Regulation of the Federal Minister for Economy, Energy and Tourism, the Federal Minister for Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection and the Federal Minister for Innovation, Mobility and Infrastructure on the storage, filling, refilling and use of liquefied petroleum gas 2025 (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Ordinance 2025 – FGV 2025)

Pursuant to

1. Section 82(1) of the Trade Regulation Act 1994 - GewO 1994, BGBl. No 194/1994, last amended by the Federal Act published in Federal Law Gazette (BGBl.) I No 150/2024, by the Federal Minister for Economy, Energy and Tourism, in agreement with the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management,
2. Sections 7, 17, 20 to 25, 33 to 38, 43, 44, 61(1) and 69 of the Health and Safety at Work Act - ASchG, BGBl. No 450/1994, last amended by the Federal Act published in BGBl. I No. 56/2024, is approved by the Federal Minister for Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection and
3. Sections 19(4) and 47c of the 1957 Railways Act - EisbG, BGBl. No 60/1957, last amended by the Federal Act published in BGBl. I No 115/2024, published by the Federal Minister for Innovation, Mobility and Infrastructure

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1. Main Section
General Provisions

1. Section
Scope

Scope

Section 1. (1) As a provision under trade law, this Regulation applies to the storage, filling, refilling and use of liquefied petroleum gas in licensed facilities and, in accordance with Section 89, in commercial facilities that have already been approved.

(2) Employee protection regulations apply to workplaces that are subject to the Health and Safety at Work Act (ASchG, BGBl. No 450/1994, Sections 2 to 8, Section 10(1), (2) first sentence and (3), Section 13, Section 14(2), Section 15(1), (2) and (5) second and third sentences, Sections 17 to 19, Section 22(1) second sentence and (2), Section 27(1), Section 29(2) and (4), Section 34(1) first and second sentences, (3), (4) last sentence and (5), Sections 37 to 45, Sections 47 to 49, Section 50 second sentence, Section 52(1), Section 53, Section 55 first and last sentences, Sections 56 and 57, Section 61, Section 62 first sentence, Sections 68 and 69, Section 71, Section 74, Section 79, Section 81(1), (4) and (5) first and third sentences, Section 82(1) second sentence and (7), Section 87(2), (3) first sentence, (4) and (5) with the exception of the last two sentences, Section 88, Section 89(1)(1) and (2), (2)(2), (9), (10) and (12) as well as Section 90.

(3) As a provision under rail transport law, this Regulation applies to the storage, filling, refilling and use of liquefied petroleum gas in railway installations that are subject to authorisation and, in accordance with Section 89, in railway installations that have already been authorised, as well as in railway installations pursuant to Section 36(1) of the Railways Act 1957 - EisbG, BGBl. No 60/1957 as amended by the Federal Act published in BGBl. I No 115/2024.

(4) The requirements of this Regulation for liquid petroleum gas containers, evaporators and pipework, together with their safety-related or functional equipment, that are subject to the Dual Pressure Equipment Ordinance - (DDGV, BGBl. II No. 59/2016), shall only apply if and to the extent that they do not result in any changes to these devices compared to the specifications required by the DDGV.

(5) Requirements of this Regulation on the Shipping Containers Ordinance 2011 (VBV 2011), BGBl. II No 458/2011, or the Transportable Pressure Equipment Ordinance 2011 - ODGV 2011, BGBl. II No 239/2011, in each case as amended by the Pressure Equipment Act, BGBl. I No 161/2015, as amended by the Act published in BGBl. I No 140/2024, only apply to pressure vessels and their equipment if and to the extent that they do not result in any changes to these devices compared to the specifications required by the VBV 2011 or the ODGV 2011.

(6) For stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers, evaporators and pipework subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon, together with their safety and functional equipment, as well as for assemblies subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon, and for pressure vessels subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon, together with their equipment, the relevant provisions of the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon apply to the testing process for the first commissioning (initial operating test), the periodic inspections and checks, as well as the testing bodies carrying out the tests and the documentation to be drawn up by them; in addition, Section 39(1) also applies.

(7) This Regulation shall not apply:

1. to the production of liquefied petroleum gas,
2. to the storage of liquefied petroleum gas at atmospheric pressure and an artificially induced storage temperature below the boiling temperature,
3. to vehicles fuelled with liquefied petroleum gas,
4. to liquefied petroleum gas filling stations and

5. to refrigeration systems and heat pumps in which liquefied petroleum gas is used.

(8) Only Sections 18, 57 and 61 apply to the storage of liquefied petroleum gas in pressure vessels with a maximum filling capacity of 15 kg each up to a total filling capacity (total storage quantity) of 33 kg.

(9) The responsibility of the operator within the meaning of the Pressure Equipment Act for pressure equipment that is subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon (stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers, evaporators and pipework including their safety-related and functional equipment as well as pressure vessels and their related equipment) and assemblies that are subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon remains unaffected by this Regulation.

2. Section
Definitions and Designations

Liquefied petroleum gas

Section 2. For the purposes of this Regulation, liquefied petroleum gas refers to propane, butane, propene and butene (commercially available liquefied petroleum gases) and mixtures of these gases.

Containers, evaporators, exhaust systems, cylinder cabinets, construction materials, classifications

Section 3. (1) Within the meaning of this Regulation

1. ‘Liquefied petroleum gas containers’ are vessels designed to contain liquefied petroleum gas
   a) stationary pressure vessels within the meaning of Section 2(1)(1) of the Pressure Equipment Act; or
   b) Pressure vessels in the form of cylinders, large cylinders, pressure drums or cylinder bundles within the meaning of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), BGBl. No 522/1973, as amended by the promulgation BGBl. III No 103/2023,
2. ‘Evaporator’ refers to pressure equipment (Section 2(1)(3) of the Pressure Equipment Act) in liquefied petroleum gas systems in which liquefied petroleum gas in the liquid phase is vaporised from a heating device by means of heat,
3. ‘Operating tank’ refers to pressure vessels connected to a gas consumption device;
4. ‘Storage container’ refers to pressure vessels that are held for use but are not yet connected to a gas consumption device;
5. ‘Exhaust system’ refers to technical equipment used to discharge exhaust gases from gas consumption devices into the open air;
6. ‘Cylinder cabinet’ refers to cabinets with special characteristics for storing pressure vessels;
7. ‘Building materials A1 or A2’ refers to building materials that do not contribute to fires;
8. ‘Building materials B’ refers to building materials that contribute to fires in a very limited way, and
9. ‘Classification’ refers to fire resistance classes for the components in question.

(2) For the purposes of this Regulation, emptied liquefied petroleum gas containers refer to liquefied petroleum gas containers that do not contain liquefied petroleum gas in the liquefied phase. Liquefied petroleum gas containers that have not been emptied are considered filled.

Fill quantity

Section 4. Within the meaning of this Regulation

1. The filling capacity is the maximum permissible quantity of liquefied petroleum gas in a liquefied petroleum gas container,
2. The total filling capacity (total storage quantity) is the sum of the filling quantities of the individual liquefied petroleum gas containers.

Storage of liquefied petroleum gas

Section 5. Storage of liquefied petroleum gas within the meaning of the Regulation refers to the storage of one or more filled or emptied liquefied petroleum gas containers, regardless of whether or not they are connected to gas consumption devices.

Pipework

Section 6. Pipework for the purposes of this Regulation refer to piping components that are intended to transmit liquefied petroleum gas. Pipework includes, in particular, pipes or piping systems, pipe parts, fittings, expansion pieces, hose lines or, where applicable, other pressure-bearing components.

Liquefied petroleum gas systems

Section 7. Liquefied petroleum gas systems within the meaning of this Regulation refer to technical installations that consist of one or more liquefied petroleum gas containers, the related pipework, safety devices, pumps, compressors, evaporators, other units and the gas consumption devices including the exhaust systems or of one or more liquefied petroleum gas containers and one or more of these technical installations.

Above-ground and underground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers

Section 8. Within the meaning of this Regulation, the term

1. stationary above-ground liquefied petroleum gas containers refers to vessels installed indoors or outdoors without being covered by sand or soil, including liquefied petroleum gas containers buried in the sand or soil but without their tops covered by sand or soil (partially above-ground liquefied petroleum gas containers);
2. underground liquefied petroleum gas containers refers to vessels that are covered with sand or soil in their entirety or up to a front wall.

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 9. (1) The spatial area surrounding container fittings, compressors and pumps, as well as the spatial area in front of access points (e.g. wall-, door-, gate- and transport openings) or ventilation openings in rooms where the occurrence of a hazardous explosive atmosphere due to liquefied petroleum gas/air mixtures cannot be excluded as a result of minor leaks, or during the connection or disconnection of pipe connections, is considered to be potentially explosive.

(2) For the classification of potentially explosive atmospheres, Section 12(1)(1) of the Explosive Atmospheres Ordinance - VEXAT, BGBl. II No 309/2004, as amended, applies with the proviso that the areas refer to the intended operation.

(3) If and to the extent that the explosion protection concept (the concept on the identification and assessment of explosion risks, the zoning and the resulting measures, that is used as the basis of the explosion protection document to be drawn up in accordance with Section 5 of VEXAT) does not contain any divergent provisions justified by reference to the circumstances of the individual case, the extent specified in this Regulation shall apply to the potentially explosive atmospheres.

(4) The potentially explosive atmosphere extends over the interior of a cone, the base area of which on the floor results from the vertical projection of the area to be kept clear around the possible liquefied petroleum gas leakage point. In the case of door or ventilation openings in rooms where liquefied petroleum gas is stored or in cylinder cabinets, the tip of the cone extends over the upper edge (total width) of the respective opening. In liquefied petroleum gas containers, the tip of the cone is formed from a sphere with a radius of 1 metre. The centre of this sphere is located at the possible liquefied petroleum gas outlet point to the outside (e.g. container fittings, manhole cover).

(5) The area within the sphere referred to in paragraph (4) shall be deemed to be zone 1, otherwise the cone shall be deemed to be zone 2. Rooms designated as potentially explosive atmospheres in this Regulation shall always be regarded as zone 1.

(6) Combining and overlapping of potentially explosive atmospheres is permitted.

(7) In the case of slopes with a gradient of more than 20 %, the potentially explosive atmospheres applicable to the horizontal terrain must be reduced uphill by the percentage of the gradient, but by no more than 50 %, and increased downhill by the percentage of the gradient.

Fire protection zone

Section 10. (1) The fire protection zone refers to the spatial area around the liquefied petroleum gas containers which serves to protect against hazardous effects on liquefied petroleum gas containers. Fire protection zones must not contain any fire loads that can lead to dangerous heating of the liquefied petroleum gas containers in the event of a fire, nor any storage facilities and/or equipment that contribute to fires or that are spontaneously flammable or explosive.

(2) In any event, there is no fire load within the meaning of paragraph (1) if flammable parts are only available in insignificant quantities or with a low heat content, such as wood enclosures and straw

mats. The assessment of the fire load must be carried out according to the fundamental rules of technology.

(3) The fire protection zone is to be measured from the free container wall of the liquefied petroleum gas container.

Rules of technology

Section 11. The relevant principles derived from science or experience within the technical field, such as those contained in ÖVGW guidelines or ÖNORM standards, are regarded as the rules of technology. The ÖVGW guidelines are published by the Austrian Association for Gas and Water, A-1010 Vienna, Schubertring 14, and the ÖNORMEN are published by Austrian Standards International, A-1020 Vienna, Heinestraße 38.

2. Main Section

Basic protective measures for installation sites of liquefied petroleum gas containers

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 12. (1) In accordance with this Regulation, potentially explosive atmospheres must be established.

(2) If it is necessary to prevent unauthorised access to the potentially explosive atmosphere, the potentially explosive atmosphere is to be secured against such access in a suitable form, such as by mesh enclosure of at least 1.50 m in height with a lockable access opening.

(3) Traffic routes may not run through potentially explosive atmospheres, unless paragraph (4) provides otherwise.

(4) Potentially explosive atmospheres may only be used by motor vehicles, rail vehicles or industrial trucks with a non-explosion-proof design to the extent that this is absolutely necessary for maintaining the operation of the liquefied petroleum gas system or the liquefied petroleum gas storage facility and only if it is ensured that flammable liquefied petroleum gas/air mixtures are not present.

Prohibitions and warnings

Section 13. (1) In rooms where liquefied petroleum gas is stored (with the exception of rooms that meet the requirements of Section 18(2), Section 57 or Section 61), in potentially explosive atmospheres, in filling systems and in outdoor locations where pressure vessels are filled or opened for inspection, it is prohibited to:

1. smoke or handle burning or glowing objects, fire, naked flames or spark-producing tools in any way;
2. use electrical equipment or electrical systems with a non-explosive design,
3. store oxidising, self-flammable or explosive substances or combustible substances other than liquefied petroleum gas, unless Section 56 provides otherwise,
4. be accessed by unauthorised persons.

(2) In the case of access points to rooms where liquefied petroleum gas is stored (with the exception of rooms that meet the requirements of Section 18(2), Section 57 or Section 61), in the case of access points to potentially explosive atmospheres, in the case of access points to filling systems as well as in outdoor locations, in or at which pressure vessels are filled or opened for the purpose of inspection, must be marked in accordance with the Safety Marking Decree - KennV, BGBl. II No 101/1997, as amended, with the prohibition signs ‘Fire, naked flames or smoking prohibited’, ‘Unauthorised access prohibited’ and the warning sign ‘Warning of explosive atmosphere’ must indicate the prohibitions in accordance with paragraph (1). In addition, the words ‘liquefied petroleum gas’ must be displayed at access points to rooms where liquefied petroleum gas is stored and the total permitted storage quantity in kg must be indicated. In the case of collective storage in accordance with Section 56, the additional stored substances and their maximum storage quantities and the corresponding hazard and precautionary statements must also be indicated.

(3) In rooms where liquefied petroleum gas is stored and in potentially explosive atmospheres, there must be no sources of danger such as exhaust openings, sewer inlets (with the exception of sewer inlets secured against the ingress of liquefied petroleum gas in rooms that fulfil the requirements of Section 18(2)), pits, cellar openings or other connections to rooms that are below the adjacent level on all sides, openings of ventilation systems, heating systems or air conditioning systems.

Replacement or reduction of the potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 14. (1) In individual cases where local conditions permit, the potentially explosive atmosphere may be reduced on no more than two sides by balls, protective walls or the like. Protective walls used to reduce potentially explosive atmospheres must permanently prevent the passage of gas, be made of building materials A1 or A2 and have sufficient strength against foreseeable loads; they do not have to be designed for loads caused by explosions. Walls, protective walls or the like that are used to reduce the explosive atmosphere must exceed the explosive atmosphere at any point by at least 25 cm.

(2) The distance between protective walls or the like and the fixed liquefied petroleum gas containers must be at least 60 cm and must ensure that fittings can be operated without hindrance.

(3) The measures referred to in paragraph (1) shall not have a significant impact on the proper ventilation of the area to be protected (Section 17(1)).

Protection against dangerous heating

Section 15. (1) Liquefied petroleum gas containers must be protected against dangerous heating.

(2) Examples of protective measures against dangerous heating of liquefied petroleum gas containers in the event of fire (fire in the vicinity of the liquefied petroleum gas containers) include the following:

1. Soil cover over the liquefied petroleum gas containers,
2. Fire protection zone,
3. Fire protection wall,
4. Fire protection lining or fire protection insulation of the liquefied petroleum gas containers,
5. Irrigation of the liquefied petroleum gas containers,
6. a combination of measures referred to in subparagraphs (2) to (5).

(3) If this is necessary due to the presence of a hazardous fire load (Section 10) in the vicinity of liquefied petroleum gas containers, applicants shall provide for the respective protective measure in their projects. However, the authorities may determine which of the protective measures referred to in paragraph (2) is to be provided based on the local conditions (environment of the installation location for the liquefied petroleum gas containers, any foreseeable hazards, etc.).

(4) If measures are provided for pursuant to paragraph 2(2) and (4) to (6) due to the presence of a hazardous fire load (Section 10), the suitability of the location must be demonstrated by a safety assessment conducted by an inspection body for the operational phase in accordance with Section 19 of the Pressure Equipment Act.

(5) Fire protection walls must be constructed without openings, in the classification (R)EI 90 from building materials A1 or A2 and at such a height that the liquefied petroleum gas containers to be protected are located in the thermal shadow of the adjacent objects posing a risk. The proper ventilation of the installation site of the liquefied petroleum gas containers must not be significantly impaired. The distance from fire protection walls to the stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must be at least 60 cm and must ensure that fittings can be operated without obstruction.

Fire prevention measures and firefighting equipment

Section 16. In the case of liquefied gas storage facilities, at least one portable fire extinguisher suitable for fighting fires involving solid and liquid substances with a minimum filling capacity of 6 kg or 9 l must be available to combat fires in the surrounding area (first extinguishing aid). The installation location of fire-fighting equipment shall be indicated by the appropriate signs in accordance with Annex 1 to the Safety Marking Decree (KennV). The authorities shall determine on a case-by-case basis whether and which other fire protection precautions and fire-fighting equipment (such as automatic extinguishing systems) must be provided for, in accordance with the local conditions.

Ventilation and heating

Section 17. (1) Liquefied petroleum gas containers, filling connections, evaporators, compressors and pumps may only be installed or arranged in locations with good natural ventilation.

(2) Storage rooms for liquefied petroleum gas containers and installation rooms for evaporators, compressors or pumps as well as filling rooms must have at least two ventilation openings leading directly into the open air, one of which must be near the floor and the other at a height of at least 2 m above the floor. The free cross-section of these ventilation openings to be protected with wire nets or ventilation blinds, which must not be closed, must each be at least 1% of the floor area of the room in question. The ventilation openings must be arranged in such a way that cross ventilation is possible.

(3) For heating the rooms referred to in paragraph (2), only heating devices may be used that are not able to ignite flammable gases that may occur in the rooms. The surface temperatures of the radiators must not exceed 110° C. Liquefied petroleum gas containers must be positioned far enough away from radiators to avoid dangerous heating of the containers, and at a distance of at least 0.5 metres.

Prohibited storage

Section 18. (1) Unless otherwise provided for in paragraphs (2) and (3), the storage of liquefied petroleum gas is prohibited

1. at entrances, exits or passages for persons or vehicles;
2. in corridors and stairwells, on or under stairs, ramps, catwalks, pedestals and platforms;
3. in buffer rooms, locks, attics, shafts, ducts and poorly ventilated confined areas (e.g. atriums);
4. in escape routes and in secure escape areas;
5. at least 2 m apart from each side of emergency exits, emergency staircases and emergency ladders, except inside storage spaces;
6. in rooms in which motor vehicles or railway vehicles are parked, even if only temporarily;
7. in centralised ventilation and air-conditioning systems, engine rooms, electrical areas and IT server rooms, fire emergency rooms and rooms serving similar purposes;
8. in rooms or areas where liquefied petroleum gas containers may be exposed to dangerous temperatures (e.g. shop windows and display cabinets);
9. in rooms where the floor is lower on all sides than the adjacent ground, as well as in rooms or places where for other reasons it is not possible for leaked liquefied petroleum gas to escape safely;
10. in rooms and places where there are entrances to rooms on all sides below the adjacent level, other connections to such rooms, openings of ventilation systems, heating devices, air conditioning systems, pits or openings or drains to ducts;
11. in rooms not covered by Section 57 or Section 61 in which ignition sources such as fireplaces, naked flames or electrical equipment of non-explosion-proof design are located or which are in open connection with rooms in which such ignition sources are located;
12. in rooms with openings to secure escape areas within the meaning of the Workplace Ordinance - AStV, BGBl. II No 368/1998, as amended, even if these openings can be closed by doors,
13. in sanitary rooms, washrooms, storerooms, recreation and standby rooms as well as in rooms made available to employees by employers for residential purposes or for the purpose of overnight accommodation, in toilets, anterooms of toilets, washrooms, bathrooms, showers, changing rooms, recreation rooms and in the entrances leading to these rooms.

(2) In standby rooms, first-aid rooms, washrooms, bathing rooms, showers, changing rooms, recreation rooms and living rooms as defined by the Workplace Ordinance, the installation of an operating container with a capacity of up to and including 15 kg is permitted for the operation of cooking and heating equipment if the floor of these rooms is not lower on all sides than the adjacent ground and a safe discharge of leaked liquefied petroleum gas is possible. Sewer inlets in such rooms must be secured (e.g. by a liquid seal) against the penetration of liquefied petroleum gas.

(3) In the rooms referred to in paragraph (1) and in the places referred to in paragraph (1), a liquefied petroleum gas container necessary for the supply of a gas consumption device may be stored up to a filling capacity of up to and including 5 kg, insofar as and for as long as this is strictly necessary for the continuation of work.

Protection from mechanical hazards

Section 19. (1) Liquefied petroleum gas containers shall be protected against foreseeable mechanical hazards, such as hazards from vehicles or floating loads, windbreak-prone trees, etc.

(2) If liquefied petroleum gas containers are located in or near the traffic area of vehicles, the liquefied petroleum gas containers must be protected against collisions.

Danger zones for railways

Section 20. Liquefied petroleum gas containers and any potentially explosive atmospheres around liquefied petroleum gas containers in the hazardous area of railways (Section 43 EisbG) must have a minimum distance of 3 m from the track axis of the nearest railway track. In the case of tracks equipped with an overhead contact line, the potentially explosive atmosphere must not extend into the area of 4 m on either side of the vertical projection of the contact wire; the distance may be less than 4 m if suitable

protective measures (such as earthed guy wires) are taken to ensure that the overhead contact line does not reach the potentially explosive atmosphere in the event of a break in the contact line.

Protection from lightning

Section 21. Buildings in which systems for filling liquefied petroleum gas into pressure vessels are located (filling systems) or buildings in which more than 200 kg of liquefied petroleum gas is stored must be protected against the effects of lightning strikes.

3. Main Section
Fundamental requirements for liquefied petroleum gas systems

1. Section
Liquefied petroleum gas containers and related equipment

Liquefied petroleum gas containers and related equipment

Section 22. (1) Discharge openings of safety valves shall be protected against the penetration of precipitation water. Exhaust openings must not be directed against liquefied petroleum gas containers, the position of operators or against escape routes.

(2) The dissipation of electrostatic charges must be ensured for every stationary liquefied petroleum gas container.

2. Section
Pipework

Fundamental requirements for pipework

Section 23. Pipes must be suitable for liquefied petroleum gas and permanently withstand the thermal, chemical and mechanical stresses that occur during operation of the liquefied petroleum gas system. Pipework must be constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with the rules of technology.

Protection from corrosion

Section 24. Underground and plastered pipework must be permanently and effectively protected against external corrosion.

Pipework in buildings

Section 25. (1) Pipes in buildings with an operating pressure of more than 100 mbar must be laid above plaster and be freely accessible. If, for operational reasons, it is necessary to lay such pipes under plaster, the authorities shall authorise this on a case-by-case basis.

(2) Pipework may not be routed through storage rooms for flammable liquids, ventilation and air conditioning centres, engine rooms, electrical operating rooms and installation rooms for mainframe computers, fire alarm centres and similar rooms, or through boiler rooms that are not part of the liquefied petroleum gas system.

Pipework in rooms with an increased fire load or increased risk of fire

Section 26. Where pipework passes through spaces with an increased fire load (e.g. storage rooms for combustible goods, garages) or spaces with an increased fire risk (e.g. spaces for work with flammable liquids or with flammable solvents), the authorities shall, on a case-by-case basis, prescribe the necessary protective measures in accordance with local conditions.

Isolating valves

Section 27. (1) Every pipe leading into a building must be able to be shut off from an easily accessible point by an external main shut-off device before entering the building (e.g. by a shut-off valve in the outer wall of the building). This external main shut-off device is not required if the container shut-off device belonging to the pipework is located no more than 5 m away from the entrance of the pipework into the building and if the container shut-off device belonging to the pipework is as such clearly recognizable and easily accessible at all times.

(2) In the cases referred to in Section 87(5), shut-off devices in buildings, with the exception of device shut-off valves, may not be located in rooms whose floors are lower on all sides than the adjacent terrain.

(3) Pipework must be able to be shut off immediately before each gas tapping point. If only one pressure vessel is connected to a gas consuming device in a room and this gas consuming device is located no more than 5 m away from the pressure vessel, the container shut-off valve shall replace the shut-off device before the gas consuming device.

Pressure relief valves

Section 28. Pipework filled with liquefied petroleum gas in the liquid phase that can be shut off on both sides shall be equipped with pressure relief valves. It must be ensured that the liquefied petroleum gas escaping from pressure relief valves can be safely discharged.

Pipework installation

Section 29. (1) Pipework shall be laid in such a way that no mechanical stresses endangering the safety of the liquefied petroleum gas system can occur due to settling, temperature changes or other foreseeable causes that may cause changes in position.

(2) All detachable connections and joints of pipework must be easily accessible.

(3) Installation of pipework in pipe ducts or shafts is only permitted if the pipe ducts or shafts are equipped in such a way that accumulation of liquefied petroleum gas is prevented (e.g. by cavity-free filling or by ventilation). In any case, pipework may not be installed in lift-, ventilation-, waste- or electrical cable shafts.

(4) Where necessary, pipes must be protected against mechanical damage.

(5) If the direction of flow of the liquefied petroleum gas is not obvious, it must be clearly marked on the respective shut-off valves concerned.

Movable pipework

Section 30. (1) If stationary gas consumption devices require a flexible pipe connection, this must be as short as possible.

(2) Hoses may be used to connect portable gas consumption devices to liquefied petroleum gas containers; they must be as short as possible and secured against slipping off the connectors and joints.

Pressure regulators

Section 31. (1) The liquefied petroleum gas pressure must be reduced to the permissible operating pressure for the gas consumption device by means of pressure regulators. Pressure regulators that have the tank pressure as a pre-pressure are to be installed as close as possible to the liquefied petroleum gas container or as close as possible to the evaporator. These types of pressure regulators are not required for portable gas consumption devices that are permanently connected to a liquefied petroleum gas container with a filling capacity of up to and including 3 kg, such as equipment for soldering or paint burning.

(2) The last pressure regulator upstream of the gas consumption device with an inlet pressure of more than 100 mbar and a flow rate of more than 1.5 kg/h must be equipped with a safety shut-off valve (SSV) and a safety relief valve (SSV) to prevent an impermissible increase in pressure in the supply system. The data of the pressure regulator (release and closing pressure of the regulator, response pressure of the safety devices) must either be verified by a factory certificate or established and documented during the first commissioning of the pressure regulator. Excluded from this are adjustable pressure regulators which are screwed directly to the operating tank and serve to supply portable gas consumption devices (e.g. flame blowers).

(3) The safety blow-off valve (SBV) must be designed in such a way that no undue excess pressure can build up in the pipework in the event of malfunctions in the pressure regulator or in the safety shut-off valve (SAV). It must be ensured that any escaping liquefied petroleum gas from a blow-off valve can be safely discharged. If pressure regulators with a blow-off valve are located in buildings, their venting and exhaust lines must be routed outdoors. The venting and exhaust lines leading to the outside must be dimensioned in such a way that the proper functioning of the pressure regulator is not impaired.

Pipework with a specified maximum operating pressure up to and including 0.5 bar

Section 32. (1) Pipework with an operating pressure of more than 100 mbar up to and including 0.5 bar shall be dimensioned according to their use for the following nominal pressures PN:

	Nominal pressure PN (bar)
Pipes, connectors, fittings and shut-off valves	PN 4
Other fittings	PN 4
Hoses	PN 30 (burst pressure)

(2) Pipework with an operating pressure up to and including 100 mbar shall be measured according to the rules of technology.

3. Section
Evaporators, compressors and pumps

Evaporators

Section 33. (1) If the liquefied petroleum gas is withdrawn from the liquefied petroleum gas containers in the liquid phase and supplied in the gas phase to a gas consumption device, an evaporator must be installed in the pipework upstream of the pressure regulator, unless the evaporator and pressure regulator are combined in one unit.

(2) It must be ensured that no liquefied petroleum gas can enter the evaporators of subsequent devices (pressure regulator, gas consumption device) in the liquid phase. A liquid separator must be installed upstream of the pressure regulator in order to separate condensates.

(3) The direction of flow of the liquefied petroleum gas through the evaporator is to be clearly marked.

(4) Evaporators may only be heated indirectly.

Installation rooms

Section 34. (1) Evaporators, compressors or pumps that are not installed outdoors are to be housed in their own installation spaces which are not otherwise used. These installation spaces must be well ventilated at all times (Section 17(2)). The floors of these installation spaces must not be deeper than the adjacent terrain on all sides and must be firm, flat, joint-tight and made of building materials A1 or A2 and, where appropriate, floor coverings B_{fl} as a minimum requirement and designed in such a way that electrostatic charges are discharged.

(2) Installation spaces for compressors or pumps are considered to be potentially explosive atmospheres, zone 1. The electrical installations and equipment in these types of installation spaces are to comply with the electrical regulations for potentially explosive atmospheres, zone 1.

(3) Installation spaces for compressors or pumps may not be located below, next to or above spaces used for the permanent residence of people or where there is regular people traffic.

(4) Installation spaces for evaporators, compressors or pumps that are attached to or built into buildings must be separated from these in the classification (R)EI 90 made of building materials A1 or A2. These installation spaces may only be directly accessible from the outside.

(5) Installation spaces for compressors or pumps that are attached to or built into structures must be equipped with a liquefied petroleum gas warning device. The liquefied petroleum gas warning device must trigger a visual and audible alarm when a concentration of 20 % of the lower explosion limit of the liquefied petroleum gas/air mixture is reached. In any case, the alarm device must be installed at the access to the respective installation space. Whether and where an additional alarm device needs to be installed is to be determined by the authorities on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the given local conditions. When a concentration of 40 % of the lower explosion limit is reached, the shut-off valves of the connected storage containers must also be closed automatically and the compressors and pumps switched off. The acoustic signal may be set to be acknowledgeable.

(6) Free-standing installation spaces for evaporators, compressors or pumps must be made from building materials A1 or A2.

Installation outdoors

Section 35. If evaporators, compressors or pumps are installed outdoors, it must be ensured that their functional safety is maintained even under any expected weather conditions.

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 36. Compressors or pumps installed outdoors must be surrounded by a potentially explosive atmosphere corresponding to Section 9 with a radius of at least 3 m of the base circle.

4. Main Section
Testing liquefied petroleum gas systems

Testing arrangements

Section 37. Liquefied petroleum gas systems must be inspected for their proper condition in accordance with the following provisions.

Initial test

Section 38. On the occasion of the first commissioning, liquefied petroleum gas systems must be subjected to an initial test. The initial test is to include:

1. testing of pipework with a specified maximum operating pressure up to and including 0.5 bar for proper execution and leak tightness;
2. testing of cathodic corrosion protection devices for functionality, unless they are subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon;
3. checking that the electrical installations used for the operation of the liquefied petroleum gas systems, the electrical installations within potentially explosive atmospheres and the earthing and lightning protection installations are properly installed;
4. checking that the pressure control devices, the gas consumption devices and the exhaust gas control devices and any mechanical ventilation systems required (Sections 71, 82(1) and 87) are in working order;
5. testing of liquefied petroleum gas warning devices (Sections 34(5), 82(3) and 87(5)) for proper functioning.

Recurring tests

Section 39. The following must be regularly checked on a recurring basis:

1. Pipework that is not subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon, at intervals of no more than six years on leak tightness in accordance with the rules of technology;
2. pipework connected to pressure vessels at the time of each replacement of the container at the connections provided for that purpose (cylinder valve, cylinder connection, connection pipe, connection hose and pressure regulator connection) under operating pressure for leakage by foam forming means;
3. electrical installations and equipment outside potentially explosive atmospheres that are part of a liquefied petroleum gas system or that are directly necessary for the proper operation of the liquefied petroleum gas system, at intervals not exceeding five years to ensure that the system is in good working order;
4. at intervals of no more than three years, to be in good condition and functioning:
   a) Gas consuming devices and exhaust gas guides;
   b) cathodic corrosion protection devices, unless they are subject to the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon;
   c) electrical installations and equipment in potentially explosive atmospheres;
   d) earthing and lightning protection systems outside potentially explosive atmospheres;
5. fire-extinguishing devices at intervals of no more than two years to ensure proper condition and functioning;
6. at intervals of no more than one year, to be in good condition and functioning:
   a) electrical installations and electrical equipment in potentially explosive atmospheres in the event of exceptional stress (e.g. due to humidity, extreme ambient temperature),
   b) earthing and lightning protection systems in potentially explosive atmospheres;
   c) liquefied petroleum gas warning devices, unless shorter intervals are specified by the manufacturer.

Extraordinary tests

Section 40. (1) An extraordinary test shall be carried out without prejudice to the provisions of the Pressure Equipment Act:

1. if there is a suspicion that a liquefied petroleum gas system is no longer operationally safe due to an exceptional event such as a fire, explosion, mechanical damage, etc.;
2. after operational interruptions exceeding one year;

3. after any change that may have an impact on the operational safety of the liquefied petroleum gas system;
4. if there is suspicion of a leakage of the liquefied petroleum gas system or parts of the liquefied petroleum gas system.

(2) The exceptional test covers the relevant parts of the liquefied petroleum gas system. Section 39 applies mutatis mutandis to the scope of the extraordinary examination.

Testers

Section 41. (1) In order to carry out the tests, unless otherwise provided for in paragraph (2), the following is to be taken into account in the exercise of their powers:

1. accredited bodies within the scope of their accreditation,
2. bodies of the federal state or of a federal state or bodies governed by public law,
3. civil technicians or engineering offices in the relevant field,
4. persons listed in the list of railway technical areas (Section 40 EisbG) with regard to railway installations,
5. tradespeople authorised to design and manufacture installations for storing, filling and using liquefied petroleum gas;
6. tradespeople authorised to design or manufacture electrical installations, including the lightning protection system.

(2) Suitable and competent company employees may also be used to carry out the recurrent tests pursuant to Section 39.

(3) Individuals are to be regarded as suitable and competent if they have the qualifications required for the respective test as well as the necessary specialist knowledge and professional experience and can guarantee that the tests will be carried out conscientiously.

Test certificate

Section 42. The result of each inspection (with the exception of inspections pursuant to Section 39(2)) must be recorded in an inspection certificate issued by the examiner, which must contain any deficiencies found. Deficiencies affecting operational safety must be highlighted in particular. The inspection certificates for the first inspection (Section 38), for the last of the inspections required in Section 39(1) and (3) to (6) and for the last extraordinary inspection (Section 40) as well as the other documents relating to these inspections must be kept in the company.

Remedying shortcomings

Section 43. Liquefied petroleum gas systems may only be operated if the tests referred to in Sections 38 to 40 do not reveal any deficiencies affecting operational safety or if the deficiencies found have been rectified.

5. Main Section
Additional provisions for pressure vessels

1. Section
General Provisions

Total number of pressure vessels

Section 44. (1) In addition to filled pressure vessels, empty pressure vessels may be stored in accordance with paragraph (2). Filled and empty pressure vessels must be stored in separate groups, except in the case of installation in a cylinder cabinet in accordance with Section 59(2).

(2) The total number of pressure vessels filled must not exceed the total filling capacity (total storage quantity) approved by the authority in each individual case. The sum of the filling weights stamped on the filled and empty containers shall not be greater than twice this total filling capacity.

Storage of pressure vessels

Section 45. (1) Pressure vessels may only be stored on top of each other if they are specially designed for this purpose. If more than two pressure vessels are stored together, they are to be secured against falling.

(2) Storage of pressure vessels on shelves is only permitted if they are pressure vessels whose respective filling capacity does not exceed 15 kg and if the shelves are made of non-combustible

materials; smooth-planed wooden boards are permitted as shelves. The distance between the pressure vessels and the underside of the shelf above them is to be at least 20 cm.

(3) When stored in racks, pressure vessels that are loaded and unloaded manually may be stored with their base no higher than 1.75 m above the floor, otherwise (e.g. for pallet storage) a storage height of up to and including 7.50 m is permitted.

(4) Pressure vessels that are not sufficiently stable by virtue of their design or that, because of their location, are liable to fall, are to be secured by suitable means against falling over.

(5) If pressure vessels are stored in groups, these groups may have a width (depth) of no more than 3 m if they are accessible from two opposite sides. If storage groups of pressure vessels are accessible from only one side, the width (depth) of the storage groups may not exceed 1.50 m each. The transport routes between the storage groups is to be sufficiently wide to allow for safe transport, but not less than 60 cm. A crosswise partition of the storage groups is not required.

(6) Filled pressure vessels may only be stored upright. If empty pressure vessels are stored horizontally, they must be secured against rolling.

Storage floor

Section 46. The floor of storage rooms used for pressure vessels and the floor on which pressure vessels are stored outdoors must be solid, flat, joint-tight and made of building materials A1 or A2 and, where applicable, coverings B_{fl} as a minimum requirement and be designed in such a way that electrostatic charges are derived.

Handling of pressure vessels

Section 47. (1) Pressure vessels must not be thrown or dropped; they must be protected by suitable measures against impacts, in particular against hitting the ground, especially during loading or unloading operations.

(2) Pressure vessels are to be protected against any foreseeable mechanical hazards and against unauthorised access.

(3) The valves of pressure vessels not connected to gas consumption devices must be closed during the internal transport and storage of the pressure vessels in operating installations, in workplaces and in railway installations and, to the extent provided for by the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon, must be fitted with valve protection caps; filled pressure vessels must also be transported with a tightly closing protection for the connecting thread and stored with such protection until they are connected to the gas consumption devices.

Damaged pressure vessels

Section 48. (1) Damaged pressure vessels may no longer be used and must be stored temporarily within the warehouse in an appropriately labelled location. If damage to a pressure vessel results in an uncontrolled escape of liquefied petroleum gas, these containers must be emptied immediately outdoors within the potentially explosive atmosphere using the necessary safety precautions.

(2) In particular, pressure vessels shall be considered damaged if they:

1. are not sealed properly;
2. have cracks, deep or sharp-edged dents;
3. do not have the marking required under the Pressure Equipment Act and the regulations based thereon;
4. have a base that is loose or missing;
5. are heavily rusted;
6. have been exposed to flames or severe heating during a fire.

2. Section

Storage of pressure vessels in storage rooms, storage buildings or showrooms

Storage rooms

Section 49. The storage of pressure vessels in rooms must take place in storage rooms provided for this purpose and not otherwise used, unless otherwise permitted in accordance with Section 56. Access must be labelled in accordance with Section 13(2).

Ventilation

Section 50. Storage rooms for pressure vessels are considered to be potentially explosive atmospheres, zone 1. These must always be well ventilated (Section 17(2)).

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 51. In front of ventilation openings or door openings of storage rooms for pressurised vessels, explosion hazard areas, zone 2, corresponding to Sections 9 and 58 must be set up for the safe extraction of any liquefied petroleum gas/air mixtures that may occur. It is not necessary to create a potentially explosive atmosphere around openings in walls at least 2 metres above the floor of the storage room.

Location and design of the storage areas or storage buildings

Section 52. (1) Storage rooms for pressure vessels are to be at ground level or at the level of the loading ramp. Storage rooms for pressure vessels may not be located below, next to or above spaces used for the permanent residence of people or where there is regular people traffic. In addition, storage rooms with a total filling capacity (total storage quantity) of more than 1 000 kg may not be located directly adjacent to such rooms.

(2) Enclosing walls of storage rooms for pressure vessels must be made from building materials A1 or A2 in classification (R)EI 90. The surrounding walls of the storage rooms also must not serve as sides of smoke flues, ventilation flues, exhaust gas flues or similar. Ceilings of storage rooms must be made of building materials A1 or A2 and against rooms above them must at least comply with classification (R)EI 90. Partition walls made of bricks or stones to adjacent rooms must be plastered. External walls that reach closer than 5 m to public traffic areas must be up to a height of 2 m without openings.

(3) The roofing of buildings with one or more rooms for the storage of liquefied petroleum gas (storage buildings) in pressure vessels are to be made of building materials A1 or A2. If other buildings that are taller than the storage building are attached to the storage building or are less than 5 m away from it, and if these taller buildings are not separated from the storage building by walls without openings of classification (R)EI 90 made of building materials A1 or A2, the ceiling of the storage room for pressure vessels must also comply with classification (R)EI 90.

(4) Windows and storage room doors and gates leading to the outside must be made of A1 or A2 building materials; if there is a risk of fire spreading to the outside, they must also comply with classification EI 30 (windows) or EI2 30-C (doors and gates). Connecting doors to other rooms are to be designed in classification EI2 90-C.

(5) Free-standing storage buildings must be made of building materials A1 or A2. A fire protection zone at least 5 metres wide must be kept clear around such storage buildings.

Escape routes

Section 53. Storage rooms for pressurised vessels must be designed and equipped in such a way that they can be exited quickly and safely; they must have at least one exit leading directly to the outside. Doors leading to the outside must open outwards and be lockable. If a storage room only has lifting, tilting or sliding doors, at least one of these doors must have a pedestrian door that opens outwards.

Driving into storage areas

Section 54. (1) Unless otherwise specified in paragraph (2), storage rooms for pressure vessels may only be used by vehicles with an explosion-protected design.

(2) Storage rooms for pressurised vessels may only be entered by vehicles of non-explosion-proof design if this is necessary to maintain the operation of the storage facility and if it is ensured that no potentially explosive atmosphere is present.

Filling ban

Section 55. Filling pressure vessels in storage rooms is prohibited. The authorities shall, on a case-by-case basis, authorise the filling of liquefied petroleum gas from pressure vessels with a respective filling volume of at least 11 kg into pressure vessels with a filling volume of not more than 0.5 kg each in storage rooms, provided that this does not adversely affect the protection interests of this Regulation at all or, if necessary, if the precautions to be taken are complied with. In the case of combined storage pursuant to Section 56, any filling and refilling operations are not permitted.

Mixed storage

Section 56. Joint storage of liquefied petroleum gas in pressure vessel storage rooms is permitted under the following conditions:

1. Liquefied petroleum gas may be stored together with flammable liquids, aerosol dispensers, flammable and inert technical gases and oxygen in small quantities, provided that they are stored together with liquefied petroleum gas in accordance with other regulations based on the Trade Regulation Act 1994 – GewO 1994, BGBl. No 194/1994 as amended by the Federal Act published in BGBl. I No 130/2024; small quantities are defined as storage quantities of substances and mixtures for which no special forms of exclusive storage (fixed storage containers, storage rooms or safety cabinets) are required under these other regulations; a quantity of up to 200 kg of aerosol dispensers is considered to be small with regard to storage together with aerosol dispensers;
2. a total of no more than 400 kg of hazardous substances and mixtures may be stored together (including liquefied petroleum gas), of which no more than 200 kg per hazardous substance and mixture (oxygen only in compressed state up to a quantity of 100 l);
3. the collective storage must comply with the rules of technology.

Storage in showrooms

Section 57. In showrooms (rooms used for presentation and sales), liquefied petroleum gas may be stored in pressure vessels with a maximum filling capacity of 1 kg each up to a total filling capacity of 33 kg.

3. Section
Outdoor storage of pressure vessels

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 58. (1) The following potentially explosive atmospheres in accordance with Section 9 must be set up around outdoor storage areas for pressurised vessels:

1. for a total storage quantity up to and including 300 kg, a potentially explosive atmosphere with a radius of the base circle of at least 1 metre;
2. for a total storage quantity of more than 300 kg up to and including 1 000 kg, a potentially explosive atmosphere with a radius of the base circle of at least 3 metres;
3. for a total storage quantity of more than 1 000 kg, a potentially explosive atmosphere with a radius of the base circle of at least 5 metres.

(2) If pressure vessels are stored that, due to their design, are intended for withdrawal of liquefied petroleum gas in its liquid phase, outdoor storage facilities for pressure vessels with a total storage quantity of up to and including 300 kg must be located in such a way that the creepage distance for any leaked liquefied petroleum gas between the storage facility and sources of danger as defined in Section 13(3) is at least 3 metres.

Storage protection

Section 59. (1) Storage of pressure vessels outdoors must, unless otherwise provided for in paragraph (2), be delimited by an enclosure that extends across the potentially explosive atmosphere in accordance with Section 12(2). On a case-by-case basis, the authorities must allow a different delimitation if this ensures the same protection of the storage facility.

(2) For outdoor storage of pressure vessels up to a total filling capacity (total storage quantity) up to and including 300 kg, an enclosure in accordance with paragraph (1) is not required if the pressure vessels are stored in a cylinder cabinet protected from access by unauthorised persons. The cylinder cabinet must be made of non-combustible materials and be equipped with ventilation openings in accordance with Section 17(2); by way of derogation from Section 17(2), the upper and lower ventilation openings must each have a free cross-section of at least 100 cm^2. The interior of the cylinder cabinet is classed as a potentially explosive atmosphere, zone 1, and the potentially explosive atmosphere in front of the ventilation openings as zone 2. The cylinder cabinet must be labelled with the words ‘Liquefied petroleum gas’ and the signs required by the labelling regulations (‘Fire, naked flames and smoking prohibited’ and ‘Warning of explosive atmosphere’) and the total permitted storage quantity in kg must be indicated.

Fire protection zone

Section 60. (1) A fire protection zone of at least 5 metres must be set up around outdoor storage groups of pressurised vessels with a storage quantity of more than 300 kg each.

(2) If it is necessary in individual cases according to the given local conditions, the authorities shall provide for fire protection measures that supplement paragraph (1) or otherwise derogate from paragraph (1) or, in the case of a storage quantity not exceeding 300 kg, prescribe compliance with a fire protection zone.

(3) If, within the meaning of paragraph (2), a fire protection wall is provided for instead of a fire protection zone, the authorities shall determine the location and height of the fire protection wall required by the local conditions in accordance with the rules of technology.

4. Section
Use of liquefied petroleum gas from pressure vessels

Workrooms, sanitary facilities and social areas

Section 61. (1) Without prejudice to Section 18(3), a maximum of two pressure vessels (one operating vessel and one storage vessel) up to a filling capacity of 15 kg may be present in workrooms, sanitary facilities and social areas, unless otherwise permitted by paragraph (2), for supplying a stationary gas consumption device.

(2) If workspaces have a volume of more than 500 m^3 and portable gas consumption devices must be used in these workspaces due to the nature of the work, then, notwithstanding Section 18(3), the following pressure vessels may be present in these rooms, insofar as and for as long as this is absolutely necessary for the continuation of the work, depending on the volume of the room:

1. for a volume of up to and including 1 000 m3: two pressure vessels with a filling capacity of up to and including 15 kg each or one pressure vessel with a filling capacity of up to and including 33 kg;
2. for a volume of more than 1 000 m3 up to and including 1 500 m3: four pressure vessels with a filling capacity of up to and including 15 kg each or two pressure vessels with a filling capacity of up to and including 33 kg;
3. for each additional 500 m3 of volume: two additional pressure vessels with a respective filling capacity of up to and including 15 kg or one additional pressure vessel with a filling capacity of up to and including 33 kg.

The pressure vessels may remain in the workroom even after the end of the work.

(3) The pressure vessels must be positioned in such a way that in the event of a fire, the workrooms, sanitary facilities and social areas can be vacated without obstruction.

(4) Liquefied petroleum gas may be extracted from pressure vessels in workrooms, sanitary facilities and social areas as well as rooms pursuant to Section 18(2) only in the gas phase; outside the operation of the gas consumption devices, the cylinder valves of the associated service tanks must be closed.

Operating tanks

Section 62. Operating containers with a filling capacity of more than 15 kg each may only be stored outdoors or in rooms that are only accessible from the outside and ventilated to the outside, unless Section 61(2) applies. The service tanks must be connected to fixed pipework with suitable hoses or spring pipe bends (pipe coils) and used in accordance with the rules of technology. Operating containers set up outdoors must be protected against unauthorised access (e.g. through storage in a cylinder cabinet that meets the requirements of Section 59(2)). The pressure vessels (operating tanks and storage tanks) must be protected against falling over.

Pressure vessels for supplying portable gas consumption devices

Section 63. If pressurised vessels are used to supply portable gas consumption devices during operation (e.g. for scarfing work) at different locations for operational purposes or are set up temporarily, such pressurised vessels must be secured against tipping over by suitable devices if they have a filling capacity of more than 15 kg.

Welding and cutting with liquefied petroleum gas in railway installations

Section 64. (1) The use of liquefied petroleum gas in railway tunnels and in superstructures of railway tracks requires a licence from the railway authorities, unless otherwise provided for in paragraph (2).

(2) The granting of an authorisation under rail transport law in accordance with paragraph (1) is not required for temporary welding or cutting work for the purpose of repairing or maintaining track

installations where the length of the tunnel or superstructure does not exceed 60 m. If the length of the tunnel or superstructure exceeds 60 m, it shall not be required if the following conditions are met:

1. only one welding or cutting system with a service tank of a maximum weight of 33 kg is inserted;
2. before introducing the liquefied petroleum gas system in accordance with subparagraph (1), its tightness is determined by a test with foam-forming agents; the tightness test must include all tank connections, fittings and detachable connections; additional tightness checks are to be carried out during the work shift;
3. the tank is placed either on a railway car or outside the service track in a place which is not dangerous to railway operations; the tank is placed in such a way that its tank shut-off valve can be quickly closed at any time;
4. for the first extinguishing aid, two portable fire extinguishers, each with a minimum capacity of 6 kg or 9 l, are kept ready for the control of fires of solid and liquid substances;
5. a competent person who has demonstrably been required to comply with the provisions referred to in subparagraphs (1) to (4) is appointed to supervise the welding and cutting work.

6. Main Section
Additional provisions for stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers

1. Section
General Provisions

Installation

Section 65. Stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must be installed and used in accordance with the rules of technology; in any case, the provisions of the Pressure Vessel Installation Ordinance, DBA-VO, BGBl. apply. II No 361/1998, as amended by the Pressure Equipment Act, in so far as the regulation in question does not establish additional provisions.

2. Section
Above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers in rooms

Storage rooms, storage buildings

Section 66. (1) Storage rooms for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers may only be located in above-ground, ground-level, detached or attached buildings (storage buildings) that are not used for other purposes and that do not have a basement. Access must be labelled in accordance with Section 13(2).

(2) The enclosing walls of storage rooms for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must be made from building materials A1 or A2 in classification (R)EI 90. The enclosing walls of storage rooms also must not serve as sides of smoke flues, ventilation flues or exhaust gas flues and similar. Partition walls made of bricks or stones to adjacent rooms must be plastered.

(3) Section 46 applies mutatis mutandis to the floor of storage rooms for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers.

(4) If the storage building is attached to another building, these buildings and the storage room or the storage rooms for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must each be separated from each other by a partitioning wall without openings in the classification (R)EI 90 made of building materials A1 or A2.

(5) The roofing of storage buildings for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers is to be made of building materials A1 or A2. If other buildings that are higher than the storage building are attached to the storage building or are less than 5 metres away from the storage building, and if these higher buildings are not closed off from the storage building by walls without openings in classification (R)EI 90 made of building materials A1 or A2, the ceiling of the storage room for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must also comply with classification (R)EI 90.

(6) Windows and storage room doors and gates leading outside must be made of A1 or A2 building materials; if there is a risk of fire spreading to outside areas, they must also comply with classification EI 30 (windows) or EI_2 30-C (doors and gates). Connecting doors to other rooms shall be designed in classification EI_2 90-C.

Potentially explosive atmosphere.

Section 67. It must be ensured that any liquefied petroleum gas/air mixtures escaping from ventilation openings or door openings can be safely exhausted. Ventilation or door openings of storage rooms for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must be equipped in accordance with Section 9 potentially explosive atmospheres, zone 2. It is not necessary to create a potentially explosive atmosphere around openings in walls at least 2 metres above the floor of the storage room. External walls that reach closer than 5 m to public traffic areas must be up to a height of 2 m without openings.

Blow-off lines

Section 68. Connection lines to safety valves as well as blow-off lines and other types of depressurisation lines must be routed to the outside. The outlets of these pipes must be arranged in such a way that a safe discharge of leaking liquefied petroleum gas is possible.

Escape routes

Section 69. For escape routes from storage rooms for above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers, Section 53 applies mutatis mutandis.

3. Section
Underground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers

Labelling

Section 70. Underground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must be labelled in accordance with Section 13(2).

Service routes

Section 71. Access walkways required for technical reasons in front of the facing wall of underground stationary liquid petroleum gas containers are permitted; if they are located more than 1 m below the surface of the adjacent terrain, the access walkways must be ventilated mechanically.

Ban on driving over or building over liquefied petroleum gas container locations

Section 72. Underground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must not be traversable (this must be ensured by appropriate security measures) or overbuilt in whole or in part.

Minimum distance between liquefied petroleum gas containers

Section 73. Underground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers stored side by side require a minimum distance of 0.5 m from each other. The containers must be at least 1 metre away from underground lines that are not part of the liquefied petroleum gas system, such as electrical lines, gas lines or water lines, and from buildings with basements.

7. Main Section
Additional provisions for filling and refilling operations

Filling operations

Section 74. (1) The permissible filling level of a stationary liquefied petroleum gas container must not be exceeded. When filling the liquefied petroleum gas container, the control devices, such as the pressure indicator and level indicator or level gauge tube, must be observed.

(2) Stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers may only be filled (initial filling) when the air contained in them has been removed through suitable measures, such as flushing with inert gas.

(3) Only high-pressure hoses suitable for liquefied petroleum gas containers may be used for filling and emptying liquefied petroleum gas containers. Hoses and hose connections must be sufficiently conductive to allow electrostatic charges to discharge.

(4) Filling and refilling operations may only be carried out if it is ensured that the connections to the connecting hoses are properly and tightly secured.

(5) After completing the filling or emptying process, it must be ensured that the liquefied petroleum gas present in the filling hoses either does not flow out into the liquid phase (full hose system) or is safely discharged from the hoses.

(6) If filling operations are temporarily interrupted, the isolation devices of the containers concerned are to be closed during that period. During a longer interruption (e.g. overnight), the transfer lines (filling and vapour return line) must be disconnected. As long as the refill lines are connected, continuous monitoring (e.g. by a person familiar with the operation and the possible hazards of the liquefied petroleum gas system) must be ensured.

Filling and refilling storage areas

Section 75. (1) Parking spaces for railway tank cars and road tankers in filling and refilling storage areas are to have a gradient of no more than 2 %. At filling and refilling storage areas as well as other filling points, appropriate devices are to be provided for railway tank cars and road tankers to prevent unintentional rolling (e.g. stop blocks, wheel chocks).

(2) At filling and refilling storage areas, rail tank cars or road tankers connected to stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers for filling or emptying must be at least 5 metres away from the liquefied petroleum gas containers and from other road tankers whose containers contain gases or flammable liquids. This distance may be reduced by the construction of a fire-resistant or protective wall, provided that it does not affect the protective objectives of the fire protection zone as set out in Section 10(1).

(3) Where necessary under local conditions, the authorities shall, on a case-by-case basis, prescribe additional measures to prevent, detect and limit hazards such as fire alarm systems, gas warning systems, automatic extinguishing systems, emergency escape systems, automatic shutdown systems or explosion protection measures.

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 76. (1) At locations where rail tank cars or road tankers are filled or emptied, a potentially explosive atmosphere corresponding to Section 9 with a radius of at least 5 m of the base circle must be set up for the duration of the filling or emptying process. This potentially explosive atmosphere must be clearly and visibly demarcated during the filling or emptying process; it is not necessary to secure it against unauthorised access in accordance with Section 12(2). Section 16 shall apply mutatis mutandis. The entire electrical system in the potentially explosive atmosphere must be capable of being switched off at all poles from a safe location.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to the filling of stationary containers from road tankers by means of a full hose system in which the filling connection is located directly on the tank.

(3) If driving in the potentially explosive atmosphere as referred to in paragraph (1) by a motor vehicle, a rail vehicle or an industrial truck in a non-explosive design is unavoidable, the filling or emptying process is to be interrupted during this time and the valves of the containers concerned are to be closed.

Safety measures for railway tank cars

Section 77. (1) RTCs must be secured by suitable devices (e.g. restraining shoes) before the discharge line or the filling line is connected, so that unintentional rolling away is prevented, and other rail vehicles must be prevented from running onto them (e.g. by track blocking shoes or blocked points). The removal valve of the railway tank car is also to be secured by a tear line which closes the removal valve in the event of further rolling of the railway tank car.

(2) On a railway track spanned by an electric overhead contact line, the overhead contact line of that track is not to be refilled until the overhead contact line of that track has been electrically switched off, short-circuited and grounded. If the temporary potentially explosive atmosphere required for the refilling process protrudes into the area of 4 m on both sides of the perpendicular projection of the contact wire, it is to be switched off, short-circuited and grounded. Section 20, second sentence, second half sentence applies mutatis mutandis.

(3) Before connecting the transfer lines, a potential equalisation line with a copper cable with a minimum cross-section of 16 mm^2 must be installed between the affected liquefied petroleum gas containers (railway tank cars and road tankers) and the rail (to avoid potential equalisation sparks).

Safety measures for road tankers

Section 78. Before connecting the emptying or filling lines, road tankers must be secured against movement and connected to the liquefied petroleum gas container with a potential equalisation line. For road tankers where the vehicle motor is not necessary for the operation of the pump, the vehicle motor must be switched off when filling or emptying.

Work during storms

Section 79. During thunderstorms, the filling and refilling of liquefied petroleum gas outdoors must be interrupted.

8. Main Section
Additional provisions for filling systems

Filling pressure vessels

Section 80. The provisions of the VBV 2011 apply to the filling of pressure vessels with liquefied petroleum gas in so far as this Regulation does not provide for additional provisions.

Filling rooms, filling buildings

Section 81. (1) Rooms in which pressure vessels are filled or opened for the purpose of inspection or repair (filling areas) must be located in separate, above-ground, detached or attached, single-storey buildings with no basement (filling buildings) that serve only this purpose.

(2) Free-standing filling buildings, including their doors and windows, are to be made from A1 or A2 building materials.

(3) Filling buildings may be attached to other buildings on one side if these other buildings are directly related to the operation of the filling system. The filling building and the attached building must each be separated from each other by a separate wall without openings in classification (R)EI 90 made from building materials A1 or A2. Filling buildings that are attached to other buildings must be made from A1 or A2 building materials in the (R)EI 90 classification.

(4) Section 46 applies, mutatis mutandis, to the floor of filling rooms; the floor must not be deeper than the adjacent terrain on all sides. Filling rooms must be located in such a way that escaping liquefied petroleum gas can safely escape outside the rooms.

(5) Filling rooms must have doors that lead directly outside and must open outwards. Windows and storage room doors and gates leading outside must be made of A1 or A2 building materials; if there is a risk of fire spreading to outside areas, they must also comply with classification EI 30 (windows) or EI_2 30-C (doors and gates). Connecting openings (including doors and windows) from filling rooms to pits, ducts, passages, passageways and escape routes are not permitted. Connection openings between adjacent filling rooms are permitted.

Explosion protection, personal protective equipment

Section 82. (1) Filling rooms are considered potentially explosive atmospheres, zone 1. Filling rooms must each be equipped with a mechanical ventilation system for at least five air changes. Filling may only be technically possible if the ventilation system is in operation.

(2) Anyone located in a filling room must wear antistatic clothing, electrostatically conductive shoes, suitable eye protection and protective gloves and only use non-sparking tools.

(3) Filling rooms must be equipped with a liquefied petroleum gas warning device. The liquefied petroleum gas warning device must trigger a visual and audible alarm at a concentration of 20 % of the lower explosion limit of the liquefied petroleum gas/air mixture in the filling room. The alarm device is to be placed in the filling room so that it can be seen from any point in the room. Whether and where an additional alarm device needs to be installed is to be determined by the authorities on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the given local conditions. Automatic closure of the main shut-off device in the liquefied petroleum gas supply line to the filling chamber is to be carried out at 40 % of the lower explosion limit. The acoustic signal may be set to be acknowledgeable.

(4) The main shut-off device in the liquefied petroleum gas inlet to the filling room is to be installed immediately before the pipework enters the filling room. This main shut-off device is to be designed as a remotely operated quick-closing valve.

(5) Electrical installations and electrical equipment in filling rooms must comply with the electrical regulations for potentially explosive atmospheres.

(6) The metallic components of the filling systems must be connected to each other with a potential equilibrium and grounded to dissipate electrostatic charge.

(7) Each filling point must be equipped with an extraction system for any escaping liquefied petroleum gas. Filling is to only be technically possible if the extraction system is in operation. The extracted air must be safely discharged directly outside.

Potentially explosive atmosphere

Section 83. (1) A potentially explosive atmosphere corresponding to Section 9 with a radius of the base circle of at least 5 metres must be set up around door, window and ventilation openings of filling rooms.

(2) Around outdoor locations where pressure vessels are filled or opened for inspection or repair, a potentially explosive atmosphere with a radius of at least 15 m of the base circle is to be provided. The potentially explosive atmosphere must comply with Section 9, whereby, however, by way of derogation from Section 9(2), the cone tip is formed by a sphere with a radius of 3 m.

(3) Pressure vessels may also be stored within the potentially explosive atmosphere in accordance with paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) adjacent to filling rooms and at outdoor locations where pressure vessels are filled or opened for the purpose of inspection or repair. The authorities shall determine, on a case-by-case basis, the areas to be kept free for firefighting and for the escape route according to the local circumstances.

(4) In order to store pressure vessels in accordance with paragraph (3), potentially explosive atmospheres must be set up in accordance with Section 58. The total or partial overlapping of these potentially explosive atmospheres with potentially explosive atmospheres in accordance with paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) is permitted.

Fire prevention measures and firefighting equipment

Section 84. At the filling system and at outdoor locations where pressure vessels are filled or opened for the purpose of inspection or repair, at least two portable fire extinguishers suitable for fighting fires involving solid and liquid substances, each with a minimum capacity of 12 kg or equivalent extinguishing capacity, must be available for fighting incipient fires (first aid extinguishing). Whether or what further fire protection measures and fire-fighting equipment must be provided for must be determined by the authorities on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the local conditions.

Filters, filling hoses

Section 85. (1) The filling units of filling systems must contain filters that remove solid contaminants from the liquefied petroleum gas.

(2) There must be a shut-off device between the fixed line and the filling hose.

(3) Filling hoses must have a suitable shut-off device at their outlet; a tight connection with the pressurised vessels to be filled must be ensured. High-pressure hoses within the meaning of Section 74(3) must be used as filling hoses.

Number of pressure vessels

Section 86. The number of pressure vessels in the filling rooms is to be limited to that required for uninterrupted operation.

9. Main Section

Additional provisions for gas consumption devices and exhaust systems

Use of gas consumption devices and exhaust systems

Section 87. (1) Gas consumption devices and their exhaust systems must be installed, operated and maintained in accordance with the rules of technology, unless the regulation at issue lays down additional requirements.

(2) Rooms in which gas consumption devices are operated with an open combustion chamber must have at least one window or ventilation opening to outside and must have good natural ventilation.

(3) When operating gas consumption devices that are not equipped with an exhaust system, sufficient room ventilation must be ensured. For each connected load of 0.1 kg/h of all gas consumption devices installed in a room, there must be an air space of at least 7 m3 for natural ventilation and an air space of at least 3.5 m3 for artificial ventilation. In the case of mechanical ventilation, an air exchange rate of at least three times per hour must also be ensured.

(4) Unless otherwise permitted in paragraph (5), gas consumption devices may not be installed in rooms whose floors are lower on all sides than the adjacent terrain. The rooms must be arranged in such a way that a safe outflow of any leaked liquefied petroleum gas is possible.

(5) Gas consumption devices may be used in rooms where the floor is lower on all sides than the adjacent terrain if the following requirements are met:

1. the gas consumption devices are equipped with full ignition protection;
2. permanent technical tightness of the pipework below ground level is ensured;
3. solenoid valve in the gas supply line above the ground level outdoors installed, which is only open when the gas consumption devices are in operation;
4. a liquefied petroleum gas warning device is present that closes the gas supply via the solenoid valve when a concentration of 40 % of the lower explosion limit is reached and that switches on a ventilation system, ensuring an air exchange rate of at least five times an hour.

The authorities shall allow derogations from these requirements in individual cases if, in the explosion protection concept, justified equivalent provisions are made by reference to the circumstances of the individual case. Portable gas-consuming devices, such as soldering burners or the like, with an associated liquefied petroleum gas container up to a filling capacity of 5 kg may be present in rooms at an underground level during the time of their use without the need for compliance with the requirements of subparagraphs (1) to (4).

10. Main Section
Transitional provisions and final provision

Gender-neutral designation

Section 88. The personal designations used in this Regulation are to be understood as gender neutral.

Transitional provisions

Section 89. (1) This Regulation shall apply to commercial facilities already approved and to existing workplaces subject to the ASchG, as well as to railway facilities already approved and constructed in accordance with Section 36(1) EisbG, with the following derogations and exceptions, unless paragraph (2) provides otherwise:

1. Section 15(2) applies with the proviso that other measures to protect against dangerous heating are also permissible (e.g. radiation protection);
2. Decisions pursuant to Section 95(5) of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Ordinance 2002 - FGV, BGBl. II No 446/2002, remain unaffected by Section 87(5);
3. by way of derogation from Section 14(1), Section 34(6), Section 52(5) and Section 81(2), a non-combustible design is sufficient in place of the requirement for building materials A1 or A2;
4. by way of derogation from Section 15(5), Section 34(4), Section 66(4) and Section 81(3), a fire-resistant solid construction is sufficient in place of classification (R)EI 90 made from building materials A1 or A2;
5. by way of derogation from Section 34(1), Section 46, Section 66(3) and Section 81(4), a non-combustible design is sufficient in place of the requirement for building materials A1 or A2 and, where applicable, coverings Bfl;
6. by way of derogation from Section 52(2), a fire-resistant and non-combustible solid construction is sufficient for the outer walls instead of classification (R)EI 90 of building materials A1 or A2; in relation to the ceiling, non-combustible material A1 or A2 is sufficient instead of classification (R)EI 90; in lieu of classification (R)EI 90, a fire-resistant construction is sufficient;
7. by way of derogation from Section 52(3) and Section 66(5), a non-combustible design is sufficient with regard to roof covering instead of the requirement for building materials A1 or A2; with regard to walls, a fire-resistant solid wall is sufficient instead of classification (R)EI 90 made from building materials A1 or A2; with regard to the ceiling, a fire-resistant design is sufficient instead of classification (R)EI 90;
8. by way of derogation from Section 52(4) and Section 66(6), in the case of windows, doors and gates, a fire-retardant and non-combustible design is sufficient in place of the requirement for building materials A1 or A2 and classification EI 30 or EI2 30-C; in the case of connecting doors, a fire-resistant and self-closing design is sufficient in place of classification EI2 90-C;
9. by way of derogation from Section 66(2), a fire-resistant and non-combustible solid construction is sufficient for the outer walls instead of classification (R)EI 90 from building materials A1 or A2;
10. in derogation from Section 81(5), a fire-retardant and non-combustible design is sufficient in place of the requirement for building materials A1 or A2 and classification EI 30 or EI_2 30-C with regard to windows and doors.

(2) This Regulation shall apply to commercial operating facilities already approved prior to the entry into force of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Ordinance 2002 and to workplaces subject to the ASchG existing prior to the entry into force of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Ordinance 2002 and to railway installations already approved prior to the entry into force of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Ordinance 2002 and erected in accordance with Section 36(1) EisbG, with the following derogations and exceptions:

1. Section 24 does not apply to pipework laid under plaster;
2. Section 27(1) applies with the proviso that shut-off devices for pipes leading into a building may also be located behind the entrance to the building;
3. Section 27(3) applies with the following derogations:
   a. if only one gas consumption device is connected to a pressure vessel installed in the same room, the tank shut-off valve shall replace the shut-off device in front of the gas consumption device;
   b. if, in the case of outdoor installations, only one gas consumption device is connected to the pressure vessel, the main shut-off device located in the same room shall replace the shut-off device in front of the gas consumption device if the gas consumption device is not more than 5 m from the main shut-off device;
4. the following applies in place of Section 32: pipes, pumps, filters, shut-off valves and other fittings of the liquefied petroleum gas system shall be designed for the maximum permissible operating pressure of the respective sub-installation;
5. the following applies in place of Section 52(2): Storage rooms that are directly adjacent to a public thoroughfare must be separated from the thoroughfare by a brick wall that is at least 25 cm thick or another wall that is at least equivalent in terms of its protective purpose and has no doors and no windows that can be opened up to a height of 2 metres; Storage rooms must be separated from other rooms by at least a fire-retardant partition, and in the case of storage facilities with a total capacity of more than 200 kg by at least a fire-resistant partition; brick or stone walls against adjoining rooms must be plastered; the sides of smoke flues must be at least 25 cm thick and plastered; smoke flues must not have any openings in storage rooms;
6. the following applies in place of Section 52(3) to (5): the roofing of the storage facility buildings must be resistant to sparks and radiant heat; storage rooms that must be separated from other rooms in accordance with Section 5 at least in a fire-resistant manner must be equipped with fire-retardant doors and windows;
7. the following applies in place of Section 66: above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers may not be installed in spaces used for the permanent residence of people or in rooms located above, below or next to such spaces; the floor below the above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers must be flame-retardant and designed in such a way that escaping liquefied petroleum gas cannot penetrate it and cannot accumulate below the above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers; the floor must be solid, level, joint-tight and flame-retardant and designed in such a way that no ignitable sparks occur in the event of friction, impact or shock. Rooms in which above-ground stationary liquefied petroleum gas containers are installed must be separated from other rooms in a fire-resistant manner; they must be structurally designed in such a way that in the event of an explosion in these rooms a hazard to the surroundings is avoided; doors and windows of the storage rooms must be at least fire-retardant; in addition, the provisions of subparagraph (5) second, fourth and fifth half-sentence and subparagraph (6) second half-sentence apply to the condition of the installation rooms;
8. Section 73 applies with the proviso that a minimum distance of 0.4 metres is permissible;
9. in place of Section 81, the existing consensual status shall apply until this Regulation comes into force.
10. the following applies in place of Section 82(1): the rooms of the filling systems must have constant good ventilation; the number and cross-section of the ventilation openings must be dimensioned accordingly;
11. the following applies in place of Section 82(4): Pipework leading into buildings must be capable of being locked quickly from a safe location;
12. the following applies in place of Section 87(2): Rooms in which gas-consuming devices are operated must be well ventilated;
13. Section 87(3) applies subject to the proviso that, with regard to artificial or mechanical ventilation, the given connection value with sufficient artificial ventilation must account for an airspace of at least 3.5 m^3.

Entry into force, abrogation

Section 90. (1) This Regulation shall enter into force on the first day of the month following its promulgation.

(2) The Liquefied Petroleum Gas Ordinance 2002 shall cease to be valid upon entry into force of this Regulation.

Notification

Section 91. This Regulation was notified in accordance with the provisions of Directive (EU) 2015/1535 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical regulations and of rules on Information Society services (codification), OJ L 241, 17 September 2015, p. 1 (Notification No xxxx/xxx/x).