



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: Nationally Approved NDT Qualification Schemes
Code Edition: D1.1-90
Code Provision: Subsection 6.7.8
AWS Log: ID1-90-048-05

Inquiry: If NDT operators are qualified to other nationally approved NDT certification schemes, such as that of the South African Qualification and Certification Committee for NDT (SAQCC-NDT), and are operating within a manufacturer's quality assurance program with its own section on NDT training, qualification and certification, would AWS consider that its requirements had been met?

Response: Refer to 6.7.8 of D1.1-90. The owner has the prerogative to compare the South African NDT requirements to ASNT-TC-1A. If their requirements meet or exceed the ASNT-TC-1A requirements, then it meets the intent of the AWS D1.1 Code.

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.