

Connecticut Product Stewardship Council

Gas Cylinder

Extended Producer Responsibility



Fuel Cylinders

The Problem

- **Difficult to manage and recycle** – Must de-valve or puncture a hole before discarding into scrap metal
- **Few Outlets** – Nearly all scrap yards don't want them, pose risk and danger
- **Dangerous** - Often are hidden in the recycling stream and are an extreme danger to Material Recovery Facilities where they can explode
- **Litter** – Thousands of cylinders are left behind in parks every year (estimated 10,000 in Connecticut State Parks)
- **Costly** – They are a cost burden on municipalities and the state





MEMO to Municipalities from SIMS

Prohibited Material: Closed Cylinders (tanks are like bombs):

“Dear Scrap Supplier to our North Haven and New Haven, Connecticut facilities including GATEWAY terminal. As you know, all scrap metal recyclers, including Sims Metal Management (SMM), are subject to a variety of requirements that restrict us from what we may accept from our suppliers. **As a result we provide a list of prohibited material in Exhibit A to this letter. These include "pressurized containers or cylinders including propane tanks" and other "compressed gas tanks" (e.g. acetylene, LNG, oxygen) as well as other "closed containers"**. One major reason that we prohibit propane and other closed cylinders, tanks and containers, fuel and undrained fuel tanks is to **prevent explosions and fires which can injure personnel, damage equipment and disrupt the community. The safety of our employees is most critical...**

In order to keep such cylinders, tanks and containers out of our inbound materials, we will require that supplier to pay us a **\$40 penalty for each such cylinder, tank or container we find in your load of scrap materials**. So please help us be safe and inspect your loads. You will get a warning first but repeat offenders will be charged.”

Fuel Cylinder Explosion
at a Connecticut
Material Recovery Facility

Fuel Cylinders

The Solution - Extended Producer Responsibility

- Producers share the responsibility and burden of end-of-life management
- Stewardship Program formed like Paintcare and Bye-Bye Mattress
- Design for the environment
- Performance targets
- Collection convenience standards
- Outreach and Education





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