



Pressure Systems' Compliance

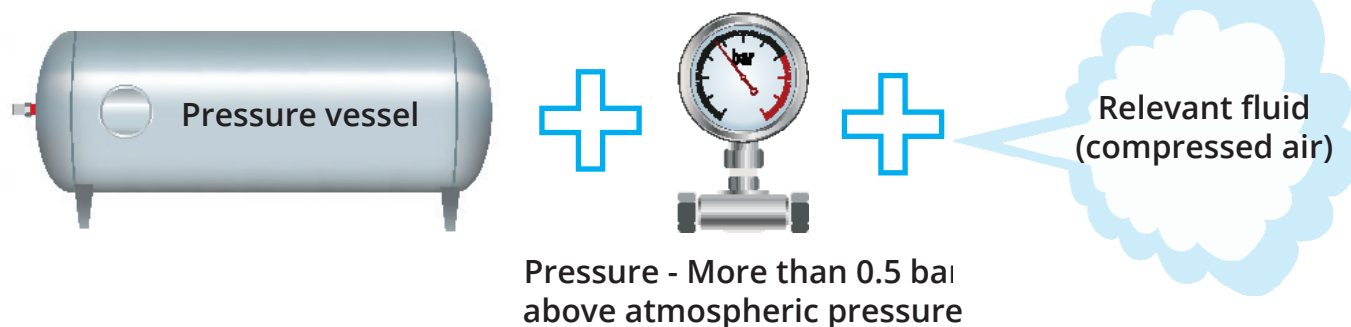
- Scope



The Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000:S.I.128 (PSSR) covers all types of pressure systems including compressed air installations.

The regulations provide a complete legal framework to control activities from design to installation, examination and keeping of records to name but a few. Some systems may be exempt from the regulations, some systems may not require examinations but all systems will need to comply with either this or other legal provisions.

Does the compressed air system have the following?



If the answer is 'NO' to any of these then the PSSR regulations 8, 9, 10 and 14 shall not apply.

What legal provision applies if the compressed air system is not in the scope of PSSR?

The compressed air system will be subject to at least the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations.

Does the compressed air system need a written scheme of examination and an examination?

If the product of the pressure in bar and internal volume in litres of the compressed air system's pressure vessels is in each case less than 250 bar litres, a written scheme is not required and therefore an examination will not be done.

It should be noted that the only other parts of the regulations that do not apply in this case are:

- Regulation 5(4) - Marking of a pressure vessel (See Fact Sheet 851 for receiver marking)
- Regulation 8 - Written scheme of examination
- Regulation 9 - Examination in accordance with the written scheme
- Regulation 10 - Action in case of imminent danger
- Regulation 14 - Keeping of records, etc.

So what do the remaining regulations cover?

Apart from the regulations mentioned above the PSSR also covers; Design and construction (Regulation 4), provision of information and marking (Regulation 5), installation (Regulation 6), safe operating limits (Regulation 7) operation (Regulation 11), maintenance (Regulation 12), modification and repair (Regulation 13), precautions to prevent pressurisation of certain vessels (Regulation 15), plus other administrative regulations. It should be noted that the owner or user is responsible for meeting these requirements even though the compressed air system has a receiver which falls below the limit identified above.

BE AWARE

The fact that a compressed air system has a written scheme of examination and has had an examination does not mean that all the regulations in the PSSR have been complied with.

BCAS runs a 1 day Understanding PSSR 2000 course, a 3-day course for examinations to the written scheme for the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations valid for 5 years, and a 1 day Refresher course.