

WAC 296-307-48001 What general requirements apply to oxygen fuel gas systems? (1) Explosive mixtures of fuel gases and air or oxygen must be guarded against. No accessory that allows air or oxygen to mix with flammable gases prior to use must be allowed unless approved for that purpose.

Exception: Air or oxygen may mix with flammable gases at the burner or in a standard torch.

(2) Acetylene must never be generated, piped (except in approved cylinder manifolds) or used at a pressure in excess of 15 psi gauge pressure or 30 psi absolute pressure. (The 30 psi absolute pressure limit is intended to prevent unsafe use of acetylene in pressurized chambers such as caissons, underground excavations or tunnel construction.) Using liquid acetylene is prohibited.

Exception: This requirement does not apply to storage of acetylene dissolved in a suitable solvent in cylinders manufactured and maintained according to DOT requirements, or to acetylene for chemical use.

(3) Only approved apparatus such as torches, regulators or pressure-reducing valves, acetylene generators, and manifolds must be used. Replacement tips may be used on approved torches, if the replacement tips are made to the same specifications as the original, or when replacements are used with convertor/adaptors that meet the same specifications.

(4) Before leaving any employee in charge of the oxygen or fuel-gas supply equipment, including generators, and oxygen or fuel-gas distribution piping systems, you must ensure that the employee has received proper instruction and is competent to do the work. Rules and instructions covering the operation and maintenance of oxygen or fuel-gas supply equipment including generators, and oxygen or fuel-gas distribution piping systems must be readily available.

[WSR 97-09-013, recodified as § 296-307-48001, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.]050 and [49.17.]060. WSR 96-22-048, § 296-306A-48001, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]