



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: Valid Level III Certification
Code Edition: D1.1-94
Code Provision: Subsection 6.7.8.1 and Commentary C6.7.8
AWS Log: D1-5.4

Inquiry:

- (1) In reference to 6.7.8.1 of D1.1-94, can a NDT Level III individual independently perform a nondestructive examination, if he was previously certified as a Level II technician and now has been certified as a NDT Level III by successfully completing the Basic, Method, and Specific examination as required by SNT-TC-1A?
- (2) Is it the intent of subsection 6.7.8.2 of D1.1-94 to require that all NDT Level III personnel must have been certified by written examination by either successfully completing the written examinations administered by ASNT or by completing the examinations required by the SNT-TC-1A document?

Response:

- (1) Yes, Level III individuals may also perform NDT test provided they meet the requirements of NDT Level II. (This is from Commentary C6.7.8).
- (2) Yes, the Level III must be qualified by written examination (see Commentary.)

AWS D1.1, Structural Welding Code—Steel, is prepared by the AWS Structural Welding Committee. Because the Code is written in the form of a specification, it cannot present background material or discuss the committee's intent.

Since the publication of the first edition of the Code, the nature of inquiries directed to the American Welding Society and the Structural Welding Committee has indicated that there are some requirements in the Code that are either difficult to understand or not sufficiently specific, and other that appear to be overly conservative.

It should be recognized that the fundamental premise of the Code is to provide general stipulations applicable to any situation and to leave sufficient latitude for the exercise of engineering judgment. Another point to be recognized is that the Code represents the collective experience of the committee; and, while some provisions may seem overly conservative, they have been based on sound engineering practice.