LP Floor Maintenance Machines and LP Forklifts

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 58, LP Gas Code requires in section 11.13.2.3 (B) **The use of floor maintenance machines and forklifts in buildings frequented by the public, including the times when such buildings are occupied by the public, shall require the approval of the authority having jurisdiction.**

The State Fire Marshal Division will allow LP floor maintenance machines and LP forklifts in schools provided the following are adhered to:

**LP Floor Maintenance Machines**

1. Use and storage of LP floor maintenance machines must be in compliance with all requirements of the Minnesota State Fire Code (MSFC) and NFPA codes.
2. LP floor maintenance machines may only be used in schools when the school building is vacant of students and public.
3. The LP cylinder must be removed from the floor maintenance machine at all times the floor maintenance machine is not in use. Cylinders must be stored outdoors in an approved fenced location or within an approved LP storage locker. Cylinder storage may not be located adjacent to building openings such as doorways, windows, ventilation/exhaust openings, etc.
4. School building ventilation systems must be operating when the floor maintenance machine is in use.

**LP Forklifts**

1. Use and storage of LP forklifts must be in compliance with all requirements of the Minnesota State Fire Code (MSFC) and NFPA codes.
2. Building ventilation systems must be operating when the LP forklifts are in use.
3. LP forklifts may not be operated or stored within areas occupied by students or the public (i.e. receiving/storage areas only).
4. Where cylinders are exchanged indoors, the fuel piping system shall be equipped to minimize the release of fuel when cylinders are exchanged, in accordance with either of the following:
   a. Using an approved quick-closing coupling in the fuel line
   b. Closing the shutoff valve at the fuel cylinder and allowing the engine to run until the fuel in the line is exhausted
5. The number of fuel cylinders shall not exceed two, and the total water capacity of the fuel cylinders on an individual machine shall not exceed 105 lb [nominal 45 lb propane capacity].
6. In no case shall LP forklifts be parked and left unattended in areas of excessive heat or near sources of ignition.
7. After use, the cylinder shutoff valve(s) shall be closed.
8. All cylinders used in forklifts shall have the cylinder pressure relief valve replaced by a new or unused valve within 12 years of the date of manufacture of the cylinder and every 10 years thereafter.
9. Spare cylinders must be stored outdoors in an approved fenced location or within an approved LP storage locker. Cylinder storage may not be located adjacent to building openings such as doorways, windows, ventilation/exhaust openings, etc.