Dubai Municipality stipulates certain requirements for storage, distribution and selling of liquefied petroleum gas cylinders in the Emirate of Dubai. All the filling, distribution companies in the Emirate of Dubai are required to strictly adopt the procedures to ensure safety of public.

**Guidelines:**

**General:**

1. Only liquefied petroleum gas cylinders filled by Emirates Gas Bottling Co. Dubai or such other company approved by the Dubai Municipality and Economic Development Department, shall be allowed for distribution in the Emirate of Dubai. The name of the filling company shall be clearly labeled on the cylinders.

2. i. Liquefied petroleum gas cylinders shall be filled, stored, distributed or sold only by authorized/licensed companies having a Trade License in the Emirate of Dubai.

   ii. No LPG-filled cylinders shall be stored in residential areas.

   iii. Supermarkets, groceries or any other place shall not be allowed to store filled gas cylinders or sell them to public.

   iv. LPG cylinders shall not be peddled by means of travelling car.

3. All companies filling, distributing or selling LP gas cylinders by wholesale basis in the Dubai Emirate shall be prohibited from delivering
filled/ready to use gas cylinders except to the warehouse licensed and authorized premises.

**Trade License**

1. Issuance or renewal of trade license for the LPG distribution companies in the Emirate of Dubai shall be accorded only to those who satisfies all of the requirements of Local Order No. 27/1985 and other relevant directives issued by Dubai Municipality.

2. The application of Trade License for new or renewal shall be considered only if it is accompanied by a letter from the Emirates Gas Bottling Company or any LPG filling/bottling company with valid license from Economic Development Department and approved by Public Health and Safety Department. The accompanying letter must state that the Applicant distribution company complies with the safety requirements and has a valid contract with the Emirates Gas Bottling Company or other licensed/approved LPG bottling company in Dubai.

3. The Economic Development Department shall issue or renew the Trade License only on submission of Public Health and Safety Department Clearance Certificate issued by Public Health and Safety Department of Dubai Municipality.

4. In case of new application of Trade License, the applicant shall obtain the following:
   i. Building approval for the storage and distribution of LP Gas cylinders
   ii. Approval from Civil Defence Department, Dubai
   iii. Public Health and Safety Department Clearance Certificate.

**Safety Requirements**

The filling company/distributors of LPG Cylinders are required to satisfy the safety standards prescribed by the Dubai Municipality.

8. All LPG cylinders shall be stored in a well-ventilated covered area. LPG cylinders shall not be stored along with incompatible other gas cylinders. Storage requirements shall be in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Management of Dangerous Goods.

9. Fire extinguishers shall be provided and maintained in the storage area.
Minimum Requirements:
Upto 400kg. of LPG - 2 dry chemical powder or 2 CO2 extinguishers of 6 kg. each.
400 kg. to 1000 kg. of LPG - 2 Extinguishers of 12 kg. each.

10. No combustible material such as plastic sheets, cardboard, paper, etc. shall be kept in the LPG storage area.

11. No naked flame shall be allowed in the premises where LPG cylinders are stored.

12. “No Smoking” sign shall be exhibited in the LPG store area and this must be followed strictly.

13. LPG cylinders shall not be stored or kept in the distribution office premises.

14. “No smoking” sign shall be painted on trucks transporting LPG cylinders.

15. The cylinders shall be transported in vertical position in the trucks as per the capacity prescribed. Larger cylinders shall be kept in position by tying ropes or chains to prevent from falling.

16. Custom-built trolley shall be provided in all the distribution trucks. No cylinder shall be rolled on the ground, instead trolley shall be used.

17. Trucks shall be provided with a minimum of 2 Dry chemical power extinguishers of 6 kg. each and shall be maintained in good condition.

18. No truck with LPG cylinders shall be left unattended in public places. Either driver or helper shall be present near the truck at all times.

19. No driver/helper shall smoke in or near the truck.

20. No other industrial gas cylinders shall be transported along with empty or full LPG cylinders.

21. The name of the distribution company shall be written clearly on the truck.

22. LPG cylinders shall not be transferred from open truck to another truck as transshipment on roads, public or open places. This shall only be done in storage facilities or depot.

23. No cylinder with 15 years of service shall be filled, distributed in the Emirate of Dubai. Cylinders shall be destroyed beyond recovery after the lapse of 15 years of their start of service.

24. No LPG cylinder shall be filled and distributed unless:
i. it is in good condition, free from defects such as dent, cut, corrosion, damaged valves etc.
ii. it is hydrostatically tested once in 5 years and stamped.
iii. it is properly color coded - Red color and labeled (Red colored with Class 2.1 Flammable gas hazard warning label.).

25. The stampings such as date of manufacture, hydro-test etc. made on the cylinders shall be clearly visible and no advertising sticker shall be fixed by the distributor or filling company on the same.

26. All the workmen dealing LPG cylinders shall be provided with work coverall, gloves and safety shoes by the employer. The workmen shall use the personal protective equipment provided to them while on work and the usage shall be ensured by adequate supervision.

27. The vehicles carrying dangerous goods – LPG in bulk quantity shall be placarded as per Dubai Municipality Public Health and Safety Department Technical Guidelines.

FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT
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