

Review of written schemes of examination

Technical Bulletin

Allianz Engineering Inspection Services Ltd



Regulation 8 of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations (PSSR) 2000 states that the user of an installed pressure system and the owner of a mobile system shall not operate the system or allow it to be operated unless he has a written scheme for the periodic examination in place.

Further to this requirement the user/owner shall also ensure that the content of the scheme is reviewed at appropriate intervals by a Competent Person to determine that it remains suitable for the current conditions of use of the system and that the content of the scheme is modified in accordance with any recommendations arising out of that review.

The review takes a fundamental look at all elements of the pressure system to confirm that all aspects of the Written Scheme of Examination continue to be relevant, accurate and reflect the current operational parameters of the pressure system. The review will therefore consist of a site survey and visual assessment of the pressure system by a Competent Person in order to ascertain and confirm:

- The extent and safe operating limits of the pressure system
- The identification and suitability of the protective devices
- The periodicity and scope of examination
- The identification of those items that can be excluded from the written scheme
- The suitability of the examination procedure

For further technical information on this subject please contact Engineering Standards Department on 01428 726249

Guidance provided to the PSSR states that 'it will be necessary to review it (the written scheme) from time to time'. However, unless a specific time frame is stipulated within the Written Scheme of Examination, we would, as part of Allianz Engineering protocol, consider the following criteria:

- Single item pressure systems reported on a Combined Report and Written Scheme shall be reviewed each time an examination and associated report of examination are completed
- For pressure systems containing:
 - 10 or less pressure vessels – when 50% or more of items are changed
 - >10 items and < 25 items – when 40% or more of items are changed
 - 25 items or greater and < 50 items – when 30% or more of items are changed
 - 50 items or greater – when 25% or more of items are changed
- In any case a written scheme should be reviewed at the greatest periodicity of thorough examination of any pressure vessel contained within that scheme or 4 years, whichever is the greater
- A review of a written scheme should also be carried out at the same time as any significant changes occur i.e.:
 - When the safe operating limit of the pressure system is changed
 - When the periodicity of thorough examination, for any pressure vessel in the system, is extended
 - When a substantial repair or modification to the pressure system is carried out

For all contract/costing enquiries please contact Special Services Department on 0845 0760 138 or email at special.services@allianz.co.uk