

Below instructions are for WCS offered Chamber & CO2 Flow Gauge (aka Regulator)

## **WARNING FOR OUTDOOR USE ONLY!!!**

### INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS:

- Euthanasia chamber with viewing window & hose
- CO2 flow gauge (aka regulator) (sold separately)
- Tank Clamp (sold separately) 20 lb or 50 lb available
- CO2 cylinder & hose (typically purchased or leased at a Welding Supply Company)

### CONNECTIONS:

Connect the hose (provided with the chamber) to the base of the chamber and then to the left side (CFH side) of the flow gauge. Connect the hose (provided from tank supplier) from the right side (PSI side) of the flow gauge to the gas cylinder.

The CO2 Flow Gauge (aka Regulator) offered by WCS is designed for use with both CO2 and Argon. CO2 is used in euthanasia. The regulator has two dials. The gauge on the left indicates the cubic feet per hour (CFH) flow of either CO2 or Argon once the tank valve is opened. The numbers on the outer section of the gauge is the indicator for CO2. This is the measure you monitor for euthanasia. (Note -The numbers on the inside of the gauge are used for Argon gas, not used for euthanasia). The gauge on the right indicates the pressure, PSI (pounds per square inch) in the gas tank. This gives you an indication of how full your tank is of gas.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Remove cover. Place trap with animal into chamber and put cover back over unit
2. Open the CO2 tank valve all the way
3. Immediately turn the flow gauge increase/decrease knob so that CFH gauge registers between 15 and 20 if using the WCS offered Chamber. *(If using a different sized chamber, flow rate will need to be adjusted).*
4. Size and number of animal(s) in chamber will vary the time required for death. Let gas flow into the chamber for 7-10 minutes. Because CO2 is heavier than air, it replaces the air filling from the bottom. The chamber top is not airtight which allows air to seep out as it is displaced by the CO2.

**\*\*It's important to monitor the process so that adjustments to the gas flow may be made depending on the response of the animal.**

5. If the animal is thrashing or gasping, the CO2 flow is too fast. Adjust the CO2 lower to allow the animal to get groggy then unconscious prior to death. If the animal is not responding to the gas, the flow may be too slow, adjust flow higher, in increments, monitoring for the animal getting groggy, then unconscious. In general practice, this should be within 7 to 10 minutes.
6. Once animal is unconscious, shut off the CO2 from the tank **BUT DO NOT REMOVE THE COVER OR ANIMAL.** Allow the CO2 to remain in the tank with the animal.

7. Leave the animal in the chamber for an additional 15-20 more minutes. Do not keep feeding the tank CO<sub>2</sub>. The whole process may take half an hour depending on expiration rate of an animal. Check for breathing, if animal(s) are not dead, repeat steps.
8. Open chamber and allow oxygen to flow back in. Be sure animal is dead; that it does not revive with the introduction of air before removing.

How the unit works:

The unit is NOT airtight by design. It is designed to allow the flow of CO<sub>2</sub> to displace the air in the chamber causing death by Hypoxia (lack of oxygen).

Why would you want to dispatch using CO<sub>2</sub>?

- Dispatch by CO<sub>2</sub> is an AVMA approved method
- Minimized pain, stress and anxiety to the animal
- Rapid unconsciousness
- Reliable method