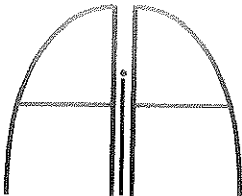


<p><u>Secretary:</u> Mr. Jaco Bosch</p> <p>Tel No: 072 2434 378 E-mail: admin@inspectionauthority.co.za</p>	 <p>FOUNDED 1976 ASSOCIATION OF APPROVED INSPECTION AUTHORITIES (PRESSURE EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS) OF SOUTH AFRICA AIA/PER Association SA</p>	<p><u>Chairperson:</u> Mr. PJ Bruwer</p> <p>Tel No:+ 27 17 610 2527 E-Mail: Chairman@inspectionauthority.co.za paul.bruwer@sasol.com</p>
--	--	---

Date: 06 December 2021

Subject: **Initial (Pre-commissioning) and In-Service inspection and Tests requirements for Bladder and Piston Type Accumulators.**

AIA Members:

Clarification (Guidance Note)

1 Initial (Pre-commissioning) Inspection and Test


Bladder and piston-type accumulators are part of the initial inspection and tests and are classified as Pressure Accessories (ref to R1 and R11(1)(a)). If they are not part of the commissioned equipment, they should be handled separately. The relevant AIA should dispense with the internal visual inspection and pressure test for this type of equipment, referring to the provisions in R11(1)a.

2 In-Service Inspection and Test

Bladder and piston-type accumulators are not classified as pressure vessels and are therefore not subject to the statutory in-service inspections and tests intervals acc. R11(1)(d). However, they are part of the pressurized system. They should therefore be inspected and tested according to R11(e), similar to piping and pipelines, using a health and safety standard or risk-based approach.

- 3** With regards to the extent of inclusion of pressure accessories within the scope of a pre-commissioning or in-service inspection, the PER 11 refers to these accessories being part of the inspection and test. This is intended for all pressure accessories that are integral to the steam generator or pressure vessel. Pressure accessories that form part of the piping system shall be inspected and tested as per the requirements for piping (Reg 11.1(e)).

By example, a new bladder type accumulator installed downstream of a new pressure vessel, will not be subject to the pre-commissioning requirements of the pressure vessel, but must comply with the requirements for the piping.



Paul Bruwer

Chairman