Propane Cylinders have a range of identifying marks on the cylinder collar. Understanding them assists all propane users.

Manufacture Date

The manufacture date will show the month and year of manufacture, sometimes separated by an inspector’s symbol. Ten years after the date of manufacture, the cylinder will need to be requalified or replaced.

Example: 04 10 or 04Δ10
How to read this manufacture stamp:
- 04 – Month of manufacture (i.e. April)
- 05 – Year of manufacture (i.e. 2010)

Requalification (Retest) Stamp

As propane cylinders need to be requalified or replaced every ten years, this mark will show when that requalification happened. The easiest way to locate the requalification date on a cylinder is to find a sequence of numbers and letters that end in ‘E’.

Example: 05 PD3 13 E
How to read this requalification stamp:
- 05 – Month of requalification (i.e. May)
- PD3 – Requalifiers registered mark (this is an identifier that Transport Canada assigns all requalifiers)
- 13 – Year of requalification (i.e. 2013)
- E – Procedure Symbol E (stands for External Visual Inspection)

Requalification may occur multiple times over the life of the cylinder, so there may be more than one requalification date stamped on the collar.

Other Marks

Transport Canada Design Specification
Shows that the cylinder has been designed to Transport Canada specifications and can be used and filled in Canada. Will include the letters TC.

Manufacturer’s Name, Symbol or Serial Number
Shows who manufactured the cylinder.

Water Capacity
The total water capacity of the cylinder in litres.

Tare Weight
The weight of the empty cylinder in kilograms.

Requalification

It’s against the law for an expired or damaged cylinder to be filled.

To find a registered cylinder requalifier in your area, there is a searchable listing of requalifiers available on the Transport Canada website - www.tc.gc.ca - under Safety > Transportation of Dangerous Goods > Containers > Cylinder Requalifiers. Select the “External Visual” cylinder requalification method for propane cylinders.

Cylinder Marking Example

Note: Cylinder markings may be laid out differently on the collar than shown above.

For further information on cylinder markings: http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/tdg/moc-cylinder-menu-363.html