

Welded Pressure Vessels (not for Human Occupancy)

Note: This includes air receivers, filter housings, gas storage containers (but not gas cylinders), sanitary and shower tanks, volume tanks and submerged pressure housings

When new

Examination/Test	Category of Competent Person
Manufactured in accordance with a recognised international code or standard and fit for the purpose it will be used for	3 or 4

When in service

Examination/Test	Validity Period	Category of Competent Person
Visual examination	6 months	1, 2, 3 or 4
Thorough internal and external visual inspection plus a gas leak test at full working pressure	2½ years	2, 3 or 4
or		
Internal overpressure test plus a gas leak test at full working pressure	2½ years	2, 3 or 4

Note:

- ◆ Vessels which form an integral part of a chamber complex may be tested integrally with it.
- ◆ If the pressure housing is exposed to external pressure (such as a bell battery pack) and is not pressure compensated then the competent person may also require an external pressure test.
- ◆ Hydraulic testing of large storage tubes or vessels subject to dry internal service is not recommended as it introduces moisture in to the system which may prove difficult to remove. In such a case pneumatic or gas overpressure testing may be substituted.
- ◆ If testing is not hydraulic and the competent person requires it then other testing such as wall thickness measurement or acoustic emission testing may also be required.
- ◆ In all types of overpressure testing suitable safety precautions must be taken to ensure the safety of all testing personnel and others.