

# Routine Operations

Book:	2 – Routine Operations
Chapter	III – Equipment Operations
Subject	6 – Pressure Vessel Maintenance
Code	2-III-7
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## 7.01 Purpose

- A. To establish a procedure for the receiving, recording, and checking of all pressurized vessels.
- B. To establish the criteria and procedure necessary to insure proper hydrostatic testing of pressure vessels
- C. To establish a procedure for destruction of damaged or expired cylinders.

## 7.02 Policy

- A. All pressurized vessels including but not limited to SCBA air cylinders and O2 cylinders shall be numbered and recorded in a computerized database.
- B. All pressurized vessels owned by the Jersey Village Emergency Services shall be scheduled for hydrostatic testing in accordance with the following:
  - 1. Steel Cylinders – at five (5) year intervals
  - 2. Aluminum oxygen cylinder – 5 -10 year intervals depending on the bottle.
  - 3. Composite SCBA air cylinder – at three (3) year intervals
  - 4. Carbon Fiber SCBA air cylinder – at five (5) year intervals

Note: Composite and Carbon Fiber SCBA cylinders have a life span of 15 years from date of manufacture, currently all bottles reaching fifteen years from date of manufacture must be destroyed regardless weather they pass hydrostatic tests or not.

- C. All employees and members shall insure that all pressure vessels-cylinders fittings are kept free of oil and/or grease.
- D. All employees and members shall utilize proper safety procedures during re-filling and general cylinder usage.

## 7.03 Responsibility

- A. The overall responsibility for maintenance and record keeping of all pressure vessels shall be with the Maintenance Officer.
- B. All employees and members are responsible for insuring that this policy and procedure concerning pressure vessels is followed.

## 7.04 Procedure

- A. New Bottles
  - 1. Fill bottle if necessary and check for leaks or defects

2. Create database record for each new cylinder.
  3. Paint cylinder with proper color code used by department.
  4. Number cylinder with consecutive number from database.
  5. Place cylinder in service
- B. Hydrostatic Testing
1. On a yearly basis, check database for cylinder hydrostatic test dates expiring during the current year.
  2. When cylinders require testing remove cylinder from service and replace it with a spare cylinder.
  3. Send cylinders to the appropriate testing agency for testing.
  4. Upon receiving cylinders back from testing agency, check for leaks and/or defects.
  5. Update database for specific cylinder.
  6. Place cylinder back in service.
- C. Cylinder Destruction
1. Cylinders found to be defective, no repairable, or past there service life shall be destroyed.
  2. Cylinders will be considered destroyed when the valve is removed and a ¼” hole is drilled into the side wall of the cylinder
  3. The cylinder shall be removed from the database and the number reissued to a new cylinder.