

Safety Alert Number: **00000011**

Issued **15/11/2021** by **Paul Fowler, Chief Inspector, Fuel Safety**

Department of Labour, Skills, and Immigration

## Non-Refillable Propane Cylinders

### Legal information

Issued pursuant to section 30 of the Technical Safety Act

### Summary

The practice of refilling Specification TC-39M Cylinders (typically one-pound camp stove propane bottles) is illegal and poses potential risks of fire, explosion, and personal injury.

Adapters designed to transfer propane from a BBQ-type cylinder to a non-refillable cylinder are being offered to the public via online retailers and are further promoted on YouTube (**demonstrating a very dangerous practice**). Nova Scotia safety laws prohibit refilling single use cylinders. This practice may result in cylinders that are overfilled and thus have a potential to cause serious fires, explosions and burn hazards to end users. In addition, the adapters offered for sale are not approved by a recognized certification body and may cause additional hazards.

Clause **6.4.2** of the CSA B149.2-15 Propane Storage and Handling Code, adopted as part of Nova Scotia's Technical Safety Standards Regulations, requires that cylinders shall be filled by weight or volume and specifies the maximum values permitted. Further, clause **6.4.5** states that cylinders manufactured to Specification TC-39 M and aerosol containers **shall not be refilled**.

In addition, the process shown online requires that the cylinder used for filling to be placed upside down, placing the cylinder relief valve in the liquid space of the cylinder. Clause **6.1.8** of the CSA B149.2-15 code requires that the cylinder relief valve be located in the vapor space of the cylinder at all times.



# SAFETY BULLETIN



*TC-39M type propane cylinders*



*Illegal and hazardous practice*

## Contact for bulletin queries

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