



Date: 3/12/2020

RE: Corona Virus (COVID-19) Update

From: Welders Supply Management Team

We have received inquiries regarding the Corona Virus (COVID-19), and how this may affect the products and/or services we provide our customers.

Our suppliers have kept us informed of any potential disruptions to products, extended lead times, and any other issues they may be experiencing. Currently, we do not see any issues to our supply chain that may disrupt the current product offering and services we provide to you. This includes gases, hardgoods, and general supplies. Welders Supply maintains significant inventory and has the ability to provide products from multiple distribution channels.

We are committed to staying close to the situation, and will advise you of any potential disruptions.

Additionally, the Gases and Welding Distributors Association (GAWDA) has provided an Industrial and Medical Gas Safety Alert noting protection measures for employees, and cylinders. We are also communicating the Fact Sheet from the CDC to all employees.

We have communicated to all employees and are following best practices as received from the WHO and/or CDC to avoid the spread of COVID-19.

These best practices include:

- Educating employees on good hygiene practices.
- Instructing employees to stay home when sick.
- Assessing all business travel, and requiring management approval.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to your Account Manager for additional or more specific details or contact us directly at:

sales@welderssupplylou.com

502-637-4771

Thank you!

Welders Supply Management Team

	<h2>Industrial and Medical Gas Safety Alert</h2>
<p>27 February 2020</p>	<h3>Corona Virus And Other Infectious Agents: Protection Measures For Employees And Cylinders</h3>

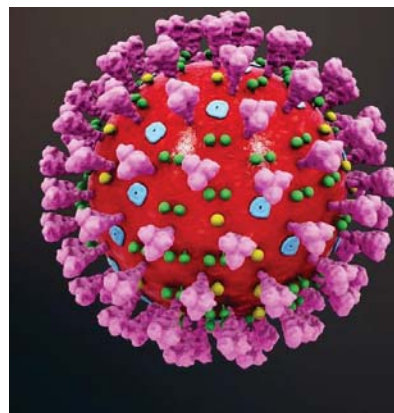
This GAWDA Safety Alert is issued to inform GAWDA members of potential measures to take to protect employees and cylinders from infectious agents.

Safety - Coronavirus Update

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has published [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\), February 2020](#).

Some of the strategies to avoid exposure and transmission within a business include:

- Actively encourage sick employees to stay home
- Separate sick employees if they do come to work and send them home immediately
- Emphasize staying home when sick, respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene by all employees
- Perform routine environmental cleaning: wiping down workstations, doorknobs, etc. with disposable disinfectant wipes.
- Advise employees before traveling to take certain steps, including review the [CDC's Travel Health notices](#).
- Have a plan if an employee or an employee's family member contracts the virus.



Cylinder Protection

This alert is being issued to reinforce the need to be extra vigilant in the receipt, inspection, cleaning and repair of medical gas (and other) cylinders that have been exposed to external contamination. This external contamination could be a result of floods, natural disasters or infectious agents remaining on cylinders when they are returned from customers.

This information was developed to assist GAWDA members in complying with government regulations; it does not constitute legal advice, and users are advised to obtain legal counsel to develop their individual compliance programs. Additionally, GAWDA does not guarantee that use of this material will ensure compliance with any regulatory or legal standard.