

Chapter 6.10

Requirements for the construction, equipment, type approval, inspection and marking of vacuum-operated waste tanks

NOTE 1: For portable tanks and UN multiple element gas containers (MEGCs), see Chapter 6.7; for tank-wagons, demountable tanks, tank-containers and tank swap bodies, with shells made of metallic materials, and battery-wagons and multiple element gas containers (MEGCs) other than UN MEGCs see Chapter 6.8; for fibre reinforced plastic tank-containers, see Chapter 6.9.

2: This Chapter applies to tank-containers and tank swap bodies.

6.10.1 General

6.10.1.1 Definitions

NOTE: A tank which fully complies with the requirements of Chapter 6.8 is not considered to be a "vacuum-operated waste tank".

6.10.1.1.1 The term "protected area" means the areas located as follows:

- (a) The lower part of the tank in a zone which extends over a 60 ° angle on either side of the lower generating line;
- (b) The top part of a tank in a zone which extends over a 30 ° angle on either side of the top generating line.

6.10.1.2 Scope

6.10.1.2.1 The special requirements of 6.10.2 to 6.10.4 complete or modify Chapter 6.8 and are applied to vacuum-operated waste tanks.

Vacuum-operated waste tanks may be equipped with openable ends, if the requirements of Chapter 4.3 allow bottom discharge of the substances to be carried (indicated by the letters "A" or "B" in the tank code given in Column (12) of Table A of Chapter 3.2, in accordance with 4.3.4.1.1).

Vacuum-operated waste tanks shall comply with all the requirements of Chapter 6.8, with the exception of requirements overtaken by a special provision in this Chapter. However, the requirements of 6.8.2.1.19 and 6.8.2.1.20 shall not apply.

6.10.2 Construction

6.10.2.1 Tanks shall be designed for a calculation pressure equal to 1.3 times the filling or discharge pressure but not less than 400 kPa (4 bar) (gauge pressure). For the carriage of substances for which a higher calculation pressure of the tank is specified in Chapter 6.8, this higher pressure shall apply.

6.10.2.2 Tanks shall be designed to withstand a negative internal pressure of 100 kPa (1 bar).

6.10.3 Items of equipment

6.10.3.1 The items of equipment shall be so arranged as to be protected against the risk of being wrenched off or damaged during carriage or handling. This requirement can be fulfilled by placing items of equipment in a so-called "protected area" (see 6.10.1.1.1).

6.10.3.2 The bottom discharge of shells may be constituted by external piping with a stop-valve fitted as close to the shell as practicable and a second closure which may be a blank flange or other equivalent device.

6.10.3.3 The position and closing direction of the stop-valve(s) connected to the shell, or to any compartment in the case of compartmented shells, shall be unambiguous, and be able to be checked from the ground.

6.10.3.4 In order to avoid any loss of contents in the event of damage to the external filling and discharge fittings (pipes, lateral shut-off devices), the internal stop-valve, or the first external stop-valve (where applicable), and its seatings shall be protected against the danger of being wrenched off by external stresses or shall be so designed as to withstand them. The filling and discharge devices (including flanges or threaded plugs) and protective caps (if any) shall be capable of being secured against any unintended opening.

6.10.3.5 The tanks may be equipped with openable ends. Openable ends shall comply with the following conditions:

- (a) The ends shall be designed to be secured leaktight when closed;
- (b) Unintentional opening shall not be possible;
- (c) Where the opening mechanism is power operated the end shall remain securely closed in the event of a power failure;

- (d) A safety or breakseal device shall be incorporated to ensure that the openable end cannot be opened when there is still a residual over pressure in the tank. This requirement does not apply to openable ends which are power-operated, where the movement is positively controlled. In this case the controls shall be of the dead-man type and be so positioned that the operator can observe the movement of the openable end at all times and is not endangered during opening and closing of the openable end; and
- (e) Provisions shall be made to protect the openable end and prevent it from being forced open during a roll-over of the tank-container or tank swap body.

6.10.3.6 Vacuum-operated waste tanks which are fitted with an internal piston to assist in the cleaning of the tank or discharging shall be provided with stop-devices to prevent the piston in every operational position being ejected from the tank when a force equivalent to the maximum working pressure of the tank is applied to the piston. The maximum working pressure for tanks or compartments with pneumatic operated piston shall not exceed 100 kPa (1.0 bar). The internal piston shall be constructed in a manner and of materials which will not cause an ignition source when the piston is moved.

The internal piston may be used as a compartment provided it is secured in position. Where any of the means by which the internal piston is secured is external to the tank, it shall be placed in a position not liable to accidental damage.

6.10.3.7 The tanks may be equipped with suction booms if:

- (a) the boom is fitted with an internal or external stop-valve fixed directly to the shell, or directly to a bend that is welded to the shell; a rotation crown wheel can be fitted between the shell or the bend and the external stop valve, if this rotation crown wheel is located in the protected area and the stop-valve control device is protected with a housing or cover against the danger of being wrenched off by external loads;
- (b) the stop-valve mentioned in (a) is so arranged that carriage with the valve in an open position is prevented; and
- (c) the boom is constructed in such a way that the tank will not leak as a result of accidental impact on the boom.

6.10.3.8 The tanks shall be fitted with the following additional service equipment:

- (a) The outlet of a pump/exhauster unit shall be so arranged as to ensure that any flammable or toxic vapours are diverted to a place where they will not cause a danger;
- (b) A device to prevent immediate passage of flame shall be fitted to both the inlet and outlet of a vacuum pump/exhauster unit which may create sparks and which is fitted on a tank used for the carriage of flammable wastes;
- (c) Pumps which can deliver a positive pressure shall have a safety device fitted in the pipework which can be pressurised. The safety device shall be set to discharge at a pressure not exceeding the maximum working pressure of the tank;
- (d) A stop-valve shall be fitted between the shell, or the outlet of the overfill prevention device fitted to the shell, and the pipework connecting the shell to the pump/exhauster unit;
- (e) The tank shall be fitted with a suitable pressure/vacuum manometer which shall be mounted in a position where it can be easily read by the person operating the pump/exhauster unit. A distinguishing line shall be marked on the scale to indicate the maximum working pressure of the tank;
- (f) The tank, or in case of compartmented tanks, every compartment, shall be equipped with a level indicating device. Sight glasses may be used as level indicating devices, provided:
 - (i) they form a part of the tank wall and have a resistance to pressure comparable to that of the tank; or they must be fitted external to the tank;
 - (ii) the top and bottom connections to the tank are equipped with shut-off valves fixed directly to the shell and so arranged that carriage with the valves in an open position is prevented;
 - (iii) they are suitable for operation at the maximum working pressure of the tank; and
 - (iv) they are placed in a position where they will not be liable to accidental damage.

6.10.3.9 The shells of vacuum-operated waste tanks shall be fitted with a safety valve preceded by a bursting disc.

The valve shall be capable of opening automatically at a pressure between 0.9 and 1.0 times the test pressure of the tank to which it is fitted. The use of dead weight or counterweight valves is prohibited.

The bursting disc shall burst at the earliest when the initial opening pressure of the valve is reached and at the latest when this pressure reaches the test pressure of the tank to which it is fitted.

Safety devices shall be of such a type as to resist dynamic stresses, including liquid surge.

The space between the bursting disc and the safety valve shall be provided with a pressure gauge or suitable tell-tale indicator for the detection of disc rupture, pinholing or leakage which could cause a malfunction of the safety valve.

6.10.4 Inspection

Vacuum-operated waste tanks shall be subject at least every two and a half years to an examination of the internal condition, in addition to the tests according to 6.8.2.4.3.