

What do the letters and numbers stamped on the neck of high-pressure cylinders indicate?

The stampings indicate which US Department of Transportation specifications the cylinder meets, what type of steel was used, who fabricated the cylinder and when.

- Steel stamp markings such as “DOT-3A-2400” indicate that the cylinder was made to US Government Department of Transportation (DOT) specifications, the “3A” denotes chrome manganese steel (or “AA” for molybdenum steel) and the “2400” the maximum filling pressure in psi.
- The oldest date indicates the month and year of manufacture. Subsequent dates, usually at five year intervals, indicate when mandatory hydrostatic pressure testing was performed and by whom. See Figures 1 and 2.

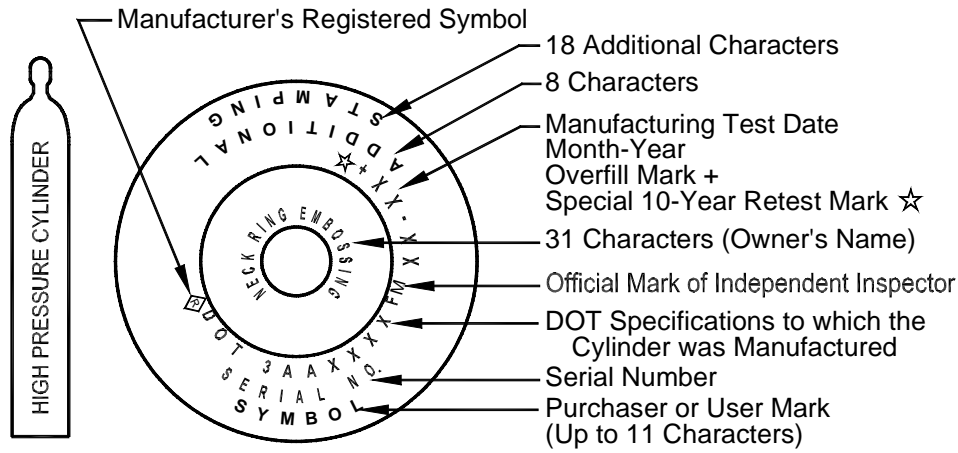


Figure 1. High-pressure cylinder markings.

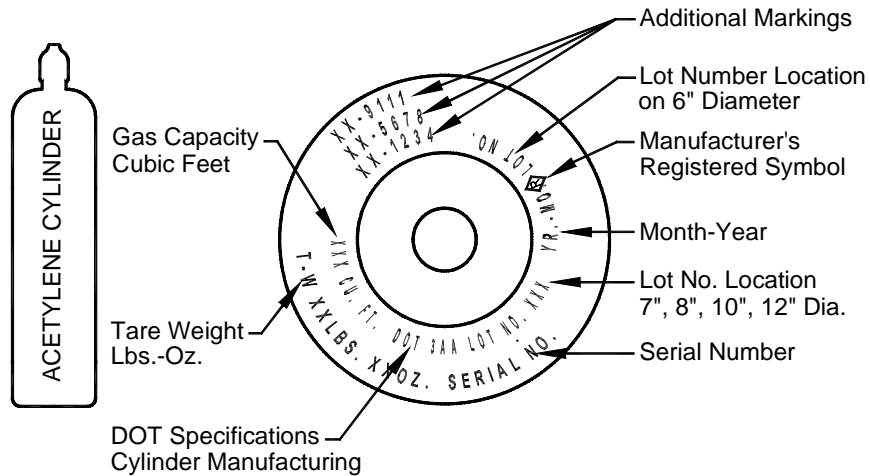


Figure 2. Acetylene cylinder markings.