

# Management of transportable pressure receptacles

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Owner: **Assistant Director, Health,Safety and Wellbeing**  
Responsible work team: **Health,Safety and Wellbeing**

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# 1 Scope

- 1.1 This policy sets out the legislative requirements for transportable pressure receptacles and describes the management actions to be taken within the London Fire Brigade (LFB) to ensure the continuing safety of these systems.
- 1.2 It describes how to manage the risks when working with transportable pressure receptacles. This is a generic term covering a number of types of pressure receptacle e.g. breathing apparatus (BA) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders. It does not include fire pumps or hose lines for transporting firefighting water, nor does it include vehicles tyres or individual aerosol sprays.
- 1.3 The policy does not apply to work on or with pressurised vessels systems or equipment, tanks or tank containers. These systems are subject to separate requirements as set out in [Policy number 566](#) – Procedure for managing pressure systems.
- 1.4 This policy applies to all LFB establishments.

# 2 References

- 2.1 The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8.
- 2.2 The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and Approved Code of Practice L21.
- 2.3 The Pressure Equipment (Safety) Regulations 2016.
- 2.4 Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 and [Policy number 566](#) - Procedure for managing pressure systems.
- 2.5 The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 (as amended by EU Exit 2021 Regulations).
- 2.6 GB CLP Regulation (retained EU Regulation 1272/2008, as amended).
- 2.7 The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (acquisition of new machinery and equipment and use of work equipment), Guidance L22 and [Policy number 598](#) - Provision and use of work equipment (acquisition of new machinery and use of work equipment).
- 2.8 The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992, Guidance L23 and [Policy number 540](#) - Manual handling operations procedure.
- 2.9 The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992, Guidance L25 and [Policy number 617](#) - Personal protective equipment at work procedure.
- 2.10 Control of Substances hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH).
- 2.11 Dangerous Substances and Explosives Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR).
- 2.12 Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR), Guidance INDG453 and [Policy number 369](#) - The reporting of injuries, diseases and dangerous occurrences regulations 2013.
- 2.13 BS EN 1920:2000 Transportable gas pressure receptacles - Pressure receptacles for compressed gases (excluding acetylene).
- 2.14 Policy for [Policy number 466](#) - Respiratory Protective Equipment - breathing apparatus – operational procedures and [Policy number 476](#) - Respiratory protective equipment –breathing apparatus – MSA M1 – technical information.

- 2.15 Internal instructions used by the training provider for the connection/disconnection of gas cylinders used in association with real fire training.

### **3 Definitions**

#### **Transportable pressure receptacle means**

- 3.1 Any receptacle, other than an aerosol, and including any permanent fitting of such a receptacle, which is used or intended to be used for the carriage of gas and which:

- has a volume not exceeding 1000 litres; or
- if seamless, has a volume not exceeding 5000 litres,

and includes a transportable assembly of such receptacles, in which each receptacle has a volume not exceeding 150 litres, held firmly together and interconnected by a manifold.

#### **Maximum allowable pressure means**

- 3.2 The maximum pressure specified for the equipment by the manufacturer.

#### **Pressure equipment means**

- 3.3 Vessels, piping, safety accessories and pressure accessories; where applicable, pressure equipment include elements attached to pressurised parts, such as flanges, nozzles, couplings, supports, lifting lugs and similar.

#### **Safe means**

- 3.4 In the context of pressure receptacles, equipment that when properly installed and maintained and used for its intended purpose, is not liable to endanger the health or safety of persons or property.

#### **Safety accessories means**

- 3.5 Devices designed to protect pressure equipment against the maximum allowable pressure being exceeded; these include:
- devices for direct pressure limitation, such as safety valves, bursting disc safety devices, buckling rods, controlled safety pressure relief systems, and
  - limiting devices, which either activate the means for correction or provide for shutdown or shutdown and lockout, such as pressure switches or temperature switches or fluid level switches and safety related measurement control and regulation devices.

#### **Inspection body means**

- 3.6 A body approved by the Department of Transport to undertake initial conformity assessments, reassessments, periodic inspections and the testing of transportable pressure receptacles.

### **4 Procedure**

#### **Legislation and guidance documents**

- 4.1 The policy takes account of all the legislation, guidance and other documents identified in section 2 - References.

## **Responsibility**

### **Director/head of service**

- 4.2 The director/head of service or a person nominated by the director/head of service is responsible for ensuring that the requirements of the procedure are implemented and that managers have sufficient information and training to enable them to discharge their duty at locations under their responsibility (all references in section 2).

### **Managers with specific responsibilities**

#### **Manager of Operations Support Group (OSG)**

- 4.3 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that transportable pressure receptacles under the control of OSG are identified, operated and maintained in accordance with this procedure (all references in section 2).
- 4.4 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles relating to respiratory protective equipment (RPE) or associated operational equipment is procured to suitable design standards (reference 2.3, 2.5, 2.7, 2.9, 2.10, 2.13 and 2.14).
- 4.5 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment are examined by a relevant inspection body to verify that the pressure receptacles are fit for use until the next test date is reached (reference 2.3, 2.5, 2.7, 2.9, 2.10, 2.13 and 2.14).

#### **Filling of receptacles**

- 4.6 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that before a pressure receptacle relating to RPE or associated operational equipment is filled with a gas product, that it has been marked in accordance with the requirements detailed for periodic inspection and testing (reference 2.4, 2.5, 2.13 and 2.14).
- 4.7 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that after a pressure receptacle relating to RPE or associated operational equipment is filled, it is checked to verify that it is within its safe operating limits and is not overfilled, and in the event of overfilling, any excess gas is removed safely (reference 2.4, 2.5 and 2.13).

#### **Maintenance of receptacles**

- 4.8 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment are maintained in good repair so as to prevent danger (reference 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).
- 4.9 The manager of OSG, in consultation with LFB's appointed inspection body, will ensure that any person or contractor employed to modify, repair or refurbish a pressure receptacle relating to RPE or associated operational equipment has the necessary training, skills and experience to carry out their job safely (reference 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).
- 4.10 The manager of OSG will ensure that all repaired and inspected pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment are certified by LFB's appointed inspection body as being fit for use before it is returned to service (reference 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).
- 4.11 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment are inspected and tested by an inspection body in accordance with relevant regulations and at the specified intervals (reference 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).

- 4.12 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment have been permanently marked by an inspection body to show the date of the last periodic examination (reference 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).

#### **Appointment of Inspection Body**

- 4.13 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring the appointment of a competent body for the inspection of pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment. The appointed inspection body must be appointed by the Department for Transport (DfT), administered through the Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA), in accordance with the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 to undertake initial conformity assessments, reassessments and periodic inspections of receptacles (reference 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).

#### **Record keeping**

- 4.14 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that records of refilling; maintenance and examination are kept for pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment. Records must be kept secure from loss or unauthorised interference and be readily produced if required. Records will be retained for the lifetime of the pressure receptacle (reference 2.3, 2.5 and 2.7).

#### **Marking and labelling requirements**

- 4.15 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment are labelled with information on the product and the hazard warning sign by reference to the relevant regulations (reference 2.7).

#### **Training**

- 4.16 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that suitable instruction and training is provided to anyone that examines, refurbishes, or fills a receptacle relating to RPE or associated operational equipment, and that they have the necessary training, skills and experience to carry out their job safely (reference 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).

#### **Competent person**

- 4.17 The manager of OSG is responsible for ensuring that the appointed inspection body for the examination of pressure receptacles relating to RPE or associated operational equipment has the required level of expertise and maintains their professional status so they are competent to perform the specific conformity assessments, reassessments and periodic inspection and testing to be carried out (reference 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7 and 2.13).

#### **Manager in Training and Professional Development**

- 4.18 The manager within Training and Professional Development is responsible for ensuring that transportable pressure receptacles under the control of the training provider are transported, stored and used in accordance with any instructions issued relating to safe operation of any equipment used in conjunction with pressure vessels (references 2.15).

#### **Manager of contract management group (CMG)**

##### **Vehicle design and equipment**

- 4.19 Managers at CMG will confirm at the design stage of a brigade vehicle if it is anticipated that the design will come within the provisions of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 (as amended). If confirmed that the vehicle will come under these regulations the matter is to be raised with Health and Safety who will

arrange for the appointment of a Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser (DGSA) to advise on compliance with the relevant regulations (reference 2.5 and 2.6).

- 4.20 The manager of CMG is responsible for ensuring that all vehicles used for the transport of pressure receptacles are of suitable design, such that pressure receptacles can be transported safely and securely, having taken account of any recommendations made by the DGSA (reference 2.5, 2.6, 2.7 and 2.13).
- 4.21 The manager of CMG is to ensure that all vehicles required to transport pressure receptacles are designed to ensure that they are transported in a clean and secure manner (reference 2.7). If, due to the quantity of pressure receptacles, or their contents, regulations require additional emergency equipment to be carried by a vehicle, provision for this equipment must be included in the design also (reference 2.5 and 2.6).

#### **Marking and labelling requirements**

- 4.22 The manager of the CMG is responsible for ensuring that vehicles used for the transport of pressure receptacles are suitable labelled with hazardous warning signs where the pressure receptacles are transported in such quantities that this is a requirement of the relevant regulations (reference 2.5 and 2.6).

#### **Manager at OSG and manager at Operations Support Centre and training provider**

- 4.23 The manager at OSG and the manager at Operations Support Centre (OSC) and the training provider are responsible for ensuring that any requirements to comply with the relevant regulations or recommendations from the DGSA are complied with by their staff (reference 2.5 and 2.6).

#### **Transport documentation**

- 4.24 The managers at OSG and the manager at OSC and the training provider are responsible for ensuring that all movements of pressure receptacles for which they are responsible are accompanied by any required transport document which provides details of the hazardous properties of the product and the number and size of containers on the vehicle (reference 2.5 and 2.6).

#### **Training**

- 4.25 The manager at OSG and the manager at OSC and the training provider are responsible for ensuring that all drivers, for whom they have managerial responsibility, involved in the carriage of pressure receptacles hold an ADR Vocational Training Certificate (VTC) where the load of pressure receptacles is transported in such quantities that this is a requirement of the relevant regulations (reference 2.5 and 2.6).
- 4.26 The manager at OSG and the manager at OSC and the training provider are responsible for ensuring that all staff, whose duties are concerned with the carriage of pressure receptacles, have received suitable instruction and training (reference 2.2, 2.5, and 2.6).
- 4.27 The manager at OSG and the manager at OSC and the training provider are responsible for ensuring that any employee or contractor employed to transport pressure receptacles is given emergency instructions that detail the actions to be taken in the event of an accident or emergency occurring and the personal protective equipment (PPE) that is required (reference 2.2, 2.5, 2.6, 2.9 and 2.13).

## **Managers at fire stations and training establishments**

### **Storage**

- 4.28 Managers at fire stations and training establishments are responsible for ensuring the safe and secure storage of all pressure receptacles at their premises in accordance with published policies (reference 2.14).
- 4.29 Managers at fire stations and training establishments will ensure that all areas used for the storage of pressure receptacles are inspected in accordance with published policies to ensure they are in good order and that storage arrangements will not damage cylinders (reference 2.14 and 2.15).

### **Maintenance**

- 4.30 Managers at fire stations and training establishments are responsible for ensuring that all pressure receptacles and valves are withdrawn from service when they are due for periodic inspection and/or testing (reference 2.14).

### **Training**

- 4.31 Managers at fire stations and training establishments are responsible for ensuring that suitable instruction and training is provided to anyone that uses a receptacle and that they have the necessary training, skills and experience to carry out their job safely in accordance with published policies (reference 2.14 and 2.15).
- 4.32 Managers at fire stations and training establishments are responsible for ensuring that suitable instruction and training is provided to employees on the risks associated with the receptacle and its contents and of the action to be taken in the event of an emergency in accordance with published policies (reference 2.2, 2.14 and 2.15).

## **Employees at OSG**

- 4.33 Employees at OSG who are required to examine, refurbish, refill or use a pressure receptacle must have been provided with adequate and suitable training and instruction for the safe use of the receptacle (reference 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6 and 2.13).
- 4.34 Employees at OSG must ensure that any pressure receptacles they work with are operated correctly in accordance with LFB's operating instructions and that during its use the receptacle is kept within the maximum allowable pressure (reference 2.5, 2.10, 2.14, and 2.15).

## **Employees at Operations Support Centre and training provider's employees**

- 4.35 Employees of the OSC and training provider's employees are to ensure that they handle all pressure receptacles in a safe manner, and where necessary, ensure the safe connection, disconnection and use of a pressure receptacle, with appropriate equipment, and take any necessary action in the case of an emergency in accordance with any instruction and training they have been given (reference 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6 and 2.15).

## **Employees at fire stations and training establishments**

- 4.36 Employees at fire stations and training establishments are responsible for ensuring the safe and secure handling and storage of all pressure receptacles in accordance with published policies (reference 2.14 and 2.15).
- 4.37 Employees at fire stations and training establishments are responsible for ensuring that pressure receptacles for use with breathing apparatus (BA), that are not in use, are stored in the designated BA maintenance room and that this area is maintained in a clean, tidy and grease free condition in accordance with published policies (reference 2.14). Non-BA related pressure receptacles that are not in use are to be securely stored in approved buildings/cages (reference 2.15).

# Document history

## Assessments

An equality, sustainability or health, safety and welfare impact assessment and/or a risk assessment was last completed on:

EIA	02/04/26	SDIA	L - 26/05/26	HSWIA	24/01/19	RA	
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## Audit trail

Listed below is a brief audit trail, detailing amendments made to this policy/procedure.

Page/para nos.	Brief description of change	Date
Throughout	Reviewed as current with minor changes to the Reference section and departments' name.	25/01/2019
Throughout	References Brigade Distribution Centre and BDC – updated.	26/05/2022
Throughout	Minor changes made throughout.	28/05/2026

## Subject list

You can find this policy under the following subjects.

Pressure systems	

## Freedom of Information Act exemptions

This policy/procedure has been securely marked due to:

Considered by: (responsible work team)	FOIA exemption	Security marking classification