

## **Helium Basics**

Helium is a colorless, non-toxic, non-flammable gas that is lighter than air. When balloons are filled with helium, they will float.

The proper handling, storage and operations of regulation equipment and helium cylinders is required to safely fill balloons. Helium is supplied in high pressure cylinders at 2200 PSI of pressure and contains a large amount of energy which, when controlled properly, is safe. Please observe the following safety precautions when handling high pressure helium cylinders.

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Read, understand and observe the safety precautions on the cylinder neck label and the warning label on the side of the cylinder.
- Store and use helium cylinders in a well-ventilated area and in an upright, secure position so
  they cannot be knocked over. CYLINDERS MUST BE SECURED TO A WALL OR PLACED IN A
  SAFETY STAND AT ALL TIMES.
- Close the cylinder valve after each use and when the cylinder is empty.
- If a cylinder must be moved, close cylinder valve, remove inflator, replace cylinder cap and use a cylinder cart to move cylinders.
- Only authorized individuals should handle cylinders or use a balloon filling equipment. Wear safety glasses while filling balloons due to the high pressure gas hazard.

## **△ WARNINGS:**

- NEVER breathe or allow anyone to breathe helium from cylinders or filled balloons. While helium is a relatively safe gas, direct inhalation can cause dizziness, fainting, suffocation, serious lung damage and possibly death.
- Never use a balloon regulator, cylinder, or valve fitting that has been damaged or is leaking or malfunctioning. Have product repaired or replaced at once.
- DO NOT open the cylinder valve before attaching an inflator to it.
- Open cylinder valves slowly and stand to one side of the cylinder when opening cylinder valves. Never stand directly in front of the cylinder valve.
- DO NOT leave cylinders unattended in a public area.
- Do not store cylinder in direct sunlight or apply heat above 120°F.