

The Sleeping Giant: “I Am A Compressed Gas Cylinder”

I weigh in at 175 pounds – when filled.
I am pressurized at 2,200 pounds per square inch.
I have a wall thickness of about 1/4 inch.
I stand 57 inches tall; I am 9 inches in diameter.
I wear a cap when not in use; I wear valves, gauges, and hoses when at work.
I wear many colors and bands to tell what task I perform.
I transform miscellaneous stacks of steel into glistening frames and many other things into miscellaneous stacks of material, if I am allowed to unleash my fury unchecked.
I am ruthless and deadly in the hands of the careless or uninformed.
I am too frequently left standing alone on my small base with my cap removed or lost by an unthinking worker.
I am ready to be toppled over – when my naked valve can be snapped off – and all of my power unleashed through an opening no larger than a pencil.

I am proud of my capabilities. Here are a few of them:

I have been known to jet away faster than any dragster.
I smash my way through brick walls with the greatest of ease.
I fly through the air and reach distances of half a mile or more.
I spin, ricochet, crash, and slash through anything in my path.
I scoff at the puny efforts of human bone and muscle to alter my erratic course.
I can, under certain conditions, rupture or explode – you read of these exploits in the newspapers.

You can be my master only under my terms:

Full or empty, see to it that my cap is on, straight and snug.
NEVER leave me standing alone. Keep me in a secure rack, or tie me so that I cannot fall.
Treat me with respect . . . I Am A Sleeping Giant!
(source unknown)

For more information, contact your local Hartford agent or your Hartford Loss Control Consultant. Visit The Hartford’s Loss Control web site at <http://www.thehartford.com/corporate/losscontrol/>

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