

## 4.5 Handling LPG fires

The most effective way to put out an LPG fire is to cut off the supply of gas to the flame. If the flame is extinguished before the gas supply is cut off, the gas can spread to a much larger area. If the gas then re-ignites, it can easily create a much more serious problem.

**Procedure for cylinder fires**

- 1 Hit the emergency stop button.
- 2 Turn the cylinder valve off, if you can.
  - If this stops the leak the situation is over.
- 3 Spray water on the cylinder to keep it cool, if possible.
- 4 Get someone to call the Fire Service.
  - If the flame isn't touching the cylinder or endangering anything else, let it burn.
  - Move any other cylinders and flammable materials away from the area.
  - If the flames are touching the cylinder or endangers anything else, put the fire out with an fire extinguisher, or fire hose. Cool the cylinder and treat as a leaking cylinder.

**Procedure for tank fires**

**1** Hit the emergency stop button.

**2** Call the emergency services.

- If the flame isn't touching the tank or endangering anything else, let it burn.
- Move any cylinders and flammable materials away from the area.
- If the flames are touching the tank or endangering anything else, put the fire out with a fire extinguisher, or fire hose. Cool the tank.

**3** If you cannot turn off the supply to an LPG fire without personal injury, let it burn until the emergency services arrive at the scene.

**4** If possible spray water onto the tank or equipment that is exposed to heat.