

compressed gas cylinders by Blue Water Divers (Blue Water), Ltd., Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. The cylinders are being used in the SCUBA industry. An undetermined number of the SCUBA cylinders or "dive tanks" owned by Blue Water Divers were stamped with month and year markings in the side walls of the cylinders. RSPA has determined that some of the cylinders may have been sold to individuals or U.S. companies and possibly are being used for transportation of hazardous materials in commerce in the U.S. All cylinders observed were DOT 3AL aluminum cylinders, but other cylinder types may be involved.

The Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) specifically prohibit stamping in the side wall of compressed gas cylinders, except DOT 3E cylinders, because doing so could compromise the structural integrity of the cylinder. The HMR prohibit the charging or filling of DOT specification or exemption cylinders with compressed gas or other hazardous materials and the offering for transportation of cylinders with markings stamped in the side walls. Furthermore, the HMR prohibit hydrostatic retesting and the return to service of cylinders that have been stamped on the side wall of the cylinder. Any cylinders that are marked on the side wall should be condemned in accordance with the HMR. Serious personal injury, death, or property damage could result from rupture of a cylinder.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Robert Bunn, Hazardous Materials Enforcement Specialist, Southern Region, Office of Hazardous Materials Enforcement, Research and Special Programs, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1701 Columbia Avenue, Suite 520, College Park, GA 30337. Telephone: (404) 305-6120. Fax: (404) 305-6125.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** RSPA has documented the unauthorized marking of high-pressure compressed gas cylinders on the side wall of the cylinder by Blue Water Divers (Blue Water), Ltd., Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. The tanks are being used in the SCUBA industry. An undetermined number of the SCUBA cylinders or "dive tanks" owned by Blue Water Divers were stamped with month and year markings in the side walls of the cylinders. RSPA has determined that some of the cylinders may have been sold to individuals or U.S. companies and possibly are being used for transportation of hazardous materials in commerce in the U.S. Some

of the cylinders have been requalified in DOT-certified hydrostatic retest facilities in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The cylinders in question may have stickers on the side walls that may cover the side-wall stamps. All cylinders observed were DOT 3AL aluminum cylinders, but other cylinder types may be involved.

The HMR specifically prohibit the stamping of markings in the side walls of compressed gas cylinders because doing so could compromise the structural integrity of the cylinder. The HMR prohibit the charging or filling of cylinders with compressed gas or other hazardous materials when the cylinders have been stamped on their side walls. Furthermore, the HMR prohibit hydrostatic retesting and return to service of cylinders with markings stamped in the side walls. Any cylinder found to have been stamped with markings on the side wall of the cylinder should be condemned in accordance with the HMR. Serious personal injury, death, or property damage could result from rupture of a cylinder.

Based on its preliminary investigation, RSPA learned that Blue Water has submitted some of these cylinders for requalification in the U.S. Virgin Islands or has sold some of these cylinders that are now being used in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Some of these cylinders may have a sticker on the side of the cylinder with the name "Blue Water Divers" on the sticker. Others may simply be stamped on the side of the cylinder. Any cylinder that has a sticker as described above should be closely inspected. You should remove the sticker and inspect for any unauthorized markings or stamping on the side of the cylinder.

The cylinders observed are stamped on the side wall with a marking of a month and a year. For example:

2 00

Some cylinders have multiple months and years stamped on the sides of the cylinders. All labels, stickers and bands should always be removed from cylinders prior to requalification. Cylinders described in this safety advisory, or any cylinder with side-wall stamping or unauthorized markings, should not be filled, refilled, retested or requalified for use in underwater breathing or for any hazardous material purpose. These cylinders should be condemned in accordance with the HMR. RSPA requests that any person possessing a cylinder described in this safety advisory telephone, or provide a facsimile to, Robert Bunn with the following information for each cylinder: (1) The cylinder manufacturer's name, (2) the serial number of the cylinder, (3)

the DOT specification or exemption information for the cylinder, and (4) details concerning the acquisition and subsequent disposition of the cylinders.

Issued in Washington, DC on October 4, 2002.

**Robert A. McGuire,**

*Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Departmental Offices; Debt Management Advisory Committee Meeting**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 10(a)(2), that a meeting will be held at the U.S. Treasury Department, 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, on October 29, 2002, of the following debt management advisory committee. The Bond Market Association Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee

The agenda for the meeting provides for a technical background briefing by Treasury staff, followed by a charge by the Secretary of the Treasury or his designate that the Committee discuss particular issues, and a working session. Following the working session, the Committee will present a written report of its recommendations.

The background briefing by Treasury staff will be held at 9 a.m. Eastern time and will be open to the public. The remaining sessions and the committee's reporting session will be closed to the public, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 10(d) and Public Law 103-202, § 202(c)(1)(B) (31 U.S.C. 3121 note).

This notice shall constitute my determination, pursuant to the authority placed in heads by departments by 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 10(d) and vested in me by the Treasury Department Order No. 101-05, that the closed portions of the meeting are concerned with discussions of the issues presented to the Committee by the Secretary and recommendations of the Committee to the Secretary, pursuant to Public Law 103-202, § 202(c)(1)(B). Thus, this information is exempt from disclosure under that provision and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3)(B). In addition, the closed portions of the meeting are concerned with information that is exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A). The public interest requires that such meetings be closed to the public because the Treasury Department requires frank and full advice from representatives of the financial community prior to making its

final decision on major financing operations. Historically, this advice has been offered by debt management advisory committees established by the several major segments of the financial community. When so utilized, such a committee is recognized to be an advisory committee under 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 3.

Although the Treasury's final announcement of financing plans may not reflect the recommendations provided in reports of the advisory

committee, premature disclosure of the committee's deliberations and reports would be likely to lead to significant financial speculation in the securities market. Thus, these meetings fall within the exemption covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A).

The Office of Financial Markets is responsible for maintaining records of debt management advisory committee meetings and for providing annual reports setting forth a summary of committee activities and such other

matters as may be informative to the public consistent with the policy of 5 U.S.C. 552b. The Designated Federal Officer or other responsible agency official who may be contacted for additional information is Paul Malvey, Director, Office of Market Finance at 202-622-2630.

Dated: October 4, 2002.

**Brian C. Roseboro,**

*Assistant Secretary, Financial Markets.*

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