Chapter 14: Pressure Systems

Decommissioning Procedure

1 Purpose

The purpose of these requirements is to ensure that pressure systems are decommissioned in a manner that does not endanger personnel or harm the environment. They cover temporary and permanent decommissioning and apply to owners and custodians, mechanics, ESH representatives, and the pressure systems program manager.

2 Procedures

2.1 Temporary Decommissioning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Owner or custodian</td>
<td>Determines pressure system or vessel will not be used for a specified period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>Determines if a written decommissioning plan is needed: systems with hazard potential and systems that require maintenance should be decommissioned according to a written decommissioning plan that describes procedures for protecting the system from degradation, corrosion, and failure. Depending on pressure system type and contents, measures such as backfilling with nitrogen or other approved inert material may be taken to prevent corrosion. <em>Note: for system specifications, consult the Pressure Systems Database</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>Contacts pressure systems program manager for approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Pressure systems</td>
<td>Approves plan or specifies additional requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>program manager</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5.   | Owner or custodian    | Applies administrative lockout (see Chapter 51, "Control of Hazardous Energy") that clearly identifies each of the following:  
  - Pressure system name  
  - Pressure system number (from the Pressure Systems Database)  
  - Custodian name  
  - Department or division  
  - Last date of operation and system content  
  - Hazards warning, if any  
  - Current date |
### Decommissioning Procedure

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<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Mechanic</td>
<td>Decommissions system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Pressure systems program manager</td>
<td>Determines inspection requirements, if any</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 8.   | Owner or custodian | Re-commissions system only after it passes required inspection and is approved by the pressure systems program manager  
*Note: before bringing a system back into service (re-commissioning), repair, assembly, re-integration, or other documents must be submitted to the pressure systems program manager for approval.* |

#### 2.2 Permanent Decommissioning

A pressure system with no plans for further use is to be permanently removed or dismantled and disposed of.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Person</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Owner or custodian</td>
<td>Determines pressure system or vessel has reached the end of its service life or is no longer required for the current program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>Authorizes decommissioning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3.   | Owner or custodian | Before decommissioning is scheduled to begin, submits to the pressure systems program manager a written decommissioning plan.  
Consult these SLAC resources or services as needed:  
- Chemical lifecycle management program manager  
  (to identify opportunities for content re-use)  
- Air quality program manager (if gasses are present)  
- Waste management program manager (to determine liquid or solids disposal)  
- SLAC Salvage (to dispose of conventional pressure systems)  
- Radiation Protection (to survey for potential activation)  
*Note: certain decommissioning projects are also subject to ESH project review (see the General Policy and Responsibilities: ESH Project Review Procedure).*  
*Note: consult the Pressure Systems Database for system specifications.* |
| 4.   | Pressure systems program manager | Reviews decommissioning plan and/or takes part in the ESH project review and approves or specifies additional requirements |
| 5.   | Custodian | As soon as the vessel is to be no longer used, applies administrative lockout (see Chapter 51, *Control of Hazardous Energy*) or other clear label to indicate that the system is to be decommissioned. Ensures that the following are clearly identified:  
- Pressure system name  
- Pressure system number (from the pressure system database)  
- Custodian name |

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### Step Person Action

1. Department or division
2. Last date of operation and system content
3. Hazards warning, if any
4. Current date

6. Qualified mechanic Carries out preliminary decommissioning steps, if needed, to ensure safety until full decommissioning can be implemented. Steps can include:
   - Controlled and safe removal of non-hazardous fluid from the system and connected piping
   - Close, lockout, and tagout any valves that connect to other system(s) to ensure isolation and disconnection

7. Qualified personnel Carry out approved decommissioning plan

8. ESH representative Provides decommissioning oversight, as needed

9. Owner or custodian Submits final decommissioning report to pressure systems program manager

10. Pressure systems program manager Updates system status in the Pressure Systems Database as plans and reports are received

### 3 Forms

The following forms are required by this procedure:

- [Pressure Systems Database](#)

### 4 Recordkeeping

The following recordkeeping requirements apply for this procedure:

- Decommissioning plan. Submitted to the pressure systems program manager for approval
- Final decommissioning report. Submitted to the pressure systems program manager for inclusion in the [Pressure Systems Database](#); may take the form of the decommissioning plan that has been updated to show how it was successfully carried out

### 5 References

[SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual](#) (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001)

- [Chapter 14, “Pressure Systems”](#)
- [Chapter 1, “General Policy and Responsibilities”](#)
  - General Policy and Responsibilities: ESH Project Review Procedure (SLAC-I-720-0A24C-001)
- [Chapter 51, “Control of Hazardous Energy”](#)
Other SLAC Documents

- Pressure Systems Safety Program (SharePoint)

Other Documents