

Site compliance for LPG cylinders

The OnGas logo features the word "OnGas" in a white, sans-serif font with a stylized arrow pointing to the right, set against a green circular background. A red circle overlaps the bottom right of the green circle.

OnGas would like to remind customers of their responsibilities under the Hazardous Substances (Compressed Gases) Regulations 2004 covering the storage and handling of LPG cylinders.

Compliance with the Regulations is an important part of your health and safety procedures. Non compliance may result in infringement penalties under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 and affect any future insurance claims. It is the customer's responsibility to ensure their premises are compliant with the Regulations.

The Regulations require that a site **storing more than 100 kgs (storage capacity) of LPG must hold a current Location Test certificate**. A Location Test Certificate is a document issued by a Test Certifier, approved by ERMA, confirming that your site is compliant with the requirements of the Regulations. A Location Test Certificate replaces the old Dangerous Goods Licence, which used to be issued by your Local Council.

All new installations between 100 kg and 300 kg will still require an initial location certificate to be issued by a Test Certifier, but after this an ERMA approved system of ongoing compliance checking takes over. Installations holding more than 300 kg's of LPG will continue to require an annual renewal of their Location Certificate. Installations with between 100 and 300 kgs of LPG will not. This will provide you with significant cost savings.

The person in charge of the place of work has the responsibility for ensuring all certification is current. The Location Test Certificate is normally issued annually. In certain circumstances this can be extended to 3 years at the discretion of the Test Certifier.

Only an Approved Handler may disconnect and connect cylinders on an installation of more than 100 kgs. Special training is required to achieve Approved Handler's Certification. Most Test Certifiers will be able to assist you with this.

A Test Certifier will take into account the following when inspecting your site for compliance:

- Administrative controls
- Control of the ignition sources, including hazardous atmosphere zone and controlled zone provision
- Segregation and storage of hazardous substances
- Protective equipment & clothing in some instances
- Signage
- Emergency management

Test Certifiers will advise you on what information they require, some may even send a form or checklist prior to their site visit. You will need to arrange the fee directly with the Test Certifier.

Test Certifiers are not employed by ERMA New Zealand; they are private individuals or companies offering a service to the industry. When choosing a Test Certifier care should be taken to ensure they are suitably qualified to certify all hazardous substances stored on your site.

To organise your Location Test Certificate or to answer any compliance questions you may have, contact:

ERMA New Zealand Compliance Unit
for general compliance and enforcement enquiries

P: 0800 376 234

E: hsinfo@ermanız.govt.nz

W: <http://www.ermanız.govt.nz>

ERMANZ test certifiers search

<http://www.ermanız.govt.nz/search/tc.html>

Please note this OnGas circular is for general information only and is not intended to provide legal advice.

IMPORTANT!!!

If you do not provide a copy of your Location Test Certificate, your supplier will be legally liable if they deliver LPG and will therefore be unable to supply you.