

GAS

5.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

5.1.1 Inspection

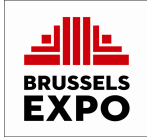
- Gas installations must be inspected by a SECT prior to commissioning. In their own interest, the stand holder, or a person appointed by the latter, is required to be present during the inspection by the SECT, for the purpose of designating all elements of the installation and to hear in person any remarks put forward.
- Provisional inspection report
If remarks are made, a note is left at the stand specifying all of the violations identified. Stand holders are under obligation to duly act upon these remarks and remedy any violations established. In concertation with **BRUSSELS EXPO**, the independent SECT subsequently conducts a second inspection at the stand to re-examine the violations established. Exhibitors are invoiced by BRUSSELS EXPO for this type of second inspection.
Installations that fail to comply with regulations shall be disconnected.

5.1.2 Important note

- When the exhibition hall is equipped with natural gas (which covers all exhibition halls, except for halls 2 & 10), the use of natural gas cylinders (butane, propane,...) is strictly prohibited.

5.2 NATURAL GAS

- All appliances using natural gas as a fuel and which are exhibited in working order must be connected to **BRUSSELS EXPO**'s general pipeline.
- Connection requests must be submitted to BRUSSELS EXPO's Connection Department (→ connections@brussels-expo.be).
- Assembly of a natural gas installation (to be put in place by the exhibitor):
 - At the inlet of the installation: a main shutoff valve (BGV/AGB-approved) that is accessible at all times, followed by a T section;
 - Piping made of steel or copper, or flexible metallic tubing specifically designed for the transit of gas;



BRUSSELS EXPO HEALTH & SAFETY REGULATIONS

- The pipes must be secured into place and be visible across their entire length;

- All pieces of gas-fuelled equipment must have a permanently accessible general cut-off valve (BGV/AGB-approved);
- Appliances must be shut off and shut-off valves (on the equipment and the meter) must be closed each evening as the exhibition closes for the day and whenever the stand is left unsupervised;
- Appliances must be set up in an open area. If this proves impractical, ventilation above and below the equipment must be provided, with a minimum opening of 150 cm².

Pipes	Connections
- Copper	- Crimped coupling for natural gas (with elongated flange - metal on metal); - Strong soldering (melting point > 450°)
- Steel	- Threading, sealing: acrylic fibre with pulp, Teflon. Natural fibres (hemp, etc.) are PROHIBITED. - Soldering.
- Flexible metal hose	- Coupler (sealing: see steel)
- Flexible pipes: PROHIBITED	

- Extraction of combustion fumes: see § 6.15 Vents
- Connecting the appliance (final pipe section):
 - Fixed pipes or
 - Flexible hose pipes (ARBG-approved) for gas equipment mounted on clamp straps secured onto the couplers.

Maximum length: two metres.

The hose's manufacturing date may not be older than 23 months.

- Natural gas appliances:
 - Must carry the CE label at all times (European Directive on gas appliances: 90/396/EEC);
 - No prototypes that fail to carry the CE label are allowed to be used at BRUSSELS EXPO.

5. 3. USING GAS CYLINDERS

The use of gas cylinders must be kept down to the strict minimum. An alternative solution should be adopted wherever possible

The term "gas cylinders" as used in this context covers all types of gas supplied in pressurised cylinders. Amongst other things, this includes

(although is not limited to): compressed air, butane, propane, acetylene, nitrogen, CO²,...

Given that gas cylinders, whether they are combustible or not, are liable to explode or be propelled across a considerable distance in the event of overheating or impact, **ALL** cylinders must be declared (including drinks equipment) to the secretariat, specifying the nature of the gas they contain.

The Event Organisers are to assemble all declarations on a general floor plan of the exhibition halls used for their event. This floor plan is to be handed to the Health & Safety Officer no later than on the opening day of the fair. This floor plan must be kept at the crisis centre.

All gas cylinders (both those placed indoors and outdoors) must be marked on the floor plan. This plan must be kept at the crisis centre in anticipation of an emergency evacuation. This plan is intended to provide the fire service and other emergency services with every necessary information about the risks involved.

All locations (indoors or outdoors) where a gas cylinder is in place must be clearly indicated (for example, alongside the stand number). This must be done by displaying the MSDS (*Material Safety Data Sheet*) form (a specimen of which you shall find under Annexe IV), i.e. the gas safety form.

- Also see § 6.15 Vents

5.3.1. Combustible gas cylinders (and catalyst/accelerant gas cylinders)

- **This type of cylinder may not be taken inside a building for any reason whatsoever.**
- Under certain conditions and in limited quantities, this type of cylinder may be left outdoors further to the consent of the Event Organisers, BRUSSELS EXPO and the Health & Safety Officer.
- Exhibitors must declare any cylinders brought on premises with the Event Organisers' secretariat, clearly specifying the exact location where they are stored and the type of gas involved.
- Any cylinders or tanks containing liquid gas must be kept outside the buildings, in the enclosed areas inaccessible to the public, protected against bad weather and direct sunlight and properly ventilated
- In the enclosures situated outside the buildings, gas cylinders must be stored vertically, allowing for a 25 cm interspace between cylinders, and

- be secured to a stable support or to the wall, by means of brackets or chains that are easy to unlock, in order to prevent any possibility of the cylinders falling over. The adjustable knob (or key) must be fixed to the cylinder valve rod.
- The gas-fuelled device must be connected to the cylinder by fixed pipes of no more than 10 metres in length, consisting of metal fittings and with a stop valve accessible at all times close to the device. The pipes must be fixed securely and must always be visible across their entire length. These pipes must never be laid in floor ducts.
- Mechanically-reinforced flexible hoses with solid fixing brackets at either end may be used across a maximum stretch of 2 metres in length.
- Each time the exhibition closes, and whenever the stand is left unattended, the valves of the gas cylinders must be shut off.
- Also see § 6.15 Vents

5.3.2 Non-combustible gas cylinders

- Exhibitors must declare any such cylinders brought on premises with the Event Organisers' secretariat, clearly specifying the exact location where they are stored and the type of gas involved
- They may be placed inside the buildings, but exhibitors are to endeavour to store them outside of the exhibition halls as far as possible.
- The cylinders must be secured with a chain to a stable support.
- In case of fire, the cylinders must be removed from the stands immediately and taken outside the buildings.
- The crisis centre must be informed if the cylinders have not been removed from the stands.
- Only one (gas) cylinder is allowed on the stand. Spare cylinders must be stored outside the buildings.