

Regulations

There are a number of national and international regulations which will impact suppliers, owners and operators of compressed air equipment in Australia.

Mandatory Regulations

3 Phase Electric Motors

The Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS)

The Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) Act 2012 came into effect on 1st October 2012. This Act created a legislative national framework for the energy efficiency of products in Australia.

This included a framework for the minimum efficiency level required of three phase electric motors with a rated output of 0.73 to <185 kW.

Find out more – visit www.energyrating.gov.au

Pressure Vessels

Both suppliers and operators of compressed air pressure vessels in Australia have to abide by various legal requirements;

AS4343 – Pressure Equipment – Hazard Levels

The Australian Standard AS4343 requires that the design of pressure vessels with a hazard level of A, B, C or D must be registered with the relevant state or territory OHS regulatory body.

As part of the registration process, the design of a pressure vessel must be verified by an independent design verifying body. This is to confirm that the design complies with the Australian Standard AS1210 (internal pressure vessel design).

Compressed air pressure vessels with a hazard level of A, B, C or D must also be registered with the relevant state or territory OHS regulatory body by the owner and/or operator.

Depending on the relevant state or territory OHS regulatory body, the owner/operator may be required to periodically renew this registration and inform them if/when; the pressure vessel is relocated or changes ownership.

AS3788 – Pressure Equipment – In-Service Inspection

In accordance with the Australian Standard AS 3788, depending on the size, design pressure and hazard level, a compressed air pressure vessel should be inspected by a competent person, internally every 2 years and externally every 4 years.

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Further Regulations

There are a number of further national and international regulations that may impact compressed air suppliers / owners and operators in Australia. This list is not exhaustive;

Australian

- AS1271; safety valves
- AS3873; pressure equipment – operation and maintenance
- AS3892; pressure equipment – installation
- AS4041; pressure piping
- AS4343; pressure equipment – hazard levels
- AS3000; Australia wiring rules

New Zealand

- Hierarchy of compliance: Health & Safety in Work Acts; Health & Safety Regulations; Approved Codes of Practice; Standards.
- HSE / PECPR Regs 1999
- ACoP Pressure Equipment (Excluding Boilers)
- Any other standards in App A of ACoP Pressure Equipment not listed
- BS/ASME included in code 87/404/EEC
- Pressure equipment directive 92/23/EC (must be made for seismic design; CE Mark; English documentation)
- Additional BS/ASME Standards for other types of pressure equipment e.g. painting equipment, reinforced plastic vessels
- Inspection Bodies - Management Systems ISO 17020

International

- 98/37/EC Machinery Directive
- 73/23/EEC Low Voltage Directive
- 87/404/EEC Simple Unfired Pressure Vessels Directive
- 89/336/EEC Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive
- DIN EN 1012-1: 1996-07 Safety Requirements for Compressors and Vacuum Pumps
- DIN EN 292-2 / A1: 1995-06 Safety of Machinery: Basic concepts, general principles for design
- DIN EN 294: 1992-08 Safety of Machinery: Safety distances to prevent danger zones from being reach by the upper limbs
- DIN EN 60204-1: 1998-11 Safety of Machinery – Electrical Equipment of machines
- DIN EN 50082-2: 1993-02 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Generic immunity standard

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