



## **BSI Standards Publication**

# **Gas cylinders — Classification of imperfections arising during the manufacture of seamless steel and aluminium alloy gas cylinders**

**bsi.**

*...making excellence a habit.<sup>TM</sup>*

**National foreword**

This Published Document is the UK implementation of ISO/TR 16115:2013.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PVE/3/3, Gas containers - Transportable gas containers - Cylinder design, construction and testing at the time of manufacture.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2014. Published by BSI Standards Limited 2014

ISBN 978 0 580 73013 9

ICS 23.020.30

**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

This Published Document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 28 February 2014.

**Amendments issued since publication**

| Date | Text affected |
|------|---------------|
|------|---------------|

---

TECHNICAL  
REPORT

ISO/TR  
**16115**

First edition  
2013-11-01

---

---

---

**Gas cylinders — Classification of imperfections arising during the manufacture of seamless steel and aluminium alloy gas cylinders**

*Bouteilles à gaz — Classification des imperfections de fabrication des bouteilles à gaz en acier et en alliage d'aluminium sans soudures*



Reference number  
ISO/TR 16115:2013(E)



## COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO 2013

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office  
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11  
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47  
E-mail [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Web [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

Published in Switzerland

## Contents

|  | Page      |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Foreword</b>  | <b>iv</b> |
| <b>Introduction</b>  | <b>v</b>  |
| <b>1 Scope</b>   | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>2 Explanatory introduction and provisions for the implementation into the cylinder design standards</b>     | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>Annex A (normative) Description and evaluation of manufacturing imperfections of seamless gas cylinders</b> | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Bibliography</b>  | <b>22</b> |

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 58, *Gas cylinders*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Cylinder design*.

## Introduction

Based on a resolution taken by ISO/TC 58/SC 3 at its 54th meeting in Sydney, a particular working group, WG 34, was created with the following tasks:

- a) consider the issue of the manufacturing defects and imperfections at the time of manufacture in International Standards for seamless steel and aluminium alloy cylinders;
- b) develop requirements that are verifiable, measurable, and practicable;
- c) put forward proposals for how to include such requirements in SC 3 International Standards, no later than the next revision of the International Standards, e.g. as an annex in the design standards or within the main body of the text.

SC 3 asked that WG 34 take the current defect annexes of ISO 9809-1, ISO 9809-2, and ISO 9809-3 for seamless steel and ISO 7866 for seamless aluminium alloy cylinders as a starting point.

In order to address the SC 3 resolution, it was further decided to create this Technical Report.



# Gas cylinders — Classification of imperfections arising during the manufacture of seamless steel and aluminium alloy gas cylinders

## 1 Scope

This Technical Report specifies the procedure on how to evaluate and treat the most commonly found manufacturing imperfections on seamless steel and aluminium alloy gas cylinders at visual inspection at the stage of product acceptance.

[Annex A](#) contains a template for the relevant cylinder design International Standards (i.e. ISO 9809-1, ISO 9809-2, and ISO 9809-3 for seamless steel and ISO 7866 for seamless aluminium alloy cylinders). It further contains information on how to implement the provisions into other cylinder design standards.

## 2 Explanatory introduction and provisions for the implementation into the cylinder design standards

It is intended that the provisions laid out in this Technical Report should be followed by ISO/TC58/SC3 working groups dealing with the design standards for seamless steel (ISO 9809-1, ISO 9809-2, and ISO 9809-3) and aluminium alloy gas cylinders (ISO 7866) at the next revision of these International Standards.

The tables in [Annex A](#) are based on the current “Defect Annexes” of ISO 9809-1, ISO 9809-2, and ISO 9809-3 for seamless steel cylinders and ISO 7866 for seamless aluminium alloy cylinders. Those imperfections applicable for the ISO 9809 series are contained in [Tables A.1](#) and [A.2](#), and those applicable for ISO 7866 are contained in [Tables A.3](#) and [A.4](#).

They are written in such a way that they can also be incorporated in other design standards as a normative annex.

The provisions of this Technical Report should also serve as a basis for a future annex to each of the other relevant design standards (other than ISO 9809-1, ISO 9809-2, ISO 9809-3, and ISO 7866) for seamless cylinders and tubes.

If incorporated in other design standards the content of the columns “Type of imperfection”, “Description”, and “Note” in [Tables A.1](#), [A.2](#), [A.3](#), and [A.4](#) (which were established by WG 34) should remain unchanged.

The tables should be reviewed by the other relevant ISO/TC 58/SC 3 working groups, in particular, the column “Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions” and the three imperfection levels. Where necessary, these conditions can be adapted to reflect the conditions appropriate to their product.

If the individual working groups intend to adopt other typical manufacturing imperfections specific to their product, they can do so, provided the structure of the tables and the remaining provisions are followed.

## Annex A (normative)

# Description and evaluation of manufacturing imperfections of seamless gas cylinders

### A.1 Introduction

Several types of imperfections can occur during the manufacture of seamless gas cylinders.

Such imperfections can be due to material defects, the manufacturing process, handling, and other circumstances during the manufacturing process.

The aim of this Annex is to identify the manufacturing imperfections most commonly found on finished cylinders and to provide requirements for the visual inspection at the stage of product acceptance.

NOTE 1 This Annex does not address customer specifications, e.g. cylinder aesthetics, special surface preparations, etc.

NOTE 2 Cylinder sampling method(s) and the quantity sampled for inspection, after cylinders with imperfections have been found, are not covered by this Annex and are prescribed in the main body of the design standard.

NOTE 3 Manufacturing imperfections can be identified and evaluated at any stage of the manufacturing process.

### A.2 General

**A.2.1** The visual inspection shall be conducted in good lighting on a product that is clean, dry, and suitable enough for proper inspection of all surfaces. The visual inspection shall be conducted by eye, and internal inspections can be augmented by a scope, dental mirror, or other suitable device. Where magnification is used, the final assessment of the imperfection shall be evaluated as if no magnification had been used.

In thicker parts of the cylinder, the acceptable absolute value of the size of the imperfection can be proportionately increased to the thickness, provided that it does not adversely affect the safe performance or integrity of the cylinder.

Where needed, the severity of a detected imperfection can be further evaluated by the use of other devices or methods.

NOTE If unclean, the cylinder surfaces should be re-cleaned before submitting the cylinder for inspection.

**A.2.2** If appropriate, small imperfections, as permitted by [Tables A.1](#) and [A.3](#), can be removed by local dressing, grinding, machining, or other suitable methods. Great care shall be taken to avoid introducing new defects or imperfections.

After such a repair, the cylinders shall be re-examined, and if the wall thickness is reduced, it shall be rechecked and be at least at minimum guaranteed wall thickness.

### A.3 Manufacturing imperfections and the procedure for their evaluation

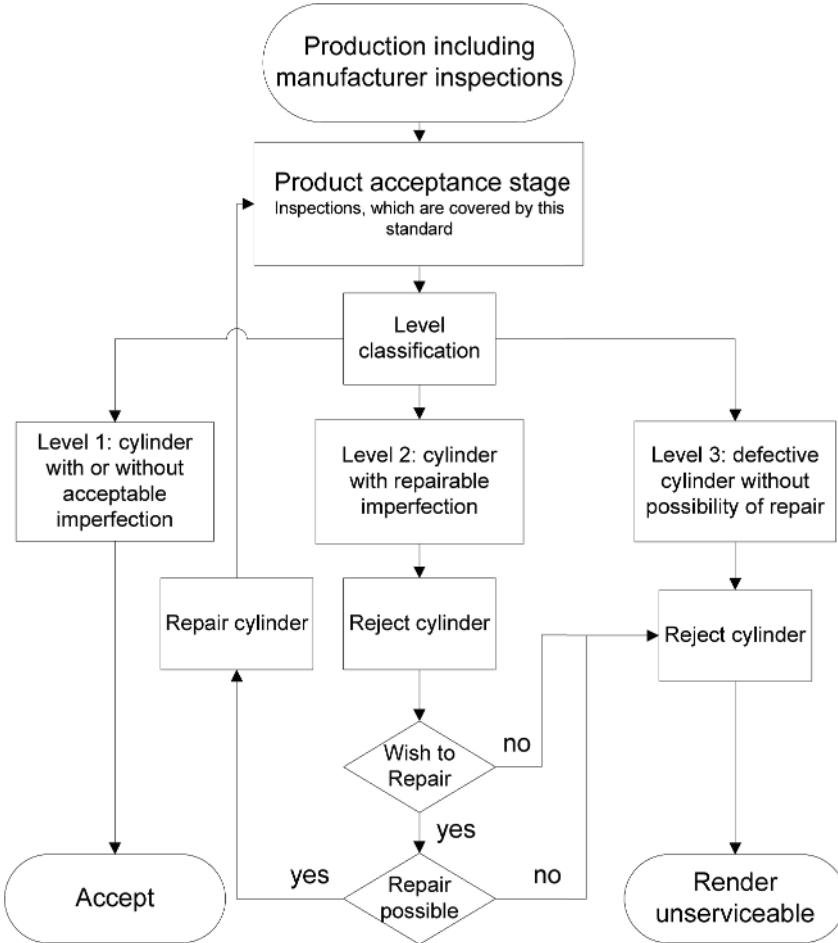
The most commonly found safety- and performance-related manufacturing imperfections and their descriptions are listed in [Table A.1](#) for seamless steel cylinders and [Table A.3](#) for seamless aluminium

alloy cylinders. In addition, the manufacturing imperfections and their descriptions for features which are not safety- or performance-related (cosmetic) are listed in [Tables A.2](#) and [A.4](#).

Limits for the repair or rejection of cylinders manufactured to this Technical Report are included in [Tables A.1](#) and [A.3](#).

The acceptance or rejection conditions for gas cylinders are categorized into three levels, in accordance with [A.4](#).

The process that shall be followed at the final visual inspection is given in [Figure A.1](#).



**Figure A.1 — Flow-diagram for the final visual inspection of gas cylinders at the time of product acceptance**

## A.4 Acceptance and rejection conditions

The following categorize the levels of imperfections and provide instructions depending on the severity of the imperfection and regarding the disposition of the cylinders.

### Level 1 imperfection

Conforming condition of a cylinder that has no adverse effects on the safe performance or integrity of the cylinder. Cylinders with Level 1 imperfections are acceptable and do not require repair.

### Level 2 imperfection

Non-conforming condition of a cylinder with features more severe than Level 1 imperfections. Cylinders with Level 2 imperfections shall be rejected. If it is decided that a rejected cylinder with Level 2

imperfections is to be repaired, it shall be repaired in accordance with [A.2.2](#) and be re-inspected. Otherwise, the cylinders are to be treated as cylinders with Level 3 imperfections.

### **Level 3 imperfection**

Non-conforming condition of a cylinder with features more severe than Level 2 imperfections. Cylinders with Level 3 imperfections shall be rejected. Rejected cylinders with Level 3 imperfections shall not be repaired and shall be rendered unserviceable.

The cylinders presented to the inspector for inspection at the time of product acceptance should have been found acceptable and should be free of imperfections to Levels 2 and 3 by the manufacturer.

## **A.5 Definitions**

### **A.5.1 repair**

action to return a rejected cylinder to a Level 1 condition

### **A.5.2 reject**

cylinder that has been set aside (Level 2 or Level 3) and not allowed to go into service

### **A.5.3 rendered unserviceable**

cylinder that has been treated in such a way as to render it impossible for use

NOTE Examples for acceptable methods to render cylinders unserviceable can be found in ISO 6406. Any actions on cylinders rendered unserviceable are outside the scope of this Technical Report.



**Table A.1 — Safety- and performance-related manufacturing imperfections and their evaluation for seamless steel cylinders**

| Pos | Type of imperfection                              | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions  |   |  | Note  |
|-----|---|---|--|---|--|---|
|     |   |   | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable   | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs, see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> )  | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable  |   |
| 1 S | Bulge   | A visible swelling of the wall (see Figure A.2).  |  |   | All cylinders with such imperfection.  | The cause of such failure shall be identified.  |
| 2 S | Dent (Flat)                                       | A visible depression in the wall that has neither penetrated nor removed metal and is greater in depth than 0,5 % of the external-cylinder diameter (see Figure A.3). (See also excessive grinding or machining.) | When the depth of the dent is less than 1 % of the external-cylinder diameter and when the diameter <sup>1)</sup> of the dent is greater than 30 times its depth.      | When the depth of the dent exceeds 1 % of the external-cylinder diameter or when the diameter <sup>1)</sup> of the dent is less than 30 × its depth.                                      | In all cases, the wall thickness shall be verified at the imperfection area and shall not be less than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.<br>1) If the dent is not circular, the largest dimension shall be taken as diameter. | In all cases, the wall thickness shall be verified at the imperfection area and shall not be less than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness. |
| 3 S | Dent containing cut or gouge                      | A depression in the wall (see item 2 S) which contains a cut or gouge (See item 4 S). (See Figure A.4.)   |  |   | All cylinders with such imperfections.   |   |
| 4 S | Cut, gouge, groove, metallic, or scale impression | An impression in the wall where metal has been removed, displaced, or redistributed with a depth of greater than 3 % of the guaranteed minimum wall thickness (see Figure A.5).                                   | When the depth does not exceed 5 % of the guaranteed minimum wall thickness and there are no sharp notches longer than 10 times the guaranteed minimum wall thickness. | External surface imperfection in excess of Level 1.<br>They can be dressed provided that the remaining wall thickness below defect is greater than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness. | Internal surface imperfection in excess of Level 1.<br>External surface imperfection in excess of Level 1 which has not been repaired or cannot be repaired.   |   |
| 5 S | Excessive grinding or machining                   | A local reduction of wall thickness by grinding or machining or other mechanical metal removal process.   |  |   | When the wall thickness is reduced to below the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.   | When it results in the formation of a dent or grinding mark, treat it as "dent" (item 2 S) or "cut" (item 3 S).                               |

Table A.1 (continued)

| Pos | Type of imperfec-tion     | Description  | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions       |  |  | Note |
|-----|---------------------------|--|---|--|--|------|
|     |                           |  | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable                              | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs, see A.2.2)  | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable  |      |
| 6 S | Lamination                | A layering of the material with a surface-breaking imperfection sometimes, appearing as a discontinuity, crack, lap, or bulge at the surface (see Figure A.6).   | External imperfection:<br>all cylinders with such imperfection. | Internal imperfection:<br>all cylinders with such imperfection.  | Laminations can exist within the entire surface of the cylinder and can appear as bulge or blister on the surface. |      |
| 7 S | Blister                   |  |   |  | Not applicable for steel.  |      |
| 8 S | Crack                     | A split or separation in the metal, typically appearing as a line on the surface.  |   | When removable within thickness tolerance, i.e. the remaining wall thickness below defect is greater than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness. | When not removable within the thickness tolerance.   |      |
| 9 S | Neck cracks and tap marks | A split or separation in the material, typically appearing as lines usually running down/up vertically the thread and across the thread. (See Figure A.8). They shall not be confused with tap marks/thread machining marks typically appearing as straight line (see Figure A.9). | Only cylinders with tap marks.                                  | All cylinders with neck cracks.  | Unlike tap marks, cracks can appear on the top face of the cylinder neck.  |      |

Table A.1 (continued)

| Pos  | Type of imperfection   | Description  | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions   |   |   | Note |
|------|--|--|---|---|---|------|
|      |  |  | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs, see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> )  | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable   |      |
| 10 S | Internal shoulder folds  | Metal flows in the shoulder area creating a visual groove. The groove of the fold will always be in longitudinal direction which can propagate into the threaded part of the neck (see Figure A.10, key 1).<br>Folds can be the initiation point for cracks, which can propagate into the cylindrical machined or threaded area of the shoulder (see Figure A.8, key 3). | Folds which are clearly visible as open depressions where no oxides have been trapped into the metal shall be accepted, provided that the peaks are smooth and the bottom (valley) of the depression is rounded.<br>Minor sharp folds are acceptable, provided they do not adversely affect the safety of the cylinder (see Figure A.11). | Folds in excess of Level 1 which can be removed by a machining operation until the lines of oxide are no longer visible and provided that the remaining thickness meets the design criteria (see Figure A.10, key 2). | Repaired Level 2 folds where the lines are still visible. |      |
| 11 S | a) Features on internal-base surface on cylinders made from tube | Splits (resembling cracks), porosity, and remaining oxides on the central surface of the cylinder base (e.g. in star form, see Figure A.12).   |   | When removable within the thickness tolerance.  | When not removable within the thickness tolerance.        |      |
|      | b) Other base features   | Splits, cracks, porosity, tool-marks, and scale impressions of the cylinder base.  | Tool marks and scale impressions provided they have been shown not to adversely affect the safety or performance of the cylinder.   | Features in excess of Level 1 and when removable within the thickness tolerance.  | When not removable within the thickness tolerance.        |      |
| 12 S | "Orange peel" surface  | A mottled, rough, and slightly wavy appearance on the internal surface due to discontinuous metal flow (see Figure A.13).  | If no cracks are visible in the orange peel surface.  |   | If cracks are visible in the orange peel surface.         |      |

Table A.1 (continued)

| Pos  | Type of imperfec-tion  | Description  | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions   |   |   | Note   |
|------|--|--|---|---|---|--|
|      |  |  | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>(for repairs, see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> )   | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable   |  |
| 13 S | Damaged internal neck threads or missing threads                       | Damaged neck threads, e.g. with dents, cuts, burrs, and chipped stripped, or missing threads. For chipped threads see Figure A.12. | All tap marks. Superficial damage which has been shown not to adversely affect the safety or performance of the cylinder. | Features in excess of Level 1 and when the design permits it, threads can be retapped/reworked and rechecked by the appropriate thread gauge and carefully visually re-examined. The required number of effective threads shall be present. | Features in excess of Level 1 and when the design permits it, threads can be retapped/reworked and rechecked by the appropriate number of effective threads.              | In case of doubt, the visual inspection can be augmented (see <a href="#">A.2.1</a> ). |
| 14 S | Pitting  | Small holes in the metal due to chemical or water attack (see Figure A.13).  |   | All pits regardless of size can be removed, provided that the requirements of <a href="#">A.2.2</a> are met.  | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired or the remaining wall thickness is less than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.                          |  |
| 15 S | Non-con-formity with the design drawing and/or technical specification | A feature at the time of visual inspection that does not conform with the design drawing and/or technical specification.           |   | All such cylinders can be repaired or be accepted, provided that the cylinder complies with the type approval and is acceptable to all parties concerned.   | All cylinders not meeting Level 2.<br>Such cylinders can be rerouted to another design drawing and/or technical specification, provided that they meet the type approval. |  |
| 16 S | Neck ring not secure   | A neck ring is loose by manual handling.   |   | All cylinders presenting such an imperfection can be repaired.  | All cylinders presenting such an imperfection and are not repaired.   | Not applicable for steel.  |
| 17 S | Lubrication marks, striation   |  |   |   |   |  |

Table A.1 (continued)

| Pos  | Type of imperfection   | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions                               |  |   | Note  |
|------|------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|
|      |                        |   | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs, see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> ) | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable       |   |
| 18 S | Internal contamination | Visual foreign matters such as loose particles, liquids, paint, lubricants, and turnings. | Discolouration (thin oxide layer) which is not detrimental to the intended gas service. | All cylinders with visually internal contamination.<br>Such cylinders can be cleaned.              | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired. | The cause of the contamination shall be determined. |
| 19 S | Internal ridge or rib  | A raised surface with sharp corners at its base (see Figure A.17).                        |   | When corners can be rounded by internal blasting.  | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired. |   |

Table A.2 — Cosmetic manufacturing imperfections for seamless steel cylinders

| Pos  | Type of imperfec-tion | Description  | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions                                       |   |   | Note  |
|------|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
|      |                       |  | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> ) | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable |   |
| 20 S | External ridge or rib | Araised surface with rounded or sharp corners at its base (see Figure A.17). | NOTE As these imperfections are not safety- or performance related, they are deemed acceptable. |   |   | This is not a harmful imperfection. However, ribs could be confused with weldment during the use of the cylinder. |

**Table A.3 — Safety- and performance-related manufacturing imperfections and their evaluation for seamless aluminium alloy cylinders**

| Pos | Type of imperfection                              | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions   |   |   | Note  |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|     |   |   | Level 1 imperfection Acceptable   | Level 2 imperfection Reject and repair if possible (for repairs see A.2.2)  | Level 3 imperfection Reject and render unserviceable  |   |
| 1 A | Bulge   | A visible swelling of the wall (see Figure A.2).  |   |   | All cylinders with such an imperfection.  | The cause of such a failure shall be identified.  |
| 2 A | Dent (flat)                                       | A visible depression in the wall that has neither penetrated nor removed metal and is greater in depth than 1 % of the outside diameter (see Figure A.3). (See also excessive grinding or machining.) | When the depth of the dent is less than 2 % of the external cylinder diameter and when the diameter <sup>1)</sup> of the dent is greater than 30 times its depth and when external dent is not visible on the internal surface. | When the depth of the dent exceeds 2 % of the external cylinder diameter or when the diameter <sup>1)</sup> of the dent is less than 30 × its depth or when the external dent is visible on the internal surface. | In all cases, the wall thickness shall be verified at the imperfection area.<br>1) If the dent is not circular, the largest dimension shall be taken as diameter. | In all cases, the wall thickness shall be verified at the imperfection area.<br>1) If the dent is not circular, the largest dimension shall be taken as diameter. |
| 3 A | Dent containing cut or gouge                      | A depression in the wall (see item 2 A) which contains a cut or gouge (item 4 A). (See Figure A.4.)   |   |   | All cylinders with such imperfections.  |   |
| 4 A | Cut, gouge, groove, metallic, or scale impression | An impression in the wall where metal has been removed, displaced, or redistributed of a depth of greater than 2 % of the guaranteed minimum wall thickness (see Figure A.5).                         | When the depth does not exceed 5 % of the guaranteed minimum wall thickness, there are no sharp notches, and the length is less than five times the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.  | External surface imperfection in excess of Level 1. They can be dressed, provided that the remaining wall thickness below defect is greater than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.                           | Internal surface imperfection in excess of Level 1. External surface imperfection in excess of Level 1 which has not been repaired or cannot be repaired.         |   |
| 5 A | Excessive grinding or machining                   | A local reduction of the wall thickness by grinding, machining or other mechanical metal removal process.   |   | When the wall thickness is reduced to below the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.  | When it results in the formation of a dent or grinding mark, treat it as "dent" (item 2 A) or "cut" (item 3 A).   |   |

Table A.3 (continued)

| Pos | Type of imperfec-tion     | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions   |  |  | Note |
|-----|---------------------------|---|---|--|--|------|
|     |                           |   | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> )              | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable  |      |
| 6 A | Lamination                | A layering of the material with a surface breaking imperfection, sometimes appearing as a discontinuity, crack, lap, or bulge at the surface (see Figure A.6).  | External imperfection:<br>all cylinders with such imperfection.   | Internal imperfection:<br>all cylinders with such imperfection.  | Laminations can exist within the entire surface of the cylinder and can appear as bulge or blister on the surface. |      |
| 7 A | Blister                   | A small bulge on the wall containing a continuous layer of inclusions (see Figure A.7).   | External imperfection:<br>all cylinders with such imperfection where blister is greater than 5 % of the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.<br><br>Not necessary to repair if clearly insignificant to cylinder performance. | Internal imperfection:<br>all cylinders with such imperfection where blister is greater than 2 mm in diameter. |  |      |
| 8 A | Crack                     | A split or separation in the metal typically appearing as a line on the surface.  | When removable within thickness tolerance, i.e. the remaining wall thickness below defect is greater than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.  | When not removable within the thickness tolerance.   |  |      |
| 9 A | Neck cracks and tap marks | A split or separation in the material typically appearing as lines usually running down/up vertically the thread and across the thread (see Figure A.8).<br><br>They shall not be confused with tap marks/thread machining marks typically appearing as straight line (see Figure A.9). | Only cylinders with tap marks.  | All cylinders with neck cracks.  | Unlike tap marks, cracks can appear on the top face of the cylinder neck.  |      |

Table A.3 (continued)

| Pos  | Type of imperfection                 | Description  | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions  |   |   | Note                          |
|------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
|      |                                      |  | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable   | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs see A.2.2)  | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable   |                               |
| 10 A | Internal shoulder folds              | Metal flows in the shoulder area creating a visual groove. The groove of the fold will always be in longitudinal direction, which can propagate into the threaded part of the neck (see Figure A.10, key 1). Folds can be the initiation point for cracks, which can propagate into the cylindrical machined or threaded area of the shoulder (see Figure A.8, key 3). | Folds which are clearly visible as open depressions where no oxides have been trapped into the metal shall be accepted, provided that the peaks are smooth and the bottom (valley) of the depression is rounded. Minor sharp folds are acceptable, provided they do not adversely affect the safety of the cylinder (see Figure A.11). | Folds in excess of Level 1 which can be removed by a machining operation until the lines of oxide are no longer visible and provided that the remaining thickness meets the design criteria (see Figure A.10, key 2). | Repaired Level 2 folds where the lines are still visible. |                               |
| 11 A | a) Features on internal base surface | Splits (resembling cracks), porosity, and remaining oxides on the central surface of the cylinder base (e.g. in star form, see Figure A.12).   |  | When removable within the thickness tolerance.  | When not removable within the thickness tolerance.        |                               |
|      | b) Other base features               | Splits, cracks, porosity, tool marks, or impressions in the cylinder base.   | Tool marks or impressions, provided they have been shown not to adversely affect the safety or performance of the cylinder.  | Features in excess of Level 1 and when removable within the thickness tolerance.  | When not removable within the thickness tolerance.        |                               |
| 12 A | "Orange peel" surface                |  |  |   |   | Not applicable for aluminium. |

Table A.3 (continued)

| Pos  | Type of imperfec-tion  | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions   |   |   | Note  |
|------|--|---|---|---|---|---|
|      |  |   | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs see A.2.2)  | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable   |   |
| 13 A | Damaged internal neck threads or missing threads                       | Damaged neck threads, e.g. with dents, cuts, burrs, and chipped stripped, or missing threads. For chipped threads, see Figure A.14. | All tap marks. Superficial damage which has been shown not to adversely affect the safety or performance of the cylinder. | Features in excess of Level 1 and when the design permits it, threads can be retapped/reworked and rechecked by the appropriate thread gauge and carefully visually re-examined. The required number of effective threads shall be present. | Features in excess of Level 1 and not repaired or inappropriate number of effective threads.  | In case of doubt, the visual inspection can be augmented (see A.2.1). |
| 14 A | Pitting  | Small holes in the metal due to chemical or water attack (see Figure A.15).   |   | All pits regardless of size can be removed, provided that the requirements of A.2.2 are met.  | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired or the remaining wall thickness is less than the guaranteed minimum wall thickness.                          |   |
| 15 A | Non-con-formity with the design drawing and/or technical specification | A feature at the time of visual inspection that does not conform with the design drawing and/or technical specification.            |   | All such cylinders can be repaired or be accepted, provided that the cylinder complies with the type approval and is acceptable to all parties concerned.   | All cylinders not meeting Level 2.<br>Such cylinders can be rerouted to another design drawing and/or technical specification, provided that they meet the type approval. |   |
| 16 A | Neck ring not secure   | A neck ring is loose by manual handling.  |   | All cylinders presenting such an imperfection can be repaired.  | All cylinders presenting such an imperfection and are not repaired.   |   |
| 17 A | Lubrication marks, striation   | Marks on the surface of the cylinder formed during the extrusion process (see Figure A.16).   | Marks which do not adversely affect the safety or performance of the cylinder.  | Marks in excess of Level 1 can be removed, provided that the requirements of A.2.2 are met.   | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired or the remaining wall thickness is less than guaranteed minimum wall thickness.                              |   |

Table A.3 (continued)

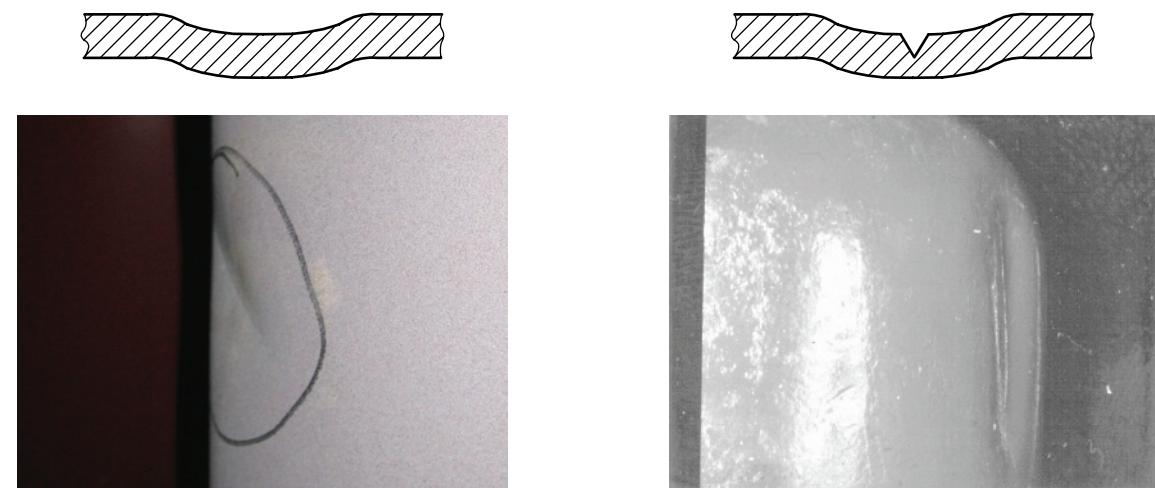
| Pos  | Type of imperfection   | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions                               |   |   | Note  |
|------|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
|      |                        |   | Level 1 imperfection Acceptable   | Level 2 imperfection Reject and repair if possible (for repairs see A.2.2)          | Level 3 imperfection Reject and render unserviceable          |   |
| 18 A | Internal contamination | Visual foreign matters such as loose particles, liquids, paint, lubricants, and turnings. | Discolouration (thin oxide layer) which is not detrimental to the intended gas service. | All cylinders with visual internal contamination.<br>Such cylinders can be cleaned. | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired. | The cause of the contamination shall be determined. |
| 19 A | Internal ridge or rib  | A raised surface with sharp corners at its base (see Figure A.17).                        |   | When corners can be rounded by internal blasting.                                   | All cylinders with such imperfections which are not repaired. |   |

**Table A.4 — Cosmetic manufacturing imperfections for seamless aluminium alloy cylinders**

| Pos  | Type of imperfection  | Description   | Decision at the time of inspections and follow-up actions                                 |   |   | Note  |
|------|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
|      |                       |   | Level 1 imperfection<br>Acceptable  | Level 2 imperfection<br>Reject and repair if possible<br>(for repairs see <a href="#">A.2.2</a> ) | Level 3 imperfection<br>Reject and render unserviceable |   |
| 20 A | External ridge or rib | A raised surface with rounded or sharp corners at its base (see Figure A.17). | As these imperfections are not safety or performance related, they are deemed acceptable. |   |   | This is not a harmful imperfection. However, ribs could be confused with weldment during the use of the cylinder. |

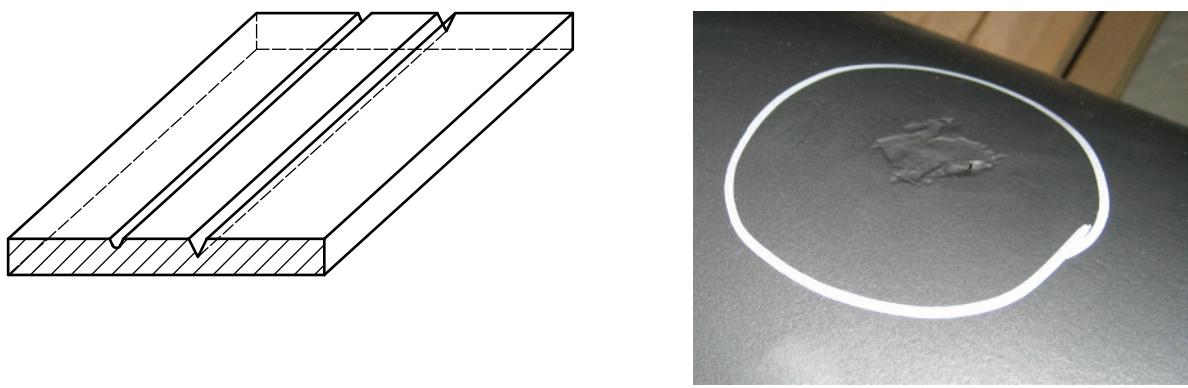


**Figure A.2 — Bulge**



**Figure A.3 — Dent**

**Figure A.4 — Dent containing cut or gouge**



**a) Groove, cut**

**b) Metallic or scale impression**

**Figure A.5**

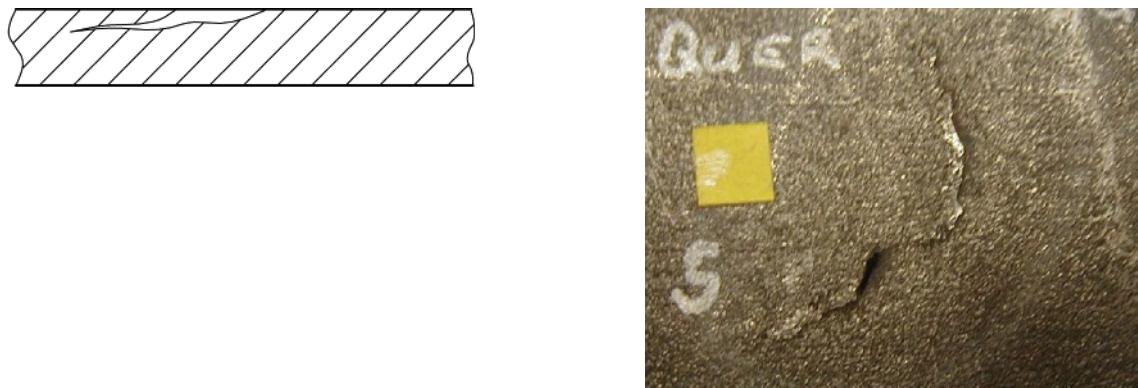
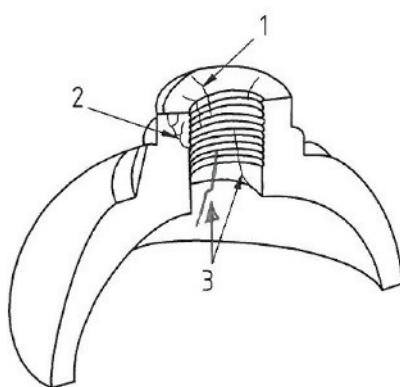


Figure A.6 — Lamination



Figure A.7 — Blister (aluminium)



**Key**

- 1 cylinder neck cracks
- 2 cross section of cylinder neck
- 3 neck crack/shoulder crack

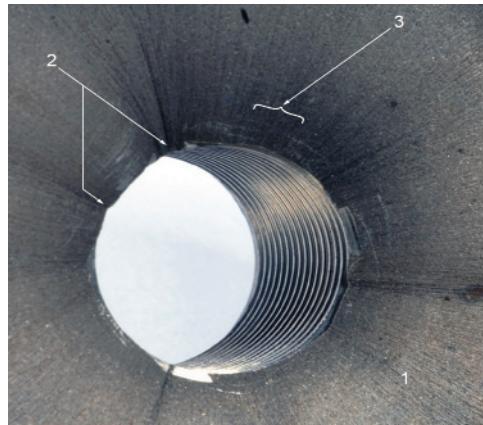
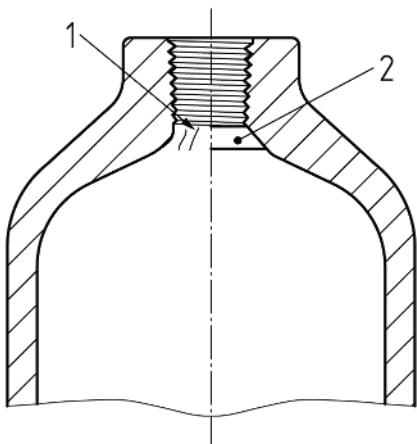
Figure A.8 — Neck cracks



**Key**

- 1 tap mark

Figure A.9 — Tap marks



**Key**

- 1 folds or cracks  
2 after machining

**Key**

- 1 area of fine/small folds  
2 minor sharp folds  
3 rounded depressions (valley)

**Figure A.10 — Cylinder shoulder folds or cracks before and after machining**

**Figure A.11 — Shoulder folds**

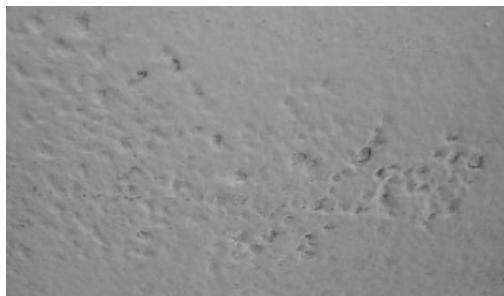


**Figure A.12 — Features on cylinder base made from tube**

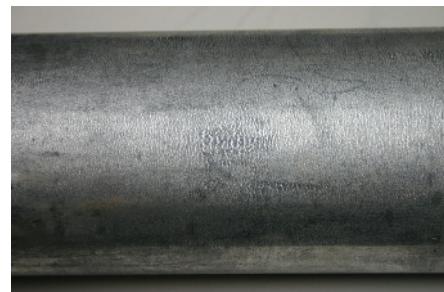


**Figure A.13 — “Orange peel”**

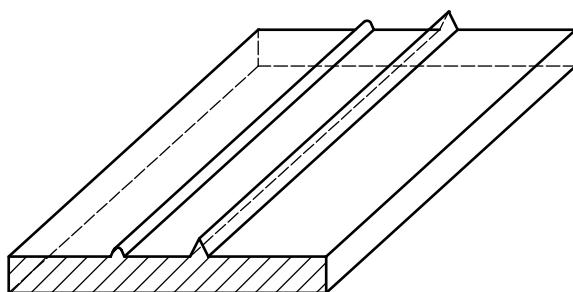
**Figure A.14 — Chipped thread**



**Figure A.15 — Pittin**



**Figure A.16 — Lubrication marks, striation**



**Figure A.17 — Rib**

## Bibliography

- [1] ISO 9809-1, *Gas cylinders — Refillable seamless steel gas cylinders — Design, construction and testing — Part 1: Quenched and tempered steel cylinders with tensile strength less than 1 100 MPa*
- [2] ISO 9809-2, *Gas cylinders — Refillable seamless steel gas cylinders — Design, construction and testing — Part 2: Quenched and tempered steel cylinders with tensile strength greater than or equal to 1 100 MPa*
- [3] ISO 9809-3, *Gas cylinders — Refillable seamless steel gas cylinders — Design, construction and testing — Part 3: Normalized steel cylinders*
- [4] ISO 7866, *Gas cylinders — Refillable seamless aluminium alloy gas cylinders — Design, construction and testing*



---

---

---

**ICS 23.020.30**

Price based on 22 pages

*This page deliberately left blank*

# British Standards Institution (BSI)

BSI is the national body responsible for preparing British Standards and other standards-related publications, information and services.

BSI is incorporated by Royal Charter. British Standards and other standardization products are published by BSI Standards Limited.

## About us

We bring together business, industry, government, consumers, innovators and others to shape their combined experience and expertise into standards-based solutions.

The knowledge embodied in our standards has been carefully assembled in a dependable format and refined through our open consultation process. Organizations of all sizes and across all sectors choose standards to help them achieve their goals.

## Information on standards

We can provide you with the knowledge that your organization needs to succeed. Find out more about British Standards by visiting our website at [bsigroup.com/standards](http://bsigroup.com/standards) or contacting our Customer Services team or Knowledge Centre.

## Buying standards

You can buy and download PDF versions of BSI publications, including British and adopted European and international standards, through our website at [bsigroup.com/shop](http://bsigroup.com/shop), where hard copies can also be purchased.

If you need international and foreign standards from other Standards Development Organizations, hard copies can be ordered from our Customer Services team.

## Subscriptions

Our range of subscription services are designed to make using standards easier for you. For further information on our subscription products go to [bsigroup.com/subscriptions](http://bsigroup.com/subscriptions).

With **British Standards Online (BSOL)** you'll have instant access to over 55,000 British and adopted European and international standards from your desktop. It's available 24/7 and is refreshed daily so you'll always be up to date.

You can keep in touch with standards developments and receive substantial discounts on the purchase price of standards, both in single copy and subscription format, by becoming a **BSI Subscribing Member**.

**PLUS** is an updating service exclusive to BSI Subscribing Members. You will automatically receive the latest hard copy of your standards when they're revised or replaced.

To find out more about becoming a BSI Subscribing Member and the benefits of membership, please visit [bsigroup.com/shop](http://bsigroup.com/shop).

With a **Multi-User Network Licence (MUNL)** you are able to host standards publications on your intranet. Licences can cover as few or as many users as you wish. With updates supplied as soon as they're available, you can be sure your documentation is current. For further information, email [bsmusales@bsigroup.com](mailto:bsmusales@bsigroup.com).

## BSI Group Headquarters

389 Chiswick High Road London W4 4AL UK

## Rewvisions

Our British Standards and other publications are updated by amendment or revision. We continually improve the quality of our products and services to benefit your business. If you find an inaccuracy or ambiguity within a British Standard or other BSI publication please inform the Knowledge Centre.

## Copyright

All the data, software and documentation set out in all British Standards and other BSI publications are the property of and copyrighted by BSI, or some person or entity that owns copyright in the information used (such as the international standardization bodies) and has formally licensed such information to BSI for commercial publication and use. Except as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 no extract may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise – without prior written permission from BSI. Details and advice can be obtained from the Copyright & Licensing Department.

## Useful Contacts:

### Customer Services

**Tel:** +44 845 086 9001

**Email (orders):** [orders@bsigroup.com](mailto:orders@bsigroup.com)

**Email (enquiries):** [cservices@bsigroup.com](mailto:cservices@bsigroup.com)

### Subscriptions

**Tel:** +44 845 086 9001

**Email:** [subscriptions@bsigroup.com](mailto:subscriptions@bsigroup.com)

### Knowledge Centre

**Tel:** +44 20 8996 7004

**Email:** [knowledgecentre@bsigroup.com](mailto:knowledgecentre@bsigroup.com)

### Copyright & Licensing

**Tel:** +44 20 8996 7070

**Email:** [copyright@bsigroup.com](mailto:copyright@bsigroup.com)



...making excellence a habit.<sup>TM</sup>