

Pressure Vessels



Research pressure vessels are not currently regulated by any State of Ohio department, agency, local building department, or any other regulatory authority. However, we must assure that our students, faculty, staff, and contract personnel are not subject to injury or hazards associated with these pressure vessels. The following guidelines are provided:

Actions & Documentation

Design Parameters

These include the type, condition, and strength of the materials used, specifications for all components used, sources of materials and components, testing procedures and limits for each of the component and the finished vessel, life cycle analysis, safety factors used, and the sources of data.

Operational Parameters

Each Vessel must be labeled with applicable operational parameters such as the maximum allowable operating pressure; date placed into service, atmosphere(s) to be used, inspection and testing parameters, inspection frequency, and projected life. A document such as an Operations Manual and Log must be maintained and kept with each pressure vessel.

Inspections & Testing

Procedures and results of all initial testing conducted on the finished device and all components must be documented. Annual testing and any other periodic testing must be specified in the Operations Manual and Log. This document must list the procedures for testing, maintenance, and the results of these tests. All testing, activities, results, and records must be maintained for the life of each vessel.

Maintenance:

Any maintenance, repairs, alterations, defects, failures, or other anomalies must be documented in the Operations Manual and Log.

Future Considerations

Equipment such as these vessels are normally intended for a specific project and period of use. They should not be used beyond their design life, or adapted to other experimental uses beyond their safe operational parameters. Internal labeling and record keeping controls are extremely important to prevent use beyond the design life and safe operating parameters of each vessel.

EHS will periodically issue guidelines for subjects and situations which affect the safety and health of the campus community. These are not Ohio University policy. They represent best practices and proven methods to reduce incidents.

**You may call Environmental Health and Safety at 593-1666
Or visit us on the web at www.ohio.edu/ehs**

