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9.1.9.1 Requirements.

The Pressure Systems Regulations 2000 and other H & S legislation requires all pressure systems to be regularly examined by a competent person working to a fixed inspection frequency and a written scheme of examination.

9.1.9.2 Arrangements.

All pressure vessels in use throughout the STR (including Steam locomotive boilers) are subjected to periodic inspection; the extent and frequency of which is defined in a Written Scheme of Inspection prepared by a competent authority nominated by the STR.


The following equipment is categorised as requiring periodic inspection:

- Steam Raising Locomotive Boilers
- Compressed Air Receivers
- Parts of the Biomass Boiler Installation.

9.1.9.3 Written Schemes of Examination.

The Written Scheme of Inspection prepared by the competent company should follow the following principles:

- The examinations of plant and protective devices must be arranged such that no pressure system is operated without a valid examination report.
- If a pressure system is not available for examination and it means that the existing examination report will expire before an examination can be made, the users should take the system out of service until it has been examined.
- Companies need to keep a register of pressure systems which lists the dates of previous and next examinations. Where more than one type of examination is required by the written scheme, e.g. "Thorough" and "External", both types of examination must be carried out;
- The competent person shall be informed of any new pressure systems or alterations to existing pressure systems. The competent person will then incorporate the alteration into the existing written scheme or prepare and certify a new written scheme, as necessary.

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- Written schemes of examination ought to be reviewed annually with the competent person.
- The competent person shall inform the company in writing of any changes he wishes to make to the written scheme of examination.
- All specified pressure systems shall be thoroughly examined by a competent person within the frequency specified in the written scheme of examination. The report of examination will be submitted to the company nominated person within 28 days.
- The competent person shall see that the safety relief system is so adjusted so as to prevent the plant exceeding its permissible working pressure.
- Any repairs found necessary shall be carried out before the pressure vessel is returned to service.

Any maintenance or other work on Steam Raising Boilers / Compressed Air Receivers is undertaken by specialist external contractors approved under the STR Contractor Approval system – see 9.1.12.

9.1.9.4 Applicable Legislation.

Pressure Systems Regulations 2000.

9.1.9.5 References.

L122 Safety of pressure systems Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 Guidance & ACOP

INDG 261 Rev 2 11-2012 Pressure Systems – A Brief Guide to Safety.

INDG 178 Rev 2 11-2012 Written Schemes of Examination – Pressure Systems Regulations 2000.

9.1.9.6 Documentation.

Written Schemes of Examination.

Inspection Reports.

Equipment Maintenance Record