# Safety Tip

For WHO guidance on COVID-19: https://www.who.int/e mergencies/diseases/no vel-coronavirus-2019/

# **AIGA** News **Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Asia Industrial Gases Association** (AIGA)

AIGA Salutes COVID-19 Warriors from Industrial Gases Industry: COVID-19 pandemic has led to immense challenges for the gases industry to meet sudden high demand of medical oxygen for treating patients. Member companies of AIGA and various Asian national associations of the gases industry have been working round-the-clock during the extended period of COVID-19 pandemic to meet the demands of medical oxygen at hospitals and COVID-19 care centers, thereby saving precious lives. Team members including Contractors involved in design and supply of the systems, installation and logistics continue to play a vital role in spite of adversities faced - frequent lock-downs, protecting employees from infections while delivering medical oxygen in high-risk areas, dis-infecting the cylinders, limited work forces thus requiring long working hours, meeting regulatory requirements, etc. AIGA salutes these COVID-19 warriors from the gas industry who continue to play an exemplary role -a role that serves the moral higher purpose of helping the communities at large and saving lives.

AIGA Participation at 47<sup>th</sup> Meeting of IHC: The 47<sup>th</sup> meeting of International Harmonization Council was held virtually on 25-26 Aug 2020 due to travel restrictions in view of the on-going Covid-19 Pandemic. AIGA as one of the key members of IHC along with CGA, EIGA and JIMGA. AIGA was represented by Haris Farooqi (TC Chair) and Milan Sarkar (Secretary General) at the meeting. Subject to easing out of Covid-19, the 48th meeting of IHC is expected to be held face to face in Kuala Lumpur in 1Q 2021 as AIGA gets the honor to host.

1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Cooperation between AIGA Vietnam and DWS: AIGA Vietnam Representative Office held the first joint workshop with DWS (Department of Works Safety) on 23 July 2020 in Ha Noi. AIGA Vn Rep Steering Committee and Technical committee members participated along with Senior Officials from DWS. Mr Anthony Grandpierre (Messer), Chairperson of AIGA Vn SC led the team while Mr Hat Tat Thang, General Director was leading the delegates from

DWS. Both sides deliberated in detail about the standards related to inspection activities in Industrial Gases Industry and also other safety activities for 2020-2022. Both sides also agreed to sustain such interaction for bringing in necessary improvements in the regulations that impact safety.

Election of new President and other key changes in IGAS: Industrial Gas Association Singapore (IGAS) at its' Board meeting on 3 July 2020, elected Mr Gilbert Gan from Linde PLc as the new Chairperson of the Management Committee (Board). Mr. Don Tang from Leeden Nox was nominated as Chairperson of the Technical Committee in place of Aaron Kalaichelvan of Air Products. Mr Eng Ong Wei of Linde was nominated as the Secretary General of IGAS. All these changes were confirmed for the period 2019-2021 period. AIGA conveys its good wishes to IGAS committee members.

AIGA Webinar: AIGA held a webinar on 15th July 2020 on "Insight into driver fatigue and distraction". There were 150 participants from 10 countries in Asia. Mr Nicholas Yong (Air Products) and Mr Md Aamir (Linde) were the joint speakers. Transportation safety is one of the key focus areas for AIGA and such webinars help in creating awareness as was expressed by the participants.

## **Upcoming Webinars and Events:**

- 55th Meeting of AIGA Technical Committee will be held virtually on 24-25 Sept 2020.
- AIGA webinar on "Product Vehicle Rollover Prevention" on 22 Sept 2020.
- China Rep Office webinar on "Analysis and Control of Public Safety LOX Storage Tanks" on 11 Sept 2020
- AGII Indonesia webinar on "National Regulation for Hazardous Waste Management" on 9 Sept 2020
- China Rep Office webinar on "Process Safety" on 25 Sept 2020
- GIA webinar on "Safety for 3rd party vulnerable road users save two wheeler riders" on 11 Sept 2020
- MIGMA is planning to hold a Safety Webinar on "3rd Party Two Wheeler Safety" on 27 Oct 2020

**Did You Know?** Liquid or Solid Ammonium Nitrate (NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>) is used as an input in production of Nitrous oxide and is also a powerful oxidizing agent. Suitable care should be taken to store, handle and secure Ammonium Nitrate.

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AIGA is registered as a non-profit society based in Singapore. It aims to foster the exchange of technical information among its members in the safe handling and use of industrial, medical and carbon dioxide gases, and to have close liaison with national authorities, in order to work towards the highest level of safety and environmental care across Asian countries.



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**Documents Published During July-August 2020 TP 07/20** Electronic Speciality Gases Near Miss Incidents

July-August 2020

Accidents/Incidents in Gases Industry in Asia

AIGA 014/20 Audit Guidelines

AIGA 068/10 Carbon Dioxide

AIGA 070/20 Leak Detection Fluids Use With Gas Cylinder Packages

AIGA 087/20 Standard for Hydrogen Piping Systems at User Locations

AIGA 099/20 Guideline for Process Safety Management

AIGA 110/20 HYCO Plant Gas Leak Detection and Response Practices

### SB 04/20

Guidelines to Address Potential Hazard with Quick Release Cylinder Valves Used in Firefighting Systems

#### SB 22/20

Safety Inspection Check List of Air Separation Units and Cryogenic Liquid Storages at plant site

#### SP 09/20

Safe practice for pressure check on Oxygen/Oxidizer Cylinder

TP 27/20 Recent (H2 of 2019)