

SECTION V

2019

ASME Boiler and
Pressure Vessel Code
An International Code

**Nondestructive
Examination**



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AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

2019 ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code

2019 Edition

July 1, 2019

V NONDESTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee
on Nondestructive Examination



The American Society of
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Sections	xxv
Foreword	xxvii
Statement of Policy on the Use of the ASME Single Certification Mark and Code Authorization in Advertising	xxix
Statement of Policy on the Use of ASME Marking to Identify Manufactured Items	xxix
Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees	xxx
Personnel	xxxiii
ASTM Personnel	lv
Summary of Changes	lvi
List of Changes in Record Number Order	lxi
Cross-Referencing and Stylistic Changes in the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code	lxv
Subsection A	
Article 1	
T-110	1
T-120	1
T-130	2
T-150	2
T-160	3
T-170	3
T-180	3
T-190	3
Mandatory Appendix I	
I-110	5
I-120	5
I-130	24
Mandatory Appendix II	
II-110	25
II-120	25
Mandatory Appendix II	
Mandatory Appendix III	
Mandatory Appendix IV	
Nonmandatory Appendix A	
A-110	37
Article 2	
T-210	39
T-220	39
T-230	40
T-260	41
T-270	41
T-280	46
T-290	47

Mandatory Appendix I	In-Motion Radiography	48
I-210	Scope	48
I-220	General Requirements	48
I-260	Calibration	48
I-270	Examination	48
Mandatory Appendix II	Real-Time Radioscopic Examination	50
II-210	Scope	50
II-220	General Requirements	50
II-230	Equipment and Materials	50
II-260	Calibration	50
II-270	Examination	51
II-280	Evaluation	51
II-290	Documentation	51
Mandatory Appendix III	Digital Image Acquisition, Display, and Storage for Radiography and Radioscopy	52
III-210	Scope	52
III-220	General Requirements	52
III-230	Equipment and Materials	52
III-250	Image Acquisition and Storage	52
III-260	Calibration	52
III-280	Evaluation	52
III-290	Documentation	53
Mandatory Appendix IV	Interpretation, Evaluation, and Disposition of Radiographic and Radioscopic Examination Test Results Produced by the Digital Image Acquisition and Display Process	54
IV-210	Scope	54
IV-220	General Requirements	54
IV-230	Equipment and Materials	54
IV-250	Image Acquisition, Storage, and Interpretation	55
IV-260	Calibration	55
IV-280	Evaluation	55
IV-290	Documentation	55
Mandatory Appendix VI	Acquisition, Display, Interpretation, and Storage of Digital Images of Radiographic Film for Nuclear Applications	56
VI-210	Scope	56
VI-220	General Requirements	56
VI-230	Equipment and Materials	56
VI-240	System Performance Requirements	57
VI-250	Technique	57
VI-260	Demonstration of System Performance	57
VI-270	Examination	58
VI-280	Evaluation	58
VI-290	Documentation	58
Mandatory Appendix VI	Supplement A	59
VI-A-210	Scope	59
VI-A-220	General	59
VI-A-230	Equipment and Materials	59
VI-A-240	Miscellaneous Requirements	59
Mandatory Appendix VII	Radiographic Examination of Metallic Castings	62
VII-210	Scope	62
VII-220	General Requirements	62
VII-270	Examination	62
VII-280	Evaluation	62

VII-290	Documentation	62
Mandatory Appendix VIII	Radiography Using Phosphor Imaging Plate	63
VIII-210	Scope	63
VIII-220	General Requirements	63
VIII-230	Equipment and Materials	63
VIII-260	Calibration	63
VIII-270	Examination	63
VIII-280	Evaluation	64
VIII-290	Documentation	65
Mandatory Appendix VIII	Supplement A	66
VIII-A-210	Scope	66
VIII-A-220	General	66
VIII-A-230	Equipment and Materials	66
VIII-A-240	Miscellaneous Requirements	66
Mandatory Appendix IX	Radiography Using Digital Detector Systems	68
IX-210	Scope	68
IX-220	General Requirements	68
IX-230	Equipment and Materials	68
IX-260	Calibration	68
IX-270	Examination	69
IX-280	Evaluation	70
IX-290	Documentation	71
Mandatory Appendix IX	Supplement A	72
IX-A-210	Scope	72
IX-A-220	General	72
IX-A-230	Equipment and Materials	72
IX-A-240	Miscellaneous Requirements	72
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Recommended Radiographic Technique Sketches for Pipe or Tube Welds	73
A-210	Scope	73
Nonmandatory Appendix C	Hole-Type IQI Placement Sketches for Welds	76
C-210	Scope	76
Nonmandatory Appendix D	Number of IQIs (Special Cases)	81
D-210	Scope	81
Article 4	Ultrasonic Examination Methods for Welds	84
T-410	Scope	84
T-420	General	84
T-430	Equipment	84
T-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	95
T-450	Techniques	95
T-460	Calibration	95
T-470	Examination	98
T-480	Evaluation	100
T-490	Documentation	100
Mandatory Appendix I	Screen Height Linearity	102
I-410	Scope	102
I-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	102
Mandatory Appendix II	Amplitude Control Linearity	103
II-410	Scope	103
II-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	103



Mandatory Appendix III	Time of Flight Diffraction (TOFD) Technique	104
III-410	Scope	104
III-420	General	104
III-430	Equipment	104
III-460	Calibration	106
III-470	Examination	107
III-480	Evaluation	108
III-490	Documentation	108
Mandatory Appendix IV	Phased Array Manual Raster Examination Techniques Using Linear Arrays	109
IV-410	Scope	109
IV-420	General	109
IV-422	Scan Plan	109
IV-460	Calibration	109
IV-490	Documentation	109
Mandatory Appendix V	Phased Array E-Scan and S-Scan Linear Scanning Examination Techniques	111
V-410	Scope	111
V-420	General	111
V-460	Calibration	111
V-470	Examination	111
V-490	Documentation	113
Mandatory Appendix VII	Ultrasonic Examination Requirements for Workmanship-Based Acceptance Criteria	114
VII-410	Scope	114
VII-420	General	114
VII-430	Equipment	114
VII-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	114
VII-460	Calibration	115
VII-470	Examination	115
VII-480	Evaluation	115
VII-490	Documentation	115
Mandatory Appendix VIII	Ultrasonic Examination Requirements for Fracture-Mechanics-Based Acceptance Criteria	116
VIII-410	Scope	116
VIII-420	General	116
VIII-430	Equipment	116
VIII-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	117
VIII-460	Calibration	117
VIII-470	Examination	117
VIII-480	Evaluation	117
VIII-490	Documentation	118
Mandatory Appendix IX	Procedure Qualification Requirements for Flaw Sizing and Categorization	119
IX-410	Scope	119
IX-420	General	119
IX-430	Equipment	119
IX-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	119
IX-480	Evaluation	120
IX-490	Documentation	120
Mandatory Appendix X	Ultrasonic Examination of High Density Polyethylene	121
X-410	Scope	121
X-420	General	121

X-430	Equipment	121
X-460	Calibration	122
X-470	Examination	123
X-490	Documentation	123
Mandatory Appendix XI	Full Matrix Capture	124
XI-410	Scope	124
XI-420	General	124
XI-430	Equipment	124
XI-450	Techniques	125
XI-460	Calibration	125
XI-470	Examination	128
XI-480	Evaluation	128
XI-490	Documentation	129
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Layout of Vessel Reference Points	130
A-410	Scope	130
A-440	Miscellaneous Requirements	130
Nonmandatory Appendix B	General Techniques for Angle Beam Calibrations	131
B-410	Scope	131
B-460	Calibration	131
Nonmandatory Appendix C	General Techniques for Straight Beam Calibrations	137
C-410	Scope	137
C-460	Calibration	137
Nonmandatory Appendix D	Examples of Recording Angle Beam Examination Data	139
D-410	Scope	139
D-420	General	139
D-470	Examination Requirements	139
D-490	Documentation	139
Nonmandatory Appendix E	Computerized Imaging Techniques	142
E-410	Scope	142
E-420	General	142
E-460	Calibration	142
E-470	Examination	142
Nonmandatory Appendix F	Examination of Welds Using Full Matrix Capture	148
F-410	Scope	148
F-420	General	148
F-430	Equipment	148
F-440	Miscellaneous	149
F-450	Techniques	149
F-460	Calibration	150
F-470	Examination	152
F-480	Evaluation	155
Nonmandatory Appendix G	Alternate Calibration Block Configuration	156
G-410	Scope	156
G-460	Calibration	156
Nonmandatory Appendix I	Examination of Welds Using Angle Beam Search Units	159
I-410	Scope	159
I-470	Examination	159
Nonmandatory Appendix J	Alternative Basic Calibration Block	160
J-410	Scope	160
J-430	Equipment	160



Nonmandatory Appendix K	Recording Straight Beam Examination Data for Planar Reflectors	163
K-410	Scope	163
K-470	Examination	163
K-490	Records/Documentation	163
Nonmandatory Appendix L	TOFD Sizing Demonstration/Dual Probe — Computer Imaging Technique	164
L-410	Scope	164
L-420	General	164
L-430	Equipment	164
L-460	Calibration	164
L-470	Examination	164
L-480	Evaluation	164
L-490	Documentation	166
Nonmandatory Appendix M	General Techniques for Angle Beam Longitudinal Wave Calibrations	167
M-410	Scope	167
M-460	Calibration	167
Nonmandatory Appendix N	Time of Flight Diffraction (TOFD) Interpretation	170
N-410	Scope	170
N-420	General	170
N-450	Procedure	172
N-480	Evaluation	173
Nonmandatory Appendix O	Time of Flight Diffraction (TOFD) Technique — General Examination Configurations	190
O-410	Scope	190
O-430	Equipment	190
O-470	Examination	190
Nonmandatory Appendix P	Phased Array (PAUT) Interpretation	193
P-410	Scope	193
P-420	General	193
P-450	Procedure	193
P-480	Evaluation	193
Nonmandatory Appendix Q	Example of a Split DAC Curve	202
Q-410	Scope	202
Q-420	General	202
Nonmandatory Appendix R	Straight Beam Calibration Blocks for Restricted Access Weld Examinations	204
R-410	Scope	204
R-420	General	204
R-430	Equipment	204
Article 5	Ultrasonic Examination Methods for Materials	207
T-510	Scope	207
T-520	General	207
T-530	Equipment	207
T-560	Calibration	208
T-570	Examination	210
T-580	Evaluation	211
T-590	Documentation	211
Mandatory Appendix I	Ultrasonic Examination of Pumps and Valves	213
I-510	Scope	213
I-530	Equipment	213



I-560	Calibration	213
I-570	Examination	213
Mandatory Appendix II	Inservice Examination of Nozzle Inside Corner Radius and Inner Corner Regions	214
II-510	Scope	214
II-530	Equipment	214
II-560	Calibration	214
II-570	Examination	214
Mandatory Appendix IV	Inservice Examination of Bolts	215
IV-510	Scope	215
IV-530	Equipment	215
IV-560	Calibration	215
IV-570	Examination	215
Article 6	Liquid Penetrant Examination	216
T-610	Scope	216
T-620	General	216
T-630	Equipment	216
T-640	Miscellaneous Requirements	216
T-650	Technique	217
T-660	Calibration	218
T-670	Examination	218
T-680	Evaluation	220
T-690	Documentation	220
Mandatory Appendix II	Control of Contaminants for Liquid Penetrant Examination	221
II-610	Scope	221
II-640	Requirements	221
II-690	Documentation	221
Mandatory Appendix III	Qualification Techniques for Examinations at Nonstandard Temperatures	222
III-610	Scope	222
III-630	Materials	222
III-640	Requirements	222
Article 7	Magnetic Particle Examination	224
T-710	Scope	224
T-720	General	224
T-730	Equipment	224
T-740	Miscellaneous Requirements	225
T-750	Technique	225
T-760	Calibration	228
T-770	Examination	231
T-780	Evaluation	234
T-790	Documentation	234
Mandatory Appendix I	Magnetic Particle Examination Using the AC Yoke Technique on Ferromagnetic Materials Coated With Nonferromagnetic Coatings	235
I-710	Scope	235
I-720	General	235
I-730	Equipment	236
I-740	Miscellaneous Requirements	236
I-750	Technique	236
I-760	Calibration	236
I-770	Examination	237
I-780	Evaluation	237

I-790	Documentation	237
Mandatory Appendix III	Magnetic Particle Examination Using the Yoke Technique With Fluorescent Particles in an Undarkened Area	238
III-710	Scope	238
III-720	General	238
III-750	Technique	238
III-760	Calibration	238
III-770	Examination	238
III-790	Documentation	239
Mandatory Appendix IV	Qualification of Alternate Wavelength Light Sources for Excitation of Fluorescent Particles	240
IV-710	Scope	240
IV-720	General	240
IV-750	Technique	240
IV-770	Qualification Examinations	240
IV-790	Documentation	241
Mandatory Appendix V	Requirements for the Use of Magnetic Rubber Techniques	242
V-710	Scope	242
V-720	General Requirements	242
V-730	Equipment	242
V-740	Miscellaneous Requirements	242
V-750	Techniques	243
V-760	Calibration	244
V-770	Examination	244
V-780	Evaluation	244
V-790	Documentation	244
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Measurement of Tangential Field Strength With Gaussmeters ...	245
A-710	Scope	245
A-720	General Requirements	245
A-730	Equipment	245
A-750	Procedure	245
A-790	Documentation/Records	245
Article 8	Eddy Current Examination	246
T-810	Scope	246
Mandatory Appendix II	Eddy Current Examination of Nonferromagnetic Heat Exchanger Tubing	247
II-810	Scope	247
II-820	General	247
II-830	Equipment	247
II-840	Requirements	249
II-860	Calibration	249
II-870	Examination	251
II-880	Evaluation	251
II-890	Documentation	252
Mandatory Appendix III	Eddy Current Examination on Coated Ferromagnetic Materials ..	254
III-810	Scope	254
III-820	General	254
III-830	Equipment	254
III-850	Technique	254
III-860	Calibration	254
III-870	Examination	255
III-890	Documentation	255

Mandatory Appendix IV	External Coil Eddy Current Examination of Tubular Products	256
IV-810	Scope	256
IV-820	General	256
IV-830	Equipment	256
IV-850	Technique	257
IV-860	Calibration	257
IV-870	Examination	257
IV-880	Evaluation	257
IV-890	Documentation	257
Mandatory Appendix V	Eddy Current Measurement of Nonconductive-Nonferromagnetic Coating Thickness on a Nonferromagnetic Metallic Material . . .	258
V-810	Scope	258
V-820	General	258
V-830	Equipment	258
V-850	Technique	259
V-860	Calibration	259
V-870	Examination	259
V-880	Evaluation	259
V-890	Documentation	259
Mandatory Appendix VI	Eddy Current Detection and Measurement of Depth of Surface Discontinuities in Nonferromagnetic Metals With Surface Probes	261
VI-810	Scope	261
VI-820	General	261
VI-830	Equipment	262
VI-850	Technique	262
VI-860	Calibration	262
VI-870	Examination	262
VI-880	Evaluation	262
VI-890	Documentation	263
Mandatory Appendix VII	Eddy Current Examination of Ferromagnetic and Nonferromagnetic Conductive Metals to Determine If Flaws Are Surface Connected	264
VII-810	Scope	264
VII-820	General	264
VII-830	Equipment	264
VII-850	Technique	265
VII-860	Calibration	265
VII-870	Examination	265
VII-880	Evaluation	265
VII-890	Documentation	265
Mandatory Appendix VIII	Alternative Technique for Eddy Current Examination of Nonferromagnetic Heat Exchanger Tubing, Excluding Nuclear Steam Generator Tubing	268
VIII-810	Scope	268
VIII-820	General	268
VIII-830	Equipment	268
VIII-850	Technique	270
VIII-860	Calibration	270
VIII-870	Examination	272
VIII-880	Evaluation	272
VIII-890	Documentation	272

Mandatory Appendix IX	Eddy Current Array Examination of Ferromagnetic and Nonferromagnetic Materials for the Detection of Surface-Breaking Flaws	274
IX-810	Scope	274
IX-820	General Requirements	274
IX-830	Equipment	275
IX-840	Application Requirements	276
IX-850	Technique	277
IX-860	Calibration	277
IX-870	Examination	277
IX-880	Evaluation	277
IX-890	Documentation	278
Mandatory Appendix X	Eddy Current Array Examination of Ferromagnetic and Nonferromagnetic Welds for the Detection of Surface-Breaking Flaws	279
X-810	Scope	279
X-820	General Requirements	279
X-830	Equipment	279
X-840	Application Requirements	281
X-850	Technique	281
X-860	Calibration	281
X-870	Examination	282
X-880	Evaluation	282
X-890	Documentation	282
Article 9	Visual Examination	283
T-910	Scope	283
T-920	General	283
T-930	Equipment	284
T-950	Technique	284
T-980	Evaluation	284
T-990	Documentation	284
Article 10	Leak Testing	285
T-1010	Scope	285
T-1020	General	285
T-1030	Equipment	285
T-1040	Miscellaneous Requirements	286
T-1050	Procedure	286
T-1060	Calibration	286
T-1070	Test	287
T-1080	Evaluation	287
T-1090	Documentation	287
Mandatory Appendix I	Bubble Test — Direct Pressure Technique	288
I-1010	Scope	288
I-1020	General	288
I-1030	Equipment	288
I-1070	Test	288
I-1080	Evaluation	289
Mandatory Appendix II	Bubble Test — Vacuum Box Technique	290
II-1010	Scope	290
II-1020	General	290
II-1030	Equipment	290
II-1070	Test	291
II-1080	Evaluation	291
Mandatory Appendix III	Halogen Diode Detector Probe Test	292
III-1010	Introduction and Scope	292

III-1020	General	292
III-1030	Equipment	292
III-1060	Calibration	292
III-1070	Test	293
III-1080	Evaluation	294
Mandatory Appendix IV	Helium Mass Spectrometer Test — Detector Probe Technique ...	295
IV-1010	Scope	295
IV-1020	General	295
IV-1030	Equipment	295
IV-1060	Calibration	295
IV-1070	Test	296
IV-1080	Evaluation	297
Mandatory Appendix V	Helium Mass Spectrometer Test — Tracer Probe Technique	298
V-1010	Scope	298
V-1020	General	298
V-1030	Equipment	298
V-1060	Calibration	298
V-1070	Test	299
V-1080	Evaluation	299
Mandatory Appendix VI	Pressure Change Test	301
VI-1010	Scope	301
VI-1020	General	301
VI-1030	Equipment	301
VI-1060	Calibration	302
VI-1070	Test	302
VI-1080	Evaluation	302
Mandatory Appendix VIII	Thermal Conductivity Detector Probe Test	303
VIII-1010	Introduction and Scope	303
VIII-1020	General	303
VIII-1030	Equipment	303
VIII-1060	Calibration	303
VIII-1070	Test	304
VIII-1080	Evaluation	305
Mandatory Appendix IX	Helium Mass Spectrometer Test — Hood Technique	306
IX-1010	Scope	306
IX-1020	General	306
IX-1030	Equipment	306
IX-1050	Technique	307
IX-1053	Multiple-Mode Mass Spectrometer Leak Detectors	307
IX-1060	Calibration	307
IX-1070	Test	308
IX-1080	Evaluation	309
Mandatory Appendix X	Ultrasonic Leak Detector Test	310
X-1010	Introduction	310
X-1020	General	310
X-1030	Equipment	310
X-1060	Calibration	311
X-1070	Test	311
X-1080	Evaluation	311
Mandatory Appendix XI	Helium Mass Spectrometer — Helium-Filled-Container Leakage	
	Rate Test	312
XI-1010	Scope	312
XI-1020	General	312

XI-1030	Equipment	312
XI-1050	Technique	313
XI-1060	Calibration	313
XI-1070	Calculation of Test Reliability and Corrected Leakage Rate	315
XI-1080	Evaluation	315
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Supplementary Leak Testing Equation Symbols	316
A-1010	Applicability of the Formulas	316
Article 11	Acoustic Emission Examination of Fiber-Reinforced Plastic	
	Vessels	317
T-1110	Scope	317
T-1120	General	317
T-1130	Equipment	318
T-1160	Calibration	319
T-1170	Examination	319
T-1180	Evaluation	320
T-1190	Documentation	320
Mandatory Appendix I	Instrumentation Performance Requirements	328
I-1110	AE Sensors	328
I-1120	Signal Cable	328
I-1130	Couplant	328
I-1140	Preamplifier	328
I-1150	Filters	328
I-1160	Power-Signal Cable	328
I-1170	Main Amplifier	329
I-1180	Main Processor	329
Mandatory Appendix II	Instrument Calibration	331
II-1110	General	331
II-1120	Threshold	331
II-1130	Reference Amplitude Threshold	331
II-1140	Count Criterion N_c and A_M Value	331
II-1160	Field Performance	331
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Sensor Placement Guidelines	332
Article 12	Acoustic Emission Examination of Metallic Vessels During Pressure	
	Testing	338
T-1210	Scope	338
T-1220	General	338
T-1230	Equipment	339
T-1260	Calibration	339
T-1270	Examination	340
T-1280	Evaluation	341
T-1290	Documentation	341
Mandatory Appendix I	Instrumentation Performance Requirements	345
I-1210	Acoustic Emission Sensors	345
I-1220	Signal Cable	345
I-1230	Couplant	345
I-1240	Preamplifier	345
I-1250	Filter	345
I-1260	Power-Signal Cable	345
I-1270	Power Supply	345
I-1280	Main Amplifier	345
I-1290	Main Processor	345

Mandatory Appendix II	Instrument Calibration and Cross-Referencing	347
II-1210	Manufacturer's Calibration	347
II-1220	Instrument Cross-Referencing	347
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Sensor Placement Guidelines	348
Nonmandatory Appendix B	Supplemental Information for Conducting Acoustic Emission	
	Examinations	353
B-1210	Frequency Selection	353
B-1220	Combining More Than One Sensor in a Single Channel	353
B-1230	Attenuative Welds	353
B-1240	Production Line Testing of Identical Vessels	353
Article 13	Continuous Acoustic Emission Monitoring of Pressure Boundary	
	Components	354
T-1310	Scope	354
T-1320	General	354
T-1330	Equipment	355
T-1340	Miscellaneous Requirements	357
T-1350	Technique/Procedure Requirements	358
T-1360	Calibration	360
T-1370	Examination	360
T-1380	Evaluation/Results	361
T-1390	Reports/Records	361
Mandatory Appendix I	Nuclear Components	363
I-1310	Scope	363
I-1330	Equipment	363
I-1340	Miscellaneous Requirements	363
I-1360	Calibration	363
I-1380	Evaluation	363
Mandatory Appendix II	Non-Nuclear Metal Components	365
II-1310	Scope	365
II-1330	Equipment	365
II-1360	Calibration	366
II-1380	Evaluation	366
Mandatory Appendix III	Nonmetallic Components	367
III-1310	Scope	367
III-1320	General	367
III-1330	Equipment	367
III-1360	Calibration	367
III-1380	Evaluation	368
Mandatory Appendix IV	Limited Zone Monitoring	369
IV-1310	Scope	369
IV-1320	General	369
IV-1340	Miscellaneous Requirements	369
IV-1350	Technique	369
IV-1360	Calibration	369
IV-1380	Evaluation	369
IV-1390	Documentation	370
Mandatory Appendix V	Hostile Environment Applications	371
V-1310	Scope	371
V-1330	Equipment	371
V-1340	Miscellaneous Requirements	371

Mandatory Appendix VI	Leak Detection Applications	374
VI-1310	Scope	374
VI-1320	General	374
VI-1330	Equipment	374
VI-1350	Technique	375
VI-1360	Calibration	375
VI-1370	Examination	375
VI-1380	Evaluation	375
Article 14	Examination System Qualification	376
T-1410	Scope	376
T-1420	General Requirements	376
T-1430	Equipment	377
T-1440	Application Requirements	377
T-1450	Conduct of Qualification Demonstration	379
T-1460	Calibration	380
T-1470	Examination	380
T-1480	Evaluation	382
T-1490	Documentation and Records	382
Mandatory Appendix II	UT Performance Demonstration Criteria	383
II-1410	Scope	383
II-1420	General	383
II-1430	Equipment	383
II-1440	Application Requirements	383
II-1450	Conduct of Qualification Demonstration	384
II-1460	Calibration	385
II-1470	Examination	385
II-1480	Evaluation	385
II-1490	Documentation	385
Article 15	Alternating Current Field Measurement Technique (ACFMT)	386
T-1510	Scope	386
T-1520	General	386
T-1530	Equipment	386
T-1540	Miscellaneous Requirements	387
T-1560	Calibration	387
T-1570	Examination	389
T-1580	Evaluation	389
T-1590	Documentation	389
Article 16	Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL) Examination	390
T-1610	Scope	390
T-1620	General	390
T-1630	Equipment	391
T-1640	Requirements	391
T-1650	Calibration	391
T-1660	Examination	391
T-1670	Evaluation	392
T-1680	Documentation	392
Article 17	Remote Field Testing (RFT) Examination Method	394
T-1710	Scope	394
T-1720	General	394
T-1730	Equipment	394
T-1750	Technique	394
T-1760	Calibration	395
T-1770	Examination	395



T-1780	Evaluation	397
T-1790	Documentation	397
Article 18	Acoustic Pulse Reflectometry (APR) Examination	399
T-1810	Scope	399
T-1820	General	399
T-1830	Equipment	399
T-1840	Miscellaneous Requirements	401
T-1850	Prior to the Examination	401
T-1860	Calibration	401
T-1870	Examination	402
T-1880	Evaluation	402
T-1890	Documentation	402
Article 19	Guided Wave Examination Method for Piping	405
T-1910	Scope	405
T-1920	General	405
T-1930	Equipment	405
T-1950	Wave Modes	405
T-1960	Calibration	406
T-1970	Examination	407
T-1980	Evaluation	407
T-1990	Documentation	407
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Operation of GWT Systems	409
A-1910	Scope	409
A-1920	General	409
Subsection B	Documents Adopted by Section V	412
Article 22	Radiographic Standards	413
SE-94	Standard Guide for Radiographic Examination	415
SE-747	Standard Practice for Design, Manufacture and Material Grouping Classification of Wire image Quality Indicators (IQI) Used for Radiology	429
SE-999	Standard Guide for Controlling the Quality of Industrial Radiographic Film Processing	445
SE-1025	Standard Practice for Design, Manufacture, and Material Grouping Classification of Hole-Type Image Quality Indicators (IQI) Used for Radiology	451
SE-1030/SE-1030M	Standard Practice for Radiographic Examination of Metallic Castings ..	459
SE-1114	Standard Test Method for Determining the Size of Iridium-192 Indus- trial Radiographic Sources	471
SE-1165	Standard Test Method for Measurement of Focal Spots of Industrial X-Ray Tubes by Pinhole Imaging	477
SE-1255	Standard Practice for Radioscopy	491
SE-1416	Standard Practice for Radioscopic Examination of Weldments	503
SE-1647	Standard Practice for Determining Contrast Sensitivity in Radiology ..	511
SE-2597/SE-2597M	Standard Practice for Manufacturing Characterization of Digital Detec- tor Arrays	517
Article 23	Ultrasonic Standards	536
SA-388/SA-388M	Standard Practice for Ultrasonic Examination of Steel Forgings	537
SA-435/SA-435M	Standard Specification for Straight-Beam Ultrasonic Examination of Steel Plates	547
SA-577/SA-577M	Standard Specification for Ultrasonic Angle-Beam Examination of Steel Plate	551
SA-578/SA-578M	Standard Specification for Straight-Beam Ultrasonic Examination of Rolled Steel Plates for Special Applications	555



Documents

Document Sharing Hub

SA-609/SA-609M	Standard Practice for Castings, Carbon, Low-Alloy and Martensitic Stainless Steel, Ultrasonic Examination Thereof	561
SA-745/SA-745M	Standard Practice for Ultrasonic Examination of Austenitic Steel Forgings	571
SB-548	Standard Test Method for Ultrasonic Inspection of Aluminum-Alloy Plate for Pressure Vessels	577
SD-7091	Standard Practice for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonmagnetic Coatings Applied to Ferrous Metals and Nonmagnetic, Nonconductive Coatings Applied to Non-Ferrous Metals	583
SE-213	Standard Practice for Ultrasonic Testing of Metal Pipe and Tubing	591
SE-273	Standard Practice for Ultrasonic Testing of the Weld Zone of Welded Pipe and Tubing	603
SE-317	Standard Practice for Evaluating Performance Characteristics of Ultrasonic Pulse-Echo Testing Instruments and Systems Without the Use of Electronic Measurement Instruments	609
SE-797/SE-797M	Standard Practice for Measuring Thickness by Manual Ultrasonic Pulse-Echo Contact Method	623
SE-2491	Standard Guide for Evaluating Performance Characteristics of Phased-Array Ultrasonic Testing Instruments and Systems	631
SE-2700	Standard Practice for Contact Ultrasonic Testing of Welds Using Phased Arrays	651
Article 24	Liquid Penetrant Standards	660
SD-129	Standard Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products (General High Pressure Decomposition Device Method)	661
SD-516	Standard Test Method for Sulfate Ion in Water	667
SD-808	Standard Test Method for Chlorine in New and Used Petroleum Products (High Pressure Decomposition Device Method)	673
SE-165/SE-165M	Standard Practice for Liquid Penetrant Examination for General Industry	679
SE-2297	Standard Guide for Use of UV-A and Visible Light Sources and Meters Used in the Liquid Penetrant and Magnetic Particle Methods	699
SE-3022	Standard Practice for Measurement of Emission Characteristics and Requirements for LED UV-A Lamps Used in Fluorescent Penetrant and Magnetic Particle Testing	705
Article 25	Magnetic Particle Standards	714
SD-1186	Standard Test Methods for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonmagnetic Coatings Applied to a Ferrous Base	715
SE-709	Standard Guide for Magnetic Particle Testing	721
Article 26	Eddy Current Standard	769
SE-243	Standard Practice for Electromagnetic (Eddy Current) Examination of Copper and Copper-Alloy Tubes	771
Article 29	Acoustic Emission Standards	777
SE-650/SE-650M	Standard Guide for Mounting Piezoelectric Acoustic Emission Sensors	779
SE-750	Standard Practice for Characterizing Acoustic Emission Instrumentation	783
SE-976	Standard Guide for Determining the Reproducibility of Acoustic Emission Sensor Response	795
SE-1067/SE-1067M	Standard Practice for Acoustic Emission Examination of Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic Resin (FRP) Tanks/Vessels	805
SE-1118/SE-1118M	Standard Practice for Acoustic Emission Examination of Reinforced Thermosetting Resin Pipe (RTRP)	821
SE-1139/SE-1139M	Standard Practice for Continuous Monitoring of Acoustic Emission From Metal Pressure Boundaries	835

SE-1211/SE-1211M	Standard Practice for Leak Detection and Location Using Surface-Mounted Acoustic Emission Sensors	843
SE-1419/SE-1419M	Standard Practice for Examination of Seamless, Gas-Filled, Pressure Vessels Using Acoustic Emission	849
SE-2075/SE-2075M	Standard Practice for Verifying the Consistency of AE-Sensor Response Using an Acrylic Rod	857
Article 30	Terminology for Nondestructive Examinations Standard	862
Article 31	Alternating Current Field Measurement Standard	863
SE-2261/SE-2261M	Standard Practice for Examination of Welds Using the Alternating Current Field Measurement Technique	865
Article 32	Remote Field Testing Standard	880
SE-2096/SE-2096M	Standard Practice for In Situ Examination of Ferromagnetic Heat-Exchanger Tubes Using Remote Field Testing	881
Article 33	Guided Wave Standards	891
SE-2775	Standard Practice for Guided Wave Testing of Above Ground Steel Pipework Using Piezoelectric Effect Transduction	893
SE-2929	Standard Practice for Guided Wave Testing of Above Ground Steel Piping With Magnetostrictive Transduction	905
Mandatory Appendix II	Standard Units for Use in Equations	916
Nonmandatory Appendix A	Guidance for the Use of U.S. Customary and SI Units in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code	917
A-1	Use of Units in Equations	917
A-2	Guidelines Used to Develop SI Equivalents	917
A-3	Soft Conversion Factors	919

FIGURES

T-275	Location Marker Sketches	43
I-263	Beam Width Determination	49
VI-A-1	Reference Film	60
VIII-A-221-1	Procedure Demonstration Block	67
IX-263	Beam Width Determination	69
A-210-1	Single-Wall Radiographic Techniques	74
C-210-1	Side and Top Views of Hole-Type IQI Placements	77
C-210-2	Side and Top Views of Hole-Type IQI Placements	78
C-210-3	Side and Top Views of Hole-Type IQI Placements	79
C-210-4	Side and Top Views of Hole-Type IQI Placements	80
D-210-1	Complete Circumference Cylindrical Component	81
D-210-2	Section of Circumference 240 deg or More Cylindrical Component (Example Is Alternate Intervals)	81
D-210-3	Section(s) of Circumference Less Than 240 deg Cylindrical Component	81
D-210-4	Section(s) of Circumference Equal to or More Than 120 deg and Less Than 240 deg Cylindrical Component Option	82
D-210-5	Complete Circumferential Welds Spherical Component	82
D-210-6	Welds in Segments of Spherical Component	82
D-210-7	Plan View A-A	82
D-210-8	Array of Objects in a Circle	83
T-434.1.7.2	Ratio Limits for Curved Surfaces	87
T-434.2.1	Nonpiping Calibration Blocks	88
T-434.3-1	Calibration Block for Piping	89
T-434.3-2	Alternate Calibration Block for Piping	90
T-434.4.1	Calibration Block for Technique One	91
T-434.4.2.1	Alternate Calibration Block for Technique One	92
T-434.4.2.2	Alternate Calibration Block for Technique One	93



Documents

Document Sharing Hub

T-434.4.3	Calibration Block for Technique Two	93
T-434.5.1	Calibration Block for Straight Beam Examination of Nozzle Side Weld Fusion Zone and/or Adjacent Nozzle Parent Metal	94
I-440	Linearity	102
III-434.2.1(a)	TOFD Reference Block	105
III-434.2.1(b)	Two-Zone Reference Block Example	106
III-463.5	Offset Scans	107
X-471.1	Fusion Pipe Joint Examination Volume	123
XI-434.1-1	Calibration Block	126
B-461.1	Sweep Range (Side-Drilled Holes)	131
B-461.2	Sweep Range (IIW Block)	132
B-461.3	Sweep Range (Notches)	132
B-462.1	Sensitivity and Distance–Amplitude Correction (Side-Drilled Holes)	133
B-462.3	Sensitivity and Distance–Amplitude Correction (Notches)	134
B-464	Position Depth and Beam Path	135
B-465	Planar Reflections	135
B-466	Beam Spread	136
C-461	Sweep Range	137
C-462	Sensitivity and Distance–Amplitude Correction	138
D-490	Search Unit Location, Position, and Beam Direction	140
E-460.1	Lateral Resolution and Depth Discrimination Block for 45 deg and 60 deg Applications ..	144
E-460.2	Lateral and Depth Resolution Block for 0 deg Applications	146
F-451.1-1	FMC/TFM Generic Workflow	150
F-451.1-2	Active Focusing Workflow	151
F-451.1-3	Active Focusing Workflow With FMC Data Acquisition	151
F-451.1-4	Example of an Iterative FMC/TFM Workflow as an Adaptation of That Shown in Figure F-451.1-1	152
F-471-1	Examples of Ultrasonic Imaging Modes	154
G-461(a)	Critical Radius, R_c , for Transducer/Couplant Combinations	157
G-461(b)	Correction Factor (Gain) for Various Ultrasonic Examination Parameters	158
J-431	Basic Calibration Block	161
L-432	Example of a Flat Demonstration Block Containing Three Notches	165
M-461.1	Sweep Range (Side-Drilled Holes)	167
M-461.2	Sweep Range (Cylindrical Surfaces)	168
M-461.3	Sweep Range (Straight Beam Search Unit)	168
M-462	Sensitivity and Distance–Amplitude Correction	169
N-421(a)	Schematic Showing Waveform Transformation Into Grayscale	170
N-421(b)	Schematic Showing Generation of Grayscale Image From Multiple A-Scans	171
N-421(c)	Schematic Showing Standard TOFD Setup and Display With Waveform and Signal Phases	171
N-421(d)	TOFD Display With Flaws and Displayed A-Scan	172
N-451	Measurement Tools for Flaw Heights	173
N-452(a)	Schematic Showing the Detection of Off-Axis Flaws	173
N-452(b)	Measurement Errors From Flaw Position Uncertainty	174
N-453	TOFD Image Showing Hyperbolic “Tails” From the Ends of a Flaw Image Used to Measure Flaw Length	174
N-454(a)	TOFD Image Showing Top and Bottom Diffracted Signals From Midwall Flaw and A-Scan Interpretation	175
N-454(b)	TOFD Image Showing Top and Bottom Diffracted Signals From Centerline Crack and A-Scan Interpretation	175
N-481(a)	Schematics of Image Generation, Scan Pattern, Waveform, and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Point Flaw	176
N-481(b)	Schematics of Image Generation, Flaw Location, and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Inside (ID) Surface-Breaking Flaw	177
N-481(c)	Schematics of Image Generation, Flaw Location, and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Outside (OD) Surface-Breaking Flaw	177

N-481(d)	Schematics of Flaw Location, Signals, and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Midwall Flaw	178
N-481(e)	Flaw Location and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Lack of Root Penetration	178
N-481(f)	Flaw Location and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Concave Root Flaw	179
N-481(g)	Flaw Location, TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Midwall Lack of Fusion Flaw, and the A-Scan	179
N-481(h)	Flaw Location and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Porosity	180
N-481(i)	Flaw Location and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Transverse Crack	180
N-481(j)	Schematics of Image Generation, Flaw Location, and TOFD Display Showing the Image of the Interpass Lack of Fusion	181
N-482(a)	Schematic of Flaw Locations and TOFD Image Showing the Lateral Wave, Backwall, and Three of the Four Flaws	182
N-482(b)	Schematic of Flaw Locations and TOFD Display Showing the Lateral Wave, Backwall, and Four Flaws	183
N-483(a)	Acceptable Noise Levels, Flaws, Lateral Wave, and Longitudinal Wave Backwall	184
N-483(b)	TOFD Image With Gain Too Low	185
N-483(c)	TOFD Image With Gain Set Too High	186
N-483(d)(1)	TOFD Image With the Gate Set Too Early	186
N-483(d)(2)	TOFD Image With the Gate Set Too Late	187
N-483(d)(3)	TOFD Image With the Gate Set Too Long	187
N-483(e)	TOFD Image With Transducers Set Too Far Apart	188
N-483(f)	TOFD Image With Transducers Set Too Close Together	188
N-483(g)	TOFD Image With Transducers Not Centered on the Weld Axis	189
N-483(h)	TOFD Image Showing Electrical Noise Interference	189
O-470(a)	Example of a Single Zone TOFD Setup	191
O-470(b)	Example of a Two Zone TOFD Setup (Equal Zone Heights)	191
O-470(c)	Example of a Three Zone TOFD Setup (Unequal Zone Heights With Zone 3 Addressed by Two Offset Scans)	191
O-470(d)	Example of a Four Zone TOFD Setup (Equal Zone Heights)	192
P-421-1	Black and White (B&W) Version of Color Palette	194
P-421-2	Scan Pattern Format	195
P-421-3	Example of an E-Scan Image Display	196
P-421-4	Example of an S-Scan Image Display	197
P-452.1	Flaw Length Sizing Using Amplitude Drop Technique and the Vertical Cursors on the C-Scan Display	197
P-452.2-1	Scan Showing Flaw Height Sizing Using Amplitude Drop Technique and the Horizontal Cursors on the B-Scan Display	198
P-452.2-2	Flaw Height Sizing Using Top Diffraction Technique and the Horizontal Cursors on the S-Scan Display	198
P-481	S-Scan of I.D. Connected Crack	199
P-481.1	E-Scan of LOF in Midwall	199
P-481.2	S-Scan of Porosity, Showing Multiple Reflectors	200
P-481.3	O.D. Toe Crack Detected Using S-Scan	200
P-481.4	IP Signal on S-Scan, Positioned on Root	201
P-481.5	Slag Displayed as a Midwall Defect on S-Scan	201
Q-410	Distance-Amplitude Correction	202
Q-421	First DAC Curve	203
Q-422	Second DAC Curve	203
R-434-1	Corner Weld Example	205
R-434-2	Tee Weld Example	206
T-534.3	Straight Beam Calibration Blocks for Bolting	209
III-630	Liquid Penetrant Comparator	222
T-754.2.1	Single-Pass and Two-Pass Central Conductor Technique	227
T-754.2.2	The Effective Region of Examination When Using an Offset Central Conductor	227
T-764.2(a)	Pie-Shaped Magnetic Particle Field Indicator	229
T-764.2(b)(1)	Artificial Flaw Shims	229



T-764.2(b)(2)	Artificial Flaw Shims	230
T-766.1	Ketos (Betz) Test Ring	232
II-863.1	Differential Technique Response From Calibration Reference Standard	251
II-863.2	Absolute Technique Response From Calibration Reference Standard	251
II-880	Flaw Depth as a Function of Phase Angle at 400 kHz [Ni-Cr-Fe 0.050 in. (1.24 mm) Wall Tube]	252
V-860	Typical Lift-off Calibration Curve for Coating Thickness Showing Thickness Calibration Points Along the Curve	260
VI-832	Reference Specimen	263
VI-850	Impedance Plane Representations of Indications From Figure VI-832	263
VII-835	Eddy Current Reference Specimen	266
VII-862	Impedance Plane Responses for Stainless Steel and Carbon Steel Reference Specimens ...	267
VIII-864.1	Differential Technique Response From Calibration Reference	271
VIII-864.2	Absolute Technique From Calibration Reference Standard	271
IX-821-1	ECA Technique Compared to Raster Scan	274
IX-832-1	Array Coil Sensitivity Variance	275
IX-833-1	Example Reference Standard	276
IX-872-1	Scanning Overlap	278
X-833-1	Example Reference Standard	281
T-1173(a)(1)	Atmospheric Vessels Loading Sequence	322
T-1173(a)(2)	Vacuum Vessels Loading Sequence	323
T-1173(a)(3)	Test Algorithm — Flowchart for Atmospheric Vessels	324
T-1173(b)(1)	Pressure Vessel Loading Sequence	325
T-1173(b)(2)	Algorithm — Flowchart for Pressure Vessels	326
I-1183	Sample of Schematic of AE Instrumentation for Vessel Examination	330
A-1110	Case 1 — Atmospheric Vertical Vessel	332
A-1120	Case 2 — Atmospheric Vertical Vessel	333
A-1130	Case 3 — Atmospheric/Pressure Vessel	334
A-1140	Case 4 — Atmospheric/Pressure Vertical Vessel	335
A-1150	Case 5 — Atmospheric/Vacuum Vertical Vessel	336
A-1160	Case 6 — Atmospheric/Pressure Horizontal Tank	337
T-1273.2.1	An Example of Pressure Vessel Test Stressing Sequence	342
T-1273.2.2	An Example of In-Service, Pressure Vessel, Test Loading Sequence	343
A-1210	Case 1 — Vertical Pressure Vessel Dished Heads, Lug or Leg Supported	348
A-1220	Case 2 — Vertical Pressure Vessel Dished Heads, Agitated, Baffled Lug, or Leg Support ..	349
A-1230	Case 3 — Horizontal Pressure Vessel Dished Heads, Saddle Supported	350
A-1240	Case 4 — Vertical Pressure Vessel Packed or Trayed Column Dished Heads, Lug or Skirt Supported	351
A-1250	Case 5 — Spherical Pressure Vessel, Leg Supported	352
T-1331	Functional Flow Diagram — Continuous AE Monitoring System	355
T-1332.2	Response of a Waveguide AE Sensor Inductively Tuned to 500 kHz	356
V-1333	Metal Waveguide AE Sensor Construction	372
V-1341	Mounting Fixture for Steel Waveguide AE Sensor	373
II-1434	Flaw Characterization for Tables II-1434-1 and II-1434-2	384
T-1533	ACFMT Calibration Block	388
T-1622.1.1	Reference Plate Dimensions	391
T-1622.1.2	Reference Pipe or Tube Dimensions	392
T-1762	Pit Reference Tube (Typical)	395
T-1763.1(a)	Voltage Plane Display of Differential Channel Response for Through-Wall Hole (Through-Hole Signal) and 20% Groove Showing Preferred Angular Relationship	396
T-1763.1(b)	Voltage Plane Display of Differential Channel Response for the Tube Support Plate (TSP), 20% Groove, and Through-Wall Hole (Through-Hole Signal)	396
T-1763.2	Reference Curve and the Absolute Channel Signal Response From Two Circumferential Grooves and a Tube Support Plate	397
T-1832	Reference Specimens	400
T-1865.1	Signal Analysis From Various Types of Discontinuities	401



T-1865.2	Reflection From a Through-Wall Hole	404
A-1920	Illustration of the Guided Wave Examination Procedure	410

TABLES

II-121-1	Initial Training and Experience Requirements for CR and DR Techniques	26
II-121-2	Additional Training and Experience Requirements for PAUT, TOFD, and FMC Ultrasonic Techniques	27
II-122.1	Minimum CR and DR Examination Questions	27
II-122.2	Minimum Ultrasonic Technique Examination Questions	27
A-110	Imperfection vs. Type of NDE Method	37
T-233.1	Hole-Type IQI Designation, Thickness, and Hole Diameters	40
T-233.2	Wire IQI Designation, Wire Diameter, and Wire Identity	40
T-276	IQI Selection	45
T-283	Equivalent Hole-Type IQI Sensitivity	47
A-210-2	Double-Wall Radiographic Techniques	75
T-421	Requirements of an Ultrasonic Examination Procedure	85
III-421	Requirements of a TOFD Examination Procedure	104
IV-421	Manual Linear Phased Array Raster Scanning Examination Procedure Requirements	110
V-421	Requirements of Phased Array Linear Scanning Examination Procedures	112
VII-421	Requirements of an Ultrasonic Examination Procedure for Workmanship-Based Acceptance Criteria	114
VIII-421	Requirements of an Ultrasonic Examination Procedure for Fracture-Mechanics-Based Acceptance Criteria	116
X-421	Requirements of an Ultrasonic Examination Procedure for HDPE Techniques	121
XI-421.1-1	Requirements of an FMC Examination Procedure	125
D-490	Example Data Record	140
F-441-1	An Illustrated Elementary Transmit/Receive Matrix	149
F-471-1	Ultrasonic Imaging Paths/Modes	153
G-461	Transducer Factor, F_t , for Various Ultrasonic Transducer Diameters and Frequencies	156
O-432(a)	Search Unit Parameters for Single Zone Examinations Up to 3 in. (75 mm)	190
O-432(b)	Search Unit Parameters for Multiple Zone Examinations Up to 12 in. (300 mm) Thick	190
O-470	Recommended TOFD Zones for Butt Welds Up to 12 in. (300 mm) Thick	190
T-522	Variables of an Ultrasonic Examination Procedure	208
T-621.1	Requirements of a Liquid Penetrant Examination Procedure	217
T-621.3	Minimum and Maximum Time Limits for Steps in Penetrant Examination Procedures	217
T-672	Minimum Dwell Times	219
T-721	Requirements of a Magnetic Particle Examination Procedure	225
I-721	Requirements of AC Yoke Technique on Coated Ferritic Component	235
III-721	Requirements for an AC or HWDC Yoke Technique With Fluorescent Particles in an Undarkened Area	238
IV-721	Requirements for Qualifying Alternate Wavelength Light Sources for Excitation of Specific Fluorescent Particles	240
V-721	Requirements for the Magnetic Rubber Examination Procedure	243
II-821	Requirements for an Eddy Current Examination Procedure	248
IV-823	Requirements of an External Coil Eddy Current Examination Procedure	256
V-821	Requirements of an Eddy Current Examination Procedure for the Measurement of Nonconductive-Nonferromagnetic Coating Thickness on a Metallic Material	258
VI-821	Requirements of an Eddy Current Examination Procedure for the Detection and Measurement of Depth for Surface Discontinuities in Nonferromagnetic Metallic Materials	261
VII-823	Requirements of an Eddy Current Surface Examination Procedure	264
VIII-821	Requirements for an Eddy Current Examination Procedure	269
IX-822-1	Written Procedure Requirements for an ECA Examination	275
X-822-1	Written Procedure Requirements for an ECA Examination	280
T-921	Requirements of a Visual Examination Procedure	283
I-1021	Requirements of a Direct Pressure Bubble Leak Testing Procedure	288
II-1021	Requirements of a Vacuum Box Leak Testing Procedure	290



Documents

Document Sharing Hub

III-1021	Requirements of a Halogen Diode Detector Probe Testing Procedure	293
III-1031	Tracer Gases	293
IV-1021	Requirements of a Helium Mass Spectrometer Detector Probe Testing Procedure	296
V-1021	Requirements of a Helium Mass Spectrometer Tracer Probe Testing Procedure	299
VI-1021	Requirements of a Pressure Change Testing Procedure	301
VIII-1021	Requirements of a Thermal Conductivity Detector Probe Testing Procedure	304
VIII-1031	Tracer Gases	304
IX-1021	Requirements of a Helium Mass Spectrometer Hood Testing Procedure	306
X-1021	Requirements of an Ultrasonic Leak Testing Procedure	310
XI-1021.1-1	Requirements of a Helium Mass Spectrometer Sealed-Object Leakage Rate Test	313
T-1121	Requirements for Reduced Operating Level Immediately Prior to Examination	317
T-1181	Evaluation Criteria	327
T-1281	An Example of Evaluation Criteria for Zone Location	344
II-1381	An Example of Evaluation Criteria for Zone Location	366
II-1382	An Example of Evaluation Criteria for Multisource Location	366
T-1472.1	Total Number of Samples for a Given Number of Misses at a Specified Confidence Level and POD	381
T-1472.2	Required Number of First Stage Examiners vs. Target Pass Rate	381
II-1434-1	Flaw Acceptance Criteria for 4-in. to 12-in. Thick Weld	384
II-1434-2	Flaw Acceptance Criteria for Larger Than 12-in. Thick Weld	384
T-1522	Requirements of an ACFMT Examination Procedure	387
T-1623	Requirements of an MFL Examination Procedure	393
T-1721	Requirements of an RFT Examination Procedure	394
T-1821	Requirements of an Acoustic Pulse Reflectometry Examination Procedure	399
T-1921.1	Requirements of a GWT Examination Procedure	406
II-1	Standard Units for Use in Equations	916
ENDNOTES		921

LIST OF SECTIONS

(19)

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
 - Division 2 — Code for Concrete Containments
 - Division 3 — Containment Systems for Transportation and Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Material
 - 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
 - Division 1 — Rules for Inspection and Testing of Components of Light-Water-Cooled Plants
 - Division 2 — Requirements for Reliability and Integrity Management (RIM) Programs for Nuclear Power Plants
- XII Rules for Construction and Continued Service of Transport Tanks

INTERPRETATIONS

Interpretations are issued in real time in ASME's Interpretations Database at <http://go.asme.org/Interpretations>. Historical BPVC interpretations may also be found in the Database.

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 2019 Code Cases book: "Boilers and Pressure Vessels" or "Nuclear Components." Each Code Cases book is updated with seven Supplements. Supplements will be sent or made available automatically to the purchasers of the Code Cases books up to the publication of the 2021 Code. Code Case users can check the current status of any Code Case at <http://go.asme.org/BPVCCDatabase>. Code Case users can also view an index of the complete list of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Cases and Nuclear Code Cases at <http://go.asme.org/BPVCC>.

Full document details: ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section V, Nondestructive Examination (ASME)

FOREWORD*

(19)

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)
- (k) Technical Oversight Management Committee (TOMC)

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. The technical consistency of the Sections of the Code and coordination of standards development activities of the Committees is supported and guided by the Technical Oversight Management Committee. 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 judgment* 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

* The information contained in this Foreword is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI’s requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Foreword may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the Code.

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

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 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://go.asme.org/BPVCPublicReview> 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 the ASME Single 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 ASME SINGLE CERTIFICATION MARK AND CODE AUTHORIZATION IN ADVERTISING

(19)

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 ASME Single 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 ASME Single Certification Mark for the benefit of the users, the enforcement jurisdictions, and the holders of the ASME Single 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 ASME Single 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 ASME Single 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 ASME Single 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 ASME Single Certification Mark who may also use the facsimile in advertising to show that clearly specified items will carry the ASME Single Certification Mark.

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

(19)

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 ASME Single Certification Mark described in the governing Section of the Code.

Markings such as “ASME,” “ASME Standard,” or any other marking including “ASME” or the ASME Single 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.

(19) 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 applicable Boiler and Pressure Vessel (BPV) Standards Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee). See the guidelines on approval of new materials under the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code in Section II, Part D for requirements for requests that involve adding new materials to the Code. See the guidelines on approval of new welding and brazing materials in Section II, Part C for requirements for requests that involve adding new welding and brazing materials (“consumables”) to the Code.

Technical inquiries can include requests for revisions or additions to the Code requirements, requests for Code Cases, or requests for Code Interpretations, as described below:

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

(2) *Code Cases.* Code Cases represent alternatives or additions to existing Code requirements. 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 regulators, jurisdictions, or Owners automatically accept Code Cases. The most common applications for Code Cases are as follows:

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

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

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

(3) *Code Interpretations*

(-a) Code Interpretations provide clarification of the meaning of existing requirements in the Code and are presented in Inquiry and Reply format. Interpretations do not introduce new requirements.

(-b) If existing Code text does not fully convey the meaning that was intended, or conveys conflicting requirements, and revision of the requirements is required to support the Interpretation, an Intent Interpretation will be issued in parallel with a revision to the Code.

(b) Code requirements, Code Cases, and Code Interpretations established by the Committee 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 requirements.

(c) Inquiries that do not comply with the following guidance or that do not provide sufficient information for the Committee’s full understanding may result in the request being returned to the Inquirer with no action.

2 INQUIRY FORMAT

Submittals to the Committee should include the following information:

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

(1) request for revision of present Code requirements

(2) request for new or additional Code requirements

(3) request for Code Case

(4) request for Code Interpretation

(b) *Background.* The Inquirer should 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, the Inquirer should provide a copy of, or relevant extracts from, the specified referenced portions of the Code.

(c) *Presentations.* The Inquirer may desire to attend 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 BPV Standards Committee meeting shall be at the expense of the Inquirer. The Inquirer's attendance or lack of attendance at a meeting will not be used by the Committee as a basis for acceptance or rejection of the Inquiry by the Committee. However, if the Inquirer's request is unclear, attendance by the Inquirer or a representative may be necessary for the Committee to understand the request sufficiently to be able to provide an Interpretation. If the Inquirer desires to make a presentation at a Committee meeting, the Inquirer should provide advance notice to the Committee Secretary, to ensure time will be allotted for the presentation in the meeting agenda. The Inquirer should consider the need for additional audiovisual equipment that might not otherwise be provided by the Committee. With sufficient advance notice to the Committee Secretary, such equipment may be made available.

3 CODE REVISIONS OR ADDITIONS

Requests for Code revisions or additions should include the following information:

(a) *Requested Revisions or Additions.* For requested revisions, the Inquirer should identify those requirements of the Code that they believe should be revised, and should submit a copy of, or relevant extracts from, the appropriate requirements as they appear in the Code, marked up with the requested revision. For requested additions to the Code, the Inquirer should provide the recommended wording and should clearly indicate where they believe the additions should be located in the Code requirements.

(b) *Statement of Need.* The Inquirer should provide a brief explanation of the need for the revision or addition.

(c) *Background Information.* The Inquirer should provide background information to support the revision or addition, including any data or changes in technology that form the basis for the request, that will allow the Committee to adequately evaluate the requested revision or addition. Sketches, tables, figures, and graphs should be submitted, as appropriate. The Inquirer should identify any pertinent portions of the Code that would be affected by the revision or addition and any portions of the Code that reference the requested revised or added paragraphs.

4 CODE CASES

Requests for Code Cases should be accompanied by a statement of need and background information similar to that described in 3(b) and 3(c), respectively, for Code revisions or additions. The urgency of the Code Case (e.g., project underway or imminent, new procedure) should be described. In addition, it is important that the request is in connection with equipment that will bear the ASME Single Certification Mark, with the exception of Section XI applications. The proposed Code Case should identify the Code Section and Division, and should be written as a Question and a Reply, in the same format as existing Code Cases. Requests for Code Cases should also indicate the applicable Code Editions and Addenda (if applicable) to which the requested Code Case applies.

5 CODE INTERPRETATIONS

(a) Requests for Code Interpretations should be accompanied by the following information:

(1) *Inquiry.* The Inquirer should propose a condensed and precise Inquiry, omitting superfluous background information and, when possible, composing the Inquiry in such a way that a "yes" or a "no" Reply, with brief limitations or conditions, if needed, can be provided by the Committee. The proposed question should be technically and editorially correct.

(2) *Reply.* The Inquirer should propose a Reply that clearly and concisely answers the proposed Inquiry question. Preferably, the Reply should be "yes" or "no," with brief limitations or conditions, if needed.

(3) *Background Information.* The Inquirer should provide any need or background information, such as described in 3(b) and 3(c), respectively, for Code revisions or additions, that will assist the Committee in understanding the proposed Inquiry and Reply.

If the Inquirer believes a revision of the Code requirements would be helpful to support the Interpretation, the Inquirer may propose such a revision for consideration by the Committee. In most cases, such a proposal is not necessary.

(b) Requests for Code Interpretations should be limited to an Interpretation of a particular requirement in the Code or in a Code Case. Except with regard to interpreting a specific Code requirement, the Committee is not permitted to consider consulting-type requests such as the following:

(1) a review of calculations, design drawings, welding qualifications, or descriptions of equipment or parts to determine compliance with Code requirements

- (2) a request for assistance in performing any Code-prescribed functions relating to, but not limited to, material selection, designs, calculations, fabrication, inspection, pressure testing, or installation
- (3) a request seeking the rationale for Code requirements

6 SUBMITTALS

(a) Submittal. Requests for Code Interpretation should preferably be submitted through the online Interpretation Submittal Form. The form is accessible at <http://go.asme.org/InterpretationRequest>. Upon submittal of the form, the Inquirer will receive an automatic e-mail confirming receipt. If the Inquirer is unable to use the online form, the Inquirer may mail the request to the following address:

Secretary
ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee
Two Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016-5990

All other Inquiries should be mailed to the Secretary of the BPV Committee at the address above. Inquiries are unlikely to receive a response if they are not written in clear, legible English. They must also include the name of the Inquirer and the company they represent or are employed by, if applicable, and the Inquirer's address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address, if available.

(b) Response. The Secretary of the appropriate Committee will provide a written response, via letter or e-mail, as appropriate, to the Inquirer, upon completion of the requested action by the Committee. Inquirers may track the status of their Interpretation Request at <http://go.asme.org/Interpretations>.

PERSONNEL

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January 1, 2019

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J. R. Berry	G. E. Szabatura
G. Brouette	D. M. Vickery
J. W. Highlands	C. S. Withers
E. V. Imbro	J. DeKleine, <i>Contributing Member</i>
K. A. Kavanagh	H. Michael, <i>Contributing Member</i>
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P. J. Coco	B. S. Sandhu
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J. Harris	G. E. Szabatura
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L. Petrosky	

Working Group on Acoustic Emissions (SG-VM) (BPV V)

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V. F. Godinez-Azcuaga	

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A. F. Garbolevsky	D. Woodward
R. W. Hardy	S. J. Akryn, <i>Contributing Member</i>
G. W. Hembree	J. E. Batey, <i>Contributing Member</i>
C. Johnson	N. Y. Faransso, <i>Contributing Member</i>
S. A. Johnson	
B. D. Laite	R. W. Kruzic, <i>Contributing Member</i>
C. May	

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J. M. Davis	D. Tompkins
C. Emslander	D. Van Allen
P. T. Hayes	J. Vinyard
S. A. Johnson	C. Vorwald
K. Krueger	N. Y. Faransso, <i>Contributing Member</i>
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C. Magruder	R. W. Kruzic, <i>Contributing Member</i>
C. May	

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G. Campos	P. Pedersoli
N. Caputo	M. Zambon
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J. F. Grubb	E. Uptis
B. F. Hantz	A. Viet
L. E. Hayden, Jr.	K. Xu
M. Kowalczyk	P. A. McGowan, <i>Delegate</i>
D. L. Kurle	H. Michael, <i>Delegate</i>
M. D. Lower	K. Oyamada, <i>Delegate</i>
R. Mahadeen	M. E. Papponetti, <i>Delegate</i>
S. A. Marks	X. Tang, <i>Delegate</i>
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M. J. Pischke	K. K. Tam, <i>Honorary Member</i>
M. D. Rana	
G. B. Rawls, Jr.	

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M. Kowalczyk	D. A. Swanson
D. L. Kurle	A. Viet

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F. L. Brown	R. A. Whipple
D. Chandiramani	K. Xu
B. F. Hantz	K. Oyamada, <i>Delegate</i>
C. E. Hinnant	M. E. Papponetti, <i>Delegate</i>
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B. Millet	Z. Wang, <i>Contributing Member</i>
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Task Group on U-2(g) (BPV VIII)

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W. S. Jacobs	E. Uptis
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K. E. Orie	K. Oyamada, <i>Delegate</i>
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Y. Chen	B. Wang
Z. Chen	C. Wu
J. Cui	F. Xu
R. Duan	F. Xuan
W. Guo	Y. Yang
B. Han	K. Zhang
J. Hu	Yanfeng Zhang
Q. Hu	Yijun Zhang
H. Hui	S. Zhao
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P. Aliprandi	M. Massobrio
A. Avogadri	M. Millefanti
R. Boatti	L. Moracchioli
A. Camanni	P. Pacor
M. Colombo	G. Pontiggia
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W. Brown	G. B. Rawls, Jr.
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R. J. Basile	C. D. Rodery
J. Cameron	T. G. Seipp
N. Carter	D. B. Stewart
C. W. Cary	P. L. Sturgill
D. B. DeMichael	D. A. Swanson
R. D. Dixon	J. P. Swezy, Jr.
M. Kowalczyk	J. Vattappilly
D. L. Kurle	A. Viet
M. D. Lower	P. G. Wittenbach
A. Mann	K. Xu
P. Matkovic	T. P. Pastor, <i>Contributing Member</i>

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S. E. Gingrich	J. Warren
L. S. Harbison	C. Zanfir
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J. Johnston, Jr.	J. Wright
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L. S. Harbison	A. D. Wilson
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