



## Checking for LPG Gas Leaks

### Guidance on Leak Testing and Maintaining Propane Cylinders

Per NFPA 1, 50.7.2.3

***The owner/operator MUST leak test all the fittings that run from the propane tank to the appliance prior to operating the appliances. This is required.***

***The owner/operator MUST log the inspection and keep the results available for review.***

#### How to perform a leak test:

- Prepare a solution of dishwashing detergent and water (one cup of water with a tablespoon of detergent) and place it in a clean spray bottle.
- With the appliance connected to the propane cylinder (make sure the appliance is turned off), turn on the propane tank cylinder valve.
- Spray the soapy solution generously over all hose connections and fittings and all over the hose.
- If bubbles appear and become larger or more numerous - you have a leak. If you discover a leak:
- Turn off the propane cylinder valve and replace the hose and fitting or have them checked and repaired by a qualified service technician.
- On many gas appliances, the nozzle type fitting on the hose which is threaded into the propane cylinder has a rubber "O" ring on the end. If you have this type of "O" ring connection, check that ring every time you connect the hose fitting to a propane cylinder, and replace the "O" ring if it appears cracked, torn or is losing its shape.

#### **General LPG Safety Precautions: \*Never check for leaks with an open flame\***

- Do not smoke while handling the propane cylinder.
- Never store or use a propane cylinder in your home or any other enclosed space, such as a garage, basement, or shed.
- Always use transport and store cylinders in an upright, vertical position with the cylinder valve turned off. • Store cylinders outdoors away from sources of ignition and in a place where they will not be exposed to high temperatures.
- Make sure to read all warning labels attached to the cylinder.
- Make sure your propane cylinder is equipped with an OPD valve. The unique triangular shape of the valve's hand wheel and the letters "OPD" can identify OPD cylinders. Cylinders with a round or star-shaped handwheel are obsolete and should not be used.
- In the United States, any cylinder over 12 years old must be re-certified before it can be filled. Have your propane cylinder filled by a trained, certified propane professional.