

# **METHOD STATEMENT FOR THE EXAMINATION OF A PRESSURE SYSTEM**

## **1. OBJECTIVE**

The Examination of a Pressure System is carried out in compliance with Legislation applicable to the premises in which the pressure system is installed. During the examination, due regard is taken of current Standards and Guidance in respect of the safety to users of the system, and to those who work on the system for the purposes of maintenance or examination etc.

## **2. SAFETY**

Allianz Engineering operates a Health and Safety policy in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

Engineer surveyors work in accordance with the Allianz Engineering Technical Health and Safety Manual and the Written Scheme of Examination (Regulation 8 of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 (PSSR)), where appropriate, which includes specific advice and guidance for Engineer Surveyors whilst undertaking examinations.

Site Health and Safety policy is recognised and adhered to, in addition to the Allianz Engineering policy. Where a permit to work system is in place, compliance is to be observed by the Engineer Surveyor.

The Engineer Surveyor will make his presence known to site security staff at the premises and sign the visitors book where required. He will report to a responsible person, appointed by the system user, before commencement of his work and again prior to leaving the site unless otherwise directed by the user.

The Engineer Surveyor is provided with all Personal Protective Equipment that is considered necessary to complete the work as detailed.

## **3. EXAMINATION**

Details of the procedure for carrying out an examination should be specified in the certified Written Scheme of Examination if this is applicable to the vessel being examined. In the event that PSSR is not applicable to the vessel, a similar procedure is followed, a brief description of which is shown below:

### **Preparation of plant** (generally the duty of the plant user)

- The competent person will require sight of previous reports (If applicable).
- The system should be isolated from all other pressure sources and vented of any residual pressure before protective devices are removed for examination.
- Mechanical and electrical equipment within the system should be isolated from all sources of power to eliminate inadvertent operation.
- Safe access should be provided and monitored where necessary.
- All internal and external surfaces should be thoroughly cleaned where applicable.
- The protective devices should be opened up for internal examination if practicable.
- When functional tests are carried out, suitably calibrated fittings should be provided for comparison purposes.

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**Note:** During the course of the examination, it may be necessary for the Engineer Surveyor to enter the pressure vessel. As this is considered to be a confined space, it will require gas-free certification and monitoring during course of examination. (Further guidance can be found in The Confined Spaces Regulations 1997). Engineer Surveyors undergo ongoing confined space entry and emergency procedure training, certified by accredited training organisations. Individual Engineer Surveyors hold current certificates, with copies held within our Technical Accreditation department.

### Scope of Examination

#### 1. Thorough Examination

The competent person should, where practicable, make a thorough visual examination of the external and internal surfaces, support structures, fittings and all protective devices. This examination should include calibration checks of pressure gauges or transducers as appropriate. The visual examination may be supported by other suitable inspection techniques, including supporting tests where appropriate, in order to assess the actual condition of the pressure vessel and its associated fittings.

Prior to returning to service the competent person should make an external examination of the vessel and its associated fittings under normal working conditions. Functional tests of protective devices should be witnessed as required. In the case where protective devices have been replaced by recently tested units, the competent person shall ensure that these devices have been suitably certified and tested.

#### 2. Intermediate Examination (when required)

With the system under normal operating conditions the competent person should make an external examination of the vessel together with its associated fittings and witness functional tests of protective devices as required.

### 4. DEPARTURE FROM SITE

On leaving the premises, the Engineer Surveyor will report to a responsible person that they are leaving site, advise them of the condition of the plant and identify any remedial actions necessary.

Any defects which, in the opinion of the Engineer Surveyor, will give rise to imminent danger will be reported to the responsible person at site before leaving the premises and a hand written Emergency Report will be left on site.

### 5. REPORTING

A Report of Examination will be compiled and issued by the Engineer Surveyor in accordance with the legislation under which the examination took place. In cases where examination is under PSSR and a defect, giving rise to imminent danger is detected, the Engineer Surveyor is obliged to inform the enforcing authority within 14 days of completion of the examination.

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