



Subject: <b>Personal Injury— Exploding Flushing Cylinder</b>	TSB #: <b>39 8-10</b>					
	Date: <b>2/8/10</b>					
Initial Once Read:						

We felt that this particular injury case was worthwhile bringing to your attention.

## SAFETY RELATED

At Port Kembla in late 2009 a contractor was injured while flushing an A/C system on a loader. The cylinder was a standard aluminium design with a flush gun, sold in the aftermarket that is used for flushing with a solvent using compressed air as the propellant. The flushing cylinder manufacturers state that a maximum pressure of 150 psi (1050 kPa) is used with filtered compressed air.

The circumstance that lead to the contractors injures was that his assistant did not turn the nitrogen cylinder off while the contractor was filling up the flushing cylinder with solvent. Instead, the assistant turned the regulator to the highest pressure, which exceeded the flushing cylinder maximum burst pressure, and the aluminium cylinder exploded.

If you are using nitrogen as a propellant in this type of A/C flushing cylinder,

"extreme care must be taken to ensure that the maximum cylinder burst pressure is not exceeded". Train all employees in the correct and safe use of this equipment. Compressed air is still suitable for flushing an A/C system, provided an inline water trap / filter is fitted to remove moisture.

