



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET 19

REVISION 1: 2015

### REFURBISHMENT OF COMPONENTS USED WITH COMPRESSED GASES FOR WELDING, CUTTING AND RELATED PROCESSES

#### Background

BCGA documents Code of Practice 7, *The safe use of oxy-fuel gas equipment (individual portable or mobile cylinder supply)*, and Guidance Note 7, *The safe use of individual portable or mobile cylinder gas supply equipment*, allow the user, as part of the maintenance regime, an option to either refurbish or to replace components, such as regulators or handheld blowpipes. Historically, BCGA provided detailed guidance which specified how to refurbish these components, however, as the industry has evolved users now simply replace, rather than carry out refurbishment.

One consequence of this change is that manufacturer's no longer routinely sell spares kits to allow refurbishment.

Owners, of components, who carry out refurbishment bare the full responsibility for the fitness for service of the components, exactly as if they were the manufacturer. This, for example, would require comprehensive testing of the component exactly as if it were a new component and as specified in the manufacturing specification. For many owners this has become a barrier to refurbishment.

The costs involved in refurbishment, balanced against the cost of buying a new component generally dictate that it is a more efficient use of resources to buy a new component.

#### BCGA Policy

BCGA no longer support refurbishment of components by the user. It is recommended that the user purchases a new component, or if refurbishment is necessary, then the component is returned back to the manufacturer for refurbishment to take place.

#### References

BCGA Code of Practice 7	The safe use of oxy-fuel gas equipment (individual portable or mobile cylinder supply).
BCGA Guidance Note 7	The safe use of individual portable or mobile cylinder gas supply equipment.

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