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ALERT

Potential of Carbonated Beverage Systems to Create a Life-threatening Environment

Carbon dioxide gas (CO₂) is heavier than air and when leaked into a confined, enclosed or poorly ventilated space, has caused many serious or fatal accidents.

It has recently come to our attention that beverage dispensing systems using carbon dioxide gas have accidentally caused serious harm and even fatality to persons exposed to the gas due to leakage from the systems.

Owners/users of systems using carbon dioxide gas are cautioned that leakage into occupied space can result in displacement of oxygen in the air, resulting in lower oxygen concentrations for breathing, which can lead to serious injury or death. Therefore vigilance must be exercised to ensure that the carbon dioxide beverage systems, carbon dioxide detectors and ventilation equipment are installed, operated and maintained properly and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

The following documents may be accessed for reference.

1. Compressed Gas Association, Inc.
Safety Alert, SA-22 - 2011
POTENTIAL OF CARBONATED BEVERAGE SYSTEMS TO CREATE
A LIFE-THREATENING ENVIRONMENT
http://www.cganet.com/pubs/free/SA-22_1.pdf
2. Copy of news article from Savannah Morning News, USA
http://www.absa.ca/IBindex/Pooler_McDonald_accident.pdf

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