

Pressure systems – postponement of examination

Technical Bulletin

Allianz Engineering Inspection Services Ltd



Regulation 9 of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations requires the user/owner of a pressure system to ensure that those parts of the system included within a written scheme of examination are examined by a competent person within the intervals specified in that written scheme.

The competent person who carries out that examination in accordance with the written scheme, shall issue a report detailing the results of the examination. The date after which the pressure system may not be operated without further examination shall be clearly specified in that report.

It is the users/owners responsibility to ensure that the pressure system is not operated beyond the date specified in the current examination report however, there may be certain instances where it becomes impractical for the pressure system to be suitably prepared for the required examination before that due date.

Regulation 9 (7) makes provision for the examination to be postponed to a later date, by agreement between the competent person who produced the report of examination and the user/owner.

To allow this postponement to be agreed, certain criteria have to be met:

- That the postponement **does not give rise to danger**
- Only **one such postponement** shall be made for any one examination
- That the postponement is **notified by the user/owner in writing to the relevant enforcing authority before the date specified** in the current examination report

Allianz Engineering can support the user/ owner to meet the criteria, providing that a written request is received prior to the examination 'due date' fully detailing the following:

- Address at which pressure system is situated
- Plant identification – description; serial number; location etc
- Periodicity of examination as stated in the written scheme of examination
- Date of last examination
- Due date of next examination
- Date to which the examination is to be postponed

On receipt of this request, a review will be carried out of all previous examination reports and a risk based assessment of all potential failure modes to ensure that such a postponement will not give rise to danger. This will be supported by a 'working' examination being carried out by our Engineer Surveyor to establish and confirm that the plant is operating safely and is in a well maintained condition. This review will incur a nominal charge.

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