

Periodic testers for industrial gases

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out requirements of the Hazardous Substance (Compressed Gases) regulations to the circumstances of periodic testers for industrial gases.

This applies to two types of periodic testers for industrial gases:

- Periodic testers for Permanent & Liquefiable (P&L) cylinders, and
- Periodic testers for Acetylene cylinders.

Scope

The scope of this document is limited to the activities of members of the Australia New Zealand Industrial Gas Association (**anziga**) in New Zealand. These companies are termed Gas Suppliers in this document.

Full members of **anziga** are engaged in the manufacture and distribution of gases used in manufacturing, construction, processing, food, hospitality, scientific, medical and other industries.

Periodic tester for P&L cylinders

Definition

The Periodic Tester for P&L cylinders must:

- be employed by the gas supplier,
- meet applicable regulations and specific industry standards for the testing of gas cylinders, and
- test P&L gas cylinders that are owned by his/her employer and/or are to be filled by his/her employer.

Scope

The scope of the Periodic Tester for P&L gas cylinders is limited to the testing of P&L gas cylinders, marine and aircraft cylinders

The testing of acetylene cylinders is excluded from the scope of the Periodic tester for P&L gas cylinders.

Testing aircraft or marine cylinders other than Acetylene cylinders

When applying the Periodic Tester's mark, the letter **A** for Aircraft or **M** for Marine must be stamped adjacent to the mark of the Periodic Tester in between the dates, to acknowledge that these cylinders have been tested in accordance to the aircraft or marine exemptions respectively. These cylinders are to be returned to an aircraft or ship respectively.

The Test Certificates for these cylinders will not include references to being tested in accordance with Hazardous Substance (Compressed Gases) regulations, Part 7.

Certification

A Test station used by periodic testers for P&L cylinders is to be accredited by an approving organisation endorsed by ERMA New Zealand. ERMA New Zealand endorses the following approval organisation:

- IANZ

Each Periodic Tester for P&L gas cylinders is assessed by the approving organisation against the following regulations and industry standards:

- Applicable regulations including obligations and liabilities under the HSNO Act. (This can be achieved by attending the “HSNO Awareness Course”)
- AS 2030.1 – The verification, filling, inspection, testing and maintenance of cylinders for storage and transport of compressed gases - cylinders for compressed gases other than acetylene
- AS 2337.1 – Gas cylinder test stations - General requirements, inspection and tests - Gas cylinders
- AS 2337.3 – Gas cylinder test stations - Inspection and testing of fibre reinforced plastics (FRP) gas cylinders

Upon successful assessment, the approving organisation is to advise ERMA New Zealand that the person has the required knowledge and experience and that the equipment used meets the requirements of the above industry standards.

ERMA New Zealand may accept the advice of the approving organisation and certify the person as Periodic Tester limited to P&L gas cylinders.

Periodic tester for acetylene cylinders

Definition

The Periodic Tester for acetylene cylinders must:

- be employed by the gas supplier,
- meet applicable regulations and specific industry standards for the testing of gas cylinders, and
- test acetylene gas cylinders that are owned by his/her employer and/or that are to be filled by his/her employer.

Scope

The scope of the Periodic Tester for acetylene cylinders is limited to the testing of acetylene cylinders.

Acetylene test stations

Acetylene cylinders are not required to be hydrostatically tested apart from their original test before insertion of the porous mass. They are to be inspected in accordance with AS 2030.2 (see *Industry Standards* below).

As acetylene cylinder Test Stations are not audited by external agencies, they are to be audited by a competent person who is an employee provided the following requirements are met:

- Management procedures and controls are in place to ensure the auditor has a degree of independence from operational constraints
- The auditor is not associated with the cylinder testing operation
- The auditor is generally responsible for internal auditing, quality assurance and safety functions within the Company
- The auditor has a separate reporting function within the Company
- The audit is biennial (every 2 years).

Testing marine acetylene cylinders

The Test Certificates for these cylinders will not include references to being tested in accordance with Hazardous Substance Regulations *Compressed Gases*, Part 7.

Certification

Each Periodic Tester for acetylene cylinders is assessed by the gas supplier against the following standards:

- Applicable regulations including obligations and liabilities under the HSNO Act. (This can be achieved by attending the “HSNO Awareness Course”)
- AS 2030.2 – The verification, filling, inspection, testing and maintenance of cylinders for the storage and transport of compressed gases - Cylinders for dissolved acetylene
- AS 2337.1 – Gas cylinder test stations - General requirements, inspection and tests - Gas cylinders
- ANZIGA Procedure 144-001 Examination of Acetylene Cylinders Part 1: Welded Shell Type
- ANZIGA Procedure 144-002 Examination of Acetylene Cylinders Part 2: “Marine” Seamless Shell Type

Upon successful assessment, the gas supplier is to advise ERMA New Zealand that the person has the required knowledge and experience and that the equipment used meets the requirements of the above industry standards.

ERMA New Zealand may accept the advice of the gas supplier and certify the person as Periodic Tester limited to acetylene cylinders in accordance with the requirements of Hazardous Substance (Personal Qualifications) regulations, Clause 11(4).

Regulations and associated guides

- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001
- Hazardous Substances (Compressed Gases) Regulations 2004
- Consolidated Gazette Notice 35(2004)/128(2004)/208(2005)
- ERMA New Zealand Quick Guide – *Professional Indemnity*
- ERMA New Zealand Quick Guide – *Test Certifiers* (ER-QG-15-2)



Yours sincerely,

The Australia New Zealand Industrial Gas Association

Approval of this position

Jean Pierre Rossi:

Signature

Date

Colin Isaac:

Signature

Date

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