

Standards Alert

Technical Specification – Permanent Gas Engine Driven Pump has been updated.

The specification defines the minimum technical requirements for the design and supply of a packaged, gas-engine driven, self-priming centrifugal sewage pumping units for permanent installation within Sydney Water facilities. This update introduces improvements that enhance safety, sustainability, and cost efficiency.

Why has the standard been revised?

Since the release of the first version of the specification in 2023, several improvements have been identified based on lessons learnt from recent projects and feedback received on comparable diesel gas pump specification. The main areas for revision include:

- Clarification of hazardous area classification and design philosophy.
- Align with relevant industry standards and clearer technical requirements.
- Improve maintainability, operator safety, ergonomics, and environmental protection.
- Enhance monitoring, control capability, and system integration.
- Improve clarity and usability of the specification.
- Improve integration through removing duplicated requirements.

What has changed from the previous version?

Key changes from the previous version include:

- Introduction of a defined gas hazardous area design philosophy
- Greater design flexibility.
- Improved equipment layout and usability.
- Enhanced maintainability.
- Strengthened safety and environmental protection.
- Upgraded monitoring and control capability.
- Clarity and consistency improvements.

What are the key benefits and impact to users?

Significant uplift and clarification of hazardous area classification, segregation, electrical isolation and overall hazardous area design philosophy, including formal definition of the boundary between hazardous and non-hazardous areas.

Most clauses introduce small adjustments—either easing requirements, offering alternative options, or standardising common but previously inconsistent practices, helping to speed up design and procurement.

Changes that affect safety generally improve hazard reduction, especially trip hazards, and enable easier and safer maintenance.

Several new clauses capture current common practice, particularly in control panel control circuits, battery charging requirements and pressure gauge and tapping point provisions.

Multiple changes open the market, reduce bespoke design, or allow more suppliers by specifying alternatives (e.g., heater voltage, starting voltage).

Most clauses show no significant lifecycle cost changes, occasional slight reductions where requirements are relaxed and minimal design and construction time changes.

When can I start using the new standard?

When new or updated engineering standards are published, they apply to projects commenced after the



publication date. There is no requirement to apply them retrospectively.

Project managers, however, have the discretion to apply new requirements to in-flight projects where they see benefit.

Where can I find the new standard?

The specification is available on [iConnect](#) (for SW staff), [SWDelivery Portal](#) (for SW contractors), and the [Sydney Water website](#).

How can I provide feedback?

If you have any feedback on this specification, please contact the author by email at: standards@sydneywater.com.au.