

# Gas Cylinder Test Station Scheme Fact Sheet

SAI Global operates a scheme that grants certification to Gas Cylinder Test Stations which meet the requirements specified in the AS 2337 series of Standards. The scheme has been operating for more than 40 years and provides a basis for uniform inspection and testing of cylinders and vessels that comply with AS 2030.1 (formally known as the SAA Gas Cylinder Code).

<b>Types of Certification</b>	<p>Test stations may be assessed to test one or more of the following classes of cylinders/vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Welded and brazed - eg. LPG BBQ &amp; fork lift cylinders.</li> <li>(b) Seamless - eg. Co2 fire extinguisher &amp; SCUBA cylinders.</li> <li>(c) Composite cylinders (i.e. Fibre reinforced plastics - FRP) – eg. Self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).</li> <li>(d) Automotive LPG</li> <li>(e) Automotive CNG</li> </ul> <p>Test stations are certified for different modes of operation as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>Static test station</b> – which is located at a permanent address.</li> <li>(b) <b>Mobile test station</b> – which may be either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Vehicle based station</li> <li>(ii) Portable station – Commissioning of new cylinders/vessels only</li> </ul> </li> <li>(c) <b>Integrated test station</b> – which is attached to a cylinder/vessel manufacturer's plant</li> </ul>
<b>Fee Structure</b> (refer to SAI Global Schedule of Fees for specific details)	<p>A <b>one off application fee</b> is charged to cover the costs involved for SAI Global to carry out the initial assessment of the test station.</p> <p>An <b>annual fee</b> is payable upon certification being granted and thereafter before each anniversary of the certification date.</p> <p>An <b>administration fee</b> will apply for administrative changes or changes requiring the issuing of an updated Certificate of Conformity.</p> <p>Fees are as defined in the SAI Global Fee Schedule MKP42, which is issued annually..</p>
<b>Applicant Requirements</b>	<p>Applicants must enter into an agreement with SAI Global to abide by the requirements of the scheme and failure to do so may result in the suspension or withdrawal of the certification. (Refer to SAI Global Terms and Conditions)</p> <p><b>Test Station Personnel:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shall be conversant with the relevant Standards for which the test station seeks certification.</li> <li>• Shall be suitably trained and qualified for the position held. <b>(Note: SAI Global does not provide this training).</b></li> <li>• The manager is responsible for the operation of the test station and maintaining compliance of the requirements for the scheme and the relevant standards.</li> <li>• Approved signatories are the only people authorized to sign test reports.</li> <li>• Operators and inspectors are people who have been adequately trained to carry out inspections and testing under the supervision of a signatory.</li> <li>• One person may fill any or all of the above positions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Workplace and equipment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minimum requirements for the workplace and equipment are detailed in AS 2337.1 (also refer to SAI Global Equipment list).</li> <li>• Each test station's needs may vary and the workplace and equipment will be assessed on an individual basis.</li> <li>• All gas cylinder test stations certified by SAI Global use a uniform stamp that incorporates the test station's approval number. The details of the stamp will be forwarded to the applicant following receipt of the Application for Certification.</li> </ul>

<b>Applicant Requirements</b> (continued)	<b>Documentation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The test station shall maintain a current copy of the relevant standards. (Refer to SAI Global list of Reference Standards).</li> <li>• Written procedures are required for all test station operations to ensure that inspection and testing is carried out systematically.</li> <li>• The cylinder details and test results may be recorded directly on a test report or on a worksheet then transferred to the test report.</li> <li>• There shall be a system in place that will ensure all test records are maintained for the required period.</li> <li>• Newsletters are issued from time to time by SAI Global, these form part of the test station documentation and shall be maintained with the station's reference standards, all test station personnel shall be familiar with their content.</li> </ul>
<b>Stages for Obtaining Certification</b>	<p>(a) Inquiry received by SAI Global.</p> <p>(b) SAI Global provides inquirer with an information/application package.</p> <p>(c) The application is returned to SAI Global together with the <b>application fee</b>.</p> <p>(d) SAI Global will arrange for an assessment visit to the applicant at a mutually convenient time (generally 4 – 6 weeks from receipt of application). If an immediate assessment is required, special arrangements may be made provided the applicant is prepared to meet any additional costs incurred. The assessment visit will include an appraisal of the equipment, workplace and personnel.</p> <p>Personnel nominated to become approved signatories are required to have a minimum of 6 months experience in test station inspection and testing procedures. They will be required to demonstrate this by carrying out a practical demonstration of the testing of a cylinder, including operation of the hydrostatic testing equipment where applicable. In addition <b>they will be examined</b> on their knowledge of the relevant standards, including defect assessment. Approximately 3 – 4 hours should be allowed for an initial assessment.</p> <p>(e) If the result of the visit is acceptable, the station will be issued with a Certificate of Conformity. This certificate will display the test station number, company details, types of cylinders/vessels certified to test and the name of the test station manager and signatory/signatories.</p> <p>The Certificate of Conformity and duplicate shall be signed by the nominated personnel and have the test station mark applied. The duplicate certificate shall be returned to SAI Global. The Certificate of Conformity shall be displayed in a prominent position.</p> <p>(f) If during the assessment visit, the equipment or workplace are found to be inadequate or the proposed signatories cannot demonstrate an acceptable knowledge of procedures/standards, the visit will be aborted. A follow up visit will be required for reassessment and the applicant will have to meet the additional costs.</p> <p>(g) The certification is now complete and the test station details will be published in the next issue of Standards Australia miscellaneous publication MP48 - certificated gas cylinder test stations, and will be shown on the SAI Global web based Register.</p>
<b>Maintaining Approval</b>	<p>(a) A routine audit will be carried out annually to ensure that test stations are continuing to meet the specified requirements. This audit is normally pre-arranged, however SAI Global reserves the right to carry out an unannounced visit.</p> <p>(b) The test station manager shall inform SAI Global of any changes, which may affect the certification. As some changes will require a follow up visit, as much notice, as possible should be given to SAI Global.</p>

**NB: These notes do not in any way replace the requirements of AS 2030 or AS 2337 series of standards.**