

Pressure Systems Safety Regulations

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The European Directive 97/23/EC put into place the Pressure Equipment Directive which, once enshrined in UK law, became the Pressure Equipment Regulations (PER). Part of the PER is the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 which replaced the Pressure Systems and Transportable Gas Container Regulations. With respect to accumulators these regulations are known as the PSSR 2000.

The PSSR 2000 regulations, and the guidelines issued by the British Fluid Power Association and the Health and Safety Executive, require that:

For all pressure systems containing a relevant fluid at a pressure greater than 0.5 bar above atmospheric pressure,:

- a. safe operating limits are established*
- b. that all relevant records are maintained; and*
- c. accumulators shall be supplied with all necessary information and markings.*

Amongst other things required are that:

- a. all accumulators where the product of the system pressure P (bar) and accumulator volume V (litres) is less than 250, there shall be an established maintenance procedure;*
- b. for accumulators where $P \times V$ exceeds 250 bar litres, there shall be a written scheme of examination together with an established maintenance procedure.*

Essentially this means that most systems which use high pressure hydraulics and have accumulators attached have to meet some or all of the requirements of the regulations. Systems Services offer management of gas charged accumulators in order to assist their customers to comply with the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000.

Systems Services are qualified to carry out the role of Competent Person and fully manage your accumulators including testing and maintenance of records.

For more information or to arrange a survey, please call:

01205 724242 or visit our website at www.systems-services.co.uk