



Specific Accreditation Criteria

ISO/IEC 17025 Application Document

Infrastructure and Asset Integrity - Annex

Pressure testing

July 2018



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Pressure Testing

This document provides interpretative criteria and recommendations for the application of ISO/IEC 17025 for both applicant and accredited facilities conducting pressure Testing.

Applicant and accredited facilities must comply with all relevant documents in the NATA Accreditation Criteria (NAC) package for Infrastructure and Asset Integrity (refer to NATA Procedures for Accreditation).

The clause numbers in this document follow those of ISO/IEC 17025 but since not all clauses require interpretation the numbering may not be consecutive.

5 Structural requirements

5.4

Oil/gas pipeline test sites (including offshore activity)

Pressure testing of oil/gas transmission pipelines is not able to be reasonably simulated by means of demonstration at the facility's physical location due to the unique features of the *in situ* environment and the physical scale of the pipelines (potentially several hundred kilometers long).

Witnessing of *in situ* test set up and control is regarded as an important part of establishing a facility's competence for this high risk activity. Accordingly, provision is made for NATA assessments to include job site visits.

Facilities are to make whatever arrangements are necessary to accommodate such visits in conjunction with the initial NATA assessment and thereafter occurring at intervals no longer than two assessment cycles (that is, approximately six years).

7 Process requirements

7.7 Ensuring the validity of results

7.7.2 For tests where there is no reported numerical result, such as pressure relief valve testing or hydrostatic/pneumatic load tests, traditional forms of proficiency testing are not likely to be relevant. For such tests, other means of assuring the technical quality of testing is to be investigated.

7.8 Reporting of results

7.8.6 Reporting statements of conformity

7.8.6.2 For testing of pressure equipment where a test temperature range is specified, such as for AS1180.5, the impact of unavoidable deviations from the prescribed temperature range is likely to be difficult to quantify. In such cases, no statement of conformity will generally be possible and facilities are encouraged to ensure that customers are kept informed of such limitations. In any case, all deviations from the requirements of the method are to be reported. Similar issues may arise in relation to other specified parameters, such as rate of pressurisation.

References

This section lists publications referenced in this document. The year of publication is not included as it is expected that only current versions of the references shall be used.

Standards

- AS 1180.5 Methods of test for hose made from elastomeric materials – Method 5: Hydrostatic pressure
- ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories

NATA publications

NATA Accreditation Criteria (NAC) package for Infrastructure and Asset Integrity

Amendment Table

The table below provides a summary of changes made to the document with this issue.

Section or Clause	Amendment
Whole document	Clauses have been aligned with ISO/IEC 17025:2017. No new interpretative criteria or recommendations have been included other than editorial changes.