



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: Welder/Welding Operator Qualification
Code Edition: D1.1-83
Code Provision: Section 5, Part D
AWS Log: D1-84-013

Inquiry: (1) Does qualification as a welder under Part C, Section 5, qualify the welder as a welding operator under Part D, Section 5?
(2) Under what condition, if any, does a welder qualified in accordance with Part C, Section 5, [also] qualify as a welding operator in accordance with Part D, Section 5?

Response: (1) No.
(2) None.

Note: For AWS D1.1-85, the Committee has approved provisions for a welder under certain specified conditions to be qualified as a welding operator.

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.