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**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF  
DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY  
HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION  
AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS**

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the  
Transport of Dangerous Goods**  
(Twenty-first session, 1-10 July 2002,  
agenda item 2)

**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GASES**

**Approval system for periodic inspection and test of UN certified pressure receptacles**

**Transmitted by the expert from Canada**

The expert from Canada respectfully submits the following proposal for consideration with regard to the approval of bodies performing periodic inspection and test of UN certified pressure receptacles.

**Background**

At the last meeting of the Working Group on Additional Provisions for the Transport of Gases in December 2001, the Working Group discussed the need for more detailed requirements to ensure the consistency and traceability of periodic inspection and test of UN certified pressure receptacles. As agreed at that meeting (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/40/Add.1, paragraph 32), the expert from Canada submits the following proposed text, based on similar requirements applicable to the manufacture of UN certified pressure receptacles existing in 6.2.2.5. An effort was made to take into account different practices currently followed in various countries and regions.

(Please note that the requirements specified in 6.2.2.5 were based on ISO/TR 14600:2000, *Gas cylinders – International quality conformance system – Basic rules*, which was prepared by ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC58 (Gas cylinders) at the request of the former Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.)

**Proposal**

1. Re-entitle 6.2.2.5 as follows:

Currently:

**6.2.2.5** *Conformity assessment system and approval of pressure receptacles*

Proposed:

**6.2.2.5** *Conformity assessment system and approval for manufacture of pressure receptacles*

2. Create a new section entitled, “Approval system for periodic inspection and test of pressure receptacles”, numbering it **6.2.2.6**. The proposed text for this section is contained in the attached Annex.

3. Since the new text is proposed to be numbered 6.2.2.6, the current 6.2.2.6 and 6.2.2.7 would have to be re-numbered **6.2.2.7** and **6.2.2.8** respectively, and the references to these sections and their subsections would also have to be changed appropriately.

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## Annex

### **6.2.2.6      *Approval system for periodic inspection and test of pressure receptacles***

#### **6.2.2.6.1      *Definitions***

For the purposes of this section:

***Approval system*** means a system for competent authority approval of a body performing periodic inspection and test of pressure receptacles (hereinafter referred to as “periodic inspection and test body”), including approval of that body’s quality system, and, if applicable, approval of inspection bodies.

#### **6.2.2.6.2      *General requirements***

##### ***Competent authority***

6.2.2.6.2.1      The competent authority shall establish an approval system for the purpose of ensuring that the periodic inspection and test of pressure receptacles conform to the requirements of these regulations. In instances where the competent authority that approves a body performing periodic inspection and test of a pressure receptacle is not the competent authority of the country approving the manufacture of the pressure receptacle, the marks of the approval country of periodic inspection and test shall be indicated in the pressure receptacle marking (see 6.2.2.7 and 6.2.2.8).

The competent authority of the country of approval for the periodic inspection and test shall supply, upon request, evidence demonstrating compliance to this approval system to its counterpart in a country of use.

6.2.2.6.2.2      The competent authority may delegate its functions in this approval system, in whole or in part, to an inspection body.

6.2.2.6.2.3      The competent authority shall ensure that a current list of approved periodic inspection and test bodies and their identity marks and, if applicable, approved inspection bodies and their identity marks is available.

##### ***Inspection body***

6.2.2.6.2.4      The inspection body shall be approved by the competent authority and shall:

- (a) have a staff with an organisational structure, capable, trained, competent, and skilled, to satisfactorily perform its technical functions;
- (b) have access to suitable and adequate facilities and equipment;
- (c) operate in an impartial manner and be free from any influence which could prevent it from doing so;
- (d) ensure confidentiality of the commercial and proprietary activities of the periodic inspection and test body;

- (e) maintain clear demarcation between actual inspection body functions and unrelated functions;
- (f) operate a documented quality system;
- (g) perform functions in this approval system as delegated by the competent authority (see 6.2.2.6.2.2) and ensure that the periodic inspections and tests are performed as specified in the relevant pressure receptacle standard and these regulations; and
- (h) maintain an effective and appropriate report and record system in accordance with 6.2.2.6.6.

***Periodic inspection and test body***

6.2.2.6.2.5 The periodic inspection and test body shall:

- (a) operate a documented quality system in accordance with 6.2.2.6.3;
- (b) apply for approval in accordance with 6.2.2.6.4 and, if applicable, select an inspection body from the list of approved inspection bodies maintained by the competent authority in the country of approval;
- (c) perform periodic inspections and tests in accordance with 6.2.2.6.5; and
- (d) maintain records in accordance with 6.2.2.6.6.

**6.2.2.6.3 *Quality system and audit of the periodic inspection and test body***

**6.2.2.6.3.1 *Quality system***

The quality system shall contain all the elements, requirements, and provisions adopted by the periodic inspection and test body. It shall be documented in a systematic and orderly manner in the form of written policies, procedures, and instructions.

The quality system shall include:

- (a) a description of the organisational structure and responsibilities;
- (b) the relevant inspection and test, quality control, quality assurance, and process operation instructions that will be used;
- (c) quality records, such as inspection reports, test data, and calibration data and certificates;
- (d) management reviews to ensure the effective operation of the quality system arising from the audits performed in accordance with 6.2.2.6.3.2;
- (e) a process for control of documents and their revision;

- (f) a means for control of non-conforming pressure receptacles; and
- (g) training programmes for relevant personnel.

#### **6.2.2.6.3.2**     *Audit*

The periodic inspection and test body and its quality system shall be audited in order to determine whether it meets the requirements of these regulations to the satisfaction of the competent authority.

An audit shall be conducted as part of the initial approval process (see 6.2.2.6.4.3). An audit may be required as part of the process to modify an approval (see 6.2.2.6.4.6).

Periodic audits shall be conducted, to the satisfaction of the competent authority, to ensure that the periodic inspection and test body continues to meet the requirements of these regulations.

The periodic inspection and test body shall be notified of the results of any audit. The notification shall contain the conclusions of the audit and any corrective actions required.

#### **6.2.2.6.3.3**     *Maintenance of the quality system*

The periodic inspection and test body shall maintain the quality system as approved in order that it remains adequate and efficient.

The periodic inspection and test body shall notify the competent authority that approved the quality system, of any intended changes, in accordance with the process for modification of an approval in 6.2.2.6.4.6.

#### **6.2.2.6.4**     *Approval process*

##### ***Initial approval***

6.2.2.6.4.1     A body desiring to perform periodic inspection and test of pressure receptacles in accordance with a pressure receptacle standard and these regulations shall apply for, obtain, and retain an Approval Certificate issued by the competent authority.

This written approval shall, on request, be submitted to the competent authority of a country of use.

6.2.2.6.4.2     An application shall be made for each facility performing periodic inspection and test and shall include:

- (a) the name and address of the periodic inspection and test body and, if the application is submitted by an authorised representative, its name and address;
- (b) the address of the facility performing periodic inspection and test (if different from the above);
- (c) the name and title of the person(s) responsible for the quality system;

- (d) the designations of the pressure receptacles, the periodic inspection and test methods, and the relevant pressure receptacle standards encompassed by the quality system;
- (e) documentation on the facility, the equipment, and the quality system as specified under 6.2.2.6.3.1;
- (f) the qualifications and training records of the periodic inspection and test personnel; and
- (g) details of any refusal of approval of a similar application by any other competent authority.

6.2.2.6.4.3 The competent authority or, if applicable, the inspection body shall:

- (a) examine the documentation to verify that the procedures are in accordance with the requirements of the relevant pressure receptacle standards and these regulations; and
- (b) conduct an audit in accordance with 6.2.2.6.3.2 to verify that the inspections and tests are carried out as required by the relevant pressure receptacle standards and these regulations, to the satisfaction of the competent authority.

6.2.2.6.4.4 After the audit has been carried out with satisfactory results and all applicable requirements of 6.2.2.6.4 have been satisfied, an Approval Certificate shall be issued and shall include the name of the periodic inspection and test body, the address of its facility, and the necessary data for identification of its approved activities (e.g. designations of pressure receptacles, periodic inspection and test methods, pressure receptacle standards).

6.2.2.6.4.5 If the periodic inspection and test body is denied approval, the competent authority shall provide written detailed reasons for such denial.

***Modifications to approvals***

6.2.2.6.4.6 Following approval, the periodic inspection and test body shall notify the issuing competent authority of any modifications to the information submitted under 6.2.2.6.4.2 relating to the initial approval.

The modifications shall be evaluated in order to determine whether the requirements of the relevant pressure receptacle standards and these regulations will be satisfied.

An audit in accordance with 6.2.2.6.3.2 may be required.

The competent authority shall approve or deny these modifications in writing, and an amended Approval Certificate shall be issued, if necessary.

6.2.2.6.4.7 Upon request, the competent authority shall communicate to any other competent authority, information concerning initial approvals, modifications of approvals, and withdrawn approvals.

**6.2.2.6.5      *Periodic inspection and test and certification***

An approved periodic inspection and test body shall carry out the periodic inspection and test and related certification of each pressure receptacle.

The application of the periodic inspection and test marking to a pressure receptacle shall be considered a declaration that the pressure receptacle complies with the applicable pressure receptacle standards and the requirements of these regulations. The periodic inspection and test body shall affix the periodic inspection and test marking, including its registered mark, to each approved pressure receptacle (see 6.2.2.7.6).

A record certifying that a pressure receptacle has passed the periodic inspection and test shall be signed and issued by the periodic inspection and test body, before the pressure receptacle is filled.

**6.2.2.6.6      *Records***

Approval Certificates for periodic inspection and test bodies shall be retained by the periodic inspection and test body and, if applicable, the inspection body, for not less than 20 years.

Records of pressure receptacle periodic inspection and tests (both passed and failed) shall be retained by the periodic inspection and test body for not less than 10 years or the expiry of the periodic inspection and test period, whichever is longer.

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