



BS EN 17931:2026

BSI Standards Publication

Gas welding equipment — Manual gas equipment for welding, heating and cutting — Periodic inspection



National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 17931:2026.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee WEE/18, Gas welding and cutting appliances.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 17931:2026 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval.

The UK committee reminds users that BS 0:2021 *A standard for standards — Principles of standardization* notes 'British Standards are voluntary in that there is no obligation to apply them or comply with them, except in those few cases where their application is directly demanded by regulatory instruments', and advises that application of this standard is not demanded by regulatory instruments.

The UK committee further advises users that it submitted a negative vote because the guidance offered in this standard is also given in the following British Compressed Gases Association (BCGA) documents, and it is the opinion of the UK committee that these documents have similar scopes and provide their requirements in greater detail when compared to this standard:

- Code of Practice 7 (CP7) *The safe use of oxy-fuel gas equipment (individual portable or mobile cylinder supply)* (2024)
- Code of Practice 47 (CP47) *The safe use of individual portable or mobile cylinder gas supply equipment* (2024)
- Guidance Note 44 (GN44) *Portable or mobile cylinder gas equipment – Thorough inspection* (2021)

It is also the opinion of the UK committee that:

- the scope of this standard is restricted as it does not provide inspection and maintenance guidance for single-cylinder gas system processes (such as scientific experiments, helium leak testing and system pressure testing), or other single-cylinder systems in use
- implementing the periodic inspection requirements (Subclause 4.3) is impractical, as it considers that undertaking quantitative leak detection or flow rate measurements is not practical in UK operating environments
- the distinction between 'periodic inspection' and 'complete inspection' in Subclause 4.4 is not clear, nor is the relationship of these terms with either the replacement of equipment (or cylinder) inspection, commissioning and before-use or annual inspection requirements, or with the terms and definitions (Clause 3) or Table 1 guidelines; this might potentially cause users to misunderstand the standard's requirements

The UK committee also notes there is no definition of 'authorized maintenance professional' (Subclause 4.4, Note 2).