



Fire Department

500 West Big Beaver Road

Troy, Michigan 48084

Phone: 248-524-3419

Fax: 248-689-7520

PRESS RELEASE PRESSURIZED GAS CYLINDER EMERGENCY RECALL

The Troy Fire Department has been notified that pressurized gas cylinders provided by the North America Coil & Beverage Group, Inc., have been recalled. These include tanks commonly used to provide CO2 for fountain soft drinks. The tanks have not been hydrostatically tested and there is a risk of catastrophic failure of the tank. The failure of the tank can result in significant damage to surroundings and severe injury to anyone nearby.

The Southeast Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs reported the following information:

On Tuesday June 25, 2013 at 1542 hours there was an incident in the City of Eastpointe where a 20 pound steel Co2 cylinder suffered a spontaneous catastrophic rupture while being stored in the back room of a local bar. The cylinder that ruptured had been delivered to the business approximately 2 hours prior to the incident. The resulting explosion caused substantial structural damage to the business. Although there were many patrons in the business at the time there were no reported injuries. The damage was confined mainly to the rear of the building.

*A subsequent investigation conducted jointly by the Eastpointe Fire Department and the U.S. Department of Transportation determined that the company that delivered the cylinder was **North American Coil & Beverage Group, Inc.**, located in the City of Eastpointe. The investigation further revealed that the cylinder that ruptured had been manufactured in the 1970's and had never been hydrostatically tested as required. An inspection of the company and interview with the business owner was conducted and it appears that the majority, if not all the compressed gas cylinders used by the company are "out of test". The DOT estimates there are anywhere from 500-7000 cylinders in operation by this company.*

The U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has ordered an emergency recall of all compressed gas cylinders in use by the company. This includes 20, 35, and 50 pound Co2 cylinders, as well as beer gas and nitrogen cylinders. These cylinders are filled to 750 psi. The company was ordered to start picking up the tanks from all of its customers.

The Troy Fire Department strongly recommends that any tanks provided by North America Coil & Beverage Group, Inc., be removed from service immediately. The contents can be purged slowly, outside in an area remote from the public. Once purged, the tanks can be safely stored until picked up by North American Coil & Beverage, Inc., as directed by the Department of Transportation.

As a precaution, other cylinders not provided by North American Coil & Beverage, Inc., should be examined to verify the following pressurized steel container requirements are met:

- Steel cylinders require 5 year intervals – maximum – between hydrostatic test dates (HTD).
- Cylinders can only be stamped with the HTD on the upper end of the cylinder – toward the top, near the valve – not on the sidewall.
- Cylinders cannot be filled/pressurized if they are beyond their HTD.

Questions about the validity or location of the test date should be directed to a qualified vendor or the Department of Transportation.

Richard “Chuck” Riesterer
Staff Lieutenant / Fire Inspector

David Roberts
Assistant Chief / Fire Marshal