Safe Handling of CO2 Canisters Meeting Kit

WHAT’S AT STAKE

This talk will focus on how we handle CO2 canisters safely.

WHAT’S THE DANGER

These canisters are crucial for some operations but come with risks if not managed correctly.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

First, the basics of handling CO2 canisters:

- **Always Wear Protective Gear:** When handling CO2 canisters, wear gloves and eye protection. CO2 can cause cold burns if it contacts skin and can be hazardous if it gets into your eyes.
- **Use Proper Lifting Techniques:** CO2 canisters are heavy. Always lift with your legs, not your back. If a canister is too heavy for one person, get help. It’s about safety, not strength.
- **Secure the Canister:** When a canister is not in use or is being stored, ensure it’s secured upright and cannot tip over. Use chains or straps to secure it properly to a wall or a cart.
- **Check for Leaks:** Before attaching regulators or hoses, check canisters for leaks. You can use soapy water on the connections; bubbles will form if there’s a leak. If you find a leak, report it—don’t try to fix it yourself.

Handling a Leak:

If you suspect a CO2 leak while handling a canister:

1. **Stop Operation:** Cease using the canister immediately.
2. **Ventilate Area:** Increase ventilation to reduce CO2 concentration.
3. **Report:** Inform your supervisor and follow our emergency procedures.

FINAL WORD

Always handle CO2 canisters with care. Misuse or mishandling can lead to serious safety hazards. If you’re ever unsure about how to handle, connect, or store a CO2 canister, please ask. It’s always better to double-check than to risk an accident.