

INTRODUCTION

Due to the hazards of a potential explosion or extreme acceleration of combustion during a structure fire, the following requirements shall be applied retroactively to any facility in Palo Alto containing fixed piping for oxidizing medical gases which was not installed in full compliance with the Fire Code in effect at the time of installation.

Section 7404 of the 1994 Uniform Fire Code requires that oxidizing medical gas storage in excess of the permit amount (504 cubic feet) inside buildings shall be located within a one-hour exterior room, a one-hour interior room or a gas cabinet.

Section 8001.4.3.4 requires fixed piping for oxidizing gases to be made of hi-melt piping (steel) or be suitably protected by approved isolation methods or fire resistive construction.

Facilities which were installed in full compliance with the Fire Code in effect at the time of installation will be required to include procedures and employee training for manually shutting off the oxidizing medical gas system in the case of a fire, and **will not be required** to provide any additional safeguards outlined below.

EXTERIOR STORAGE FACILITIES NOT PREVIOUSLY IN COMPLIANCE

Facilities which have outdoor storage separated by one-hour construction may install for each gas either a fail safe to close valve which can be remotely actuated from an approved location, or a valve which will be automatically actuated by either sprinkler water flow or smoke detection. A fire sprinkler is required for enclosures adjacent to buildings where one wall is in contact with the gas enclosure.

INTERIOR STORAGE FACILITIES NOT PREVIOUSLY IN COMPLIANCE

Facilities with indoor storage will be required to provide for each gas a fail safe to close valve which will be automatically actuated by either sprinkler water flow or smoke detection and which can also be actuated from a location near the point of Fire Department access to the occupancy. A fire sprinkler and mechanical ventilation system is required for interior rooms containing gas cylinders.

All deficient facilities will be required to submit to the fire department a preliminary compliance plan and schedule within 30 days of receiving a notice of deficiency.