



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: Welder Qualification to Other Standards
Code Edition: D1.1-92
Code Provision: Section 5
AWS Log: I-1/92-03-03

Inquiry: Does a welder who has been certified according to the requirements of a welder qualification standard other than AWS D1.1, *Structural Welding Code-Steel* (e.g., AWS QC3, *Standard for AWS Certified Welders*) also qualify to the welder qualification requirements of AWS D1.1?

Response: No, unless the requirements of subsections 5.3, 5.4.2, 5.4.3, 5.16, 5.33, and 5.44 of AWS D1.1-92 (or later editions) have been complied with.

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.