

## GC Secondary Barrier Testing Requirements

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2007)  
(Corr.1  
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The International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquid Gases in Bulk (IGC Code), 4.7.7 reads:

*"The secondary barrier should be capable of being periodically checked for its effectiveness, by means of a pressure/vacuum test, a visual inspection or another suitable method acceptable to the Administration. The method should be submitted to the Administration for approval."*

Paragraph 4.7.7 shall be interpreted as follows:

For containment systems with glued secondary barriers:

- A tightness test should be carried out in accordance with approved system designers' procedures and acceptance criteria before and after initial cool down. Low differential pressures tests are not considered an acceptable test.
- ~~If significant differences in the results before and after cool down for each tank or between tanks or if other anomalies are observed, the designer's threshold values are exceeded,~~ an investigation is to be carried out and additional testing such as ~~differential pressure,~~ thermographic or acoustic emissions testing should be carried out ~~as necessary.~~
- The values recorded should be used as reference for future assessment of secondary barrier tightness.

For containment systems with welded metallic secondary barriers, a tightness test after initial cool down is not required.

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Note:

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be applied by all Members and Associate to tests commenced on or after 1 July 2008.
2. Rev.1 of this Unified Interpretation is to be applied by all Members to tests commenced on or after 1 July 2014.

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