NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR REQUALIFICATION OF ALUMINUM CYLINDERS

A new ruling has been adopted into the 49CFR part 180 with regards to the requalification procedures for DOT3AL specification cylinders manufactured from aluminum alloy 6351-T6 and used in SCUBA, SCBA and Oxygen service. The full text of this new ruling can be viewed by clicking here.

The following is a summary of the new requirements:

⇒ Effective date is January 1, 2007
⇒ 3AL cylinders manufactured of 6351-T6 alloy and used in SCUBA, SCBA and O₂ service must be requalified and inspected for sustained load cracking with a non-destructive examination method
⇒ This requirement does not take the place of the hydrostatic test, but is an additional requirement to properly requalify the cylinder
⇒ This requirement does not apply to cylinders used in CO₂ service
⇒ Examination is to be done at the time of next requalification and at every requalification thereafter
⇒ Training on the proper use of the eddy current system is required in accordance with sec. 172.704
⇒ The eddy current equipment must have a reference ring and probe for each cylinder
⇒ Additional inspection form is required
⇒ Cylinders examined by this method are to be marked with a "VE" stamp after the year

A list of cylinders that are manufactured from this alloy can be found here

The industry practice is to assume that any aluminum cylinder manufactured prior to 1990 is manufactured from the 6351-T6 alloy.

Manufactures of the Eddy Current equipment are:

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<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>&quot;Brand Name&quot;</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Inspection Technology</td>
<td>Visual Plus</td>
<td><a href="http://www.visualplus.net">www.visualplus.net</a></td>
<td>800-611-9077</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>951-776-9994</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineered Inspection Systems</td>
<td>Simple Eddy</td>
<td><a href="http://www.engineeredinspection.com">www.engineeredinspection.com</a></td>
<td>800-595-1332</td>
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<td>502-955-9021</td>
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The above is a condensed version of the ruling. Please read the entire ruling by clicking here.

Hydro-Test Products Inc. – "Keeping The Industry Informed"