

Does a New Unit Need to Be Tested?

Simply put – Yes. The CSA standard requires the air quality to be tested as part of the initial commissioning of the system. Additional details are provided below.

A.12.2 Commissioning checks

The commissioning team shall ensure that

- (a) the compressor air intake filter assembly is located in a clean and open space and is free of contaminants;
- (b) the intake piping is sized in accordance with the compressor manufacturer's requirements;
- (c) the compressor oil being used is recommended by the air compressor and lubricant manufacturers and compatible with breathing air requirements;
- (d) the compressor has been installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and there is adequate ventilation to permit the compressor to operate at the recommended temperature;
- (e) all pressure systems comply with local, provincial/territorial, and federal regulations, as applicable;
- (f) warning notices reading "Compressed Breathing Air Use Only" are posted and no other use is permitted;
- (g) dedicated compressed breathing air pipelines and outlets are clearly marked "Compressed Breathing Air Use Only";
- (h) service outlets are incompatible with other gaseous or liquid systems.
- (i) the purification system has been installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and the operating pressure and flow capacity rate meet the requirements of the application;
- (j) the compressor and purification systems perform to the manufacturer's specifications;
- (k) **the delivered air quality is analyzed by an accredited laboratory to confirm that it meets or exceeds the requirements of Table 1;**
- (l) individuals who will be required to operate and/or maintain the compressed breathing air system are qualified to do so;
- (m) a qualified person is designated as having the responsibility of ensuring that the compressed breathing air system is periodically inspected, tested, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and this Standard, and that a comprehensive record of these activities is maintained; and
- (n) a "Record of Commissioning" document is drawn up, listing Items (a) to (m), and is signed off on by the supplier or the supplier's qualified designate, and by the authorized representative of the end user.