

Safety Tip

For WHO guidance on
COVID-19:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/>

AIGA News

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Asia Industrial Gases Association

AIGA

July-Aug 2021

Oxygen-The gas most needed during the Pandemic: It's been over a year and a half now since the Covid-19 pandemic hit almost all corners of the world. We all have noted the important role played by medical oxygen in the treatment of Covid-19 affected patients, thereby saving many lives. But during past two waves of Pandemic we have also seen demands for oxygen going up by many fold causing tremendous amount of stretch on the manufacture and supply systems during those high demand situations. Lack of adequate supply of oxygen can seriously affect patients' health and early recovery. The experience of the pandemic also revealed to us knowledge gaps on the proper handling of medical oxygen equipment, misuse of the gas and wastage of oxygen, particularly personal supplies of medical oxygen. This was causing wastage of precious medical oxygen through the improper operation of cylinders, leakages, lack of knowledge of oxygen dispensing procedure, overuse of the gas than clinically required by patients, hoarding of cylinders, etc. AIGA supports any initiative or campaign that would help promote **"Save Oxygen, Save Life"**, as every litre of Oxygen saved is equivalent to a life saved. AIGA has published several publications on various subject matters related to Safety in Medical Oxygen Supply, handling & storage, infections management while handling gas cylinders etc. These are available free of cost on AIGA website at www.asiaiga.org

49th Meeting of International Harmonised Council (IHC): 49th meeting of IHC was held virtually on 24th & 25th Aug 2021 due to travel restrictions in view of the on-going Pandemic. AIGA is 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). The meeting was hosted by CGA Inc. with Rich Craig chairing the session. Subject to easing out of Covid-19, the 50th milestone meeting of IHC is expected to be held face to face in Japan in 1Q 2022 with JIMGA as host.

Nomination of AIGA representative in P&FM committee of SCDF: AIGA is honored to nominate Nicholas Yong (Air Products), chairperson of AIGA Transport WG-B in the Petroleum and Flammable Materials (P&FM) committee of Singapore Civil Defense Force for or a two year period ending July 2023. He will be providing the safety perspective from gas industry in P&FM committee who are engaged in enhancing overall safety and environmental impact in the activities of petroleum and flammable industry in Singapore.



AIGA Webinar: AIGA Transport Work Group A&B jointly held a webinar on 18th Aug 2021 on **"Behavioural based safety for drivers and Vehicle technologies to improve road safety"**. About 260 participants from 10 countries in Asia attended the webinar. Cyrus Liu of Linde Plc, Adrian Thng of Air Products and Jason Quek of Air Liquide were the speakers who shared their experiences on the human behavioural aspects in ensuring safe driving, importance of inculcating safe behaviour in drivers and emerging vehicle technologies that help in real-time monitoring of driving behaviour, over speeding, fatigue and distraction, prevention of rollovers & jack knife etc to improve overall road safety using past incidents to help the audience to understand with some real time pictures and video of the same.



Upcoming Webinars and other Events:

- AIGA Webinar on **"Cylinder Filling Safety Guide, Safety in HP O₂ Filling and Best Practices in Cylinder Examination"** in the 3rd week of Oct 2021.
- 59th meeting of AIGA TC to be held on 28th and 29th Sept 2021.
- MIGMA-DOSH Malaysia joint virtual workshop on Industrial Gases Awareness - ASU Process and Acetylene Safety on 21st Sept with AIGA as Co-host.

New Appointments in AIGA Work Groups and National Associations:

- Sugita Hir has joined AIGA Medical Gases Work Group from Air Water Inc.

Did You Know? The three main causes* for product vehicle incidents are: Fatigue and distraction, Over speeding and not following defensive driving principles.

(*Based on the data collected by AIGA over last 5 years.)

Documents Published During July-Aug 2021

AIGA 083/21, Disposal of Gases

AIGA 085/21, Liquid Oxygen, Nitrogen and Argon Cryogenic Tanker Loading Systems

AIGA 117/21, Plant Integrity Management

AIGA 118/21, Industrial Gas Pipeline Integrity Management

AIGA SB 27/21, Vehicle Specification and Maintenance

AIGA SB 28/21, Vehicle Data Management

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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.



Asia Industrial Gases Association

No 2 Venture Drive, #22-28 Vision Exchange, Singapore 608526

Tel: +65 67055642 Fax: +65 68633307,

Internet: <http://www.asiaiga.org> LinkedIn Profile: <https://in.linkedin.com/in/asiaiga>