



**CGA P-52—2021**  
**SECURITY GUIDELINES**  
**FOR QUALIFYING**  
**CUSTOMERS PURCHASING**  
**COMPRESSED GASES**

**FOURTH EDITION**

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NOTE—Technical changes from the previous edition are underlined.

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

FOURTH EDITION: 2021  
THIRD EDITION: 2014  
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## 1 Introduction

Federal, state, and local government agencies are concerned about the illegal use of hazardous chemicals, including compressed gases. Compressed gas products can be directly or indirectly misused for illicit activity such as:

- explosive agents;
- illegal inhalation;
- precursors for illegal drug production;
- weapon (direct use or as an improvised explosive device [IED] and/or vehicle borne improvised explosive device. [VBIED]); and
- suicide.

## 2 Scope

This publication provides guidelines for qualifying customers purchasing compressed gas products considered at risk for illegal use.

## 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. It 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

Indicates 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.

### 3.2 Technical definitions

#### 3.2.1 High risk security chemical (HRSC)

Chemical that is a likely target for terrorist or criminal activity.

NOTE—Formerly referred to as chemical of concern (COC)/chemical of interest (COI))

NOTE—The chemical can be one that is regulated or one that is of concern to the compressed gas industry, such as nitrous oxide.