

CUSTOMER FOCUS ON LOSS CONTROL

NUMBER 58

The Sleeping Giant: “*I Am A Compressed Gas Cylinder*”

I weigh in at 175 pounds—when filled.

I am pressurized at 2,200 pounds per square inch.

I have a wall thickness of about 1/4 inch.

I stand 57 inches tall; I am 9 inches in diameter.

I wear a cap when not in use; I wear valves, gauges, and hoses when at work.

I wear many colors and bands to tell what task I perform.

I transform miscellaneous stacks of steel into glistening frames and many other things into miscellaneous stacks of material, if I am allowed to unleash my fury unchecked.

I am ruthless and deadly in the hands of the careless or uninformed.

I am too frequently left standing alone on my small base with my cap removed or lost by an unthinking worker.

I am ready to be toppled over—when my naked valve can be snapped off—and all of my power unleashed through an opening no larger than a pencil.

I am proud of my capabilities. Here are a few of them:

I have been known to jet away faster than any dragster.

I smash my way through brick walls with the greatest of ease.

I fly through the air and reach distances of half a mile or more.

I spin, ricochet, crash, and slash through anything in my path.

I scoff at the puny efforts of human bone and muscle to alter my erratic course.

I can, under certain conditions, rupture or explode—you read of these exploits in the newspapers.

You can be my master only under my terms:

Full or empty, see to it that my cap is on, straight and snug.

Never (repeat) *NEVER* leave me standing alone. Keep me in a secure rack, or tie me so that I cannot fall.

Treat me with respect I AM A SLEEPING GIANT!

(source unknown)

This document is provided for information purposes only. It is not intended to be a substitute for individual legal counsel or advice on issues discussed within. Readers seeking resolution of specific legal issues or business concerns related to the captioned topic should consult their attorney and/or insurance representative.

Copyright © 1999 The Hartford Loss Control Department. All rights reserved.

