

STANDATA bulletin 20-GCB-008[REV2]

Gas

Liquefied petroleum gas storage vessel Installations

Date Issued: February 2022

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Purpose

This bulletin informs the propane industry of the requirements related to the installation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) storage vessels in domestic, commercial and industrial applications. LPG storage vessel refers to the pressure vessels commonly called propane tanks.

Discussion

1. The Alberta Boilers Safety Association (ABSA) is responsible for the design review, registration and periodic in-service inspections of all LPG vessels. New construction inspection of all LPG vessels built in Alberta must be performed by ABSA Safety Codes Officers. ABSA Safety Codes Officers will also be involved when alterations or repairs to these pressure vessels are being considered.
2. For LPG vessels up to 10 cubic metre capacity in domestic and commercial use, the installation inspections will be carried out under the *Gas Code Regulation* by Gas Group A Safety Codes Officers.

The installation inspections under the *Gas Code Regulation*, the CSA B149.1 Natural gas and propane installation code, and the CSA B149.2 Propane storage and handling code must include but not be limited to the verification of:

- CSA B149.1 Natural gas and propane installation code
 - 4.3 Responsibilities of the installer
 - 5 Pressure controls
- CSA B149.2 Propane storage and handling code
 - 7 Tank systems, filling plants, and refill centres;
 - Location¹, with respect to property lines, buildings, adjacent tanks, etc.;
 - Protection from physical damage;
 - Fencing;

¹ Location distances for LPG vessel installations must comply with Federal requirements, if specified, in areas under Federal Jurisdiction.

Issued by the Provincial Gas Administrator	and the	Pressure Equipment Administrator
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- Posting of warning signs; and
 - Dispensing points and other applicable requirements.
3. For LPG vessels over 10 cubic metre capacity in domestic, commercial and industrial use², initial inspections must be carried out by ABSA Safety Codes Officers. Installation inspection must be carried out under the *Gas Code Regulation* by Group A Gas Safety Codes Officers as indicated above.
- ABSA initial inspections shall include verification of:
 - vessel nameplate information (CRN, design pressure, design temperature, etc.) against the Manufacturer's Data Report;
 - safety valve (size, capacity and code stamping);
 - manway requirements;
 - assignment and application of the Alberta Identification Number [(A) number]; and
 - entry to ABSA's boiler and pressure vessel registration database.

APPLICATION

All in-service tanks should be inspected by competent persons with training in tank inspection, typical tank defects and actions to take when defects are found. The Canadian Propane Association offers this type of training. ABSA document [AB-506 Inspection & Servicing Requirements for In-Service Pressure Equipment](#) provides compliance guidance for periodic inspections.

INTERPRETATION

If propane suppliers are concerned about the status of a particular tank or tanks registration, they could contact the following and obtain further information:

- Alberta Municipal Affairs office at 1-866-421-6929 or visit the website at <https://www.alberta.ca/gas-codes-and-standards.aspx>
- Alberta Boilers Safety Association (ABSA) office (780) 437-9100 or visit the ABSA website at <https://www.absa.ca/> and reference ABSA: D1204564

² Commercial or industrial use shall include facilities where the storage vessels are used for vehicular fuel filling, fuel dispensing, commercial construction site usage, and all other fuel uses.