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The Invisible Ingredient

Safety Considerations for Compressed Gases in Craft Brewing Facilities

Laura Brumsey

Vice President, Operations & Administration
Compressed Gas Association, Inc.

Safe Handling & Use of Cylinders & Containers

Carbon Dioxide Hazards

Additional Gas Hazards

Resources for Craft Brewers

Safe Handling & Use of Cylinders & Containers

#1

Cylinder and container handling incidents are the most frequently reported cause for gas-related lost time injuries at brewing facilities.

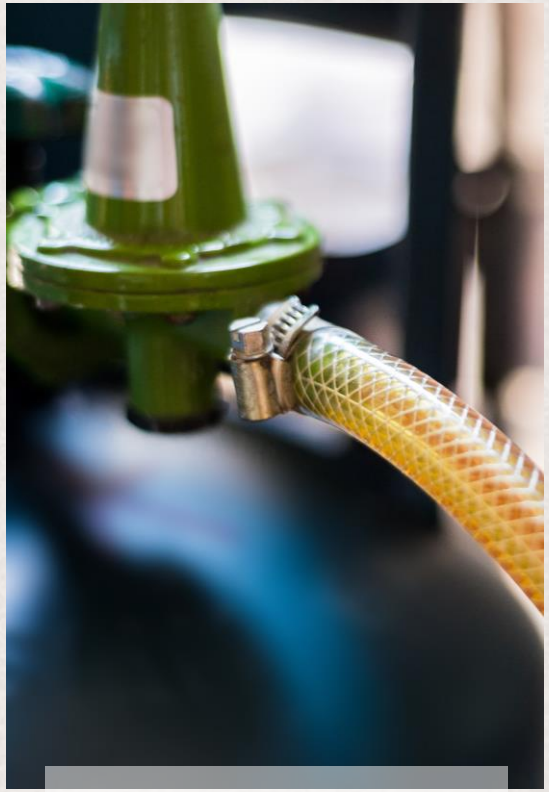
5 Basic User Responsibilities

1. Read and understand the safety data sheet (SDS) and the label; make sure the label remains legible with no alterations.
2. Understand the risks to safe use of the cylinder or container and assess the area where it will be stored or used.
3. Maintain the cylinder or container in good working condition with no modifications or damage.
4. Store, handle, and use the cylinder or container so that it will not be damaged.
5. Report any damage or problems to your gas supplier immediately.

Action Items

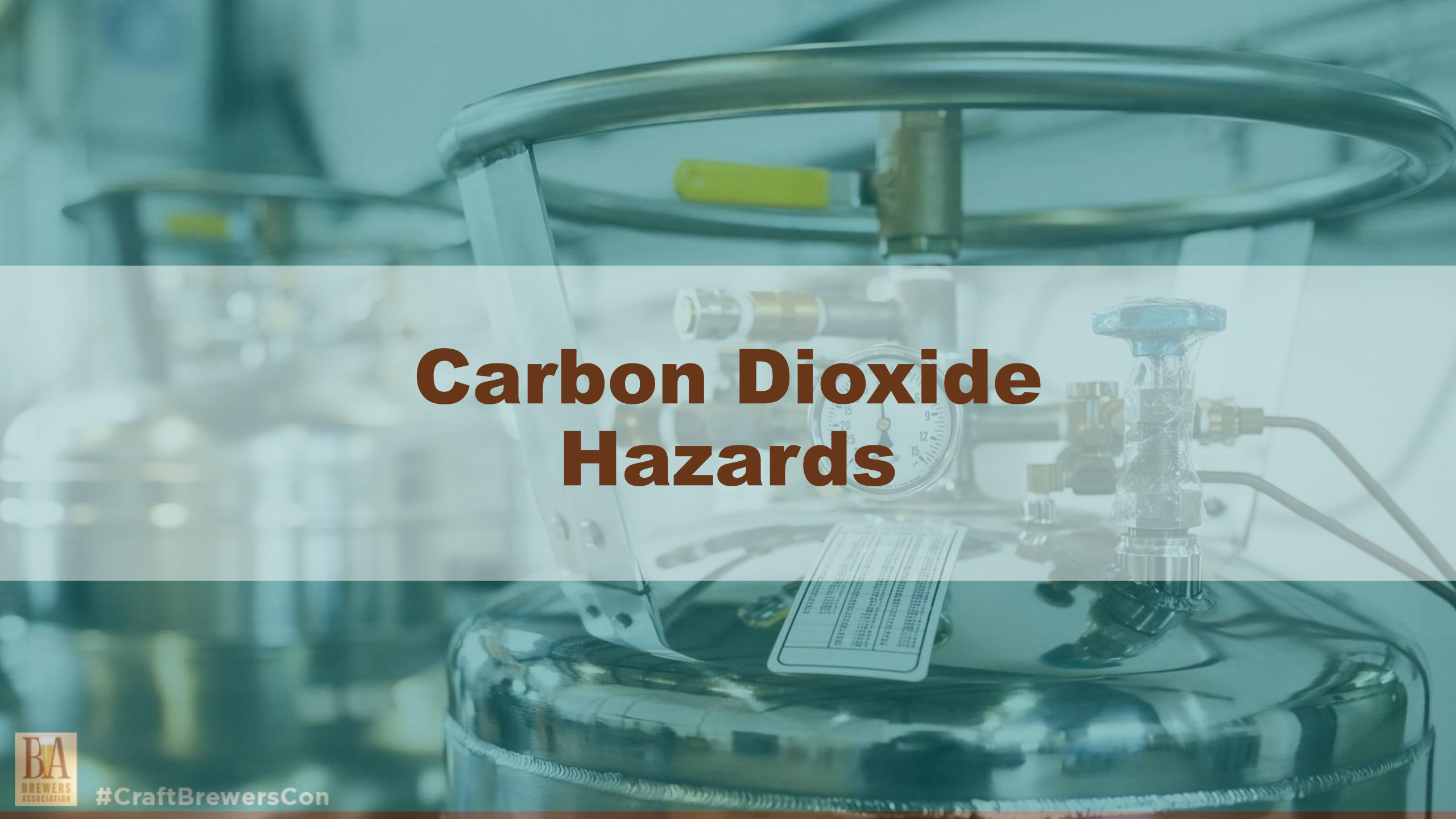
Secure your cylinders.

Use a cart designed for cylinders or containers.



Check piping and connections.

Talk to your gas supplier.



Carbon Dioxide Hazards

When oxygen content is insufficient, someone breathing the air is incapable of realizing the danger because the symptoms are often masked by a state of euphoria. Unconsciousness can occur so quickly that an individual has no warning and cannot help themselves.

As little as one or two breaths in a low oxygen atmosphere can endanger your life.

Intoxication can also occur when there is sufficient oxygen for breathing but the carbon dioxide level is high enough (30,000 ppm) to cause adverse physiological effects.


Near the floor, in low lying areas, in basements, and any confined or enclosed spaces


Fermentation and bright tank areas


Canning and bottling areas
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Walk in coolers

NFPA 55, Chapter 13

provides requirements for signage, protection, monitoring, and ventilation of carbon dioxide systems.

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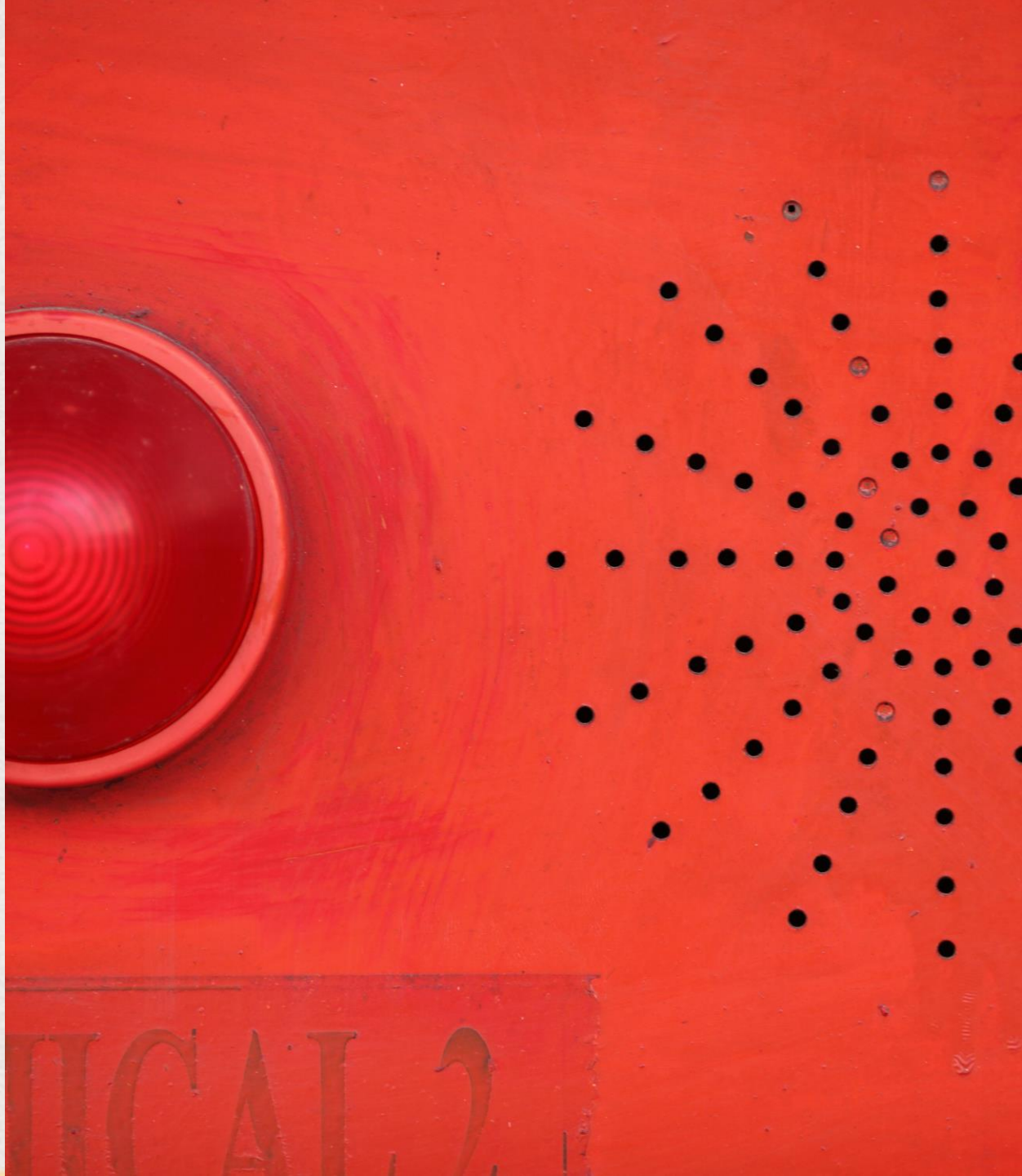
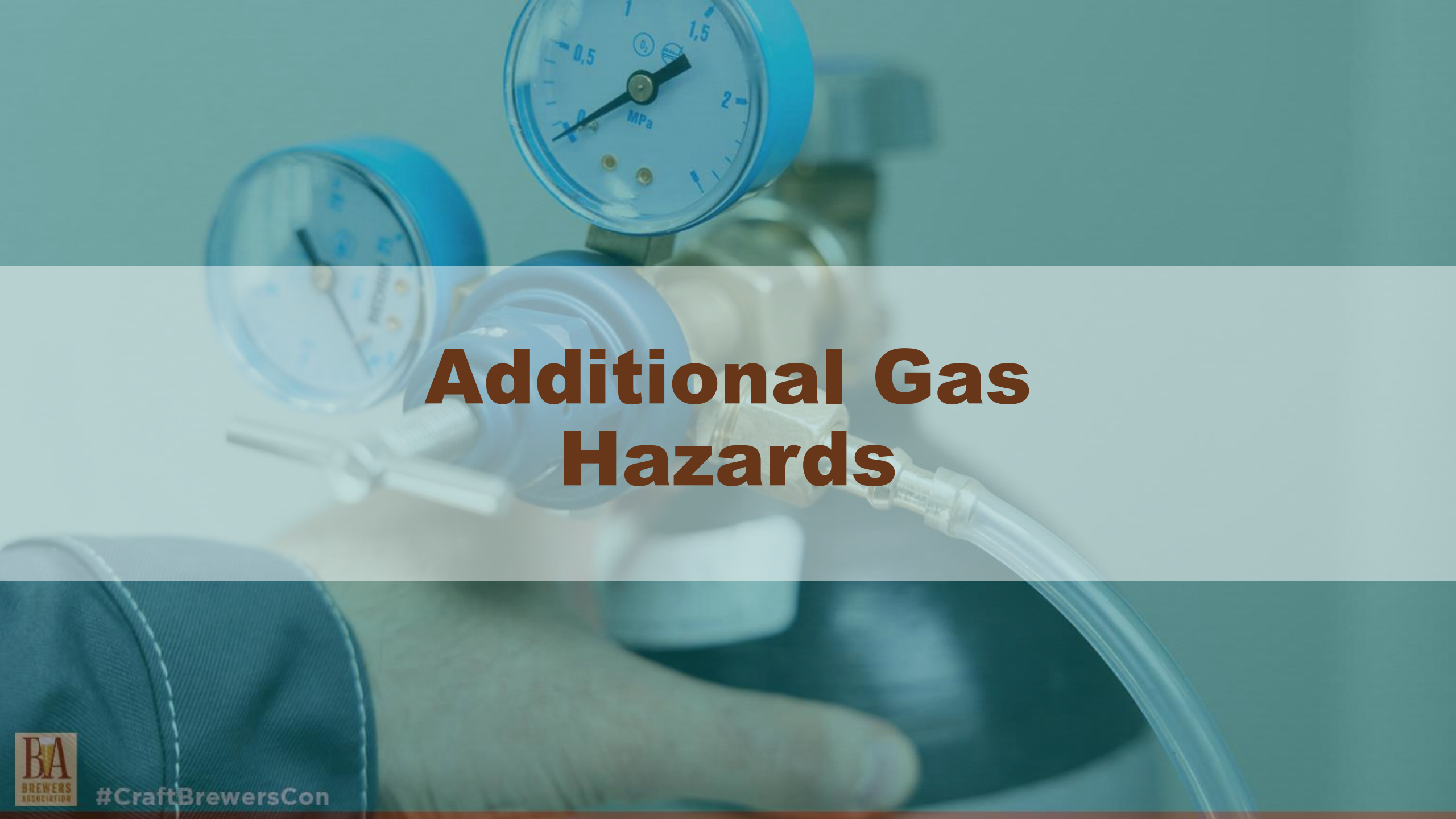
https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=55



Action Items

1. Communicate carbon dioxide hazards and hazard response plan to all employees (don't forget the front of house staff).
2. Evaluate your confined and enclosed spaces, indoor and outdoor – are they appropriately marked, ventilated, monitored, and alarmed?
3. Revisit your confined space entry procedures to ensure appropriate monitoring and rescue plans are in place.



Additional Gas Hazards

Consider the unique properties and hazards of other gases you have on site, such as nitrogen and oxygen.

Resources for Craft Brewers

CGA Safety Resources

Safety Posters – Free Resource
www.cganet.com/resources/safety-information/

eLearning Modules
https://portal.cganet.com/Education/Index.aspx

Publications
https://portal.cganet.com/Publication/Index.aspx

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Brewers Association Resources

Educational Publications
https://www.brewersassociation.org/edu/educational-publications/

Presentations
https://www.brewersassociation.org/edu/seminars/

Trainings & Workshops
https://www.brewersassociation.org/edu/trainings-workshops/

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THANK YOU!

LAURA BRUMSEY | LBRUMSEY@CGANET.COM
COMPRESSED GAS ASSOCIATION
WWW.CGANET.COM

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