

Safety Bulletin

HANDLING OF TWIN CYLINDER APPARATUS

STOCKHOLM, 9th of SEPTEMBER, 2005

ANNOUNCEMENT

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR HANDLING TWIN CYLINDER APPARATUS

APPLIES TO

ALL CONFIGURATIONS WITH TWIN CYLINDERS

DESCRIPTION

Following the report of a serious accident French Authorities carried out an investigation. During this investigation a potential risk to safety was revealed with incorrect use of apparatus incorporating two separate independently valved composite cylinders. It must be emphasized that in no way was Interspiro or any Interspiro apparatus involved in this accident.

The potential risk to safety occurs when compressed air is allowed to flow from a fully charged cylinder to the second one, which is empty or has a significant lower pressure. The risk does not occur if established procedures are followed. However, as a safety precaution the relevant part of the procedures is stated below.

ACTION

Before use ensure that both cylinders are charged with similar working pressures.

Open **both** cylinder valves when pressurizing the breathing apparatus. Ensure that **both** cylinder valves are kept open during the use of the apparatus.



Figure: Example of configuration with twin cylinders

Note: This safety bulletin is not relevant for cylinder pack configurations. A cylinder pack consists of two cylinders permanently attached together with only one cylinder valve.