

- (a) before testing is carried out, the tank shall be filled with water to the top level of the side panels, and the overflow, drain and other pipes shall be blanked off. The static water test shall be for a period of not less than one hour;
 - (b) continuous inspection shall be carried out for the whole testing period. All leaks found shall be repaired, and the static test repeated until no leakage is observed. Repairs shall conform to manufacturers' recommendations or instructions and be carried out by persons competent in that work;
 - (c) while the tank is being emptied, precautions shall be taken to ensure that the design vacuum is not exceeded;
 - (d) the testing medium shall be potable water. In order to avoid waste, pumping from one tank into another during testing may be allowed; and
 - (e) the hold time between completion of the filling and start of emptying shall not be less than 24 hours in order to allow the tank to settle. Discharging of the water shall be carried out in a controlled manner to avoid scouring or flooding.
- 1.51 After completion of the testing, each tank shall be disinfected in accordance with the procedure below (tank disinfection shall be carried out only after completion of service connection flushing and disinfection where applicable). In case of existing customer storage tanks disinfection procedures stipulated in the Code of Practice for the Inspection and Cleaning of Customer Water Storage Tanks shall be followed.
- 1.52 The general disinfection procedure for tanks with a capacity of less than 5000 litres is to flush the tank, introduce the disinfectant (approved type of hypochlorite to 20mg/l) and leave it for a one-hour contact period at a level just below the overflow pipe. If the concentration is satisfactory (5mg/l and above), the tank should be drained and thoroughly flushed. Tank disinfection shall be carried out by a specialised contractor. The disinfection of tanks with a capacity greater than 5000 litres should only be carried out according to the following procedures:
- (a) the tank shall be filled to a depth of 300mm with potable water;
 - (b) sufficient sodium hypochlorite (approved type) shall be added to give a solution containing approximately 20mg/l, or to a concentration approved by the Distribution Company; this solution shall then be mixed thoroughly. Where other disinfectants are used, the concentration and the procedure shall be as per the manufacturer's recommendations and must be approved by the Distribution Company;
 - (c) a small portable pump shall be temporarily mounted outside the tank with suction and discharge hoses extending through the tank main openings;
 - (d) the discharge hose shall be equipped with a suitable nozzle or pipe reducer to provide a sufficient flow of chlorinated water, when discharged from the portable pumps, to reach all parts of the tank interior;