



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: New Electrode Classification
Code Edition: D1.1-94
Code Provision: Table 4.1
AWS Log: D1.2.34

Inquiry: Does a prequalified WPS specifying a metal-cored electrode, which was formerly classified as E70T-1 or E71T-1 per AWS A5.20-79, and is now required to be classified as E70C-XX per AWS A5.18-93, remain as prequalified even though the new AWS classification E70C-XX, is not listed in Table 4.1 of AWS D1.1-94?

Response: Yes, See 4.12.1 whereas the Code states the latest edition, which could be a different document number but technically equal in content due to subsequent revisions. (*Note: The electrode can no longer be classified to the latest issue of AWS A5.20 as specified in 4.12.1 AWS D1.1-94.*)

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.