

579/2000

Decree of the Ministry of Transport and Communications

on transportable pressure equipment and tanks discharged or filled by pressure and used for the transport of dangerous goods

Adopted in Helsinki, 15 June 2000

In accordance with the decision of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the following is provided under section 24, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Act on Transport of Dangerous Goods (719/1994) of 2 August 1994, as they are amended by Act 1250/1996:

Chapter 1

General provisions

1 §

Scope of application

This Decree shall apply to the design, manufacture, inspection and approval of transportable pressure equipment and tanks to be discharged or filled by pressure and used for the transport of dangerous goods when the transportable pressure equipment or tank is used in :

- a) national road or railway traffic;
 - b) international road traffic in accordance with the European Agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by road (Finnish Treaty Series 23/1979), hereinafter the ADR Agreement, or in
 - c) international railway traffic in accordance with the RID Regulations constituting an annex to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (Finnish Treaty Series 5/1985; COTIF)
- to the extent that the issue is not governed by provisions issued under the Act on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (719/1994), hereinafter the VAK Act or by the ADR

Agreement or the RID Regulations.

This Decree shall apply to pressure equipment and tanks to be discharged or filled by pressure and transported by aircraft or in packages by sea to the extent to be separately provided for.

2 §

Exemptions from the scope of application

This Decree shall not apply to:

1) transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged or filled by pressure which is meant to be exported;

2) transportable pressure equipment and a tank to be discharged or filled by pressure which has been imported full or sent from abroad to be filled if it complies with international provisions on transport of dangerous goods binding on Finland or terms to be separately agreed upon between the States participating in the transport; the Decree shall, however, be applied to transportable pressure equipment or a tank to be discharged or filled by pressure and imported to Finland prior to its sale or its first filling in Finland for national transport; nor to

3) an aerosol dispenser.

An aerosol dispenser referred to in subparagraph 3 shall be governed by provisions to be issued separately.

3 §

Definitions

For the purposes of this Decree:

1) *transportable pressure equipment* means transportable pressurised receptacles and tanks used for the transport of Class 2 gases, including their accessories;

a) cylinders (transportable pressure receptacles of a capacity not exceeding 150 litres);

b) tubes (seamless transportable pressure receptacles of a capacity exceeding 150 litres and of not more than 5,000 litres);

c) pressure drums (welded transportable pressure receptacles of a capacity exceeding 150 litres and of not more than 1,000 litres such as cylindrical receptacles equipped with rolling hoops, receptacles on skids or receptacles in frames);

d) cryogenic receptacles (transportable thermally insulated pressure receptacles for deeply refrigerated liquefied gases of a capacity of not more than 1,000 litres)

e) bundles of cylinders (transportable assemblies of cylinders which are interconnected by a manifold and held firmly together);

f) fixed and demountable tanks of a vehicle;

g) tanks of battery vehicles;

h) tanks and demountable tanks of tank wagons used for railway transport;

i) tanks of battery wagons;

j) tank containers;

k) battery containers;

l) other receptacles to which the provisions on Class 2 shall be applied under the VAK Act;

2) *a receptacle*, when the expression is used alone, shall mean the equipment defined in paragraph 1 (a-e and l);

3) *a tank*, when the expression is used alone, shall mean a tank container or a tank of a battery container, a fixed or demountable tank or a tank of a battery vehicle, tank wagon or battery wagon which is pressurised during transport as well as during filling and discharge;

4) *a tank to be discharged or filled by pressure*, hereinafter *a tank discharged by pressure*, shall mean tanks and receptacles used for the transport of goods belonging to a transportation class of dangerous goods other than Class 2 which are non-pressurised during transport but which may be discharged or filled by pressure and which have a discharge or filling pressure of over 0.5 bar;

5) *an inspection body* shall mean a body to which the Ministry of Transport and Communications or the Safety Technology Authority has granted the right to perform the said inspections.

Chapter 2

Manufacture

4 §

Competence of the manufacturer

Tanks or tanks discharged by pressure may be manufactured only by an operator whose operating conditions have been found sufficient by an inspection body approved by the Safety Technology Authority.

The manufacturer shall have:

- 1) personnel with expertise in its employment;
- 2) at its disposal, the appropriate facilities and the machinery, equipment and devices necessary for the manufacture; as well as
- 3) at its disposal, adequate administrative and technical procedures for compliance with the provisions relating to the tanks.

Provisions on competence and operating conditions of the manufacturers of receptacles used for the transport of dangerous goods are issued separately in the Decision of the Ministry of Transport and Communications on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road (660/1997) and in the Decision of the Ministry of Transport and Communications on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Rail (901/1997).

The manufacturer referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall request the inspection body to assess at three-year intervals whether the operating conditions continue to be sufficient.

If the inspection body has assessed that the operating conditions of an operator are sufficient for the manufacture of corresponding pressure receptacles, this

assessment shall replace the assessments referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

Chapter 3

Inspections and markings relating to transportable pressure equipment and tanks discharged by pressure

5 §

Inspection site

The inspections of receptacles and tanks shall be performed in premises where the inspections may be carried out properly.

The owner or holder of inspection premises other than those owned by the inspection body shall request the inspection body to assess whether the inspection premises and their personnel have the preconditions for the proper attendance to the inspections in accordance with this Decree.

The inspection body shall in the inspection premises have at its disposal functional machinery, equipment and devices necessary for the inspection of receptacles and tanks as well as the necessary staff to perform the tasks relating to the inspection.

The metering equipment used in the inspection of receptacles and tanks shall be calibrated or examined regularly. A document shall be available of the calibration.

The assessment certificate referred to in paragraph 2 shall be valid for three years.

6 §

Approvals and inspections

The approvals and inspections of transportable pressure equipment and a tank discharged by pressure shall be:

- 1) inspection of the structural design, which includes an examination of the drawings and stress calculations of pressure equipment and

a tank discharged by pressure or of the test methods used for indicating the stress grade. It shall be verified during the inspection that the transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged by pressure has been designed and the manufacturing methods have been selected so that the pressure equipment or a tank discharged by pressure will be safe in its planned usage.

2) approval of the structural type, in which conformity to substance-specific special provisions on the structure of the tank, its connection to a vehicle, fittings and usage will be assessed;

3) initial inspection, which means the inspection to be performed prior to putting the equipment in service;

4) a periodic inspection, which includes a pressure test, an external and internal examination, a verification of the empty weight as well as an examination of equipment and markings. The inspection shall, where necessary, include verification of capacity. The periodic inspection of transportable pressure equipment with vacuum insulation manufactured of structural material that withstands mechanical and chemical effects shall include a pressure test as well as an examination of equipment and markings. The water-pressure test and internal examination of transportable pressure equipment with vacuum insulation may be replaced by a seal test and a vacuum gauging by permission of an inspection body recognised by the Safety Technology Authority.

5) additional inspections, which include inspections due to changes in or repair of tanks as well as other inspections not mentioned above such as separate inspections of the accessories, pipes and markings supplementing the initial or periodic inspections of tanks.

7 §

Approval of a structural type

Prior to the manufacture or import of transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged by pressure its structural type shall be approved in accordance with the provisions on the transport of dangerous goods by road or rail. The application for approval shall be accompanied by a structural design inspected by an inspection body.

When approving a structural type, the substances permitted to be transported and the conditions for equipment shall be defined.

8 §

Initial inspection

Prior to putting transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged by pressure into service, its manufacturer, owner, holder or importer shall request the inspection body to perform an inspection. The initial inspection shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions on the transport of dangerous goods by road or rail. The initial inspection of tanks and tanks discharged with pressure shall verify that the tank complies with an approved structural type. The inspection shall further include an examination of the results used to indicate the control of the quality of the work and the strength, a verification of the empty weight and an examination of the markings as well as, where necessary, verification of capacity.

The inspection shall be requested so that the inspection body can perform partial measures during the inspection.

The inspection shall further verify that the transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged with pressure, with regard to its structure, is safe in the intended usage, that it can safely be put into service, that it is ready for repeated use and that it also otherwise complies with the provisions.

9 §

Initial inspection of imported transportable pressure equipment and an imported tank discharged by pressure

The inspection body may include as part of the initial inspection of imported pressure equipment or an imported tank discharged with pressure an appropriate material test, supervision of manufacture and qualifications of the welder, pressure test as well as measurements complying with the provisions and performed abroad provided that these are proved by appropriate certificates.

10 §

Registration

Transportable pressure equipment with a capacity exceeding 450 litres shall be registered in the initial inspection of the transportable pressure equipment.

The owner or holder of the transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged with pressure shall notify a new, imported or essentially changed transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged with pressure to be registered at the initial inspection. The notification shall contain information on the manufacturer, importer, owner and holder of the transportable pressure equipment, the registration number requested from the Safety Technology Authority as well as the technical data on the transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged by pressure.

The inspection body shall supplement the notification with information on the current and the following inspection and submit the notification to the Safety Technology Authority after the inspection. The inspection body shall submit the corresponding information to the Safety Technology

Authority also on periodic inspections.

The owner or holder shall notify the Safety Technology Authority of changes in information on the owner or holder of equipment referred to in paragraph 1.

The manufacturer or importer of transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged by pressure to be registered shall ensure that the structural documents, drawings and stress calculations forming the basis for the initial inspection and the other documents relating to the inspection are properly appended to the inspection document. The inspection documents shall be submitted to the owner or holder of the transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged with pressure.

11 §

Removal from the register

If the transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged with pressure no longer has to be registered or if it is permanently removed from service, the owner or holder may request the Safety Technology Authority to remove the transportable pressure equipment or tank discharged with pressure from the register. If transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged by pressure becomes subject to registration, the owner or holder shall request an additional inspection to be performed on it. This inspection shall be governed by the provisions of section 10.

12 §

Periodic inspections

The periodic inspections of transportable pressure equipment or a tank discharged with

pressure shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions on the inspection of vessels tanks for the transport of dangerous goods by road or rail.

13 §

Periodic inspection of cylinders as an inspection in series

The periodic inspection of similar cylinders may be carried out by inspection lots so that the inspection body inspects a minimum of five per cent of the cylinders of an inspection lot, however, at least two cylinders. The remaining cylinders of the inspection lot shall be subjected to an internal examination, a pressure test as well as to tests and measurements complying with the provisions by the personnel of the inspection site referred to in section 5. The inspection body shall approve these other cylinders of an inspection lot after verifying that the cylinders bear appropriate markings indicating that the internal examination, pressure test, measurements and tests have been performed and after verifying on the basis of a visual examination that there is no hindrance for their approval and no need to supplement the inspection.

The periodic inspection referred to in paragraph 1 requires that a lot of at least 25 cylinders is taken for inspection at a time and that the inspection is arranged so at the inspection site that the inspection measures can be carried out without difficulty.

14 §

Inspection record

The inspection body shall draw up an inspection record and it shall be submitted to the party that has requested the inspection.

15 §

Entries on the inspection

The inspection body shall ensure that the markings required are made in the inspected transportable pressure equipment and tanks discharged by pressure.

16 §

Marking of rejection

If a cylinder is not approved in an inspection, the cylinder shall be marked for rejection unless the cylinder has been made unsuitable for the transport of dangerous goods.

17 §

Colour code

The contents of transportable pressure equipment of a capacity of not more than 450 litres shall be indicated with a colour code in accordance with Standard SFS-EN 1089 -3.

Chapter 4

Miscellaneous provisions

18 §

Supervision and instructions

Provisions on the supervision of the inspection body and the performance of an inspection shall be issued separately.

The Safety Technology Authority may issue instructions on the application of this Decree.

19 §

Exemptions

The Safety Technology Authority may, for a special reason and in an individual case, grant exemptions from the provisions of this Decree.

inspections shall be performed in accordance with provisions issued under the VAK Act.

Instead of this Decree,

20 §

Appeal

Appeal to a decision made by the Safety Technology Authority shall be governed by the provisions of the Administrative Judicial Procedure Act (586/1996). A decision shall be complied with irrespective of appeal unless otherwise ordered by the appeal authority.

Rectification of a decision made by an inspection body and relating to an inspection shall be governed by the provisions of section 30, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the VAK Act. An assessment referred to in this Decree shall also be deemed an inspection.

Chapter 5

Provisions on entry into force and provisions on transition

21 §

Entry into force

This Decree shall enter into force on 1 September 2001.

22 §

Transitional provisions

Inspections and approvals performed in accordance with provisions in force prior to the entry into force of this Decree shall be valid as such. The following periodic

the Decision of the Ministry of Trade and Industry on transportable cylinders (641/1978) may, until 29 May 2002, be applied to transportable pressure equipment and tanks discharged with pressure in the case of their design, manufacture and inspection as well as the Decision of the Ministry of Trade and Industry on the design and manufacture of pressure vessels (391/1984).

Colour codes complying with Standard SFS 3205 may still be used in cylinders manufactured prior to the entry into force of this Decree.

Adopted in Helsinki, 15 June 2000

Minister of Transport and Communications *Olli-Pekka Heinonen*

Senior Advisor, Road Transport *Seija Miettinen*