

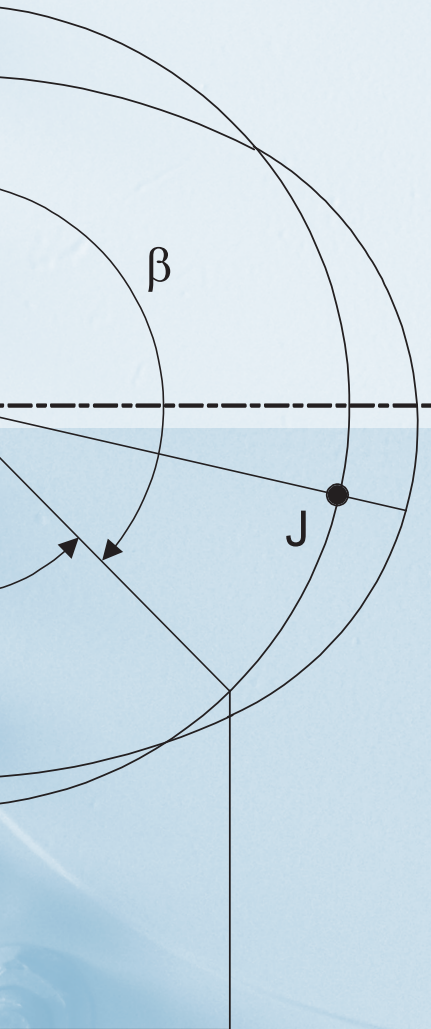
2013 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code

AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

III

Rules for Construction of Nuclear Facility Components

Subsection NCA General Requirements for Division 1 and Division 2



ACI Standard 359-13

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AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

2013 ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code

2013 Edition

July 1, 2013

(ACI Standard 359-13)



RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR FACILITY COMPONENTS

Subsection NCA

General Requirements for Division 1 and Division 2

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee
on Nuclear Power

ACI-ASME Joint Technical Committee



The American Society of
Mechanical Engineers

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Sections	vii
Foreword	ix
Statement of Policy on the Use of the Certification Mark and Code Authorization in Advertising	xi
Statement of Policy on the Use of ASME Marking to Identify Manufactured Items	xi
Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees	xii
Personnel	xiv
Organization of Section III	xxx
Summary of Changes	xxxiii
List of Changes in Record Number Order	xxxv
Cross-Referencing and Stylistic Changes in the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code	xxxvii
Article NCA-1000 Scope of Section III	1
NCA-1100 General	1
NCA-1110 Scope	1
NCA-1120 Definitions	1
NCA-1130 Limits of These Rules	1
NCA-1140 Use of Code Editions, Addenda, and Cases	1
NCA-1150 Units of Measurement	2
NCA-1200 General Requirements for Items and Installation	3
NCA-1210 Components	3
NCA-1220 Materials	3
NCA-1230 Parts, Piping Subassemblies, and Supports	3
NCA-1260 Appurtenances	3
NCA-1270 Miscellaneous Items	4
NCA-1280 Installation	4
Article NCA-2000 Classification of Components and Supports	5
NCA-2100 General Requirements	5
NCA-2110 Scope	5
NCA-2120 Purpose of Classifying Items of a Nuclear Power Plant	5
NCA-2130 Classifications and Rules of this Section	5
NCA-2140 Design Basis	6
NCA-2160 Special Requirements Applied to Code Classes	7
Article NCA-3000 Responsibilities and Duties	8
NCA-3100 General	8
NCA-3110 Responsibilities vs. Legal Liabilities	8
NCA-3120 Certification	8
NCA-3130 Welding and Subcontracting During Construction	8
NCA-3200 Owner's Responsibilities	9
NCA-3220 Categories of the Owner's Responsibilities	9
NCA-3230 Owner's Certificate	10
NCA-3240 Provision of Adequate Supporting Structures	10
NCA-3250 Provision of Design Specifications	11
NCA-3260 Review of Design Report	12
NCA-3270 Overpressure Protection Report	12
NCA-3280 Owner's Data Report and Filing	13
NCA-3290 Owner's Responsibility for Records	13
NCA-3300 Responsibilities of a Designer — Division 2	13
NCA-3320 Categories of the Designer's Responsibility	13

NCA-3340	Design Drawings and Construction Specification	13
NCA-3350	Design Report	13
NCA-3360	Certification of the Construction Specification, Design Drawings, and Design Report ..	13
NCA-3370	Revision of Design Drawings and Construction Specification	14
NCA-3380	Certification of Construction Report	14
NCA-3400	Responsibilities of an N Certificate Holder — Division 2	14
NCA-3420	Categories of the N Certificate Holder's Responsibilities	14
NCA-3430	Obtaining a Certificate	14
NCA-3440	Compliance with this Section	14
NCA-3450	Construction Documents	14
NCA-3460	Responsibility for Quality Assurance	15
NCA-3500	Responsibilities of an N Certificate Holder — Division 1	15
NCA-3520	Categories of the N Certificate Holder's Responsibilities	15
NCA-3530	Obtaining A Certificate	16
NCA-3540	Compliance with this Section	16
NCA-3550	Requirements for Design Output Documents	16
NCA-3560	Responsibility for Quality Assurance	17
NCA-3570	Data Report	17
NCA-3600	Responsibilities of an NPT Certificate Holder	18
NCA-3620	Categories of the NPT Certificate Holder's Responsibilities	18
NCA-3630	Obtaining a Certificate	18
NCA-3640	Compliance with this Section	18
NCA-3650	Design Documents for Appurtenances	18
NCA-3660	Responsibility for Quality Assurance	18
NCA-3670	Data Report	19
NCA-3680	Responsibilities of an NS Certificate Holder	19
NCA-3700	Responsibilities of an NA Certificate Holder	20
NCA-3720	Categories of the NA Certificate Holder's Responsibilities	20
NCA-3730	Obtaining a Certificate	20
NCA-3740	Responsibility for Compliance with this Section	20
NCA-3760	Responsibility for Quality Assurance	20
NCA-3770	Data Report	21
NCA-3800	Metallic Material Organization's Quality System Program	21
NCA-3810	Scope and Applicability	21
NCA-3820	Certification or Qualification of Material Organizations	21
NCA-3830	Responsibilities of Material Organizations	21
NCA-3840	Evaluation of the Program	21
NCA-3850	Quality System Program Requirements	23
NCA-3860	Certification Requirements	28
NCA-3900	Nonmetallic Material Manufacturer's, Constituent Supplier's, and Polyethylene Material Organization's Quality System Program	29
NCA-3910	Applicability	29
NCA-3920	Quality System Certificate (Nonmetallic Materials)	29
NCA-3950	Quality System Program Requirements	30
NCA-3960	Responsibility	33
NCA-3970	Polyethylene Material Organization's Quality System Program	34
Article NCA-4000	Quality Assurance	38
NCA-4100	Requirements	38
NCA-4110	Scope and Applicability	38
NCA-4120	Definitions	38
NCA-4130	Establishment and Implementation	38
Article NCA-5000	Authorized Inspection	43
NCA-5100	Introduction	43
NCA-5110	Applicability	43
NCA-5120	Performance of Inspection	43

NCA-5130	Access for Inspection Agency Personnel	43
NCA-5200	Duties of Inspector	44
NCA-5210	General Inspection Duties	44
NCA-5220	Categories of Inspector's Duties	44
NCA-5230	Scope of Work, Design Specifications, and Design Reports	44
NCA-5240	Quality Assurance Programs	44
NCA-5250	Qualification Records	45
NCA-5260	Materials, Parts, and Heat Treatment	45
NCA-5270	Examinations and Tests	46
NCA-5280	Final Tests	46
NCA-5290	Data Reports and Construction Reports	46
NCA-5300	Responsibilities of the Authorized Inspection Agency	46
Article NCA-7000	Reference Standards	47
NCA-7100	General Requirements	47
Article NCA-8000	Certificates, Nameplates, Certification Mark, and Data Reports	54
NCA-8100	Authorization to Perform Code Activities	54
NCA-8110	General	54
NCA-8120	Scope of Certificates	54
NCA-8130	Inspection Agreement Required	54
NCA-8140	Quality Assurance Program Requirements	54
NCA-8150	Application for Certification	54
NCA-8160	Evaluation	58
NCA-8170	Issuance	58
NCA-8180	Renewal	58
NCA-8200	Nameplates and Stamping with Certification Mark	58
NCA-8210	General Requirements	58
NCA-8220	Nameplates for Components	59
NCA-8230	Nameplates for Certification Mark with NPT Designator Items	59
NCA-8240	Removed Nameplates	59
NCA-8300	Certification Mark	59
NCA-8310	General Requirements	59
NCA-8320	Application of the Certification Mark with N Designator	60
NCA-8330	Parts and Piping Subassemblies Furnished without Stamping with Certification Mark	60
NCA-8400	Data Reports	60
NCA-8410	General Requirements	60
NCA-8420	Owner's Data Report	60
NCA-8430	Data Reports, Tubular Products, and Fittings Welded with Filler Metal	61
NCA-8440	Certificates of Conformance for Welded Supports	61
Article NCA-9000	Glossary	62
NCA-9100	Introduction	62
NCA-9200	Definitions	62
 FIGURES		
NCA-8212-1	Form of Stamping With Certification Mark	59

TABLES

NCA-3200-1	Document Distribution for Division 2 Construction	10
NCA-4134.17-1	Lifetime Quality Assurance Records	41
NCA-4134.17-2	Nonpermanent Quality Assurance Records	41
NCA-7100-1	Dimensional Standards	48
NCA-7100-2	Standards and Specifications Referenced in Division 1	49
NCA-7100-3	Standards and Specifications Referenced in Division 2	50
NCA-8100-1	Certificates and Certification Mark Issued by the Society for Construction of Nuclear Power Plants	55

ENDNOTES

69

(13)

LIST OF SECTIONS

SECTIONS

- I Rules for Construction of Power Boilers
- II Materials
 - Part A — Ferrous Material Specifications
 - Part B — Nonferrous Material Specifications
 - Part C — Specifications for Welding Rods, Electrodes, and Filler Metals
 - Part D — Properties (Customary)
 - Part D — Properties (Metric)
- III Rules for Construction of Nuclear Facility Components
 - Subsection NCA — General Requirements for Division 1 and Division 2
 - Appendices
 - Division 1
 - Subsection NB — Class 1 Components
 - Subsection NC — Class 2 Components
 - Subsection ND — Class 3 Components
 - Subsection NE — Class MC Components
 - Subsection NF — Supports
 - Subsection NG — Core Support Structures
 - Subsection NH — Class 1 Components in Elevated Temperature Service
 - Division 2 — Code for Concrete Containments
 - Division 3 — Containments for Transportation and Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Radioactive Material and Waste
 - Division 5 — High Temperature Reactors
- IV Rules for Construction of Heating Boilers
- V Nondestructive Examination
- VI Recommended Rules for the Care and Operation of Heating Boilers
- VII Recommended Guidelines for the Care of Power Boilers
- VIII Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels
 - Division 1
 - Division 2 — Alternative Rules
 - Division 3 — Alternative Rules for Construction of High Pressure Vessels
- IX Welding, Brazing, and Fusing Qualifications
- X Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels
- XI Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components
- XII Rules for Construction and Continued Service of Transport Tanks

INTERPRETATIONS

ASME issues written replies to inquiries concerning interpretation of technical aspects of the Code.

Interpretations of the Code are posted in January and July at <http://cstools.asme.org/interpretations.cfm>. Any Interpretations issued during the previous two calendar years are included with the publication of the applicable Section of the Code. Interpretations of Section III, Divisions 1 and 2 and Section III Appendices are included with Subsection NCA.

CODE CASES

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code committees meet regularly to consider proposed additions and revisions to the Code and to formulate Cases to clarify the intent of existing requirements or provide, when the need is urgent, rules for materials or constructions not covered by existing Code rules. Those Cases that have been adopted will appear in the appropriate 2013 Code Cases book: “Boilers and Pressure Vessels” or “Nuclear Components.” Supplements will be sent automatically to the purchasers of the Code Cases books up to the publication of the 2015 Code.

FOREWORD

(This Foreword is provided as an aid to the user and is not part of the rules of this Code.)

In 1911, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers established the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee to formulate standard rules for the construction of steam boilers and other pressure vessels. In 2009, the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee was superseded by the following committees:

- (a) Committee on Power Boilers (I)
- (b) Committee on Materials (II)
- (c) Committee on Construction of Nuclear Facility Components (III)
- (d) Committee on Heating Boilers (IV)
- (e) Committee on Nondestructive Examination (V)
- (f) Committee on Pressure Vessels (VIII)
- (g) Committee on Welding, Brazing, and Fusing (IX)
- (h) Committee on Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels (X)
- (i) Committee on Nuclear Inservice Inspection (XI)
- (j) Committee on Transport Tanks (XII)

Where reference is made to “the Committee” in this Foreword, each of these committees is included individually and collectively.

The Committee's function is to establish rules of safety relating only to pressure integrity, which govern the construction^{*} of boilers, pressure vessels, transport tanks, and nuclear components, and the inservice inspection of nuclear components and transport tanks. The Committee also interprets these rules when questions arise regarding their intent. This Code does not address other safety issues relating to the construction of boilers, pressure vessels, transport tanks, or nuclear components, or the inservice inspection of nuclear components or transport tanks. Users of the Code should refer to the pertinent codes, standards, laws, regulations, or other relevant documents for safety issues other than those relating to pressure integrity. Except for Sections XI and XII, and with a few other exceptions, the rules do not, of practical necessity, reflect the likelihood and consequences of deterioration in service related to specific service fluids or external operating environments. In formulating the rules, the Committee considers the needs of users, manufacturers, and inspectors of pressure vessels. The objective of the rules is to afford reasonably certain protection of life and property, and to provide a margin for deterioration in service to give a reasonably long, safe period of usefulness. Advancements in design and materials and evidence of experience have been recognized.

This Code contains mandatory requirements, specific prohibitions, and nonmandatory guidance for construction activities and inservice inspection and testing activities. The Code does not address all aspects of these activities and those aspects that are not specifically addressed should not be considered prohibited. The Code is not a handbook and cannot replace education, experience, and the use of engineering judgment. The phrase *engineering judgement* refers to technical judgments made by knowledgeable engineers experienced in the application of the Code. Engineering judgments must be consistent with Code philosophy, and such judgments must never be used to overrule mandatory requirements or specific prohibitions of the Code.

The Committee recognizes that tools and techniques used for design and analysis change as technology progresses and expects engineers to use good judgment in the application of these tools. The designer is responsible for complying with Code rules and demonstrating compliance with Code equations when such equations are mandatory. The Code neither requires nor prohibits the use of computers for the design or analysis of components constructed to the requirements of the Code. However, designers and engineers using computer programs for design or analysis are cautioned that they are responsible for all technical assumptions inherent in the programs they use and the application of these programs to their design.

^{*} *Construction*, as used in this Foreword, is an all-inclusive term comprising materials, design, fabrication, examination, inspection, testing, certification, and pressure relief.

The rules established by the Committee are not to be interpreted as approving, recommending, or endorsing any proprietary or specific design, or as limiting in any way the manufacturer's freedom to choose any method of design or any form of construction that conforms to the Code rules.

The Committee meets regularly to consider revisions of the rules, new rules as dictated by technological development, Code Cases, and requests for interpretations. Only the Committee has the authority to provide official interpretations of this Code. Requests for revisions, new rules, Code Cases, or interpretations shall be addressed to the Secretary in writing and shall give full particulars in order to receive consideration and action (see Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees). Proposed revisions to the Code resulting from inquiries will be presented to the Committee for appropriate action. The action of the Committee becomes effective only after confirmation by ballot of the Committee and approval by ASME. Proposed revisions to the Code approved by the Committee are submitted to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and published at <http://cstools.asme.org/csconnect/public/index.cfm?PublicReview=Revisions> to invite comments from all interested persons. After public review and final approval by ASME, revisions are published at regular intervals in Editions of the Code.

The Committee does not rule on whether a component shall or shall not be constructed to the provisions of the Code. The scope of each Section has been established to identify the components and parameters considered by the Committee in formulating the Code rules.

Questions or issues regarding compliance of a specific component with the Code rules are to be directed to the ASME Certificate Holder (Manufacturer). Inquiries concerning the interpretation of the Code are to be directed to the Committee. ASME is to be notified should questions arise concerning improper use of an ASME Certification Mark.

When required by context in this Section, the singular shall be interpreted as the plural, and vice versa, and the feminine, masculine, or neuter gender shall be treated as such other gender as appropriate.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE USE OF THE CERTIFICATION MARK AND CODE AUTHORIZATION IN ADVERTISING

ASME has established procedures to authorize qualified organizations to perform various activities in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. It is the aim of the Society to provide recognition of organizations so authorized. An organization holding authorization to perform various activities in accordance with the requirements of the Code may state this capability in its advertising literature.

Organizations that are authorized to use the Certification Mark for marking items or constructions that have been constructed and inspected in compliance with the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code are issued Certificates of Authorization. It is the aim of the Society to maintain the standing of the Certification Mark for the benefit of the users, the enforcement jurisdictions, and the holders of the Certification Mark who comply with all requirements.

Based on these objectives, the following policy has been established on the usage in advertising of facsimiles of the Certification Mark, Certificates of Authorization, and reference to Code construction. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers does not “approve,” “certify,” “rate,” or “endorse” any item, construction, or activity and there shall be no statements or implications that might so indicate. An organization holding the Certification Mark and/or a Certificate of Authorization may state in advertising literature that items, constructions, or activities “are built (produced or performed) or activities conducted in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code,” or “meet the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.” An ASME corporate logo shall not be used by any organization other than ASME.

The Certification Mark shall be used only for stamping and nameplates as specifically provided in the Code. However, facsimiles may be used for the purpose of fostering the use of such construction. Such usage may be by an association or a society, or by a holder of the Certification Mark who may also use the facsimile in advertising to show that clearly specified items will carry the Certification Mark. General usage is permitted only when all of a manufacturer’s items are constructed under the rules.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE USE OF ASME MARKING TO IDENTIFY MANUFACTURED ITEMS

The ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code provides rules for the construction of boilers, pressure vessels, and nuclear components. This includes requirements for materials, design, fabrication, examination, inspection, and stamping. Items constructed in accordance with all of the applicable rules of the Code are identified with the official Certification Mark described in the governing Section of the Code.

Markings such as “ASME,” “ASME Standard,” or any other marking including “ASME” or the Certification Mark shall not be used on any item that is not constructed in accordance with all of the applicable requirements of the Code.

Items shall not be described on ASME Data Report Forms nor on similar forms referring to ASME that tend to imply that all Code requirements have been met when, in fact, they have not been. Data Report Forms covering items not fully complying with ASME requirements should not refer to ASME or they should clearly identify all exceptions to the ASME requirements.

(13) SUBMITTAL OF TECHNICAL INQUIRIES TO THE BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL STANDARDS COMMITTEES

1 INTRODUCTION

(a) The following information provides guidance to Code users for submitting technical inquiries to the committees. See Guideline on the Approval of New Materials Under the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code in Section II, Parts C and D for additional requirements for requests involving adding new materials to the Code. Technical inquiries include requests for revisions or additions to the Code rules, requests for Code Cases, and requests for Code Interpretations, as described below.

(1) *Code Revisions.* Code revisions are considered to accommodate technological developments, address administrative requirements, incorporate Code Cases, or to clarify Code intent.

(2) *Code Cases.* Code Cases represent alternatives or additions to existing Code rules. Code Cases are written as a question and reply, and are usually intended to be incorporated into the Code at a later date. When used, Code Cases prescribe mandatory requirements in the same sense as the text of the Code. However, users are cautioned that not all jurisdictions or owners automatically accept Code Cases. The most common applications for Code Cases are:

(-a) to permit early implementation of an approved Code revision based on an urgent need

(-b) to permit the use of a new material for Code construction

(-c) to gain experience with new materials or alternative rules prior to incorporation directly into the Code

(3) *Code Interpretations.* Code Interpretations provide clarification of the meaning of existing rules in the Code, and are also presented in question and reply format. Interpretations do not introduce new requirements. In cases where existing Code text does not fully convey the meaning that was intended, and revision of the rules is required to support an interpretation, an Intent Interpretation will be issued and the Code will be revised.

(b) The Code rules, Code Cases, and Code Interpretations established by the committees are not to be considered as approving, recommending, certifying, or endorsing any proprietary or specific design, or as limiting in any way the freedom of manufacturers, constructors, or owners to choose any method of design or any form of construction that conforms to the Code rules.

(c) Inquiries that do not comply with these provisions or that do not provide sufficient information for a committee's full understanding may result in the request being returned to the inquirer with no action.

2 INQUIRY FORMAT

Submittals to a committee shall include:

(a) *Purpose.* Specify one of the following:

(1) revision of present Code rules

(2) new or additional Code rules

(3) Code Case

(4) Code Interpretation

(b) *Background.* Provide the information needed for the committee's understanding of the inquiry, being sure to include reference to the applicable Code Section, Division, Edition, Addenda (if applicable), paragraphs, figures, and tables. Preferably, provide a copy of the specific referenced portions of the Code.

(c) *Presentations.* The inquirer may desire or be asked to attend a meeting of the committee to make a formal presentation or to answer questions from the committee members with regard to the inquiry. Attendance at a committee meeting shall be at the expense of the inquirer. The inquirer's attendance or lack of attendance at a meeting shall not be a basis for acceptance or rejection of the inquiry by the committee.