

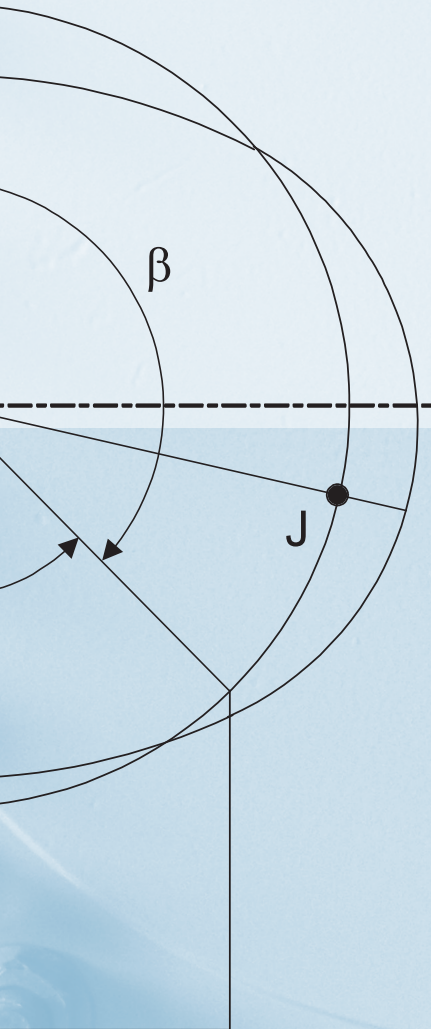
2013 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code

AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

III

Rules for Construction of Nuclear Facility Components

Division 1 — Subsection NB Class 1 Components



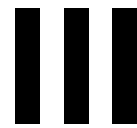
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AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

2013 ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code

2013 Edition

July 1, 2013



RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR FACILITY COMPONENTS

Division 1 - Subsection NB

Class 1 Components

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee
on Nuclear Power



The American Society of
Mechanical Engineers

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Sections	x
Foreword	xii
Statement of Policy on the Use of the Certification Mark and Code Authorization in Advertising	xiv
Statement of Policy on the Use of ASME Marking to Identify Manufactured Items	xiv
Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees	xv
Personnel	xvii
Organization of Section III	xxxii
Summary of Changes	xxxv
List of Changes in Record Number Order	xxxvii
Cross-Referencing and Stylistic Changes in the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code	xxxviii
Article NB-1000 Introduction	1
NB-1100 Scope	1
NB-1110 Aspects of Construction Covered by these Rules	1
NB-1120 Temperature Limits	1
NB-1130 Boundaries of Jurisdiction Applicable to this Subsection	1
NB-1140 Electrical and Mechanical Penetration Assemblies	2
Article NB-2000 Material	7
NB-2100 General Requirements for Material	7
NB-2110 Scope of Principal Terms Employed	7
NB-2120 Pressure-Retaining Material	7
NB-2130 Certification of Material	9
NB-2140 Welding Material	9
NB-2150 Material Identification	9
NB-2160 Deterioration of Material in Service	9
NB-2170 Heat Treatment to Enhance Impact Properties	9
NB-2180 Procedures for Heat Treatment of Material	9
NB-2190 Nonpressure-Retaining Material	9
NB-2200 Material Test Coupons and Specimens for Ferritic Steel Material	10
NB-2210 Heat Treatment Requirements	10
NB-2220 Procedure for Obtaining Test Coupons and Specimens for Quenched and Tempered Material	10
NB-2300 Fracture Toughness Requirements for Material	12
NB-2310 Material to be Impact Tested	12
NB-2320 Impact Test Procedures	12
NB-2330 Test Requirements and Acceptance Standards	13
NB-2340 Number of Impact Tests Required	14
NB-2350 Retests	15
NB-2360 Calibration of Instruments and Equipment	15
NB-2400 Welding Material	15
NB-2410 General Requirements	15
NB-2420 Required Tests	16
NB-2430 Weld Metal Tests	17
NB-2440 Storage and Handling of Welding Material	19
NB-2500 Examination and Repair of Pressure-retaining Material	19
NB-2510 Examination of Pressure-retaining Material	19
NB-2520 Examination After Quenching and Tempering	20
NB-2530 Examination and Repair of Plate	20
NB-2540 Examination and Repair of Forgings and Bars	22

NB-2550	Examination and Repair of Seamless and Welded (without Filler Metal) Tubular Products and Fittings	24
NB-2560	Examination and Repair of Tubular Products and Fittings Welded with Filler Metal	27
NB-2570	Examination and Repair of Statically and Centrifugally Cast Products	27
NB-2580	Examination of Bolts, Studs, and Nuts	33
NB-2600	Material Organizations' Quality System Programs	35
NB-2610	Documentation and Maintenance of Quality System Programs	35
NB-2700	Dimensional Standards	35
Article NB-3000	Design	36
NB-3100	General Design	36
NB-3110	Loading Criteria	36
NB-3120	Special Considerations	36
NB-3130	General Design Rules	37
NB-3200	Design by Analysis	41
NB-3210	Design Criteria	41
NB-3220	Stress Limits for other than Bolts	46
NB-3230	Stress Limits for Bolts	60
NB-3300	Vessel Design	61
NB-3310	General Requirements	61
NB-3320	Design Considerations	61
NB-3330	Openings and Reinforcement	62
NB-3340	Analysis of Vessels	70
NB-3350	Design of Welded Construction	70
NB-3360	Special Vessel Requirements	73
NB-3400	Pump Design	73
NB-3410	General Requirements for Centrifugal Pumps	73
NB-3420	Definitions	74
NB-3430	Design Requirements for Centrifugal Pumps	74
NB-3440	Design of Specific Pump Types	76
NB-3500	Valve Design	78
NB-3510	Acceptability	78
NB-3520	Design Considerations	80
NB-3530	General Rules	80
NB-3540	Design of Pressure-Retaining Parts	82
NB-3550	Cyclic Loading Requirements	96
NB-3560	Design Reports	96
NB-3590	Pressure Relief Valve Design	97
NB-3600	Piping Design	100
NB-3610	General Requirements	100
NB-3620	Design Considerations	103
NB-3630	Piping Design and Analysis Criteria	104
NB-3640	Pressure Design	105
NB-3650	Analysis of Piping Products	113
NB-3660	Design of Welds	120
NB-3670	Special Piping Requirements	120
NB-3680	Stress Indices and Flexibility Factors	122
NB-3690	Dimensional Requirements for Piping Products	136
Article NB-4000	Fabrication and Installation	137
NB-4100	General Requirements	137
NB-4110	Introduction	137
NB-4120	Certification of Materials and Fabrication by Certificate Holder	137
NB-4130	Repair of Material	138
NB-4200	Forming, Fitting, and Aligning	138
NB-4210	Cutting, Forming, and Bending	138
NB-4220	Forming Tolerances	139

NB-4230	Fitting and Aligning	141
NB-4240	Requirements for Weld Joints in Components	142
NB-4250	Welding end Transitions — Maximum Envelope	144
NB-4300	Welding Qualifications	150
NB-4310	General Requirements	150
NB-4320	Welding Qualifications, Records, and Identifying Stamps	151
NB-4330	General Requirements for Welding Procedure Qualification Tests	156
NB-4350	Special Qualification Requirements for Tube-to-Tubesheet Welds	159
NB-4360	Qualification Requirements for Welding Specially Designed Welded Seals	159
NB-4400	Rules Governing Making, Examining, and Repairing Welds	160
NB-4410	Precautions to be Taken Before Welding	160
NB-4420	Rules for Making Welded Joints	160
NB-4430	Welding of Attachments	162
NB-4440	Welding of Appurtenances	163
NB-4450	Repair of Weld Metal Defects	163
NB-4500	Brazing	166
NB-4510	Rules for Brazing	166
NB-4520	Brazing Qualification Requirements	166
NB-4530	Fitting and Aligning of Parts to be Brazed	168
NB-4540	Examination of Brazed Joints	168
NB-4600	Heat Treatment	168
NB-4610	Welding Preheat Requirements	168
NB-4620	Postweld Heat Treatment	168
NB-4630	Heat Treatment of Welds Other Than the Final Postweld Heat Treatment	175
NB-4650	Heat Treatment After Bending or Forming for Pipes, Pumps, and Valves	176
NB-4660	Heat Treatment of Electroslag Welds	176
NB-4700	Mechanical Joints	176
NB-4710	Bolting and Threading	176
NB-4720	Bolting Flanged Joints	176
NB-4730	Electrical and Mechanical Penetration Assemblies	176
Article NB-5000	Examination	177
NB-5100	General Requirements for Examination	177
NB-5110	Methods, Nondestructive Examination Procedures, and Cleaning	177
NB-5120	Time of Examination of Welds and Weld Metal Cladding	177
NB-5130	Examination of Weld Edge Preparation Surfaces	178
NB-5140	Examination of Welds and Adjacent Base Material	179
NB-5200	Required Examination of Welds for Fabrication and Preservice Baseline	179
NB-5210	Category a Vessel Welded Joints and Longitudinal Welded Joints in Other Components .	179
NB-5220	Category B Vessel Welded Joints and Circumferential Welded Joints in Piping, Pumps, and Valves	179
NB-5230	Category C Vessel Welded Joints and Similar Welded Joints in Other Components	179
NB-5240	Category D Vessel Welded Joints and Branch and Piping Connections in Other Components	179
NB-5250	Weld Metal Buildups to Form Nozzles, Branch and Piping Connections and for Closure Opening Reinforcement	180
NB-5260	Fillet, Partial Penetration, Socket, and Attachment Welded Joints	180
NB-5270	Special Welded Joints	180
NB-5280	Preservice Examination	181
NB-5300	Acceptance Standards	181
NB-5320	Radiographic Acceptance Standards	181
NB-5330	Ultrasonic Acceptance Standards	182
NB-5340	Magnetic Particle Acceptance Standards	182
NB-5350	Liquid Penetrant Acceptance Standards	182
NB-5360	Eddy Current Preservice Examination of Installed Nonferromagnetic Steam Generator Heat Exchanger Tubing	183
NB-5370	Visual Acceptance Standards for Brazed Joints	183

NB-5380	Bubble Formation Testing	183
NB-5400	Final Examination of Vessels	183
NB-5410	Examination After Hydrostatic Test	183
NB-5500	Qualifications and Certification of Nondestructive Examination Personnel	183
NB-5510	General Requirements	183
NB-5520	Personnel Qualification, Certification, and Verification	183
NB-5530	Records	184
Article NB-6000	Testing	185
NB-6100	General Requirements	185
NB-6110	Pressure Testing of Components, Appurtenances, and Systems	185
NB-6120	Preparation for Testing	186
NB-6200	Hydrostatic Tests	186
NB-6210	Hydrostatic Test Procedure	186
NB-6220	Hydrostatic Test Pressure Requirements	186
NB-6300	Pneumatic Tests	187
NB-6310	Pneumatic Testing Procedures	187
NB-6320	Pneumatic Test Pressure Requirements	187
NB-6400	Pressure Test Gages	187
NB-6410		187
NB-6600	Special Test Pressure Situations	188
NB-6610	Components Designed for External Pressure	188
NB-6620	Pressure Testing of Combination Units	188
Article NB-7000	Overpressure Protection	189
NB-7100	General Requirements	189
NB-7110	Scope	189
NB-7120	Integrated Overpressure Protection	189
NB-7130	Verification of the Operation of Reclosing Pressure Relief Devices	189
NB-7140	Installation	189
NB-7150	Acceptable Pressure Relief Devices	190
NB-7160	Unacceptable Pressure Relief Devices	190
NB-7170	Permitted Use of Pressure Relief Devices	190
NB-7200	Overpressure Protection Report	191
NB-7210	Responsibility for Report	191
NB-7220	Content of Report	191
NB-7230	Certification of Report	191
NB-7240	Review of Report After Installation	192
NB-7250	Filing of Report	192
NB-7300	Relieving Capacity	192
NB-7310	Expected System Pressure Transient Conditions	192
NB-7320	Unexpected System Excess Pressure Transient Conditions	192
NB-7400	Set Pressures of Pressure Relief Devices	193
NB-7410	Set Pressure Limitations for Expected System Pressure Transient Conditions	193
NB-7420	Set Pressure Limitation for Unexpected System Excess Pressure Transient Conditions ..	193
NB-7500	Operating and Design Requirements for Pressure Relief Valves	193
NB-7510	Safety, Safety Relief, and Relief Valves	193
NB-7520	Pilot Operated Pressure Relief Valves	194
NB-7530	Power Actuated Pressure Relief Valves	195
NB-7540	Safety Valves and Pilot Operated Pressure Relief Valves with Auxiliary Actuating Devices	195
NB-7550	Alternative Test Media	196
NB-7600	Nonreclosing Pressure Relief Devices	197
NB-7610	Rupture Disk Devices	197
NB-7620	Installation	197
NB-7700	Certification	198
NB-7710	Responsibility for Certification of Pressure Relief Valves	198
NB-7720	Responsibility for Certification of Nonreclosing Pressure Relief Devices	198

NB-7730	Capacity Certification Pressure Relief Valves — Compressible Fluids	198
NB-7740	Capacity Certification of Pressure Relief Valves—Incompressible Fluids	201
NB-7800	Marking, Stamping With Certification Mark, and Data Reports	203
NB-7810	Pressure Relief Valves	203
NB-7820	Rupture Disk Devices	203
NB-7830	Certificate of Authorization to Use Certification Mark	204
Article NB-8000	Nameplates, Stamping with Certification Mark, and Reports	205
NB-8100	General Requirements	205

FIGURES

NB-1132.2-1	Attachments in the Component Support Load Path That Do Not Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function	3
NB-1132.2-2	Attachments That Do Not Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function and Are Not in the Component Support Load Path (Nonstructural Attachments)	4
NB-1132.2-3	Attachments That Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function	5
NB-1132.2-4	Attachments Within the Reactor Pressure Vessel (Core Support Structures) That Do Not Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function	6
NB-2433.1-1	Weld Metal Delta Ferrite Content	20
NB-2552-1	Axial Propagation of Sound in Tube Wall	25
NB-2575.2-1	Typical Pressure-Retaining Parts of Pumps and Valves	32
NB-3213-1	Examples of Reversing and Nonreversing Dynamic Loads	45
NB-3221-1	Stress Categories and Limits of Stress Intensity for Design Conditions	50
NB-3222-1	Stress Categories and Limits of Stress Intensity for Level A and Level B Service Limits	51
NB-3224-1	Stress Categories and Limits of Stress Intensity for Level C Service Limits	56
NB-3332.2-1	Chart for Determining Value of F	63
NB-3338.2(a)-1	Direction of Stress Components	65
NB-3338.2(a)-2	Nozzle Dimensions	66
NB-3339.1(b)-1	Examples of Acceptable Transition Details	68
NB-3339.4-1	Limits of Reinforcing Zone	69
NB-3351-1	Welded Joint Locations Typical of Categories A, B, C, and D	71
NB-3352-1	Typical Butt Joints	72
NB-3361-1	Category A and B Joints Between Sections of Unequal Thickness	73
NB-3423-1	Typical Single Volute Casing	74
NB-3423-2	Typical Double Volute Casing	75
NB-3433.4-1	Minimum Tangential Inlet and Outlet Wall Thickness	75
NB-3441.1-1	Type A Pump	76
NB-3441.1-2	Type A Pump	76
NB-3441.2-1	Type B Pump	76
NB-3441.3-1	Type C Pump	77
NB-3441.3-2	Type C Pump	77
NB-3441.4(a)-1	Type D Pump	78
NB-3441.5-1	Type E Pump	78
NB-3441.6(a)-1	Type F Pump	78
NB-3544.1(a)-1	Fillets and Corners	84
NB-3544.1(c)-1	Ring Grooves	84
NB-3544.3-1	Lugs and Protuberances	85
NB-3544.7-1	Flat Wall Limitation	86
NB-3545.1(a)-1	Pressure Area Method	87
NB-3545.2(a)-1	Critical Sections of Valve Bodies	90
NB-3545.2(c)-1	Model for Determining Secondary Stress in Valve Crotch Region	92
NB-3545.2(c)-3	Thermal Stress Index Versus Thickness Continuity Run or Branch	93
NB-3545.2(c)-4	Secondary Stress Index Versus Thickness Discontinuity Run or Branch	94
NB-3545.2(c)-5	C_4 Versus T_{e1}/t_e	95
NB-3545.2(c)-6	Stress Index for Thermal Fatigue	95
NB-3591.1-1	Typical Pressure Relief Devices	98
NB-3591.1-2	Typical Pressure Relief and Safety Relief Devices	99

NB-3594.3-1	Valve Nozzle	101
NB-3622-1	Examples of Reversing and Nonreversing Dynamic Loads	104
NB-3643.3(a)-1	Branch Connection Nomenclature	108
NB-3643.3(a)-2	Typical Reinforcement of Openings	109
NB-3643.3(a)-3	Typical Reinforced Extruded Outlet	110
NB-3644(b)-1	Miter Joint Geometry	112
NB-3647.2-1	Types of Permanent Blanks	114
NB-3653.2(b)-1	Decomposition of Temperature Distribution Range	117
NB-3683.1(c)-1		125
NB-3683.1(d)-1		126
NB-3683.6-1		129
NB-3684-1	Direction of Stress Components	131
NB-3685.2-1	Elbow Nomenclature	134
NB-3686.1-1		134
NB-3686.2-1		135
NB-3686.5-1	Branch Connections in Straight Pipe	135
NB-3686.6-1	Reducers	136
NB-4221.1-1	Maximum Difference in Cross-Sectional Diameters	139
NB-4221.2(a)-1	Maximum Permissible Deviations From a True Circular Form	140
NB-4221.2(a)-2	Maximum Arc Length for Determining Plus or Minus Deviation	141
NB-4233(a)-1	Butt Weld Alignment and Mismatch Tolerances for Unequal I.D. and O.D. When Components Are Welded From One Side and Fairing Is Not Performed	143
NB-4243-1	Acceptable Full Penetration Weld Details for Category C Joints (NB-3352.3)	145
NB-4244(a)-1	Nozzles Joined by Full Penetration Butt Welds	146
NB-4244(b)-1	Nozzles Joined by Full Penetration Corner Welds	147
NB-4244(c)-1	Deposited Weld Metal Used as Reinforcement of Openings for Nozzles	148
NB-4244(d)-1	Partial Penetration Nozzles	149
NB-4244(d)-2	Partial Penetration Nozzle for Coaxial Cylinders	150
NB-4244(e)-1	Oblique Connections	151
NB-4246(a)-1	Typical Piping Branch Connections Joined by Full Penetration Welds	152
NB-4246(b)-1	Typical Piping Branch Connections Joined by a Fillet Weld or a Partial Penetration Weld	153
NB-4250-1	Welding end Transitions — Maximum Envelope	154
NB-4250-2	Component to Pipe Weld	155
NB-4250-3	Pipe to Pipe Weld	155
NB-4427-1	Fillet and Socket Weld Details and Dimensions	162
NB-4433-1	Types of Attachment Welds	164
NB-4440-1	Appurtenance Weld Joint Details Size NPS 2 (DN 50) and Smaller	165
NB-4511-1	Brazed Connections for Appurtenances and Piping, NPS 1 (DN 25) and Less	167
NB-4622.9(d)(1)-1	Dissimilar Metal Repair Cavity Measurement	175

TABLES

NB-2332(a)-1	Required C_v Values for Piping, Pumps, and Valves	14
NB-2333-1	Required C_v Values for Bolting Material	14
NB-2432.1-1	Sampling of Welding Materials for Chemical Analysis	18
NB-2432.2(a)-1	Chemical Analysis for Reactor Vessel Welding Material	19
NB-2432.2(a)-2	Chemical Analysis for Welding Material for Other Than Reactor Vessel Welds	19
NB-2571-1	Required Examinations	28
NB-3217-1	Classification of Stress Intensity in Vessels for Some Typical Cases	47
NB-3217-2	Classification of Stress Intensity in Piping, Typical Cases	49
NB-3228.5(b)-1	Values of m , n , and T_{max} for Various Classes of Permitted Materials	60
NB-3338.2(c)-1	Stress Indices for Nozzles	67
NB-3339.3-1	Required Minimum Reinforcing Area A_r	68
NB-3339.7(c)-1	Stress Indices for Internal Pressure Loading	70
NB-3641.1(a)-1	Values of A	106
NB-3642.1(b)-1	Bend Radius Versus Thickness	107
NB-3681(a)-1	Stress Indices for Use With Equations in NB-3650	123

NB-3685.1-1	Curved Pipe or Welding End Elbows, Internal Pressure	132
NB-3685.1-2	Curved Pipe or Welding End Elbows, Moment Loading ($\lambda \geq 0.2$)	133
NB-4232-1	Maximum Allowable Offset in Final Welded Joints	142
NB-4524-1	Maximum Design Temperatures for Brazing Filler Metal	168
NB-4622.1-1	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Welds	169
NB-4622.4(c)-1	Alternative Holding Temperatures and Times	170
NB-4622.7(b)-1	Exemptions to Mandatory PWHT	171
NB-5111-1	Thickness, IQI Designations, Essential Holes, and Wire Diameters	178
ENDNOTES		207

(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 and Brazing 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 and Brazing (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.

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

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

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.