

**ACI Meeting
Teleconference
2020-08-25**

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ASME BPV liaison report

The last group of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Week meetings were held virtually from August 09th to 14th, 2020 because of COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier this year, the ASME meetings were held virtually from May 10th to 15th, 2020 because of COVID-19 pandemic and in Las Vegas, Nevada, from February 2nd to 7th, 2020. Highlights include:

ASME response to COVID-19 pandemic

ASME is planning to issue several code cases that will be active three to six months

- a. Code Case 2996 (attached) - Extension of Joining Personnel's Qualification Continuity Section I; Section III; Section IV; Section VIII, Division 1; Section VIII, Division 2; Section VIII, Division 3; Section IX; Section XI, Section XII, B31 (ABSA IB20-013)
- b. Code Case that will allow remote inspection of boilers and pressure vessels
- c. Code Case for the extension of Nondestructive Examination (NDE) Personnel Eye Examination, and Level I, II and III Certification

ASME revised their procedures and started remote audits of Certificate holders and Authorized Inspection Agencies.

Technical Oversight Management Committee (TOMC)

TOMC is considering to form a task group to develop rules for remote inspections that will be used by different codes of constructions. This development work is not related to COVID-19. It should allow quicker introduction, adoption, and use of new technologies and innovations in the remote inspections.

It was reported that the committee on Qualifications for Authorized Inspection (QAI) has been working on a proposal that will address situations where an Authorized Inspector Supervisor and client (manufacturer) cannot agree. In those cases, a non-conformance shall be reported to ASME for resolution.

TOMC discussed the issue related to the adoption of the 2016 Edition of SNT-TC-1A in the 2019 Edition of ASME BPV Code, Section V, Article 1, Mandatory Appendix III. The published wording in Section V took exception to SNT-TC-1A, paragraph 12.1

allowance for recertification. This omission in Section V was that continued satisfactory technical performance without an examination shall not be allowed, as would have been allowed by SNT-TC-1A paragraph 12.1. ASME is urgently working on the path forward:

- Issue Intent inquiry to address ambiguous wording;
- In parallel develop and issue a Code Case to fix the errors in between editions;
- Issue special notice when initial actions are completed;
- Issue article in ASME ME clarifying issues;
- Issue guidance to the NB via published article;
- Issue guidance to the ASME survey team leaders.

Section I

The Task Group on Modernization is working on the modernization rules for power boilers. Some of these modernization initiatives will include high temperature rules (e.g. material properties, welding requirements, PWHT, preheat), creep design rules, and creep-fatigue rules. Their goal is to have some of these new rules published in the 2021 Edition of Section I.

Sections II and IV

In 2019 Edition, the stress tables provided in Section IV are mandatory and tables provided in Section II are for information only. It is planned that Section II tables will become mandatory in 2023 and Section IV will delete them.

Section VIII

The Section VIII Task Group on Scope and Exemptions has been working with the U.S. refrigeration industry in exploring different options on revising the scope without impacting industry. The decision was made in the August 2020 meeting to continue work and propose changes in 2023 edition.

The Task Group working on the revision of U-2(g) rules completed their work. The last item was accepted and it specifies activities where an engineer must provide oversight. The code change will introduce the requirements for responsible engineer and designer, and the manufacturer will be required to establish the minimum competence requirements for performing design activities, and the qualification and certification requirements for personnel. This code change will be published in the 2021 edition.

Section VIII Standards Committee approved transfer of overpressure protection requirements from all three Division books to new Section XIII. It is expected that this major change will be published in the 2021 edition of Section VIII and new Section XIII.

In the 2021 edition of the ASME BPV code, Section VIII, Divisions 1 and 2 will specify requirements for test gaskets and test bolts for hydrostatic and pneumatic pressure

tests. Custom designed flange assemblies, including modified standard flange assemblies where additional calculations are required, shall be tested with the identical gaskets used for operation of the pressure vessel and bolting having identical allowable stresses at room temperature as used in the design calculations. The user, or their designated agent, may allow either or both requirements to be waived by including such a statement in the General Notes section of Form U-DR-1 or Form U-DR-2 for Division 1 vessels or in the User's Design Specification for Division 2 vessels. (Item 15-301)

The new Code Case was approved and will now allow a Manufacturer to use their inventory of nameplates that meet the 2017 Edition of Section VIII Division 1, paragraph UG-118. The 2019 Code edition of Section VIII removed the "Types of Construction" markings: "W" for arc or gas welding, "P" for pressure welded (except resistance), "B" for brazed, and "RES" for resistance welded. In some cases, Manufacturers have a stock of nameplates including these markings and would like to use those nameplates for a limited amount of time in order to use up the inventory.

Section XIII

Section XIII Committee is finalizing their work that includes collaboration with each of the code of construction committees (I, III, IV, VIII, X, XII) on harmonizing the rules in Section XIII with specific needs of the codes of construction. It was discussed about the challenges to move some of the items from code of construction to Section XIII and how these issues will be resolved.

The work to move the overpressure protection requirements from codes of construction (e.g. Section VIII) to Section XIII has almost been completed. There are only few codes of construction do approve the move of overpressure protection requirements to Section XIII. It is expected that the work will be completed before November of 2020 and Section XIII will be published in 2021..

ASME B31.3

ASME B31.2 2021 edition has been published several weeks ago.

The 2018 Edition of the ASME B31.3 Process Piping Code was published at the beginning of August 2019, as there were issues with the printing of the code. It was reported that ASME will skip the 2020 edition of B31.3, and that the next addition of ASME B31.3 will be published in 2022.

Non-metallic Piping Systems

ASME recently released three new standards which address the unique design and construction requirements associated with non-metallic pressure piping systems. These Standards are:

- ASME NM.1, Standard on Thermoplastic Piping Systems
- ASME NM.2, Standard on Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin Piping Systems
- ASME NM.3, Standard on Non-metallic Materials

The goal is to now convince the ASME B31 Committees to adopt these standards.