

RISK CONTROL SOLUTIONS

A Service of the Michigan Municipal League Liability and Property Pool and the Michigan Municipal League Workers' Compensation Fund

BOILER CERTIFICATE INSPECTIONS vs. ROUTINE TESTING & MAINTENANCE

Michigan Municipal League Liability and Property Pool provides their members with equipment breakdown insurance through *AXA XL Insurance Company*. AXA XL also provides you with the jurisdictional mandated *certificate inspections* of boilers and pressure vessels. This service is provided free of charge to covered Pool members. AXA XL partners with Bureau Veritas to conduct the inspection and provide a report of the inspection for the member.

Jurisdictional *certificate inspections* on heating boilers and hot-water supply boilers are performed every three years by AXA XL, allowing your boiler or pressure vessel to remain in operation. However, a positive certificate inspection requires proof of annual testing and maintenance. Routine, ongoing and regular testing and maintenance is the responsibility of the member and is different and separate from the AXA XL jurisdictional certificate inspection. This has been a point of confusion for some members in the past.

The manufacture, installation and maintenance requirements are set forth in Michigan's Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and administrative Michigan Boiler Rules. Specifically, Rule 27 (attached) requires owners to provide the inspector with evidence of annual boiler or pressure vessel testing and maintenance at the time of the certificate renewal inspection. Documentation of your testing and maintenance must be dated and a signed service report or checklist, listing each control and safety device tested is necessary. It should also include the equipment manufacturer's name, model number, set point, and actual operational test point. Failure to provide required documentation of the testing may result in a Notice of Violation issued against the boiler.

Generally, this annual testing is required for all heating boilers. However, Rule 27 makes an exception for hot water heating boilers with a BTU input of 400,000 or less. For these boilers, testing is required to be conducted once during an inspection cycle but shall be performed within 12 months prior to the certificate inspection.

In addition to complying with Code requirements, your annual testing and preventative maintenance has other benefits. The licensed mechanical contractor who performs the annual testing will also usually perform a combustion analysis on each unit, in order to provide the best possible tuning of the burner for optimum efficiency. With the current cost of fuel, the improved operating efficiency often will pay for the testing and service call.

For more information, contact the League's Loss Control Services, or MML Risk Management Services.



Important Contact Information

MML Risk Management Services Loss Control Services AXA XL (EB Service Center) 734/662-3246 or 800/653-2483 800/482-2726 844/952-4677

Note: This document is not intended to be legal advice. It does not identify all the issues surrounding the particular topic. Public agencies are encouraged to review their procedures with an expert or a competent attorney who is knowledgeable about the topic.

R 408.4027 Adoption; ASME code CSD-1.

Rule 27. (1)

The owner shall ensure that the installation, maintenance, operation, and testing of controls and safety devices is in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and ASME code CSD-1, 2006 edition, except as modified by these rules. The code is adopted by reference in these rules and available for inspection at the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth, Bureau of Construction Codes, 6546 Mercantile Way, Lansing, Michigan 48911 or from the ASME, 22 Law Drive, Fairfield, New Jersey 07007, at a cost as of the time of adoption of these amendatory rules of \$85.00.

(2)An owner or user of a boiler system shall ensure that the maintenance and testing of controls and safety devices is conducted by an individual with a valid mechanical contractor license with the appropriate classification pursuant to 1984 PA 192, MCL338.971 et seq.

(1)An owner or user shall provide the inspector, at the time of certificate inspection, with evidence showing what tests have been completed annually. The evidence shall be a dated and signed service report or checklist, listing each control and safety device tested with the manufacturer's name, model number, set point, and actual operational test point. An example of a report or checklist may be found in CSD-1, 2006 edition, appendix C.

If an owner does not provide the inspector with the required evidence of annual testing for each year between certificate inspections, then the inspector may issue a certificate of inspection for a term less than that stated in R 408.4057.

Exception: For hot water heating boilers with a BTU input of 400,000 or less, the requirements of this rule need only be conducted once during an inspection cycle but shall be performed within 12 months prior to the certificate inspection required by R408.4057(1)(c).

(2) The owner, user, or operator of a boiler system shall ensure that the daily, weekly, and monthly operational checks are performed and documented pursuant to the manufacturer's instructions and these rules. If the manufacturer's instructions are not available, CSD-1, 2006 edition, non-mandatory appendix D contains a recommended checklist for additional information on periodic checks.