



**American Water Works
Association**

The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

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(Revision of ANSI/AWWA C606-06)

AWWA Standard

Grooved and Shouldered Joints



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Contents

All AWWA standards follow the general format indicated subsequently. Some variations from this format may be found in a particular standard.

SEC.	PAGE	SEC.	PAGE
Foreword			
I	Introduction..... vii	4.2	Materials 3
I.A	Background..... vii	4.3	General Design 3
I.B	History..... vii	5	Verification
I.C	Acceptance viii	5.1	Inspection 14
II	Special Issues..... ix	5.2	Testing..... 14
II.A	Advisory Information on	5.3	Basis for Nonconformance..... 17
	Product Application..... ix	6	Delivery
III	Use of This Standard..... ix	6.1	Marking..... 18
III.A	Purchaser Options and	6.2	Packaging and Shipping..... 18
	Alternatives ix	6.3	Affidavit of Compliance..... 18
III.B	Modification to Standard..... x	Figures	
IV	Major Revisions x	1	General Coupling and Joint
V	Comments x		Configurations 5
Standard			
1	General	2	Special Ends..... 13
1.1	Scope 1	3	Test to Determine Pressure
1.2	Purpose..... 1		Capacity of Coupling..... 15
1.3	Application 2	4	Hydrostatic Test for Deflected
2	References 2		Flexible Joints 17
3	Definitions 2	Tables	
4	Requirements	1	Gasket Material Grade and
4.1	Information to Be Provided by		Physical Properties 4
	Manufacturer 3	2	Cut Grooving Dimensions for
			Flexible Joints—Ductile-Iron
			Pressure Pipe..... 6

SEC.		PAGE	SEC.		PAGE
3	Cut Grooving Dimensions for Rigid Joints—Ductile-Iron Pressure Pipe.....	7	5	Roll Grooving Dimensions—Steel, Aluminum, Brass, and Other Metallic Pipe of IPS Dimensions.....	10
4	Cut Grooving Dimensions—Steel, Aluminum, Brass, and Other Metallic Pipe of IPS Dimensions.....	8	6	Dimensions of Shouldered Ends for Flexible Joints.....	12

Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not a part of ANSI/AWWA C606.

I. Introduction.

I.A. *Background.* Grooved and shouldered joints have been used since the early 1900s. To ensure continued quality of this type of joint, this standard has been developed for its manufacture.

In 1971, the AWWA Standards Council received a request to develop a standard for a type of pipe jointing that employs the principle of clamping together grooved or shouldered ends of pipe and fittings with a flexible gasket for closure. As a result of this request, the AWWA Standards Council formed an exploratory ad hoc committee "... to consider grooved and shouldered type joints and fittings, and to determine how best to arrive at an appropriate AWWA standard for such joints and fittings."

The ad hoc committee recommended "...that the AWWA Standards Council establish a standards committee for the development of a standard in one document for grooved and shouldered type joints and fittings for steel, gray-iron, and ductile-iron pipe for water and other liquids as appropriate." On June 7, 1972, the council established the AWWA Standards Committee on Grooved and Shouldered Type Joints, and the committee held its first meeting on that date.

I.B. *History.* The first edition of this standard, designated ANSI/AWWA C606-78, Standard for Grooved and Shouldered Type Joints, was published in 1978. The second edition of the standard, designated as ANSI/AWWA C606-81, was approved by AWWA on Jan. 25, 1981, by ANSI* on May 12, 1981, and was accepted by the Department of Defense on Apr. 5, 1982.

The third edition, designated ANSI/AWWA C606-87, was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on Jan. 25, 1987, and by ANSI on Apr. 15, 1987. The major revisions contained in the 1987 edition were the deletion of all information on and references to gray cast-iron pipe. Tables relating to gray cast-iron pipe were eliminated, tables showing metric dimensions were eliminated, and metric conversion factors were added as footnotes; tables were renumbered. The fourth edition was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on June 15, 1997. The fifth edition was

*American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036.

approved on Jan. 18, 2004. This sixth edition was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on June 11, 2006.

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 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, NSF[†]/ANSI 60, Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and NSF/ANSI 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.

Various certification organizations may be involved in certifying products in accordance with NSF/ANSI 61. Individual states or local agencies have authority to accept or accredit certification organizations within their jurisdiction. Accreditation of certification organizations may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Annex A, “Toxicology Review and Evaluation Procedures,” to NSF/ANSI 61 does not stipulate a maximum allowable level (MAL) of a contaminant for substances not

*Persons outside the United States should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.

†NSF International, 789 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

‡Both publications available from National Academy of Sciences, 500 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC 20001.

regulated by a USEPA final maximum contaminant level (MCL). The MALs of an unspecified list of “unregulated contaminants” are based on toxicity testing guidelines (noncarcinogens) and risk characterization methodology (carcinogens). Use of Annex A procedures may not always be identical, depending on the certifier.

ANSI/AWWA C606 does not address additives requirements. Users of this standard should consult the appropriate state or local agency having jurisdiction in order to

1. Determine additives requirements, including applicable standards.
2. Determine the status of certifications by all parties offering to certify products for contact with, or treatment of, drinking water.
3. Determine current information on product certification.

II. Special Issues.

II.A. *Advisory Information on Product Application.*

1. This standard includes definitions for both the manufacturer and the fabricator. For the purpose of this standard, the manufacturer is the party that produces the coupling. The fabricator is the party that grooves, or fabricates, special ends for the pipe, fittings, valves, or other components.

2. Care should be taken to prevent point-loading of the coupling in underground installation.

III. Use of This Standard. It is the responsibility of the user of an AWWA standard to determine that the products described in that standard are suitable for use in the particular application being considered.

III.A. *Purchaser Options and Alternatives.* The following items should be provided by the purchaser:

1. Standard used—that is, ANSI/AWWA C606, Grooved and Shouldered Joints, of latest revision.
2. Whether compliance with NSF/ANSI 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects, is required, in addition to the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.
3. Size of pipe.
4. Pipe and coupling specification or standard, class or thickness, grade, and nominal outside diameter.
5. Kind of joint, that is, grooved, shouldered, flexible-grooved, or rigid-grooved.
6. Type of shouldered end, if shoulders are to be used.
7. pH or temperature of water, if unusual.