



**CGA P-52—2014**  
**SECURITY STANDARD FOR**  
**QUALIFYING CUSTOMERS**  
**PURCHASING COMPRESSED**  
**GASES**

**THIRD EDITION**

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NOTE—Technical changes from the previous edition are underlined.

NOTE—Appendix A (Informative) is for information only.

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## 1 Introduction

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), along with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and other federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities throughout the United States are increasingly concerned about the illegal use of hazardous chemicals, including compressed gases. As a result of September 11, 2001, federal agencies identified compressed gas products that can be directly or indirectly used as weapons of mass effect. In addition, the DEA identified compressed gas products that can be used as illegal drugs or as precursors in the manufacture of illegal drugs.

## 2 Scope

This publication provides guidelines for qualifying customers purchasing compressed gas products considered at risk for illegal use. It applies to the products listed in Table 1 of CGA P-53, *Security Code Top Screen*, that are classified as weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by the U. S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and products that are of interest to the DEA [1].<sup>1</sup>

## 3 Definitions

For the purpose of this publication, the following definitions apply.

### 3.1 Publication terminology

#### 3.1.1 Shall

Indicates that the procedure is mandatory. Shall is used wherever the criterion for conformance to specific recommendations allows no deviation.

#### 3.1.2 Should

Indicates that a procedure is recommended.

#### 3.1.3 May

Indicate that the procedure is optional.

#### 3.1.4 Will

Is used only to indicate the future, not a degree of requirement.

#### 3.1.5 Can

Indicates a possibility or ability.

## 4 Qualification criteria for customers purchasing WMD and DEA products

### 4.1 General

Customer qualification ensures that a company's chemicals of concern are controlled to reduce their illicit use. Each company should compare their products to the chemicals of concern list to identify their company's products of concern. Table 1 in CGA P-53 contains the current list of chemicals that may be at risk for illegal use [1].

Customer qualification should be performed when a new customer places an order for a chemical of concern or an existing customer orders a chemical of concern for the first time.

Customers that previously purchased chemicals of concern (existing customers) should be reviewed periodically to ensure continued qualification.

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<sup>1</sup> References are shown by bracketed numbers and are listed in order of appearance in the reference section.