

American Water Works Association

ANSI/AWWA C207-01

(Revision of ANSI/AWWA C207-94)



AWWA STANDARD
FOR
**STEEL PIPE FLANGES FOR WATERWORKS
SERVICE—SIZES 4 IN. THROUGH 144 IN.
(100 MM THROUGH 3,600 MM)**



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AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

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Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not a part of AWWA C207.

I. Introduction.

I.A. *Background.* Steel flanges have been used with steel pipe in the waterworks field since the first riveted steel water-supply lines were installed with flanges attached by riveting. Flanges manufactured according to unofficial flange standards, such as the riveted-pipe manufacturer's standards, were in common use for 50 years or more before the advent of AWWA C207. Steel-plate ring flanges and rolled-angle flanges, to match the drilling of existing cast valves and cast fittings, were also used extensively.

The greatly increased usage of steel pipe for waterworks service during the 1930s made standardization of flanges desirable. The first step toward standardization was taken in 1942 when a paper* proposing standards for slip-on steel-ring flanges for welding to steel water pipe was presented at the annual conference of the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

In 1945, at the request of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), a committee having representatives from both the ASME and the AWWA was formed. The ASME/AWWA committee was charged with establishing standards for steel flanges having dimensions and pressure ratings commensurate with the pressures commonly used in waterworks service. The standards were necessary because the lowest pressure ratings for steel flanges at that time were those having cold-water pressure ratings of 275 psi (1,896 kPa) (ANSI[†]/ASME[‡] B16.5, Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings) (150-psi [1,034-kPa] primary pressure rating). The ratings were far higher than those ordinarily needed for water service.

The generally accepted rules for the design of bolted flanged connections embraced all fields of usage and a wide range of pressure and temperature applications. In waterworks practice, it is not necessary, within the scope of this standard, to deal with temperatures greater than the atmospheric range, and it is

*Hill, H.O., et al, Fabricated Steel Ring Flanges for Water Pipe Service for Low Pressure and Low Temperatures, *Jour. AWWA* 36(9):968 (September 1944).

†American National Standards Institute, 25 W. 43rd St., Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036

‡American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Three Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5990

possible to restrict consideration to joints with softer gaskets and to flanges that are flat faced. The designs were prepared in conformity with these limitations.

The ASME/AWWA committee gave careful consideration to the following: (1) the effect of new standards on existing equipment; (2) the fact that cast valves and fittings will always have flanges of large outside diameter, which cannot be reduced because of the wall thickness of this equipment; (3) the need for interchangeability of equipment through the medium of common drilling templates; and (4) the fact that standards could be based on the successful usage and good service records of existing installations.

A survey of water utility users indicated that it was desirable to maintain the outside diameter and drilling of flanged fittings and valves given in ANSI/AWWA C500, Standard for Gate Valves for Water and Sewage Systems, and ANSI/AWWA B16.1, Cast Iron Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings (for classes 25, 125, 250, and 800). The committee decided to follow this practice for sizes 6 in. (150 mm) through 48 in. (1,200 mm).

In its extensive deliberations, the ASME/AWWA committee had available the results of special research and testing conducted by Armco Steel Corporation, Bethlehem Steel Company, and Taylor Forge and Pipe Works. The various design methods and test results are given in "Steel Ring Flanges for Steel Pipe," Bulletin 47-A (1947), from the American Rolling Mill Company, Middletown, Ohio. The design of flanges for waterworks service, with the results of the preceding report, was published in *Journal AWWA* in October 1950, pp. 931–944. A discussion in the paper by Taylor Forge, participants in the ASME/AWWA committee, states the reasons why a waterworks flange is not an ASME/Taylor Forge flange. Concern about high secondary stresses at the attachment, e.g., thick material to thin wall pipe is covered here along with the published "Design of Wye Branches." (*Journal AWWA* June 1955, Appendix C, pp. 581–630).

I.B. *History.* The report of the ASME/AWWA committee was approved in 1951, and the first edition of this standard, designated C207-52T, was published under the title "Tentative Standard Specifications For Steel Pipe Flanges" in 1952. That edition covered diameters from 6 in. to 48 in. (150 mm to 1,200 mm) and pressures through 150 psi (1,034 kPa). In 1954, a committee composed of Taylor Forge, Armco, Bethlehem, and consulting engineers revised the existing standard to include diameters through 96 in. (2,400 mm) and pressures to 275 psi (1,896 kPa). This revision was published under designation AWWA C207-55, Standard Specifications/

Standard For Steel Pipe Flanges. The standard was further revised and the next edition published in 1978 as AWWA C207-78, Standard For Steel Pipe Flanges For Waterworks Service—Sizes 4 In. Through 144 In. The next edition, designated C207-86 with the same title, was published in 1986 and revised the maximum test pressure to 125 percent of the flange rating, added segmentation of flanges, blind flanges, class E ring flanges, class F ring and hub flanges, and tolerances for flange draft or layback. This edition was approved on June 17, 2001.

I.C. Acceptance. In May 1985, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) entered into a cooperative agreement with a consortium led by NSF International (NSF) to develop voluntary third-party consensus standards and a certification program for all direct and indirect drinking water additives. Other members of the original consortium included the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF) and the Conference of State Health and Environmental Managers (COSHEM). The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) joined later.

In the United States, authority to regulate products for use in, or in contact with, drinking water rests with individual states.* Local agencies may choose to impose requirements more stringent than those required by the state. To evaluate the health effects of products and drinking water additives from such products, state and local agencies may use various references, including

1. An advisory program formerly administered by USEPA, Office of Drinking Water, discontinued on Apr. 7, 1990.
2. Specific policies of the state or local agency.
3. Two standards developed under the direction of NSF, ANSI[†]/NSF[‡] 60, Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and ANSI/NSF 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects.
4. Other references, including AWWA standards, *Food Chemicals Codex*, *Water Chemicals Codex*,[§] and other standards considered appropriate by the state or local agency.

*Persons in Canada, Mexico, and non-North American countries should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.

[†]American National Standards Institute, 25 W. 43rd St., Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036

[‡]NSF International, 789 N. Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

[§]Both publications available from National Academy of Sciences, 2102 Constitution Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20418.