

Café boilers

Technical Bulletin

Allianz Engineering Inspection Services Ltd



If **pressure equipment fails in use**, it can seriously injure or kill people nearby and cause serious damage to property. As an Employer (or User) you have a duty to provide a safe workplace and safe work equipment.

Principal causes of failures and other major incidents are:

- poor equipment design
- poor maintenance of equipment
- an unsafe system of work
- operator error, poor training or supervision
- poor installation

Café boilers have been manufactured for many years and can be found in many different facilities from coffee shops to restaurants and from hotels to leisure facilities. In more recent times, the number and type of boilers being operated in these environments is increasing at a rapid rate, as the number of outlets grow to satisfy the ever increasing demand.

Modern boilers are electrically heated and generally comprise of a pressurised shell fitted with an integral electrical heating element. The size and internal pressure of the boilers varies according to the manufacturer and the quantity of drinks being produced, however they all have one thing in common; they produce steam (or hot water at a temperature greater than 100°C) which poses a **significant health and safety risk** to those individuals who operate them or those who would be in close proximity should one fail.

The **Pressure System Safety Regulations (PSSR)** were introduced in 2000 to provide direction and guidance to users and operators with the aim of preventing serious injury from the hazard of stored energy (and the scalding effects of steam) as a result of the failure of a pressure system.

The PSSR place specific responsibilities onto the user/owner of a pressure system. e.g. The system shall be:

- **Properly designed and constructed**
- **Installed in a safe manner**
- **Examined in accordance with a Written Scheme of Examination**
- **Operated safely**
- **Maintained in a safe condition**

Allianz Engineering can help you meet your obligations under the requirements of the PSSR. We can offer the following services:

- **Production and certification of a Written Scheme of Examination**
- **Examination in accordance with a Written Scheme of Examination**

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