

Shipping of Oxygen Bottles/Cylinders

Oxygen bottles are classified as Dangerous Goods, when filled with pressurized oxygen and therefore must be packed / declared and shipped accordingly:
(Oxygen, Compressed, UN1072, Class 2.2, subclass 5.1, Non Flammable, Oxidizing Gas)

However

If the oxygen pressure is < 28PSI (= 2 bar), the oxygen bottle / cylinder can be classed as EMPTY and must NOT be shipped as Dangerous Goods.

This is how to do it

Open the valve and release the oxygen until the pressure is < 28 psi. If your gauge dial does not have a marker at 28PSI, you can determine that the pressure is <28PSI when you can easily stop the outflow with a finger against the valve outlet.

MAKE SURE YOUR FINGER(S) ARE CLEAN BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT THIS – OXYGEN AND GREASE DO NOT GO WELL TOGETHER!
(Please note that you are not supposed to empty the cylinder completely - corrosion risk).

And then

Pack the oxygen bottle/cylinder as a normal aircraft component and apply a label to the package with the following text:

“This empty Oxygen Cylinder meets the requirements of Section 3.2.2.4.1 of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations and is NOT classified as dangerous Goods.”

And now you can ship it as a regular aircraft component.

We @ EMTC

Will in the future ship oxygen bottles as “EMPTY” in order to avoid the high costs involved with packaging/declaring and shipping full bottles, given of course that our clients have oxygen charging capability locally and will accept receiving “empty” bottles.

We urge our clients to advise on their Purchase / Repair requests whether they accept to receive “empty” bottles or not!