

Use of Mobile Gas-Cookers in Truck Cabs

Incidents have been reported to EIGA involving a gas-cooker used inside a truck-cab. Cases included truck damage, injured drivers as well as a fatality. The risks are related to Carbon-Monoxide accumulation in under-ventilated truck cabs, as well as fires that destroyed the truck and injured drivers. In the case of the fatality, it is assumed, that the use of a liquefied petroleum gas fuelled cooking appliance resulted in either asphyxiation or carbon monoxide poisoning of the driver.

Still, the use of portable gas-cookers in cabs appears to be a common practice and is a major risk to gas company truck drivers.

Not only is there a risk of asphyxiation or carbon monoxide poisoning, there is also a fire hazard. These cookers are acceptable for outside use but present an unacceptable risk when used inside closed truck-cabs.

It is strongly recommended that the use of gas-cookers be prohibited inside truck cabs and substituted with safer alternatives.

To achieve this, EIGA member companies are recommended to:

- Have a policy in place that prohibits the use of liquid or solid fuelled cookers inside truck-cabs;
- Not allow open flames in driver cabins;
- Repeatedly, train all drivers in the risks associated with the use of liquid and solid fuelled cookers as well as open flames; and
- Ensure that drivers have alternative means of heating food or drink on their rest-breaks, for example specifically designed microwaves for in-cab use that are installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations so as to avoid electric shocks.



Never use portable gas-cookers in a truck-cab; they can be a deadly risk

See also the EIGA Life-Saving Rule on asphyxiation hazards.

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