Welker® Constant Pressure Cylinders
With Welker® Solid Indicator, Syringe T-Handle, or Vortex Mixer

Models
CP2SI       CP5SI       CP35SI
CP52SY      CP5SY      CP35SY
CP2M        CP5M       CP35M

The information in this manual has been carefully checked for accuracy and is intended to be used as a guide for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the Welker equipment described above. Correct operating and/or installation techniques, however, are the responsibility of the end user. Welker reserves the right to make changes to this and all products to improve performance and reliability.
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1. GENERAL

1.1 Introduction

We appreciate your business and your choice of Welker products. The installation, operation, and maintenance liability for this product becomes that of the purchaser at the time of receipt. Reading the applicable Installation, Operation, and Maintenance (IOM) Manual prior to installation and operation of this equipment is required for a full understanding of its application and performance prior to use. If you have any questions, please call 1-800-776-7267 in the USA or 1-281-491-2331.

The following procedures have been written for use with standard Welker parts and equipment. Assemblies that have been modified may have additional requirements and specifications that are not listed in this manual.

Notes, Warnings, and Cautions

**NOTE**

Notes emphasize information or set it off from the surrounding text.

**CAUTION**

Caution messages appear before procedures that, if not observed, could result in damage to equipment.

**WARNING**

Warnings alert users to a specific procedure or practice that, if not followed correctly, could cause personal injury.

1.2 Product description

The Welker Constant Pressure Sample Cylinder is designed for use in systems where it is necessary to extract and isolate accurate product samples by maintaining a steady pressure from the pipeline to the cylinder. Solid indicator cylinders and vortex mixers are equipped with an indicating ring that has been set to specify when the device is at 80% capacity. Syringe model cylinders have a small mark on the handle to indicate this capacity. During continuous sampling, when the indicator rod reaches the 80% mark, all sampling should be stopped. A pneumatic supply pre-charges the cylinder with pressure to correspond with pipeline pressure. Pre-charging allows the sample to be transported through the cylinder without taking a pressure drop. A piston equipped in the cylinder helps to purge out air and contaminants prior to taking the sample. During the purge process, the piston is pushed to the end of the cylinder, also preventing any other possible contaminants from entering. Burst discs and gauges are also included on each end cap of the device. In the event that the cylinder is over pressurized, these discs will rupture, relieving excess pressure inside the cylinder.

The vortex mixer models are equipped with a detachable T-handle used for manual mixing. The syringe cylinder models are designed to allow the device to be filled manually from a vacuum or atmospheric location.

### Adjustable relief valve (optional)

The adjustable relief valve functions as a safety device for the unit. During continuous sampling and transportation of the cylinder, the relief valve assures that the device maintains a constant pressure and does not exceed maximum allowable pressure. The valve will relieve any pressure that exceeds the set pressure.
1.3 Important information

**WARNING**

Please read the following information in its entirety upon receiving the Welker equipment described above.

- Never fill a cylinder completely full of hydrocarbon liquid or refrigerated gas. Always allow for at least 20% expansion.
- Never transport a cylinder with pressure exceeding D.O.T. regulations (see U.S. Government CFR 49 for D.O.T. regulations). **In cases where the cylinders are exposed to varying temperatures, do not allow the cylinder to exceed the maximum allowable operating pressure indicated in Table 1, below.**
- Protect the cylinder at all times and handle with care. It is a precision instrument and may contain a flammable or caustic product as well as a valuable representation of your company’s product.
- When analysis is complete, the cylinder should be emptied safely and in a safe area by opening the product inlet valve, allowing the pre-charge pressure to push the piston to the product end cap, and thus to empty the cylinder.
- Welker recommends cleaning and leak testing of the cylinders after each use.
- Because of the design of the cylinder and its seals, the process of emptying the cylinder will simultaneously wipe the walls of the device clean. The end cap will also be purged clean with the next use.

**NOTE**

The specifications listed in this Section are generalized for this equipment. Welker can modify the equipment according to your company’s needs. However, please note that the specifications may vary depending on the customization of your product.

**Table 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specifications</th>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Gases/Liquids</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Materials of Construction</strong></td>
<td>316 Stainless Steel, Vilon®, PTFE, Anodized Aluminum (CP-35 only) (others available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sample Outlet Connection</strong></td>
<td>1/4&quot; NPT (others available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sample Inlet Connection</strong></td>
<td>1/4&quot; NPT (others available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relief Valve Connection (Optional)</strong></td>
<td>1/2&quot;-20 UNF (1/4&quot; NPT available)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure</strong>&lt;sup&gt;*&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>CP2 &amp; CP5: 1800 psi @ -20° F to 100 ° F (124 bar @ -29° C to 38° C)</td>
<td>CP35: 500 psi @ -20° F to 100 ° F (41 bar @ -29° C to 38° C)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Maximum allowable temperatures and pressures may be lower depending on the specifications of the pipeline connection device.
1.4 Specifications

Refer to this Figure throughout the installation and operation process.

**For clarity, gauge ports are not shown in the drawings.**
2. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 General

After unpacking the unit, check it for compliance and for any damages that may have occurred during shipment.

**NOTE**

Claims for damages caused during shipping must be initiated by the receiver and directed to the shipping carrier. Welker is not responsible for any damages caused from mishandling by the shipping company.

**NOTE**

When sealing fittings with PTFE tape, refer to the proper sealing instructions for the tape used.

**NOTE**

There are two ends to the cylinder, separated internally by a floating piston. One end is marked **PRODUCT INLET**; the other is the pre-charge end.

**Recommended Tools**

It would be advisable to have the following tools available for installation of the unit. However, tools used will vary depending on cylinder model.

- Flexible hose or tubing
- Tubing cutters
- 6” adjustable wrench

2.2 Pre-charging the cylinder

**CAUTION**

The pre-charge gas being used must be compatible with the seals in the cylinder. The relief valves and gauges must also be adequate for the pressures used when pre-charging.

**CAUTION**

For steps 2.2.1 and 2.2.3, it will be necessary to install a relief valve in order to relieve pre-charge pressure while sampling.

**NOTE**

Pre-charging the system is not necessary if the sample source is not pressurized (see Section 2.6).

**Pre-charging a constant pressure sample cylinder with a pre-charge gas can be done one of three ways:**

2.2.1 Connecting the cylinder pre-charge valve to the pipeline (pressurized pipeline only):

a) Use small diameter stainless steel tubing to connect the pre-charge valve (see Figure 1) to an available pipeline valve.

b) Make sure all valves are closed on the sample cylinder.

c) Open the pipeline isolation valve.

d) **Slowly** open the pre-charge valve.

e) **Slowly** open the product inlet valve. The piston will begin to move.
Always open all valves slowly to avoid slamming piston from one end to the other. Keep all body parts away from the indicator rod, as it will move when the piston travels.

f) The pre-charge gauge should begin to read pressure and will eventually reach pipeline pressure.
g) Once the piston has reached the end of the cylinder, close all valves on the sample cylinder and close the pipeline isolation valve. Check for leaks.
h) Disconnect the device from the pipeline.

2.2.2 Connecting the pre-charge valve to the return port on a sampler probe:
a) Install a valve into the return port of the sampler probe.
b) Make sure all valves are closed on the sample cylinder.
c) Use small diameter stainless steel tubing to connect the cylinder’s pre-charge valve to the valve on the return port of the probe (see Figure 2).

d) Open the valve on the return port of the sample probe.
e) **Slowly** open the pre-charge valve.
f) **Slowly** open the product inlet valve. The piston will begin to move.
g) The pre-charge gauge should begin to read pressure and will eventually read the sampler pressure.
h) Once the piston has reached the end of the cylinder, close the product inlet valve.
i) Leave the pre-charge valve open during the sampling procedure.
j) Leave the return port valve on the probe open during the sampling procedure.
k) Check for leaks.

2.2.3 Using an auxiliary pre-charge gas:

**NOTE**

When using an auxiliary gas, the pre-charge side of the cylinder should be pressurized with a regulated gas supply (i.e., nitrogen or helium) and set 50-100 psi above pipeline operating pressure, not to exceed the maximum allowable pressure of the device. An adjustable relief valve may be required if this method is used (see step 1 of Section 2.3).

a) Make sure all valves on the sample cylinder are closed.
b) Use small diameter stainless steel tubing to connect the pre-charge valve to the regulated auxiliary gas supply.
c) **Slowly** open the valve on gas supply.
d) Open the pre-charge valve.
e) **Slowly** open the product inlet valve. The piston will begin to move.
f) The pre-charge gauge should begin to read pressure and will eventually read the designated pressure.
g) Once the piston has reached the end of the cylinder, close all valves on the sample cylinder and on the gas supply.
h) Disconnect the sample cylinder from the gas supply.
i) Check for leaks.
2.3 Installation

2.3.1 If your cylinder is equipped with an adjustable relief valve (see Figure 3): set the valve at least 50-100 psi above pipeline pressure, not to exceed the maximum allowable working pressure indicated in Table 1 (refer to IO&M for relief valve).

![Adjustable Relief Valve]

Figure 3

2.3.2 If your cylinder is not equipped with a product purge valve, create a purge valve by tubing a “T” fitting and valve inline between the sample point and the cylinder in order to provide a way to purge the system.

**NOTE**

Purging the system of excess air is important to ensure the sample is not contaminated from the previous sample.

2.3.3 Connect the product inlet to the sample point (i.e., probe or sampler).

2.4 Spot sampling from a pressurized source

**NOTE**

Refer to GPA-2166 (Gas Processors Association) and API 14.1 (American Petroleum Institute) sampling standards for guidance.

2.4.1 After pre-charging the cylinder above pipeline pressure (see Section 2.2), connect the product inlet end of the cylinder to the probe outlet port (see Figure 4).

![Figure 4]
2.4.2 Slowly open the probe outlet valve.
2.4.3 Slowly open the product inlet valve (see Figure 1) on the product end cap. The piston will not yet move because pre-charge pressure is above pipeline pressure.
2.4.4 With the sampler valve and product valve fully open, slowly open the pre-charge valve to relieve pre-charge pressure. This will allow the sampled product to enter the cylinder and push against the piston. Thus, no pressure loss is encountered.

NOTE
Relieving the pre-charge too quickly can result in a pressure drop and an inaccurate sample. A bleed plug can be installed on the pre-charge valve to regulate the relieving rate.

2.4.5 When the desired amount of sample is extracted, close all valves on the cylinder.
2.4.6 Close the probe outlet valve.
2.4.7 Carefully disconnect the cylinder from the probe, allowing the trapped product between the probe and cylinder valves to vent.
2.4.8 Plug or cap all valves on the cylinder.
2.4.9 Make a note of pressure, locations, etc., on the information tag according to company’s policy.
2.4.10 Check all fittings for leaks.
2.4.11 Place the cylinder into a carrying case to provide maximum protection during transportation. Check with your company for transportation procedures and requirements.

2.5 Continuous sampling
not applicable for syringe models

2.5.1 Pre-charge the sample cylinder (see Section 2.2), and connect the product inlet end of the cylinder to the sampler outlet port.
2.5.2 Open the sample outlet valve.
2.5.3 Slowly open the product valve on the product end cap. The piston will not yet move because pre-charge pressure is above pipeline pressure.

NOTE
The automatic sampler will push product into the cylinder, causing the piston to move.

2.5.4 Turn the sampler off when the cylinder is at 80% capacity. This allows a 20% margin for possible expansion due to temperature changes.
2.5.5 When the desired amount of sample is extracted, close all valves on the cylinder.
2.5.6 Open the purge valve for approximately 3-5 seconds to purge trapped air and residue, and then close the valve. Welker recommends plugging the purge valve when not in use.
2.5.7 Close the sampler outlet valve.
2.5.8 Carefully disconnect the cylinder from the sampler, allowing the trapped product between the sampler outlet valve and the product inlet valve to vent.
2.5.9 Plug or cap all valves on the cylinder.
2.5.10 Record pressure, locations, etc., on the information tag according to company policy. Check all fittings for leaks.
2.5.11 Place the cylinder into a carrying case to provide maximum protection in transportation. Check with your company for transportation procedures and requirements.
2.6 **Spot sampling from a vacuum or non-pressurized source**

*applicable only for syringe models*

### NOTE

Pre-charging the system is not necessary if the source is not pressurized. The pre-charge valve should remain open during the entire operation.

2.6.1 Open the product inlet valve.
2.6.2 Push down the T-handle indicator.
2.6.3 Connect the product inlet valve to the sample source and open all valves between.
2.6.4 Slowly pull the T-handle until it is fully extended.
2.6.5 Push down the handle to fully insert the piston and purge the connection of excess air.
2.6.7 Pull the T-handle until the desired amount of sample is extracted.
2.6.8 Close all valves on the cylinder.
2.6.9 Close any valves connected to the sample source.
2.6.10 **Carefully** remove the cylinder from the probe, allowing the trapped product between the probe and cylinder valves to vent.
2.6.11 Plug or cap all valves on the cylinder.
2.6.12 Make a note of pressure, locations, etc., on the information tag according to company’s policy.
2.6.13 Check all fittings for leaks.
2.6.14 Place the cylinder into a carrying case to provide maximum protection during transportation. Check with your company for transportation procedures and requirements.

2.7 **Mixing**

*applicable only for vortex mixer models*

2.7.1 Locate the detachable T-handle that is shipped with the unit.
2.7.2 Remove the indicator rod cap.
2.7.3 Slide the T-handle onto the hollow indicator rod.
2.7.4 Thread the T-handle onto the vortex mixer shaft.
2.7.5 To mix the contents of the cylinder, repeatedly push down and pull up on the T-handle.
2.7.6 After mixing is complete, unscrew the T-handle and replace the indicator rod cap.
3. **MAINTENANCE**

3.1 **General**

Prior to maintenance or disassembly of the unit, it is advisable to have a repair kit handy for the system in case of encountering unexpected wear or faulty seals. All maintenance and cleaning of the unit should be done on a smooth, clean surface.

**NOTE**

We recommend that the unit have annual maintenance under normal operating conditions. In the case of severe service, dirty conditions, excessive cycling usage, or other unique applications that may subject the equipment to unpredictable circumstances, a more frequent maintenance schedule may be appropriate.

3.2 **Disassembly instructions**

Refer to the above Figure throughout the entire maintenance process.
Recommended Tools

It would be advisable to have the following tools available for maintenance of the unit. However, tools used will vary depending on cylinder model.

- Allen wrench
- 6" adjustable wrench
- Torque wrench

3.2.1 If the unit is not yet disconnected from the sampling system, continue to the next step. If it is already disconnected, skip to step 8.
3.2.2 Close the outlet valve on the sample device (i.e., probe or sampler).
3.2.3 Close the product valve on the cylinder.
3.2.4 Disconnect the cylinder from the sample device.
3.2.5 If an auxiliary gas supply is still connected to the cylinder pre-charge, close the valve on the gas supply.
3.2.6 Close the pre-charge inlet valve.
3.2.7 Disconnect the unit from the gas supply.
3.2.8 Relieve pressure from the product and pre-charge ends of the cylinder.
3.2.9 Remove the six nuts (Part 1, Figure 5) and the six tie bolts (Part 5).
3.2.10 For the syringe model, remove the T-handle carefully, without scratching or damaging the indicator rod.
3.2.11 Remove the 80% indicator bolts (Part 20) and the solid indicator (Part 21).
3.2.12 Remove both the product end cap and the pre-charge end cap.
3.2.13 Replace the burst disc if either one has ruptured.
   a) Insert the clear seal.
   b) Insert the rupture disc after the clear seal. The dome should face out.
   c) Torque the bursting relief caps (Part 3) to the proper specification (see Table 2).

**NOTE**

Burst discs should be replaced after 6-10 cylinder fillings or at least once a year. While the discs do help to maintain the product, they are designed as a safety device to prevent overpressurization of the cylinder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pressure Range (psi)</th>
<th>Torque Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-300</td>
<td>50 in-lbs 5.6 Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-5000</td>
<td>20 ft-lbs 27 Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5001-6000</td>
<td>24 ft-lbs 32 Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6001-7000</td>
<td>29 ft-lbs 39 Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7001-10,000</td>
<td>38 ft-lbs 52 Nm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.2.14 If there is an adjustable relief valve on either end cap, remove it and replace all seals within the part 
(refer to IO&M for adjustable relief valve).

⚠️ CAUTION ⚠️
Do not dig into the metal surfaces of the parts when removing O-rings from the O-ring grooves. Scratching the sealing surface can result in a leak. If necessary, dig into the O-ring, and replace it during reassembly. If the sealing surface becomes damaged, use a 600-grit wet sand paper strip to smooth the surface, and then clean it. Check the ball bearing for any signs of wear or damage. Replace if necessary.

NOTE
New seals supplied in spare parts kits are not lubricated. All seals should be lightly coated with Krytox® lubrication grease before they are installed into the equipment. Other lubrication greases can be used, although they risk contaminating the sample. After the seals are installed, additional lubrication can be applied to the shaft or cylinder inner diameters to allow a smooth transition of the parts. While lubrication should be thorough, only a minimal amount should be applied. Wipe excess lubrication from the seals, as it may have an adverse effect on sampling.

### 3.3 Maintenance instructions

Refer to Figure 5 for the following Section.

3.3.1 If you have the vortex mixer model, pull out the paddle rod (Part 14).
3.3.2 Hold the indicator rod (Part 13) and pull the cylinder (Part 2) off the piston (Part 8).
3.3.3 If you have the vortex mixer model, remove the lock collar (Part 22) and pin (Part 23), then unscrew the indicator rod.
3.3.4 Clean all parts.
3.3.5 Remove and replace the backups (Parts 9 and 6) on the piston ends.
3.3.6 Remove and replace the seals (Parts 7 and 19) on the face of the piston end.
3.3.7 If you have the vortex mixer model, remove and replace the additional seal (Part 19) in the piston.
3.3.8 If you have the vortex mixer model, remove and replace the snap ring (Part 15), bal seal (Part 17), backup, and O-ring (Parts 18 and 16) inside the piston.
3.3.9 Remove and replace the seals (Part 4) on each end cap.
3.3.10 Remove and replace the wiper (Part 12) on the pre-charge end cap.
3.3.11 Remove and replace the backup and O-ring (Parts 11 and 10) on the pre-charge end cap.
3.3.12 Wipe down the inside of cylinder and dry carefully (also see Section 3.5).
3.3.13 Closely examine the honed surface of the cylinder. Scratches and pits will cause the seals to leak.

⚠️ WARNING ⚠️
The following are causes to return the device to the manufacturer:
- Scratches or pitting that cause migration of gas from one side to the other.
- Any damage to outside cylinder shell that may compromise the cylinder wall thickness.

### 3.4 Reassembly instructions

Refer to Figure 5 for the following section.

3.4.1 If you have the vortex mixer model, reinsert the indicator rod into the piston and replace the lock collar (Part 22) and pin (Part 23).
3.4.2 Carefully replace the cylinder (Part 2) back on the piston (Part 8). Again, be careful not to scratch the cylinder or to damage the seals.
3.4.3 Reinsert the pre-charge end cap.
3.4.4 If you have the vortex mixer model, reattach the paddle rod (Part 14).
3.4.5 Reattach the product end cap.
3.4.6 Reattach the tie bolts (Part 5) and tighten the nuts (Part 1) to the correct torque using a cross bolting sequence (see Table 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS FOR CYLINDER TIE BOLTS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Series</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP-5 &amp; CP-35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.7 Reattach the 80% indicator rods (Part 20) and the solid indicator (Part 21).

3.4.8 Pressure up cylinder at one end with an inert gas supply and test for leaks. Repeat the process from the opposite end.

**NOTE**

Welker recommends using helium to test for leaks.

### 3.5 Cylinder cleaning

Regular cleaning of constant pressure sample cylinders is essential for the proper functioning of the device. Solvent cleaning is normally done during scheduled maintenance; however, some companies require this before each cylinder is put into service. Any debris or residue that is not removed from a cylinder will contaminate the results of the next sample extracted into the cylinder. **Welker recommends cleaning and leak testing of the cylinders after each use.**

**Cleaning a constant pressure sample cylinder can be done one of three ways:**

#### 3.5.1 Purging with helium

- Fill and empty the cylinder with helium repeatedly.
- Take a sample of the helium to test for trace amounts of hydrocarbons.

**NOTE**

If hydrocarbons are present in the analysis, the system has not been adequately cleaned, and further purging will be necessary. If hydrocarbons or contaminants remain present, a solvent cleaning may be required (see step 3.5.3). After cleaning with solvent, purge with helium to remove the solvent and analyze the helium to verify the solvent and hydrocarbons have been removed.

- If no hydrocarbons are found, cleaning is complete.
- Repeat step 8 of Section 3.4.

#### 3.5.2 Purging with new product

- Purge the cylinder using the product to be sampled. This can be accomplished each time the cylinder is put into service.
- Repeat step 8 of Section 3.4.

**NOTE**

This method is acceptable only if the cylinder will be used in one location.

#### 3.5.3 Cleaning with solvent

- Fill and empty the cylinder repeatedly with solvent.
- Use an inert gas to dry and purge the cylinder.
- Use method 3.5.1 to verify the system is free of contaminants.
- Repeat step 8 of Section 3.4.
4. Troubleshooting Guide

The following is a troubleshooting table of issues most commonly associated with the Welker Constant Pressure Cylinder models. If you are having a problem that is not listed, or if the solution provided does not repair the problem, please call Welker for service options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROBLEM</th>
<th>POSSIBLE CAUSE</th>
<th>SOLUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gauge indicates a loss of pressure.</td>
<td>• There is a leak from one of the fittings.</td>
<td>• Check all fittings for leaks with leak detector. Replace thread sealant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• There is a leak from the burst discs.</td>
<td>• Make sure the burst discs are torqued properly. If the problem persists, the discs may need replacement. See Table 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The cylinder experienced a temperature drop.</td>
<td>• Restore the temperature to pipeline temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• There is a defective valve.</td>
<td>• Repair or restore the defective valve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure is leaking across the piston.</td>
<td>Seals in the piston are leaking.</td>
<td>Disassemble and clean the unit. Inspect cylinder for scratches. Replace seals in the piston and reassemble. See Sections 3.2-3.4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure is leaking from the indicator rod.</td>
<td>Seals in the pre-charge end cap are leaking.</td>
<td>Disassemble the unit. Replace pre-charge end cap seals. Inspect the rod for scratches and reassemble. See Section 3.3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The pre-charge or product end cap is leaking.</td>
<td>• The burst disc is leaking.</td>
<td>• Replace the burst disc. See step 3.2.13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• There is a loose fitting.</td>
<td>• Tighten the fittings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. SAFETY ISSUE WARNING FOR LIQUID SAMPLE CYLINDERS

After drawing the sample into the cylinder, the inlet and pre-charge valves should be closed. The sample line is then disconnected from the cylinder and the cylinder is completely isolated from the process. Paperwork is processed and the cylinder is prepared for transport. Prior to transporting the cylinder, it is a common and recommended practice to plug or cap the valves on the cylinder. These valves may terminate with a female NPT or a male NPT. The female valves are typically plugged, while the male valves are typically capped.

In the case of liquid sampling and due to the potential extremes of thermal expansion of many LPG products, caution should be taken to ensure that any remaining residue liquid is drained, blown, or absorbed from the accessible exterior dead volume of the valve body (downstream of the seat) prior to plugging or capping the valve.

It is common to see temperature differentials of as much as 100° F (38° C) or more. Liquid samples that are drawn at -40° F to -50° F (-40° C to -46° C) can be transported in shipping cases that may see ambient temperatures as high as 100° F to 160° F (38° C to 71° C), and at times may exceed 160° F (71° C).

Operators should be familiar with the basic and general physical properties of the product which they are sampling so that they can adequately estimate the expansion potential of the sampled product within the cylinder and therefore have them allow ample outage for expansion to occur. In a majority of cases, 80% fill and 20% pre-charge is acceptable, but certain products may require a larger inert gas pre-charge ratio – i.e., 70%-30% or 60%-40%.

**WARNING**

Burst discs are installed on these cylinders to protect them from structural failure. The operator must be aware that flammable product will be released in the event of overpressurization of the working pressure of the cylinder and therefore it is important to allow for ample expansion within the cylinder prior to attainment of the rupture disc activation. Burst disc ranges and cylinder working pressures are determined by the U.S. Department of Transportation, and these guidelines and rules are found in CFR-49.

If you have any questions, please contact Welker.