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High Pressure Relief Devices (HPRD)

An HPRD is a safety device incorporated into an oxygen system, typically in a valve body or other device installed into the cylinder. It is designed to activate in the event of an over-pressure condition which might arise by either over-filling (i.e., filling the cylinder to a pressure in excess of it's pressure rating), or by being subjected to excessive temperature which would consequently cause an increase in the pressure in the cylinder.

An HPRD must be properly matched to the associated cylinder such that it activates above the cylinder service pressure (normal operation), but yet well below the pressure at which the cylinder itself might rupture or be otherwise compromised. An HPRD is therefore a critically important component of an oxygen system, and improper selection or use of an HPRD can result in **severe damage**, **serious injury or death!**

The HPRD's described here are of the "rupture disc" type, which consist of a holder and a thin metal disc, which are together engineered to rupture within a specified pressure range. Once the disc ruptures, it does not re-close and will continue venting until the cylinder is empty.

An HPRD also incorporates a gasket that forms a high-pressure seal when the device is installed. This gasket is deformed in the course of installation and cannot be counted on to function properly if the device is subsequently removed and re-installed.

Type **CG-1** devices operate in response to pressure alone, independent of temperature (although note that rupture pressure ranges are specified at a particular reference temperature). Once the rupture pressure is exceeded, the disc ruptures and the cylinder is vented. Type **CG-1** devices typically incorporate a radial-vented configuration, which functions as an anti-recoil feature.

Type **CG-4** and **CG-5** devices additionally incorporate a metal alloy "fuse" plug in their vent port which prevents the device from operating below a specified temperature. Once the fuse temperature is reached (165°F [74°C] for **CG-4** devices, 212°F [100°C] for **CG-5** devices), the fuse plug melts and the disc will then rupture if it's pressure rating is exceeded (same as a CG-1 device). Note that CG-4/CG-5 devices *do not* provide any protection against simple over-filling if the fuse temperature has not also been exceeded. Type CG-4/CG-5 devices typically incorporate an axial-vented configuration.

Application

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HPRD's are characterized by the system Service Pressure and the device Type (**CG-1** or **CG-4**). An HPRD *must* be properly matched to the system Service Pressure. Device Type is determined by the application.

Type **CG-1** devices are generally used in "built-in" (custom) systems. MH equipment primarily intended for use in custom installations incorporate a Type **CG-1** device.

Type **CG-4** and **CG-5** devices are generally used in ambulatory (portable) systems where the cylinder may be subject to fire or extreme temperatures while in transport or storage. MH Cylinder/Valve units provided as part of a portable oxygen system incorporate a Type **CG-4** device.

MH p/n	Description	HPRD Type		
00CYL-0014-00	Cylinder Valve, CGA	66.4		
00CYL-0020-00	Cylinder Valve, DIN	CG-4		
00CYL-0022-00	Isolation Valve			
00CYL-0024-00	Hex Valve	CG-1		
00MAN-002x-00	Low Profile Manifold			
A0IPR-0124-00	IP Regulator			
ARCV2-01xx-xx	RCV/RCR			

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Contact *Mountain High Equipment & Supply* (MH) for help in selecting the proper device for your needs.

Replacement/spare parts are available from MH (see Table, Sheet 1).

More information is available on the MH website ("Pressure Relief Devices for Oxygen Valves").

Notes and Cautions:

1

- Do not use a cylinder with an incorrect HPRD, or without an HPRD (by sealing or plugging the HPRD port) severe damage, serious injury or death could result!
- Do not attempt to re-use an HPRD. Once an HPRD is removed, it must be replaced.
- An HPRD must be replaced as a unit (not serviceable).
- A Type CG-4/CG-5 device must be replaced once it has been subjected to the "fuse" temperature, even if the disc has not been ruptured and the unit is otherwise intact.
- These devices *do not* provide adequate protection against excessive temperatures in the case of a partially filled cylinder. High temperatures could compromise the integrity of the cylinder, but the consequent pressure rise may not be sufficient to activate the relief device, resulting in catastrophic failure of the cylinder and *severe damage*, *serious injury or death!*
- Never work on a pressurized system.
- \bullet Install devices to the correct torque specification using proper tools and procedures.
- Cleanliness is critical. Contaminants such as oil, unapproved lubricants or cleaning agents, or metal particles, pose an **extreme safety hazard** with the potential of fire or explosion.

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