

INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD

ISO  
11117

First edition  
1998-08-01

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**Gas cylinders — Valve protection caps and  
valve guards for industrial and medical gas  
cylinders — Design, construction and tests**

*Bouteilles à gaz — Chapeaux fermés et chapeaux ouverts de protection  
des robinets de bouteilles à gaz industriels et médicaux — Conception,  
construction et essais*



Reference number  
ISO 11117:1998(E)

<b>Contents</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>1</b>	Scope .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	Normative references .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	Definitions .....	<b>1</b>
<b>4</b>	General requirements .....	<b>2</b>
<b>5</b>	Materials .....	<b>6</b>
<b>6</b>	Prototype testing .....	<b>7</b>
<b>7</b>	Marking .....	<b>9</b>
<b>8</b>	Test report .....	<b>9</b>

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 11117 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 58, *Gas cylinders*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Cylinder fittings*.

## **Introduction**

Devices intended for the protection of gas cylinder valves are required, for example, where the valve is insufficiently robust to permit safe transport, handling and storage without such protection.

This International Standard specifies the principle dimensions, requirements for fitting and drop test procedure, to confirm the provision of adequate valve protection, in the event of a cylinder toppling from its base.

# Gas cylinders — Valve protection caps and valve guards for industrial and medical gas cylinders — Design, construction and tests

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the requirements for valve protection caps and guards, intended for use with industrial and medical gas cylinders.

It defines tests for checking the mechanical strength and physical properties of the valve protection cap or valve guard.

This International Standard applies to valve protection devices to be fitted to gas cylinders intended for liquefied, dissolved or compressed gases. It excludes protection devices for cylinders with a water capacity of less than 5 l, cylinders for liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) and cylinders whereby the protection device is fixed by means of lugs welded or brazed to the cylinder, or is welded or brazed directly to the cylinder.

This International Standard does not specify all the requirements that may be necessary to enable the valve protection device to be used for lifting the cylinder.

## 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of the publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on the International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 10156:1996, *Gases and gas mixtures — Determination of fire potential and oxidizing ability for the selection of cylinder valve outlets.*

ISO 10297:—1), *Gas cylinder valves — Specifications and type testing.*

## 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

**3.1 valve protection cap (cap):** Device securely fixed over the valve during handling, transportation and storage and normally screwed on to the cylinder and removed for access to the valve.

**3.2 valve guard (guard):** Device protecting the valve during handling, transportation, storage and use. It need not be removed to provide access to the valve.

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1) To be published.

## 4 General requirements

### 4.1 Cap

The cap shall be of adequate strength to protect the valve during handling and transportation.

It shall be capable of being securely fixed to the cylinder, either by screw thread or other suitable means. Provision shall be made for assisted fitting or removal of the cap, for example, a hexagonal section.

The cap should be normally vented, unless otherwise specified. Two diametrically opposite vent holes should be provided, each of them having a minimum diameter of 10 mm. (When the cap has no vent hole, the valve outlet passage of the cylinder shall be plugged to prevent leakage and subsequent pressure build-up in the cap).

The critical clearance dimensions of the cap are indicated in figure 1. These dimensions are compatible with the dimensions of the valves in ISO 10297.

Where a threaded fixing connection is used, the preferred thread dimensions are given in figures 1 and 2.

### 4.2 Guard

The guard shall be of adequate strength, to protect the valve during handling and transportation.

It shall be capable of being fixed to the cylinder, so as to prevent easy removal by the user, or dismantling under normal service conditions.

The design shall permit ready access for valve operation and assembly of operational equipment. When the guard is of a rotating type, it shall be capable of manual orientation.

When it is intended for the guard orientation to remain fixed during handling, transportation, storage and use, efficient tightening shall be assured either by bolting or the elasticity of the guard itself.

The critical clearance dimensions of the guard are given in figure 3.

Where a threaded fixing connection is used, the preferred thread dimensions are given in figures 2 and 3.

The tolerances of the protective device shall apply when it is in its normal fixed position, before it is tightened on to the cylinder neck ring.

In effect, a protective device which is self-tightening by being screwed on to the cylinder collar thread does not comply these tolerances until it has been tightened into its correct position.

The tolerances of the protective device shall apply when it is in its normal fixed position, before it is tightened on to the cylinder neck ring.

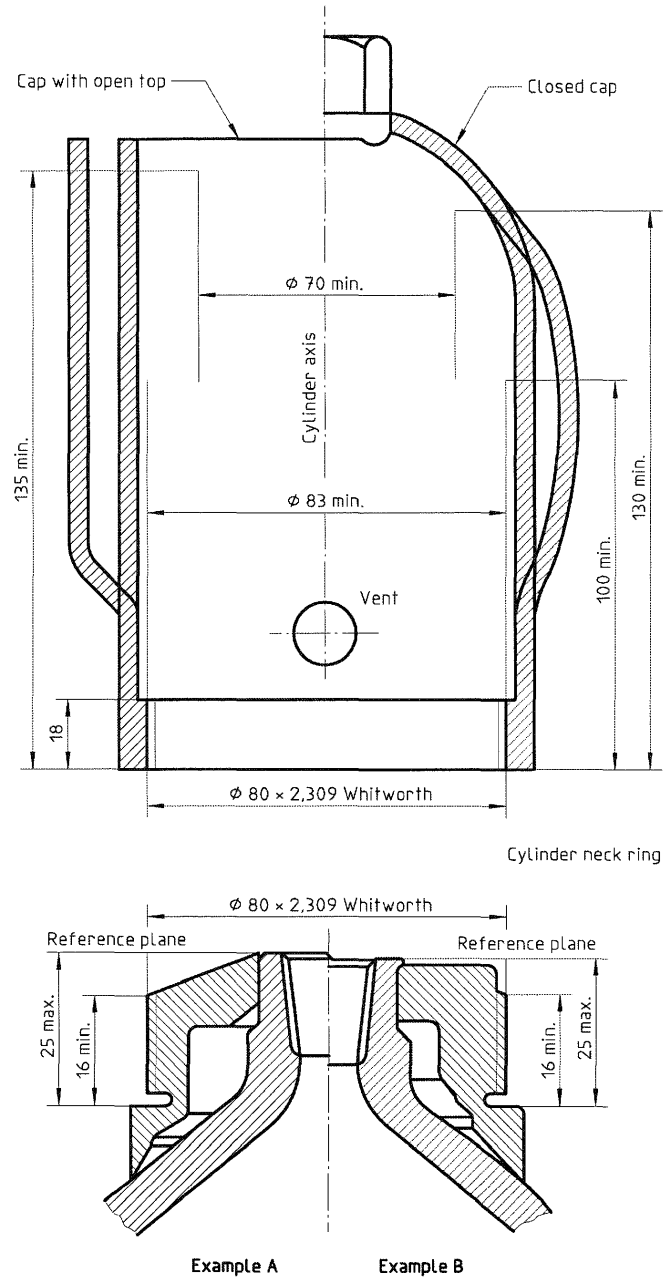
In effect, a protective device which is self-tightening by being screwed on to the cylinder collar thread does not comply with these tolerances until it has been tightened into its correct position.

Figure 4 gives examples of guards.

### 4.3 Testing

Prototype testing of the protection devices shall be performed in accordance with the procedure described in clause 6.

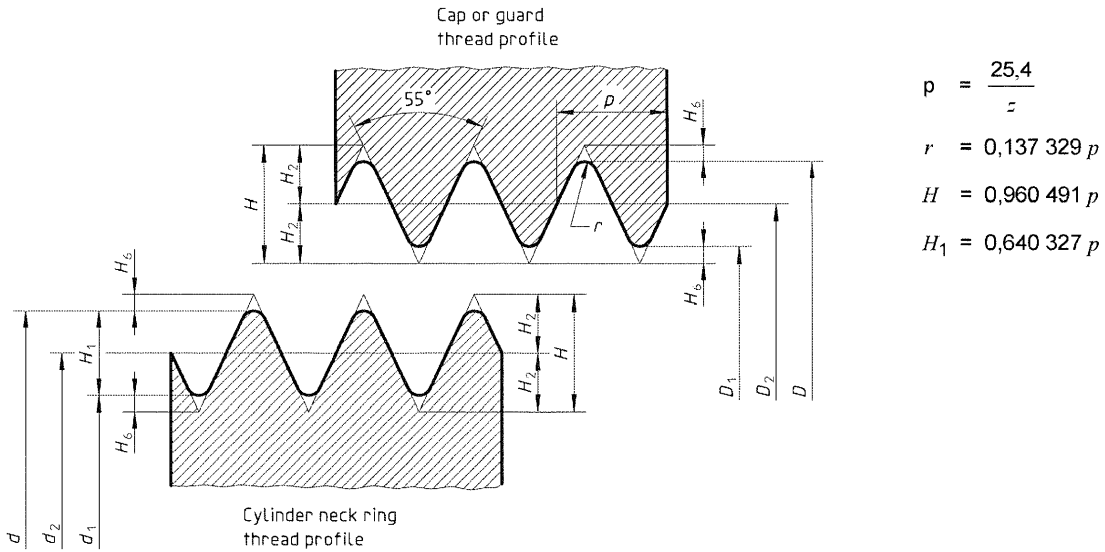
Dimensions in millimetres



NOTES

- 1 The outlines and dimensions given are typical of caps in common use. Any other shape or dimension may be used, provided it gives appropriate clearance around the valve.
- 2 The preferred 80 mm fixing connection is shown. Alternative sizes, e.g. 78 mm, may be used. Caps for such cylinders shall have the appropriate dimensions.

Figure 1 — Valve protection caps and neck rings



**Sizes**

Dimensions in millimetres

Nominal diameter	Major diameter	Pitch diameter	Minor diameter	Pitch	Number of threads per inch	Thread height	Radius
	$d = D$	$d_2 = D_2$	$d_1 = D_1$	$p$	$z$	$H_1$	$r$
W 80	80	78,521	77,042	2,309	11	1,479	0,317

**Tolerances**

Dimensions in millimetres

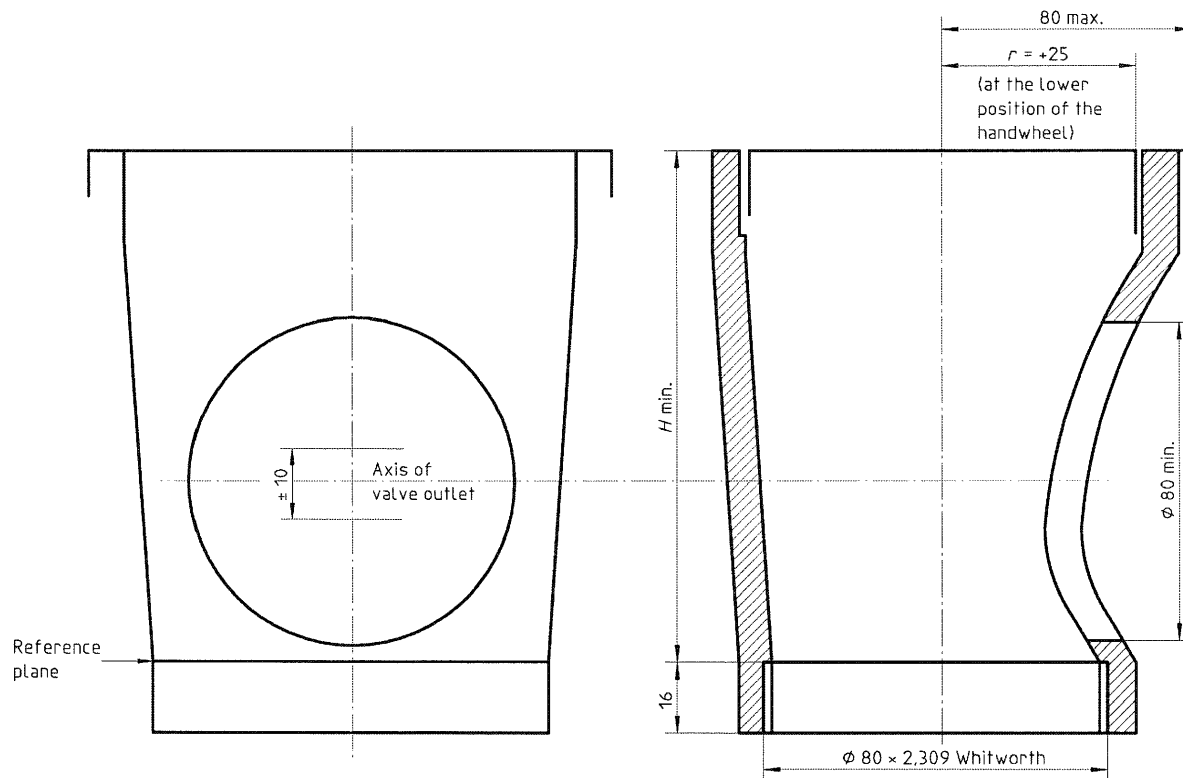
Nominal diameter	Cylinder neck ring			Cap or guard		
	Major diameter	Pitch diameter	Minor diameter	Major diameter <sup>1)</sup>	Pitch diameter	Minor diameter
	$d$	$d_2$	$d_1$	$D$	$D_2$	$D_1$
W 80	- 0,055	0	0	—	+ 0,280	+ 0,630
	- 0,530	- 0,280	- 0,450	0	0	+ 0,155

1) No maximum tolerance is specified but satisfactory operation shall be ensured.

**Figure 2 — Thread**



Dimensions in millimetres



The centre of the opening in the guard shall be within 10 mm of the valve outlet axis. The opening shall not extend below the reference plane.

The height of the guard,  $H$ , shall be at least 1 mm greater than the projection of the fully open valve above the reference plane.

$r$  is the maximum radius of handwheel

#### NOTES

- 1 The outlines and dimensions given are typical of guards in common use. Any other shape or dimension may be used, providing it gives appropriate clearance around the valve.
- 2 The preferred 80 mm fixing connection is shown. Alternative sizes, e.g. 78 mm, may be used. Guards for such cylinders shall have the appropriate dimensions.
- 3 The shape of the guard should enable the valve to be fitted or removed without removing the guard from the cylinder.

Figure 3 — Valve guard



Figure 4 — Examples of valve guards

## 5 Materials

The cap or guard shall withstand impacts and falls throughout the whole range of operating temperatures. The relationship between material properties and operating temperature shall be taken into account. Plastics in particular, need to be checked for low temperature suitability.

The cap or guard material shall be adequately resistant to atmospheric corrosion and to the transported product, including solvents [e.g. acetone, dimethylformamide (D.M.F.)].

Moreover, non-metallic materials for caps or guards shall be submitted to tests for service at low temperature, for inflammability in air and for resistance to environmental conditions (e.g. UV radiation).

Non-metallic caps or guards for cylinders intended for gases more oxidizing than air, in accordance with ISO 10156, shall be non-flammable in an atmosphere enriched with oxidizing gases of this type.

## **6 Prototype testing**

### **6.1 General**

The purpose of these tests is to qualify the protection device for use with valves of maximum dimensions equal to, or less than, that of the test valve, and with cylinders of mass equal to, or less than, that of the test cylinder (see 6.7.3).

The maximum dimensions of valves are given in ISO 10297.

### **6.2 Documentation**

The following documents shall be available:

- a description of the protection device and the method by which it is fixed to the cylinder;
- a complete set of drawings, identifying all dimensions and material specifications of the protection device;
- details of the intended service conditions, including related valves and cylinders;
- limitations on use, due to material incompatibility with the cylinder contents.

### **6.3 Number of test samples**

Eleven samples shall be submitted for prototype testing:

- sample 1 for the torque test (if applicable);
- sample 2 for the axial test;
- samples 3 to 8 for the drop test;
- samples 9 and 10 for additional drop tests (see 6.7.5);
- sample 11 for any additional test which may be required.

### **6.4 Preliminary check**

The design of the protection device shall be checked for conformity with the documentation submitted and with the requirements of clauses 4 and 5.

### **6.5 Torque test (one test)**

Non rotational valve guards shall be tested to ensure that an applied torque of 70 N.m does not cause the guard to rotate.

The cylinder neck ring test piece for this test shall have the minimum thread dimensions permitted, to ensure the loosest fit permitted by the tolerances.

## 6.6 Axial test (one test)

The protection device and its fixing type shall be tested axially.

The fixing system shall not allow loosening or removal and the protection device shall not be significantly damaged under an axial load, equivalent to four times the weight of the filled cylinder to which it is to be fitted.

## 6.7 Drop test

The protection device shall be tested to prove that under rough handling conditions, the valve is not damaged sufficiently to affect its operability. This test shall be carried out at room temperature ( $20 \pm 5$ ) °C.

**6.7.1** The protection device, together with the valve for which it is intended, shall be fitted to a test cylinder.

This assembly shall be dropped vertically from a height of 1,2 m on to an impact surface, as specified in 6.7.2.

**6.7.2** The impact surface shall be a concrete block 1 m × 1 m by 0,1 m thick, from a single cast composed of cement, sand and gravel. The block shall be protected by a sheet of steel of at least 10 mm thickness. The flatness of the protective sheet shall be such that the difference in level of any two points on its surface shall not exceed 2 mm. It shall be changed regularly and in any case when it is significantly damaged.

**6.7.3** The cylinder for this test shall be:

- a) for permanent gas service — the heaviest cylinder with which the device is to be used, filled to 40 % of its volume with water;
- b) for liquefied gas service — the heaviest cylinder with which the device is to be used, filled to 70 % of its volume with water;
- c) for dissolved gas service — a cylinder filled with water to have a total mass equal to, or greater than, that of the heaviest filled cylinder (tare plus maximum charge) with which the protection device is to be used.

**6.7.4** Prior to drop testing, the assembly shall be suspended with the cylinder longitudinal axis at an angle of 30 ° to the vertical, the cap or guard directed downwards. There shall be a distance of 1,2 m between the lowest point of the guard or cap and the impact surface.

**6.7.5** Six to eight caps or guards of the same type shall be tested.

The drop test shall be carried out at six points, an equal 60 ° apart, on the top circumference of the protection device.

Each of the six caps or guards shall be subjected to the drop test at one single impact point, two additional tests with the reserved samples may be carried out at the impact area where the protection device appears to be weakest.

**6.7.6** After the completion of the drop test, minor deformation of the valve is acceptable. Such deformation shall not affect the operability of the valve.

**6.7.7** A cylinder valve is defined as operable if no external leakage of gas occurs, either from the valve itself or from the joint of valve and cylinder and if it remains capable of being opened and closed by hand or by using a simple tool (e.g. a valve key).

**6.7.8** If during the test, no visible damage occurs to the valve, the protection device shall be accepted for use with valves of maximum dimensions not exceeding those of the tested valve, and for use with cylinders when full, of mass up to, but not exceeding the test mass.

**6.7.9** If, during the test, visible damage occurs to the valve, but does not affect the operability of the valve, the protection device shall be accepted for use with the specific valve and with cylinders, when full, of mass up to, but not exceeding the test mass.

## **7 Marking**

Protection devices shall have the following permanent markings:

- the number of this International Standard, i.e. ISO 11117;
- manufacturer's identity.

## **8 Test report**

The report of the test body shall include the following information:

- a) the documentation as described in 6.2;
- b) the test conditions;
- c) results from the tests as described in 6.4 to 6.7.

A copy of this report shall be kept by the test body.

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**ICS 11.040.10; 23.020.30**

**Descriptors:** gas cylinders, gas valves, protection caps, specifications, tests, determination, physical properties, mechanical strength.

Price based on 9 pages

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