

# BOC UK & Ireland

A quick guide to everything we do



BOC supplies the UK & Ireland's most comprehensive range of industrial, medical and special gases, associated products and services. BOC has been producing atmospheric gases, including oxygen, nitrogen and argon, for over 120 years. With seven Air Separation Units (ASUs) and a network of major production facilities, distribution centres and retail stores across the UK and Ireland, its portfolio covers thousands of different gases and mixtures, and the equipment and services required to support them.

BOC is a member of The Linde Group, a world leading gases and engineering company with 50,000 employees working in around 100 countries worldwide. This means that BOC's customers enjoy local service, whilst also benefiting from the extended support, expertise and buying power that come with being part of a major international business.

### Dealing with BOC

You can call BOC's Customer Service Centres 24 hours a day, every day of the year for gas and equipment ordering, technical and safety information and advice on products and services. BOC has its own fleet of vehicles and makes 7,000 gas deliveries a day across the UK & Ireland. For customers who prefer to collect their gas and equipment, BOC has a network of 72 retail stores with collection facilities. More than 340 agents across the UK also offer gas collection and 20 branches offer direct delivery of welding equipment.

### Environmental Commitment

BOC recognises that all industrial and chemical processes impact on the environment. We are actively engaged in activities to reduce environmental impact locally and in the wider world. BOC works with many customers to help them reduce their environmental impact, including assisting them to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, maximising the efficiency of their processes and improving waste water treatment processes. BOC has also developed hydrogen fuel cell applications for portable power generation.

The information on the following pages can only give you a taster of BOC's capabilities. For more information, please visit our website: [www.BOCOnline.co.uk](http://www.BOCOnline.co.uk)

## Overview of Activities



### Cylinder Gas

BOC fills more than 40,000 gas cylinders each day from 12 industrial and medical filling sites in the UK & Ireland, and provides cylinder gas to more than 350,000 delivery points.

In cylinder form, BOC supplies atmospheric gases such as oxygen, argon, nitrogen; fuel gases including dissolved acetylene and propane; and other gases such as hydrogen, helium and carbon dioxide. Cylinders are the ideal means of supply for smaller volumes of gas, offering flexibility of demand.

Cylinder gas is used in virtually every market sector, across a diverse range of applications - balloons, welding and food preservation are three examples. It can be delivered to your premises next day (for most customers, dependent on location) or collected from our nationwide network of over 400 retail outlets and agents.



### Special Products

BOC supplies an extensive range of special gases, chemicals and refrigerants as well as gas control equipment. The gases portfolio is supported by a full range of services including gas handling, safety training courses and refrigerant reclamation.

**Key areas of expertise in Special Products are:**

**Special gases** – An extensive range of high purity gases (including helium), gas mixtures for calibration or process use and gases specifically for the electronics industry.

**Refrigerants** – The full range of fluorocarbons, plus ammonia, hydrocarbons and other natural refrigerants to meet the changing legislative demands of the automotive, refrigeration and air-conditioning markets. We are also licensed to provide full recycle and reclamation services for fluorocarbon refrigerants.

**Chemicals** – A wide range of gaseous chemicals for many fundamental industry sectors including water treatment, chemical manufacture, materials science, foam manufacture, aerosol propellants, utilities and pharmaceutical manufacture.

**Liquid helium** – A national service for the supply of liquid helium, typically for Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) or Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) use, supplied in low temperature dewars (vessels containing between 20 litres and 1,000 litres).



### Bulk Liquid

Liquefied industrial gases - nitrogen, oxygen and argon - are produced in large quantities at our seven air separation units (ASUs) in the UK & Ireland. These gases are produced by liquefying and distilling the air into its component parts at cryogenic temperatures. Liquefied carbon dioxide is recovered and purified from a variety of sources including ammonia and hydrogen plants.

For large volume industrial gas users (around 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> of gas per month) choosing a mini-bulk cryogenic storage vessel - filled regularly by BOC's Cryospeed service - eliminates cylinder handling and the need for delivery assistance. Customers with higher-volume requirements of around 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> per month, whose operations can accommodate piped supplies of gas, may find an on-site bulk cryogenic storage vessel offers the most efficient and convenient solution.

Customers using BOC's liquefied gases operate in many sectors. Food packaging, production, chilling and freezing, metals production and treatment, pH control, semiconductor manufacturing, water treatment and metal fabrication are just a few applications.

### On-Site Gas Generation

For some customers, the economical, flexible, reliable and environmentally sound solution of on-site gas generation is the best choice. An extensive portfolio of standard generation plant options covering oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen, in capacities ranging from 5 Nm<sup>3</sup>/hr up to 6,000 Nm<sup>3</sup>/hr and purities from 90% to over 99.9%, ensures BOC can cater for every customer requirement.

On-site generation is used by customers in industries ranging from chemicals and pharmaceuticals to manufacturing and food. It has many applications including inerting, purging and waste water treatment. BOC operates more than 73 on-site generation plants across the UK and Ireland. With a combined annual capacity in excess of 205 million Nm<sup>3</sup> of gas, this is enough to fill over 72,000 hot air balloons.



### Tonnage

If you have major air gas, hydrogen or syngas demands (typically over 50 tonnes per day), you will need a tonnage solution. This may be for your sole use, or you can join a network of users in a given location. We have over 40 large plants supplying in excess of 60 tonnage customers, typically via pipeline, often over a distance of several miles. These supply schemes are part of long-term production investments.

Customers receiving their gas through tonnage schemes are typically involved in oil production and refining, or are large-scale manufacturers of steel and steel reinforcement, acrylic materials, silicon, power semiconductors, plastics and chemicals or glass.

With Linde Engineering's in-house resources and knowledge, tonnage plants can be designed, manufactured and constructed anywhere in the world. We can supply a range of standard, 'off the shelf' plants which are pre-engineered to typical demand profiles so as to reduce cost and lead time, or design and deliver bespoke installations for all industrial gas applications.

### Customer Engineering Services

Customer Engineering Services (CES) is BOC's equipment installation and maintenance department responsible for over 4,000 industrial and medical gas supply schemes including compressed, bulk, mini bulk, and on-site gas generation equipment. The CES applications team manages the development of end use process equipment for the food, water and combustion industries.

From its Rotherham base the department manages around 400 major projects every year throughout the UK and Ireland.

CES also offers - through its OnStream department - complete maintenance and legislation compliance support for customers' own industrial and medical gas equipment.



### Gas Equipment & Safety Products

BOC serves over 100,000 customers with industrial & safety products and gas equipment through its network of 92 outlets across the UK & Ireland. We offer an extensive range of safety products and industrial products (from mild steel to complex high precision cutting and joining machinery). Gas equipment and gas safety are core areas of excellence with many products backed by 5 year guarantees.

Also offered are services such as vendor management, equipment hire and class-leading technical support in areas such as joining materials and consumables. Market sectors served are diverse and cover fabrication, defence, construction, education and automotive through to renewable energy, offering in total more than 150,000 different products.



### Healthcare

BOC Healthcare is the UK's leading supplier of medical gases, associated equipment and related services for healthcare professionals. Throughout hospitals, ambulance services, treatment centres, GP surgeries, homecare, veterinary and dental practices, a wide range of medical gases are used to provide crucial care and improve the lives of patients.

BOC Healthcare's hospital range includes all types of medical gases, from nitrous oxide for use in anaesthesia, to helium for cooling magnets in MRI scanners. BOC Healthcare also supplies specific gas mixtures to customer's specifications.

BOC Healthcare's homecare business is dedicated to caring for the needs of patients receiving long-term oxygen therapy both in and outside the home.

### Drinks Dispense

BOC Sureserve is the leading dispense gases supplier in the UK. BOC Sureserve offers a comprehensive cellar management service to all sectors of the hospitality market. Customers include pubs, restaurants, fast-food outlets, leisure centres and the largest sports arenas in the UK. BOC Sureserve provides the most reliable, regular 'milkround' gas delivery service, visiting over 2,000 customers every day from its 46 branches nationwide.

BOC's leading edge gas dispense technology is designed to improve the quality and consistency of your pint, coupled with speedy delivery services and reduced cylinder holdings for a safer working environment. We are continually working to improve safety standards in the hospitality industry - from checking cylinder leaks at the point of delivery to providing Confined Space Risk Assessment packs direct to licensees.



# BOC's gas and equipment distribution network is unrivalled in the UK & Ireland Wherever you are, we can supply!

● BOC site



You can also collect gas at over 340 BOC agents.

# BOC – turning ideas into solutions

BOC is a member of The Linde Group, a leading global gases and engineering company.

BOC is the UK's largest provider of industrial, specialist and medical gases, as well as related products and services. As a leader in the application of technology, we are constantly looking for new ways to provide our customers with high quality products and innovative solutions.

At BOC we help our customers to create added value, clearly discernible competitive advantage and hence greater profitability. To achieve this we have a comprehensive range of products and services, and technical support which can be customised to meet the individual requirements of our clients.

To keep ahead of the competition in today's market, you need a partner for whom quality, service, process and productivity optimisation are an integral part of customer support. We are there for you and with you, helping to build your success.

BOC's reputation has been forged through partnerships – with customers, with relevant regulatory authorities and with key suppliers. In this way, we deliver comprehensive and consistent benefits to you.

**BOC – world-leading knowledge and resources adapted to local requirements.**

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