



May 15 — Still Connected

Noticed an Employee moving the mobile torch cart with the backflow meters still in the bottles.

Told the employee of the hazards it creates and helped him right his wrong.

It was just being moved. No cutting. No torch in use. No active work happening. Just relocating the cart.

So it didn't seem like a problem. Everything was still hooked up regulators, hoses, backflow meters all left in place to save time. It feels efficient. Move it as-is. Set it down. Keep going.

But those connections aren't meant to take that kind of movement. A bump. A catch. A shift in direction. And now the force isn't going into the cart it's going into the connections.

That's where things fail. Not when you're using it...But when it's being moved. And when something breaks loose, it doesn't stay a small problem.

It becomes a leak. A release. A fire hazard. Nothing failed here. But the setup made it possible.

The employee was stopped, corrected, and the cart was handled the right way.

Because moving equipment safely starts before it ever moves.

Hazards

- Damage to regulators or backflow device
- Gas leaks from stressed connections
- Fire or explosion risk
- Equipment failure under movement
- Line of fire exposure to pressure energy

Stats

- Many gas-related incidents involve damaged or improperly handled equipment
- Regulators and connections are common failure points when stressed
- Equipment transport introduces risk even when not in use
- Most incidents originate from setup and handling not active operation

Words of Wisdom

- Disconnect before you move
- What's connected can be damaged
- Easy now can cost you later

Pause and Think

It's easy to leave things connected when you're just moving from one spot to another.

It feels like a small shortcut. Saves a few minutes. Avoids extra steps. But those steps exist for a reason.

Because once something gets damaged in the move, the risk doesn't show up right away it shows up later, when everything is back in use.

- Do I take shortcuts when moving equipment?
- Am I thinking about how movement affects connections?
- Do I assume "it'll be fine this time"?
- Would I stop and disconnect before moving it?