

AWS QC 3-89

Standard for AWS Certified Welders



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Standard for AWS Certified Welders

Prepared by
AWS Qualification and Certification Committee

Under the Direction of
AWS Education and Certification Council

Approved by
AWS Board of Directors
October 31, 1989

Abstract

This Standard describes a program administered by the American Welding Society (AWS) for the certification of welders. The AWS Certified Welder Program allows for the transference of welder qualification from employer to employer without retesting. The standard establishes the minimum requirements for welder participation in the program and the methods to be used by employers for adopting the program.



American Welding Society

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Foreword

(This Foreword is not a part of the AWS QC 3, *Standard for AWS Certified Welders*, but is included only for information).

The American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welder Program is established to identify all elements necessary to implement a National Registry of Certified Welders. Four key elements are identified:

- (1) Welder performance qualification standards.
- (2) Standard welding procedure specifications.
- (3) Accredited performance qualification test facilities.
- (4) AWS welder certification requirements.

This Standard contains the criteria for AWS Certified Welder Program and the AWS National Registry of Welders. Public listing or disclosure is at the option of the individual welder. It is expected that all four elements outlined above will allow the transfer of welder qualification from employer to employer. This potential transfer of welder qualification can effect financial savings to the welding industry.

The purpose of this Standard for AWS Certified Welders is:

- (1) to determine the ability of welders to deposit sound welds in accordance with standardized requirements.
- (2) to impose sufficient controls on the documentation and maintenance of certification to allow transfer between employers without requalification, where allowed by Standard or Contract documents.

Dedication. The Q&C Committee dedicates the publication of this Standard to Dalton E. Hamilton and Charla S. Cardoni. At the time of his death in May, 1988, Dalton Hamilton was the Chairman of the Q&C Committee. His efforts, clear thinking, ability to find consensus and tireless work contributed significantly to the Q&C Committee. At the time of her death in December, 1988, Charla Cardoni was the Special Assistant to the AWS Executive Director. From 1982 to September, 1988, she was the Director of the AWS Q&C Department. Her business management training and experience brought a sense of direction and order that contributed significantly to the AWS certification programs.

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Standard for

AWS Certified Welders

1. Scope

1.1 Program. The rules for American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welder Program and the requirements for maintenance of certification are provided in this Standard. This Standard also requires the use of accredited test facilities for qualification testing.

1.2 Exclusion. This Standard does not prevent a manufacturer, fabricator, or contractor from continuing to qualify welders in accordance with other Standards. Employers may impose additional requirements in addition to this Standard, as they deem necessary.

1.3 Limitation. Welders participating in the American Welding Society Certified Welder Program shall be limited to those welding variables provided in the applicable Supplements.

1.4 Safety Precautions. Safety precautions shall conform to the latest edition of ANSI/ASC Z49.1-88, *Safety in Welding and Cutting*, published by the American Welding Society.

2. Definitions

Terms used in this Standard are defined in ANSI/AWS A3.0-88, *Standard Welding Terms and Definitions*, and as follows:

acceptance criteria. Specified limits placed on characteristics of an item, process, or service as defined in codes, standards, or other contract documents.

applicant. An individual who makes application to AWS for certification.

certification. The act of determining, verifying and attesting in writing to the qualification of personal in accordance with specified requirements.

facility representative. An individual(s) designated by the Test Facility who can make legally binding commitments and statements on behalf of the facility.

inspection. Examination or measurement to verify whether an item or activity conforms to specified requirements.

inspector. A person who performs inspection activities to verify conformance to specific requirements.

NDE Level III. An individual who has been qualified and certified by their employer to function as a Level III within the limits as outlined in the ASNT, Recommended Practice, SNT-TC-1A, and their companies written practice. Copies of SNT-TC-1A may be obtained from:

American Society for Nondestructive Testing
4153 Arlingate Plaza
Columbus, Ohio 43228
1-800-222-2768

Q&C Committee. The Qualification and Certification Committee of the American Welding Society (address correspondence to: Qualification and Certification Department, AWS, 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida 33126).

Q&C Department. The AWS Qualification and Certification Department, American Welding Society, 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida 33126.

testing. An element of verification for the determination of the capability of an item to meet specified requirements by subjecting the item to a set of physical, chemical, environmental, or operating conditions.

test supervisor. An AWS Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) designated by the Accredited Test Facility.