
**Gas cylinders — Specifications and
testing of LPG cylinder valves —
Self-closing**

*Bouteilles à gaz — Spécifications et essais pour valves de bouteilles de
GPL — Fermeture automatique*

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Foreword

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The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 14245 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 58, *Gas cylinders*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Cylinder fittings*.

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Introduction

This International Standard calls for the use of substances and procedures that can be injurious to health if adequate precautions are not taken. It refers only to technical suitability and does not absolve the user from legal obligations relating to health and safety at any stage.

It has been assumed in the drafting of this International Standard that execution of its provisions is entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people.

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Gas cylinders — Specifications and testing of LPG cylinder valves — Self-closing

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the requirements for design, specification and type testing for dedicated LPG self-closing cylinder valves specifically for use with transportable refillable LPG cylinders from 0,5 l up to 150 l water capacity. It includes references to associated equipment for vapour or liquid service.

NOTE Annex B gives recommendations for production testing and inspection.

This International Standard does not apply to fixed automotive installations.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 10920, *Gas cylinders — 25E taper thread for connection of valves to gas cylinders — Specification*

ISO 11114-1, *Transportable gas cylinders — Compatibility of cylinder and valve materials with gas contents — Part 1: Metallic materials*

ISO 11114-2, *Transportable gas cylinders — Compatibility of cylinder and valve materials with gas contents — Part 2: Non-metallic materials*

ISO 11116-1, *Gas cylinders — 17E taper thread for connection of valves to gas cylinders — Part 1: Specifications*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

liquefied petroleum gas LPG

mixture of predominantly butane or propane with traces of other hydrocarbon gases classified in accordance with UN number 1965, hydrocarbon gas mixture, liquefied, or NOS or UN number 1075, petroleum gases, liquefied

NOTE In some countries, UN number 1011 and UN number 1978 may also be used to designate LPG.

[ISO 10464]

3.2

cylinder valve

valve designed for use in one or more of the following applications: liquid filling, liquid service, vapour service, liquid level indication

3.3

external tightness

resistance to leakage through the valve body to or from the atmosphere, when the valve is open

3.4

internal tightness

resistance to leakage across the valve seat, or other internal sealing components, when the valve is closed

3.5

eduction tube

tube fitted to the valve to allow withdrawal of liquid LPG with the cylinder in its normal operating position

3.6

fixed liquid level gauge

control device, such as a dip tube in combination with a vent valve, to verify that the predetermined maximum liquid level in a cylinder has been reached or surpassed

3.7

liquid level indicator

control device, such as a float gauge, permitting the gauging of the liquid level in the cylinder

3.8

valve body

major valve component including valve stem and/or valve outlet and, where applicable, the provision for other optional components

3.9

excess flow device

flow limiter

device designed to close or partially close when the flow of liquid or vapour passing through it exceeds a predetermined value and to re-open when the pressure differential across the valve has been restored below a certain value

3.10

non-return valve

valve designed to close automatically to restrict reverse flow

3.11

vapour/liquid dual valve

valve designed to allow vapour and liquid withdrawal from a cylinder in its normal operating position

3.12

sealing element

element used to provide internal leak tightness

3.13

valve stem

section of the valve body which connects to the cylinder

3.14

valve outlet

section of the valve body to which a regulator or connector can be fitted for vapour or liquid withdrawal

NOTE The valve outlet is also normally used for filling the cylinder.

3.15**type test**

test or series of tests conducted to prove that the design meets the requirements of this International Standard

3.16**cylinder opening**

part of the cylinder to which the valve stem connects

3.17**quick coupling connector**

system which enables an appliance or equipment to be connected to a cylinder valve without the use of tools

3.18**test pressure**

pressure at which the valve or component is tested in bar gauge

3.19**sediment tube**

device designed to reduce the risk of foreign matter, which can be in the cylinder, from entering the valve

3.20**protection cap/dust cap**

device fitted to the valve outlet and intended for one or more of the following functions:

- to protect the outlet;
- to prevent the ingress of foreign matter;
- to indicate unauthorized manipulation

3.21**sealing cap**

device fitted to, or integral with, the outlet of the cylinder valve to provide secondary closure

3.22**valve operating mechanism**

mechanism that opens the valve when, or after, a regulator or connector is fitted and closes automatically when, or before, a regulator or connector is disconnected

3.23**sealing mechanism**

mechanism to obtain internal leak tightness

3.24**protection cap**

device that may be screwed to a fitting permanently attached to the cylinder to protect a cylinder valve

3.25**shroud/guard**

device that may be welded to the cylinder to protect a cylinder valve

3.26**gross mass**

mass of the heaviest cylinder on which the valve is intended to be fitted, including any permanently attached accessories and the maximum mass of the LPG content

3.27

pressure relief valve

valve which automatically, without the assistance of any energy other than that of the fluid concerned, discharges a quantity of fluid so as to prevent a predetermined safe pressure being exceeded, and which is designed to re-close and prevent the further flow of fluid after normal pressure conditions of service have been restored

NOTE The loading due to the fluid pressure underneath the valve-sealing element is opposed by a spring.

4 Design and specification

4.1 General

The valve shall be capable of withstanding:

- operating pressures and test pressures;
- mechanical stresses, including dynamic loads such as pressure shocks or cyclic changes;
- operating temperatures.

NOTE Pressures are gauge pressure unless otherwise specified.

There shall be valve external and internal leak tightness for the full range of pressure and temperature conditions.

The specific requirements relating to the functions, mechanical strength, pressure, operating temperatures, external and internal leak tightness of the valve and its components are detailed in the following subclauses of this clause and/or in the relevant test in Clause 5.

4.2 Materials

4.2.1 General

Materials in contact with LPG shall be physically and chemically compatible with LPG under all operating conditions for which the valve is designed (see ISO 11114-1 and ISO 11114-2).

In selecting an appropriate material for valve components, it is important to select not only for adequate strength in service, but also to give consideration to other modes of failure due to atmospheric corrosion, brass dezincification, stress corrosion, shock loads, and material failure.

4.2.2 Operating temperatures

Materials used shall be suitable for the temperatures for which the valve is designed.

The minimum operating temperature, to which the valve is expected to be exposed during normal use, is minus 20 °C. In service, temperatures below this may be encountered during short periods, e.g. during filling. Where necessary, e.g. in some countries and for certain applications, lower minimum operating temperatures shall be used. When equipment is designed for a temperature of minus 40 °C, it shall also meet the requirements of Annex C.

The maximum operating temperature to which the valve is expected to be exposed during normal operation is 65 °C. In service, this temperature may be exceeded for short periods.

4.2.3 Copper alloys

Valve bodies made from copper alloys shall be manufactured from materials in accordance with recognized standards, for example EN 12164 and EN 12165 or from alloys of equivalent properties.

4.2.4 Non-metallic materials

Non-metallic materials in contact with LPG shall be compatible with LPG (see ISO 11114-2). They shall not distort, harden or adhere to the body or seat face to such an extent as to impair the function of the valve.

In accordance with national or international standards, for example EN 549, non-metallic materials in contact with LPG shall meet the requirements for resistance to:

- gas (pentane test);
- lubricants;
- ageing;
- low temperature;
- high temperature;
- compression;
- ozone (where the material is exposed to the atmosphere).

4.3 Essential components

4.3.1 Valve operating mechanism

The valve shall be designed in such a way that the travel distance of the valve operating mechanism cannot be modified.

The valve operating mechanism shall be designed in such a way that it remains captive and achieves direct contact with the valve body in the absence of the sealing element, in order to limit the leakage rate of gas.

4.3.2 Valve body

If the valve body is made of more than one part, precautions shall be taken to ensure that there can be no unintentional dismantling. Dismantling shall require specialized equipment.

4.3.3 Sealing mechanism

The sealing mechanism shall ensure internal leak tightness. This can be achieved with one or more sealing elements, one of which shall be spring loaded to ensure closure when the valve is not activated.

The valve sealing system may also include a sealing cap.

4.3.4 Valve stem

The connection between the valve and the LPG cylinder shall be a threaded sealing system in accordance with ISO 10920, ISO 11116-1 or any other connection system that provides an equivalent level of safety.

The design of the valve stem shall prevent leakage, loosening in service and meet the requirements of 5.7.

The valve stem shall withstand the torque identified in Table 3, without causing such damage as to affect their performance, operating mechanism, internal tightness and external tightness. However, it should be noted that such torque values should not be used for normal operational application.

4.3.5 Valve outlet

The connection between the valve and the equipment shall be by means of a quick coupling connector or a threaded connector. Valve outlets should conform to a standard such as ISO 5145, EN 12864, or any other connection system that provides an equivalent level of safety.

In the case of a vapour/liquid dual valve, the following requirements shall apply:

- The valve shall have separate vapour and liquid outlet connections. The wall thickness between the passageways through the valve body shall not be less than 1 mm.
- The liquid outlet shall be a different design to that of the vapour outlet. Valves with liquid and vapour outlets shall have clear identification to distinguish between them, such as different connection geometry and/or marking the outlet connections.
- It shall not be possible to obtain a flow from the liquid outlet before a leak tight connection has been made.

4.3.6 Excess flow device (flow limiter)

Valves with a passageway of cross-sectional area equivalent to or greater than a 3 mm diameter hole for liquid, or an 8 mm diameter hole for vapour shall be protected by an excess flow device (see 4.4.3).

4.4 Optional components

4.4.1 Pressure relief valve

A pressure relief valve shall be designed to operate in the vapour phase. Pressure relief valves for LPG cylinders shall fulfil the requirements of an International or national standard, for example EN 13953.

4.4.2 Eduction tube

The eduction tube shall be securely fitted to the valve to ensure that it does not dismantle during operation, for example using adhesive, press fitting or any other mechanical means.

NOTE When a valve with an eduction tube is fitted to a cylinder, its presence and orientation should be clearly identified.

4.4.3 Excess flow device (flow limiter)

Excess flow devices shall meet the requirements of an International or national standard, for example EN 13175.

Excess flow devices shall be designed so that their function does not interfere with the operation of a pressure relief valve, if fitted.

4.4.4 Non-return valve

Non-return valves shall be designed so that, when closed, the reverse flow past the seat shall not exceed 15 cm³/h air at room temperature (typically between 15 °C and 30 °C).

4.4.5 Sediment tube

The sediment tube inlet shall be in the vapour space when the cylinder is in its normal operating orientation at its maximum fill and operating temperature.

4.4.6 Fixed liquid level gauge

Fixed level gauges that operate by means of temporarily venting a limited quantity of LPG whereupon the change from vapour to liquid is detected, shall meet the following requirements:

- The cross-section of the passage way through the gauge body shall at some point be limited to an area equivalent to or less than a 1,5 mm diameter hole.
- The orifice shall be controlled by a vent screw.
- The vent screw shall remain captive, or be permanently attached to the gauge body.
- The direction of venting shall be either horizontal or towards the ground.
- The length of the dip tube shall be determined according to the requirements of the operating conditions.

4.4.7 Sealing cap

The valve may also be fitted with a sealing cap.

4.5 Leak tightness

The leak rate for external and internal tightness shall not exceed the value specified in 5.3.

5 Valve type test

5.1 General

The test regime shall consist of tests number 1 to 19 in accordance with Table 1.

The acceptance criteria shall be as detailed in 5.22.

Documentation/Reports shall be as detailed in Clause 6.

5.2 Test procedure and test requirements

Six sample valves shall be numbered and tested in accordance with the requirements of Table 1.

Each test shall be carried out in accordance with the relevant clause designated in Table 1. Generally, the clause will detail the "Test procedure" and the "Test requirement".

Valves shall be tested with all their components, excluding any protection cap, dust cap or sealing cap where appropriate.

Table 1 — Valve type test requirements

Test	Test detail	Subclause	Condition of test valve/test sequence	Temperature at which the test is performed °C	Valve sample number
1	Hydraulic pressure	5.3.3	As received	room temperature	1
2	External and internal tightness	5.4	From Test no. 1	room temperature	1
3	Valve closure with sealing element removed	5.5	From Test no. 2	room temperature	1
4	Operation	5.6	As received	room temperature	2
5	Valve stem	5.7	From Test no. 4	room temperature	2
6	External and internal tightness	5.8	From Test no. 5	room temperature	2
7	Impact	5.9	As received	room temperature	3
8	External and internal tightness	5.10	From Test no. 7	room temperature	3
9	External and internal tightness	5.11	As received	room temperature	4,5 and 6
10	External and internal tightness after ageing	5.12	From Test no. 9	room temperature	4,5 and 6
11	Endurance — Part 1	5.13	From Test No. 10	room temperature	4,5 and 6
12	External and internal tightness after endurance test	5.14	From Test No. 11	room temperature	4,5 and 6
13	Endurance — Part 2	5.15	From Test no. 12	room temperature	4,5 and 6
14	Tightness — valve outlet seal after endurance test	5.16	From Test no. 13	room temperature	4,5 and 6
15	External and internal tightness	5.17	From Test no. 14	room temperature	4,5 and 6
16	External and internal tightness — High temperature	5.18	From Test no. 15	65 +2.5/–2.5	4,5 and 6
17	External and internal tightness — Low temperature	5.19	From Test no. 16	–20 (+0/–5)	4,5 and 6
18	Simulated vacuum	5.20	From Test no. 17	room temperature	4,5 and 6
19	Examination of dismantled valves	5.21	From Test no. 18	room temperature	4,5 and 6

NOTE Room temperature means typically between 15 °C and 30 °C.

5.3 External and internal tightness tests (Tests nos. 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17)

5.3.1 Procedure

The valves shall be subjected to these tests in accordance with the following procedure.

- The test temperature shall be as detailed in Table 1, i.e. room temperature, except in Tests nos. 16 and 17.
- The test medium shall be air or nitrogen.
- Each external and internal tightness test sequence shall include a test at two pressure settings as shown in Table 2.
- The pressure shall be applied through a fitting reproducing the cylinder opening.

External tightness shall be determined in accordance with the following procedure on each valve:

- The outlet and components, if provided, shall be sealed.
- The valve operating mechanism shall be in the open position.
- The specified pressure shall be applied to the open valve.
- After a period of at least 1 min, the external tightness shall be checked. The check shall last at least 1 min.

Internal tightness shall be determined in accordance with the following procedure on each valve:

- The valve shall be closed under pressure.
- The outlet shall be depressurized.
- After a period of at least one minute, the internal tightness shall be checked. The check shall last at least 1 min.
- The valve shall be depressurized.

Table 2 — Test pressures

No.	Test pressure bar gauge
1	0,1
2	25

5.3.2 Requirement for external and internal leak tightness

The leak rate for the external and internal tightness shall not exceed 15 cm³/h of air measured at 15,6 °C and 1,013 bar, at pressures specified in Table 2.

5.3.3 Hydraulic pressure test (Test no. 1)

5.3.3.1 Procedure

This test shall be carried out prior to other tests in the following manner:

- Select valve number 1 shall be selected.
- The number of cycles shall be 1.
- The test medium shall be water or other suitable fluid.
- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- The test pressure shall be 45 bar.
- Pressure relief valves, where fitted, shall be removed and the opening plugged.
- The valve operating mechanism shall be in the closed position.
- Pressure shall be applied through a fitting reproducing the cylinder opening.
- The pressure shall be raised continuously and gradually.
- The test pressure shall be held for at least 2 min.
- The test shall then be repeated with the valve operating mechanism in the open position and with the outlet sealed.

5.3.3.2 Requirement

The valve shall withstand the test without permanent deformation, rupture or leak. The external and internal leak tightness shall be established in accordance with Test no. 2.

5.4 External and internal tightness test (Test no. 2)

If Test no. 1 is satisfactory, valve no. 1 shall be subjected to an external and internal tightness test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.5 Valve closure test (Test no. 3)

5.5.1 Procedure

If Test no. 2 is satisfactory, the valve drawings shall be examined to determine that there is metal-to-metal contact between the valve body and the operating mechanism with the sealing element removed.

5.5.2 Requirement

There shall be sufficient travel distance for the operating mechanism so that the seal housing makes contact with the seat.

5.6 Operation test (Test no. 4)

5.6.1 Procedure

If all the tests applied to valve number 1 are satisfactory, valve no. 2 shall be tested as follows:

- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- The number of cycles shall be one.
- The relevant matching regulator or connector as advised by the manufacturer shall be attached to the valve.
- The sealing element shall be subjected to a pressure of 25 bar.
- The valve shall be opened and closed using the mechanism on the matching regulator or connector.

5.6.2 Requirement

The opening and closing operations shall be carried out without causing damage or deformation to either the valve or matching regulator or connector.

5.7 Valve stem test (Test no. 5)

5.7.1 Procedure

If the result of Test no. 4 is satisfactory, valve no. 2 shall be tested as follows:

- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- The number of cycles shall be 1.
- A mild steel cylinder opening with matching threads shall be used without thread sealant or lubricant.
- The threaded valve stem shall be tightened to the torque settings as shown in Table 3.

The torque values given in Table 3 are intended for the sole purpose of giving an indication of the strength of the valve stem and shall not be used for operational applications.

Table 3 — Minimum required torque for valve stem test

Valve stem major diameter — large end Dm (see Figure A.1) mm	Torque Nm
$\leq 19,8$	130
$> 19,8 < 28,8$	200
$\geq 28,8$	250

5.7.2 Requirement

The valve shall not be damaged so as to affect its performance or operating mechanism. The internal and external tightness shall be tested in accordance with Test no. 6.

5.8 External and internal tightness test (Test no. 6)

If the result of Test no. 5 is satisfactory, valve no. 2 shall be subjected to this test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.9 Impact test (Test no. 7)

5.9.1 General

A valve, which is designed to be used only on cylinders protected by a protection cap or shroud, shall be submitted to an impact test of 40 J. The dimensions of the valve shall not exceed those shown in Annex A.

A valve, which is not designed to be protected by a protection cap or shroud, shall be submitted to an impact test with an impact value determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$J = 3,6 \cdot M$$

where

J is the impact value (Joules);

M is the gross mass (kilograms).

5.9.2 Procedure

If the result of Test no. 6 is satisfactory, valve no. 3 shall be tested as follows:

- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- The assembled valve, with the sealing mechanism closed, shall be firmly screwed into a cylinder opening or similar fixture.
- A weight shall be dropped from a height so as to deliver an impact at a minimum velocity of 3 m/s. This shall be achieved by mounting the weight in a pendulum or by allowing it to fall vertically.
- The point of impact of the weight shall be a hardened steel ball of 13 mm diameter.
- The point of impact shall be approximately two thirds the distance from the just exposed stem thread to the top of the valve body.
- The impact shall be normal to the centre line of the valve and not cushioned by protrusions.

5.9.3 Requirement

The valve shall not crack or shear to such an extent that LPG would be released. This shall be verified by performing Test no. 8.

5.10 External and internal tightness test (Test no. 8)

If the result of Test no. 7 is satisfactory, valve no. 3 shall be subjected to this test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.11 External and internal tightness test (Test no. 9)

If tests nos. 1 to 8 are satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be subjected to this test in accordance with the procedure in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.12 External and internal tightness test after ageing (Test no. 10)

If Test no. 9 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be subjected to an ageing process.

The ageing process shall be carried out by elevating and maintaining the temperature of the valve to 65 °C for a period of 5 days before the tightness test is carried out.

The valves shall then be subjected to tightness tests in accordance with the procedure in 5.3.1. and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.13 Endurance test — Part 1 (Test no. 11)

5.13.1 Procedure

If Test no. 10 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall each be subjected to this test in accordance with the following procedure:

- The number of cycles shall be 10 000.
- The tests shall be carried out using air or nitrogen.
- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- The internal pressure shall be 12 bar.
- From the closed position, the valve operating mechanism shall be moved three quarters of its maximum travel to the open position and closed again.
- After each closure, the pressure downstream of the seat shall be released to the atmosphere.
- The cycle time shall be a minimum of 5 s. (Care shall be taken to ensure that there shall be no excessive temperature rise due to friction in the valve during the test.)
- On completion of the above, the valve shall be checked for deformation, wear and cracks.

5.13.2 Requirement

Any failure, deformation, excessive wear or cracks that affect the normal operation of the valve shall be a cause for rejection.

5.14 External and internal tightness test after endurance test — Part 1 (Test no. 12)

If Test no. 11 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be subjected to an external and internal tightness test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.15 Endurance test — Part 2 (Test no. 13)

5.15.1 Procedure

If the result of Test no. 12 is satisfactory, the second part of the endurance test shall be carried out on valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 in accordance with the following procedure:

- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- A matching regulator or connector shall be connected to the valve fitted with its outlet seal.
- 500 cycles of connection and disconnection on each valve shall be carried out, at atmospheric pressure.
- Each cycle shall last approximately 5 s.

- The valve shall be examined and checked for deformation and wear.
- The outlet seal shall be leak-tested with the matching regulator or connector connected.

5.15.2 Requirement

Any excessive wear or deformation to the valve outlet shall be a cause for rejection.

5.16 Tightness test at valve outlet seal after endurance test — Part 2 (Test no. 14)

If the result of Test no. 13 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be tested as follows:

- The matching regulator or connector as advised by the manufacturer shall be connected.
- The outlet seal shall be leak-tested in accordance with the relevant parts of the procedure detailed in 5.3.1.
- The leak rate of the outlet seal shall not exceed the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.17 External and internal tightness test (Test no. 15)

If Test no. 14 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be subjected to this test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.

5.18 External and internal tightness test — High temperature (Test no. 16)

If Test no. 15 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be subjected to this test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2 **except** that the temperature shall be $\left(65 \begin{smallmatrix} 5 \\ -5 \end{smallmatrix}\right) ^\circ\text{C}$.

5.19 External and internal tightness test — Low temperature (Test no. 17)

If Test no. 16 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be subjected to this test in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.3.1 and the requirements detailed in 5.3.2 **except** that the temperature shall be $\left(20 \begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{smallmatrix}\right) ^\circ\text{C}$.

5.20 Simulated vacuum test (Test no. 18)

If the result of Test no. 17 is satisfactory, valves nos. 4, 5 and 6 shall be tested as follows:

- The number of cycles per valve shall be 1.
- The test medium shall be air.
- The temperature shall be room temperature.
- The valve shall be subjected to a pressure of 1 bar, applied to the valve outlet in a direction that allows the sealing mechanism to be lifted off the valve seat.
- After a period of at least 1 min, the tightness shall be checked. The check shall last at least 1 min.

The tests shall meet the requirements detailed in 5.3.2.