

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.

Manufacturers of the Eddy Current equipment are:

Company Name	"Brand Name"	Web Site	Phone
Advanced Inspection Technology	Visual Plus	www.visualplus.net	800-611-9077 951-776-9994
Engineered Inspection Systems	Simple Eddy	www.engineeredinspection.com	800-595-1332 502-955-9021
Visual Eddy Products	Visual Eddy	www.visualeddy.com	630-736-7075

The above is a condensed version of the ruling. Please read the entire ruling by clicking [here](#)

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