

SECTION III
Rules for Construction of
Nuclear Facility Components

2023 ASME Boiler and
Pressure Vessel Code
An International Code

Division 1 — Subsection NE
Class MC Components

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AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

2023 ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code

2023 Edition

July 1, 2023



RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR FACILITY COMPONENTS

Division 1 - Subsection NE

Class MC Components

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee
on Construction of Nuclear Facility Components



The American Society of
Mechanical Engineers

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Sections	vi
Foreword	vii
Statement of Policy on the Use of the ASME Single Certification Mark and Code Authorization in Advertising	ix
Statement of Policy on the Use of ASME Marking to Identify Manufactured Items	ix
Personnel	x
Correspondence With the Committee	xxxii
Organization of Section III	xxxiv
Summary of Changes	xxxviii
Cross-Referencing in the ASME BPVC	xxxix
Article NE-1000	
NE-1100	1
Article NE-2000	
NE-2100	1
NE-2200	8
NE-2300	8
NE-2400	12
NE-2500	15
NE-2600	19
NE-2700	23
Article NE-3000	
NE-3100	31
NE-3200	32
NE-3300	33
NE-3700	33
Article NE-4000	
NE-4100	39
NE-4200	44
NE-4300	72
NE-4400	73
NE-4600	73
NE-4700	74
NE-4800	84
Article NE-5000	
NE-5100	93
NE-5200	98
NE-5300	101
NE-5500	103

NE-5700	Examination Requirements for Expansion Joints	108
Article NE-6000	Testing	110
NE-6100	General Requirements	110
NE-6200	Hydrostatic Tests	111
NE-6300	Pneumatic Tests	112
NE-6400	Pressure Test Gages	112
NE-6700	Containment Penetration	112
Article NE-7000	Overpressure Protection	114
NE-7100	General Requirements	114
NE-7200	Overpressure Protection Report	115
NE-7300	Relieving Capacity Requirements	116
NE-7400	Set Pressures of Pressure Relief Devices	116
NE-7500	Operating Design Requirements for Pressure Relief Valves	116
NE-7700	Certification Requirements	117
NE-7800	Marking, Stamping With Certification Mark, and Data Reports	117
Article NE-8000	Nameplates, Stamping With Certification Mark, and Reports	118
NE-8100	Requirements	118
Figures		
NE-1110-1	Typical Containment Penetrations	3
NE-1131-1	Some Typical Jurisdictional Boundaries for Welded Connections Class MC Containment Vessels	4
NE-1132.2-1	Attachments in the Containment Vessel Support Load Path That Do Not Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function	5
NE-1132.2-2	Attachments That Do Not Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function and Are Not in the Containment Vessel Support Load Path (Nonstructural Attachments)	6
NE-1132.2-3	Attachments That Perform a Pressure-Retaining Function	7
NE-2433.1-1	Weld Metal Delta Ferrite Content	23
NE-2575.2-1	Typical Pressure-Retaining Parts of Vessels	30
NE-3324.2-1	Principal Dimensions of Typical Heads	45
NE-3324.11(a)(6)-1	Large Head Openings: Reverse Curve and Conical Shell Reducer Sections	50
NE-3325-1	Some Acceptable Types of Unstayed Flat Heads and Covers	51
NE-3326.1-1	Spherically Dished Covers With Bolting Flanges	54
NE-3332.2-1	Chart for Determining Values of F	57
NE-3334.2-1	Nozzle Dimensions	59
NE-3335.1-1	Arrangement of Multiple Openings	60
NE-3338.2-1	Direction of Stress Components	61
NE-3351-1	Welded Joint Locations Typical of Categories A, B, C, and D	63
NE-3352-1	Typical Butt Joints	64
NE-3358.1(a)-1	Heads Attached to Shells	67
NE-3361-1	Category A and B Joints Between Sections of Unequal Thickness	69
NE-4221.1-1	Maximum Difference in Cross-Sectional Diameters	75
NE-4221.2-1	Maximum Permissible Deviation e From a True Circular Form	76
NE-4221.2-2	Maximum Arc Length for Determining Plus or Minus Deviation	77
NE-4243-1	Attachment of Pressure Parts to Plates to Form a Corner Joint	79
NE-4243-2	Acceptable Types of Full Penetration Weld Details for Category C Joints	80

NE-4243.1-1	Typical Flat Heads	81
NE-4244(a)-1	Nozzles Attached by Full Penetration Butt Welds	82
NE-4244(b)-1	Nozzles Attached by Full Penetration Corner Welds	83
NE-4244(c)-1	Deposited Weld Metal for Openings and Nozzles	85
NE-4244(d)-1	Acceptable Types of Welded Nozzles Using Partial Penetration Welds .	86
NE-4244(d)-2	Partial Penetration Weld Connections	87
NE-4244(d)-3	Partial Penetration Weld Connections for Coaxial Cylinders	88
NE-4244(e)-1	Acceptable Types of Fittings With Internal Threads	88
NE-4244(e)-2	Acceptable Types of Small Fittings	89
NE-4244(f)-1	Tube Connections	90
NE-4427-1	Fillet and Socket Weld Details and Dimensions	95
NE-4437(b)-1	Attachment of Stiffening Rings to Shell	97
NE-4730-1	Penetration Assembly	102
NE-4810(c)-1	Bellows Attachment Welds	103
Tables		
NE-2121(a)-1	Material Specifications and Grades Permitted for Class MC Construction	9
NE-2121(a)-2	Permitted Bolting Material Specifications	10
NE-2311(a)-1	Exemptions From Impact Testing Under NE-2311(a)(8)	15
NE-2332.1-1	Required C_v Lateral Expansion Values for Pressure-Retaining Material Other Than Bolting	17
NE-2332.1-2	Required C_v Energy Values for Pressure-Retaining Material Other Than Bolting	18
NE-2332.3(a)-1	Required C_v Values for Bolting Material Tested in Accordance With NE-2332.3(a)	18
NE-2332.3(b)-1	Required C_v Values for Bolting Material Tested in Accordance With NE-2332.3(b) and NE-2333.2	18
NE-2333.1-1	Required C_v Energy Values for Pressure-Retaining Material Other Than Bolting for the Overpressure Test	18
NE-2432.1-1	Sampling of Welding Materials for Chemical Analysis	21
NE-2432.2-1	Welding Material Chemical Analysis	22
NE-2571-1	Required Examinations	28
NE-3221-1	Stress Intensity Limits	41
NE-3324.2-1	Values of Factor K	45
NE-3324.8(b)-1	Values of Factor M	48
NE-3324.11(b)(2)-1	Values of Δ for Junctions at the Large Cylinder for $\alpha \leq 30$ deg	49
NE-3324.11(b)(3)-1	Values of Δ for Junctions at the Small Cylinder for $\alpha \leq 30$ deg	49
NE-3332.2-1	Values of Spherical Radius Factor K_1	58
NE-3338.2(c)-1	Stress Indices for Nozzles	62
NE-4232-1	Maximum Allowable Offset in Final Welded Joints	78
NE-4622.1-1	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Welds	99
NE-4622.4(c)-1	Alternative Holding Temperatures and Times	99
NE-4622.7(b)-1	Exemptions to Mandatory PWHT	100
Endnotes	119

LIST OF SECTIONS

SECTIONS

- I Rules for Construction of Power Boilers
- II Materials
 - Part A — Ferrous Material Specifications
 - Part B — Nonferrous Material Specifications
 - Part C — Specifications for Welding Rods, Electrodes, and Filler Metals
 - Part D — Properties (Customary)
 - Part D — Properties (Metric)
- III Rules for Construction of Nuclear Facility Components
 - Subsection NCA — General Requirements for Division 1 and Division 2
 - Appendices
 - Division 1
 - Subsection NB — Class 1 Components
 - Subsection NCD — Class 2 and Class 3 Components
 - Subsection NE — Class MC Components
 - Subsection NF — Supports
 - Subsection NG — Core Support Structures
 - Division 2 — Code for Concrete Containments
 - Division 3 — Containment Systems for Transportation and Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Material
 - Division 4 — Fusion Energy Devices
 - Division 5 — High Temperature Reactors
- IV Rules for Construction of Heating Boilers
- V Nondestructive Examination
- VI Recommended Rules for the Care and Operation of Heating Boilers
- VII Recommended Guidelines for the Care of Power Boilers
- VIII Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels
 - Division 1
 - Division 2 — Alternative Rules
 - Division 3 — Alternative Rules for Construction of High Pressure Vessels
- IX Welding, Brazing, and Fusing Qualifications
- X Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels
- XI Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Reactor Facility Components
 - Division 1 — Rules for Inspection and Testing of Components of Light-Water-Cooled Plants
 - Division 2 — Requirements for Reliability and Integrity Management (RIM) Programs for Nuclear Reactor Facilities
- XII Rules for Construction and Continued Service of Transport Tanks
- XIII Rules for Overpressure Protection

FOREWORD*

In 1911, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers established the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee to formulate standard rules for the construction of steam boilers and other pressure vessels. In 2009, the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee was superseded by the following committees:

- (a) Committee on Power Boilers (I)
- (b) Committee on Materials (II)
- (c) Committee on Construction of Nuclear Facility Components (III)
- (d) Committee on Heating Boilers (IV)
- (e) Committee on Nondestructive Examination (V)
- (f) Committee on Pressure Vessels (VIII)
- (g) Committee on Welding, Brazing, and Fusing (IX)
- (h) Committee on Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Pressure Vessels (X)
- (i) Committee on Nuclear Inservice Inspection (XI)
- (j) Committee on Transport Tanks (XII)
- (k) Committee on Overpressure Protection (XIII)
- (l) Technical Oversight Management Committee (TOMC)

Where reference is made to “the Committee” in this Foreword, each of these committees is included individually and collectively.

The Committee’s function is to establish rules of safety relating to pressure integrity, which govern the construction** of boilers, pressure vessels, transport tanks, and nuclear components, and the inservice inspection of nuclear components and transport tanks. For nuclear items other than pressure-retaining components, the Committee also establishes rules of safety related to structural integrity. The Committee also interprets these rules when questions arise regarding their intent. The technical consistency of the Sections of the Code and coordination of standards development activities of the Committees is supported and guided by the Technical Oversight Management Committee. This Code does not address other safety issues relating to the construction of boilers, pressure vessels, transport tanks, or nuclear components, or the inservice inspection of nuclear components or transport tanks. Users of the Code should refer to the pertinent codes, standards, laws, regulations, or other relevant documents for safety issues other than those relating to pressure integrity and, for nuclear items other than pressure-retaining components, structural integrity. Except for Sections XI and XII, and with a few other exceptions, the rules do not, of practical necessity, reflect the likelihood and consequences of deterioration in service related to specific service fluids or external operating environments. In formulating the rules, the Committee considers the needs of users, manufacturers, and inspectors of components addressed by the Code. The objective of the rules is to afford reasonably certain protection of life and property, and to provide a margin for deterioration in service to give a reasonably long, safe period of usefulness. Advancements in design and materials and evidence of experience have been recognized.

This Code contains mandatory requirements, specific prohibitions, and nonmandatory guidance for construction activities and inservice inspection and testing activities. The Code does not address all aspects of these activities and those aspects that are not specifically addressed should not be considered prohibited. The Code is not a handbook and cannot replace education, experience, and the use of engineering judgment. The phrase *engineering judgment* refers to technical judgments made by knowledgeable engineers experienced in the application of the Code. Engineering judgments must be consistent with Code philosophy, and such judgments must never be used to overrule mandatory requirements or specific prohibitions of the Code.

The Committee recognizes that tools and techniques used for design and analysis change as technology progresses and expects engineers to use good judgment in the application of these tools. The designer is responsible for complying with Code rules and demonstrating compliance with Code equations when such equations are mandatory. The Code neither requires nor prohibits the use of computers for the design or analysis of components constructed to the requirements of the Code. However, designers and engineers using computer programs for design or analysis are cautioned that they are

* The information contained in this Foreword is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI’s requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Foreword may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the Code.

** *Construction*, as used in this Foreword, is an all-inclusive term comprising materials, design, fabrication, examination, inspection, testing, certification, and overpressure protection.

responsible for all technical assumptions inherent in the programs they use and the application of these programs to their design.

The rules established by the Committee are not to be interpreted as approving, recommending, or endorsing any proprietary or specific design, or as limiting in any way the manufacturer's freedom to choose any method of design or any form of construction that conforms to the Code rules.

The Committee meets regularly to consider revisions of the rules, new rules as dictated by technological development, Code Cases, and requests for interpretations. Only the Committee has the authority to provide official interpretations of this Code. Requests for revisions, new rules, Code Cases, or interpretations shall be addressed to the Secretary in writing and shall give full particulars in order to receive consideration and action (see Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees). Proposed revisions to the Code resulting from inquiries will be presented to the Committee for appropriate action. The action of the Committee becomes effective only after confirmation by ballot of the Committee and approval by ASME. Proposed revisions to the Code approved by the Committee are submitted to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and published at <http://go.asme.org/BPVCPublicReview> to invite comments from all interested persons. After public review and final approval by ASME, revisions are published at regular intervals in Editions of the Code.

The Committee does not rule on whether a component shall or shall not be constructed to the provisions of the Code. The scope of each Section has been established to identify the components and parameters considered by the Committee in formulating the Code rules.

Questions or issues regarding compliance of a specific component with the Code rules are to be directed to the ASME Certificate Holder (Manufacturer). Inquiries concerning the interpretation of the Code are to be directed to the Committee. ASME is to be notified should questions arise concerning improper use of the ASME Single Certification Mark.

When required by context in this Section, the singular shall be interpreted as the plural, and vice versa, and the feminine, masculine, or neuter gender shall be treated as such other gender as appropriate.

The words "shall," "should," and "may" are used in this Standard as follows:

- *Shall* is used to denote a requirement.
- *Should* is used to denote a recommendation.
- *May* is used to denote permission, neither a requirement nor a recommendation.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE USE OF THE ASME SINGLE CERTIFICATION MARK AND CODE AUTHORIZATION IN ADVERTISING

ASME has established procedures to authorize qualified organizations to perform various activities in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. It is the aim of the Society to provide recognition of organizations so authorized. An organization holding authorization to perform various activities in accordance with the requirements of the Code may state this capability in its advertising literature.

Organizations that are authorized to use the ASME Single Certification Mark for marking items or constructions that have been constructed and inspected in compliance with the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code are issued Certificates of Authorization. It is the aim of the Society to maintain the standing of the ASME Single Certification Mark for the benefit of the users, the enforcement jurisdictions, and the holders of the ASME Single Certification Mark who comply with all requirements.

Based on these objectives, the following policy has been established on the usage in advertising of facsimiles of the ASME Single Certification Mark, Certificates of Authorization, and reference to Code construction. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers does not “approve,” “certify,” “rate,” or “endorse” any item, construction, or activity and there shall be no statements or implications that might so indicate. An organization holding the ASME Single Certification Mark and/or a Certificate of Authorization may state in advertising literature that items, constructions, or activities “are built (produced or performed) or activities conducted in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code,” or “meet the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.” An ASME corporate logo shall not be used by any organization other than ASME.

The ASME Single Certification Mark shall be used only for stamping and nameplates as specifically provided in the Code. However, facsimiles may be used for the purpose of fostering the use of such construction. Such usage may be by an association or a society, or by a holder of the ASME Single Certification Mark who may also use the facsimile in advertising to show that clearly specified items will carry the ASME Single Certification Mark.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE USE OF ASME MARKING TO IDENTIFY MANUFACTURED ITEMS

The ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code provides rules for the construction of boilers, pressure vessels, and nuclear components. This includes requirements for materials, design, fabrication, examination, inspection, and stamping. Items constructed in accordance with all of the applicable rules of the Code are identified with the ASME Single Certification Mark described in the governing Section of the Code.

Markings such as “ASME,” “ASME Standard,” or any other marking including “ASME” or the ASME Single Certification Mark shall not be used on any item that is not constructed in accordance with all of the applicable requirements of the Code.

Items shall not be described on ASME Data Report Forms nor on similar forms referring to ASME that tend to imply that all Code requirements have been met when, in fact, they have not been. Data Report Forms covering items not fully complying with ASME requirements should not refer to ASME or they should clearly identify all exceptions to the ASME requirements.

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January 1, 2023

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CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE COMMITTEE

General

ASME codes and standards are developed and maintained by committees with the intent to represent the consensus of concerned interests. Users of ASME codes and standards may correspond with the committees to propose revisions or cases, report errata, or request interpretations. Correspondence for this Section of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (BPVC) should be sent to the staff secretary noted on the Section's committee web page, accessible at <https://go.asme.org/CSCcommittees>.

NOTE: See ASME BPVC Section II, Part D for guidelines on requesting approval of new materials. See Section II, Part C for guidelines on requesting approval of new welding and brazing materials ("consumables").

Revisions and Errata

The committee processes revisions to this Code on a continuous basis to incorporate changes that appear necessary or desirable as demonstrated by the experience gained from the application of the Code. Approved revisions will be published in the next edition of the Code.

In addition, the committee may post errata and Special Notices at <http://go.asme.org/BPVCerrata>. Errata and Special Notices become effective on the date posted. Users can register on the committee web page to receive e-mail notifications of posted errata and Special Notices.

This Code is always open for comment, and the committee welcomes proposals for revisions. Such proposals should be as specific as possible, citing the paragraph number(s), the proposed wording, and a detailed description of the reasons for the proposal, including any pertinent background information and supporting documentation.

Cases

(a) The most common applications for cases are

(1) to permit early implementation of a revision based on an urgent need

(2) to provide alternative requirements

(3) to allow users to gain experience with alternative or potential additional requirements prior to incorporation directly into the Code

(4) to permit use of a new material or process

(b) Users are cautioned that not all jurisdictions or owners automatically accept cases. Cases are not to be considered as approving, recommending, certifying, or endorsing any proprietary or specific design, or as limiting in any way the freedom of manufacturers, constructors, or owners to choose any method of design or any form of construction that conforms to the Code.

(c) The committee will consider proposed cases concerning the following topics only:

(1) equipment to be marked with the ASME Single Certification Mark, or

(2) equipment to be constructed as a repair/replacement activity under the requirements of Section XI

(d) A proposed case shall be written as a question and reply in the same format as existing cases. The proposal shall also include the following information:

(1) a statement of need and background information

(2) the urgency of the case (e.g., the case concerns a project that is underway or imminent)

(3) the Code Section and the paragraph, figure, or table number(s) to which the proposed case applies

(4) the edition(s) of the Code to which the proposed case applies

(e) A case is effective for use when the public review process has been completed and it is approved by the cognizant supervisory board. Cases that have been approved will appear in the next edition or supplement of the Code Cases books, "Boilers and Pressure Vessels" or "Nuclear Components." Each Code Cases book is updated with seven Supplements.

Supplements will be sent or made available automatically to the purchasers of the Code Cases books until the next edition of the Code. Annulments of Code Cases become effective six months after the first announcement of the annulment in a Code Case Supplement or Edition of the appropriate Code Case book. The status of any case is available at <http://go.asme.org/BPVCCDatabase>. An index of the complete list of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Cases and Nuclear Code Cases is available at <http://go.asme.org/BPVCC>.

Interpretations

(a) Interpretations clarify existing Code requirements and are written as a question and reply. Interpretations do not introduce new requirements. If a revision to resolve conflicting or incorrect wording is required to support the interpretation, the committee will issue an intent interpretation in parallel with a revision to the Code.

(b) Upon request, the committee will render an interpretation of any requirement of the Code. An interpretation can be rendered only in response to a request submitted through the online Interpretation Submittal Form at <http://go.asme.org/InterpretationRequest>. Upon submitting the form, the inquirer will receive an automatic e-mail confirming receipt.

(c) ASME does not act as a consultant for specific engineering problems or for the general application or understanding of the Code requirements. If, based on the information submitted, it is the opinion of the committee that the inquirer should seek assistance, the request will be returned with the recommendation that such assistance be obtained. Inquirers may track the status of their requests at <http://go.asme.org/Interpretations>.

(d) ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of any interpretation when or if additional information that might affect an interpretation is available. Further, persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME committee or subcommittee. ASME does not “approve,” “certify,” “rate,” or “endorse” any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

(e) Interpretations are published in the ASME Interpretations Database at <http://go.asme.org/Interpretations> as they are issued.

Committee Meetings

The ASME BPVC committees regularly hold meetings that are open to the public. Persons wishing to attend any meeting should contact the secretary of the applicable committee. Information on future committee meetings can be found at <http://go.asme.org/BCW>.

ORGANIZATION OF SECTION III

1 GENERAL

Section III consists of Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, Division 4, and Division 5. These Divisions are broken down into Subsections and are designated by capital letters preceded by the letter “N” for Division 1, by the letter “C” for Division 2, by the letter “W” for Division 3, by the letter “F” for Division 4, and by the letter “H” for Division 5. Each Subsection is published separately, with the exception of those listed for Divisions 2, 3, 4, and 5.

- Subsection NCA — General Requirements for Division 1 and Division 2
- Appendices
- Division 1
 - Subsection NB — Class 1 Components
 - Subsection NCD — Class 2 and Class 3 Components
 - Subsection NE — Class MC Components
 - Subsection NF — Supports
 - Subsection NG — Core Support Structures
- Division 2 — Code for Concrete Containments
 - Subsection CC — Concrete Containments
- Division 3 — Containment Systems for Transportation and Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Material
 - Subsection WA — General Requirements for Division 3
 - Subsection WB — Class TC Transportation Containments
 - Subsection WC — Class SC Storage Containments
 - Subsection WD — Class ISS Internal Support Structures
- Division 4 — Fusion Energy Devices
 - Subsection FA — Fusion Energy Device Facilities
 - Subsection FB — Pressure Boundary Components
- Division 5 — High Temperature Reactors
 - Subsection HA — General Requirements
 - Subpart A — Metallic Materials
 - Subpart B — Graphite Materials
 - Subpart C — Composite Materials
 - Subsection HB — Class A Metallic Pressure Boundary Components
 - Subpart A — Low Temperature Service
 - Subpart B — Elevated Temperature Service
 - Subsection HC — Class B Metallic Pressure Boundary Components
 - Subpart A — Low Temperature Service
 - Subpart B — Elevated Temperature Service
 - Subsection HF — Class A and B Metallic Supports
 - Subpart A — Low Temperature Service
 - Subsection HG — Class SM Metallic Core Support Structures
 - Subpart A — Low Temperature Service
 - Subpart B — Elevated Temperature Service
 - Subsection HH — Class SN Nonmetallic Core Components
 - Subpart A — Graphite Materials
 - Subpart B — Composite Materials

2 SUBSECTIONS

Subsections are divided into Articles, subarticles, paragraphs, and, where necessary, subparagraphs and subsubparagraphs.

3 ARTICLES

Articles are designated by the applicable letters indicated above for the Subsections followed by Arabic numbers, such as NB-1000. Where possible, Articles dealing with the same topics are given the same number in each Subsection, except NCA, in accordance with the following general scheme:

Article Number	Title
1000	Introduction or Scope
2000	Material
3000	Design
4000	Fabrication and Installation
5000	Examination
6000	Testing
7000	Overpressure Protection
8000	Nameplates, Stamping With Certification Mark, and Reports

The numbering of Articles and the material contained in the Articles may not, however, be consecutive. Due to the fact that the complete outline may cover phases not applicable to a particular Subsection or Article, the rules have been prepared with some gaps in the numbering.

4 SUBARTICLES

Subarticles are numbered in units of 100, such as NB-1100.

5 SUBSUBARTICLES

Subsubarticles are numbered in units of 10, such as NB-2130, and generally have no text. When a number such as NB-1110 is followed by text, it is considered a paragraph.

6 PARAGRAPHS

Paragraphs are numbered in units of 1, such as NB-2121.

7 SUBPARAGRAPHS

Subparagraphs, when they are *major* subdivisions of a paragraph, are designated by adding a decimal followed by one or more digits to the paragraph number, such as NB-1132.1. When they are *minor* subdivisions of a paragraph, subparagraphs may be designated by lowercase letters in parentheses, such as NB-2121(a).

8 SUBSUBPARAGRAPHS

Subsubparagraphs are designated by adding lowercase letters in parentheses to the *major* subparagraph numbers, such as NB-1132.1(a). When further subdivisions of *minor* subparagraphs are necessary, subsubparagraphs are designated by adding Arabic numerals in parentheses to the subparagraph designation, such as NB-2121(a)(1).

9 REFERENCES

References used within Section III generally fall into one of the following four categories:

(a) *References to Other Portions of Section III.* When a reference is made to another Article, subarticle, or paragraph, all numbers subsidiary to that reference shall be included. For example, reference to Article NB-3000 includes all material in Article NB-3000; reference to NB-3100 includes all material in subarticle NB-3100; reference to NB-3110 includes all paragraphs, NB-3111 through NB-3113.

(b) *References to Other Sections.* Other Sections referred to in Section III are the following:

(1) *Section II, Materials.* When a requirement for a material, or for the examination or testing of a material, is to be in accordance with a specification such as SA-105, SA-370, or SB-160, the reference is to material specifications in Section II. These references begin with the letter “S.”

(2) *Section V, Nondestructive Examination.* Section V references begin with the letter “T” and relate to the nondestructive examination of material or welds.

(3) *Section IX, Welding and Brazing Qualifications.* Section IX references begin with the letter “Q” and relate to welding and brazing requirements.

(4) *Section XI, Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components.* When a reference is made to inservice inspection, the rules of Section XI shall apply.

(c) *Reference to Specifications and Standards Other Than Published in Code Sections*

(1) Specifications for examination methods and acceptance standards to be used in connection with them are published by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). At the time of publication of Section III, some such specifications were not included in Section II of this Code. A reference to ASTM E94 refers to the specification so designated by and published by ASTM, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428.

(2) Dimensional standards covering products such as valves, flanges, and fittings are sponsored and published by The American Society of Mechanical Engineers and approved by the American National Standards Institute.* When a product is to conform to such a standard, for example ASME B16.5, the standard is approved by the American National Standards Institute. The applicable year of issue is that suffixed to its numerical designation in Table NCA-7100-1, for example ASME B16.5-2003. Standards published by The American Society of Mechanical Engineers are available from ASME (<https://www.asme.org/>).

(3) Dimensional and other types of standards covering products such as valves, flanges, and fittings are also published by the Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry and are known as Standard Practices. When a product is required by these rules to conform to a Standard Practice, for example MSS SP-100, the Standard Practice referred to is published by the Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc. (MSS), 127 Park Street, NE, Vienna, VA 22180. The applicable year of issue of such a Standard Practice is that suffixed to its numerical designation in Table NCA-7100-1, for example MSS SP-58-2009.

(4) Specifications for welding and brazing materials are published by the American Welding Society (AWS), 8669 NW 36 Street, No. 130, Miami, FL 33166. Specifications of this type are incorporated in Section II and are identified by the AWS designation with the prefix “SF,” for example SFA-5.1.

(5) Standards applicable to the design and construction of tanks and flanges are published by the American Petroleum Institute and have designations such as API-605. When documents so designated are referred to in Section III, for example API-605-1988, they are standards published by the American Petroleum Institute and are listed in Table NCA-7100-1.

(d) *References to Appendices.* Section III uses two types of appendices that are designated as either Section III Appendices or Subsection Appendices. Either of these appendices is further designated as either Mandatory or Nonmandatory for use. Mandatory Appendices are referred to in the Section III rules and contain requirements that must be followed in construction. Nonmandatory Appendices provide additional information or guidance when using Section III.

(1) Section III Appendices are contained in a separate book titled “Appendices.” These appendices have the potential for multiple subsection applicability. Mandatory Appendices are designated by a Roman numeral followed, when appropriate, by Arabic numerals to indicate various articles, subarticles, and paragraphs of the appendix, such as II-1500 or XIII-1210. Nonmandatory Appendices are designated by a capital letter followed, when appropriate, by Arabic numerals to indicate various articles, subarticles, and paragraphs of the appendix, such as D-1200 or Y-1440.

*The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) was formerly known as the American Standards Association. Standards approved by the Association were designated by the prefix “ASA” followed by the number of the standard and the year of publication. More recently, the American National Standards Institute was known as the United States of America Standards Institute. Standards were designated by the prefix “USAS” followed by the number of the standard and the year of publication. While the letters of the prefix have changed with the name of the organization, the numbers of the standards have remained unchanged.

(2) Subsection Appendices are specifically applicable to just one subsection and are contained within that subsection. Subsection-specific mandatory and nonmandatory appendices are numbered in the same manner as Section III Appendices, but with a subsection identifier (e.g., NF, NH, D2, etc.) preceding either the Roman numeral or the capital letter for a unique designation. For example, NF-II-1100 or NF-A-1200 would be part of a Subsection NF mandatory or nonmandatory appendix, respectively. For Subsection CC, D2-IV-1120 or D2-D-1330 would be part of a Subsection CC mandatory or nonmandatory appendix, respectively.

(3) It is the intent of this Section that the information provided in both Mandatory and Nonmandatory Appendices may be used to meet the rules of any Division or Subsection. In case of conflict between Appendix rules and Division/Subsection rules, the requirements contained in the Division/Subsection shall govern. Additional guidance on Appendix usage is provided in the front matter of Section III Appendices.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Changes listed below are identified on the pages by a margin note, **(23)**, placed next to the affected area. In addition, gender pronouns have been eliminated throughout this Subsection.

<i>Page</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Change</i>
vi	List of Sections	(1) Under Section III, Division 4 added (2) Title of Section XI and subtitle of Section XI, Division 2 revised (3) Information on interpretations and Code cases moved to "Correspondence With the Committee"
x	Personnel	Updated
xxxii	Correspondence With the Committee	Added (replaces "Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees")
xxxiv	Organization of Section III	In para. 1, Division 4 added
xxxix	Cross-Referencing in the ASME BPVC	Updated
12	NE-2130	Cross-references updated
16	NE-2321.2	Revised
29	NE-2573.8	" $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (19 mm)" corrected by errata to " $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (10 mm)"
31	NE-2610	(1) Subparagraphs (a) and (b) revised (2) Subparagraph (d) added
35	NE-3125	Revised
39	NE-3210	(1) Revised in its entirety (2) Figure NE-3213.10-1 and Table NE-3217-1 deleted
40	NE-3221	(1) Revised in its entirety (2) Table NE-3221-1 revised (3) Figures NE-3221-1 through NE-3221-4, and Table NE-3228.3(b)-1 deleted
42	NE-3226	In subpara. (a), second sentence revised
42	NE-3227	Revised in its entirety
43	NE-3228	(1) NE-3228.1 and NE-3228.3 revised in their entirety (2) Table NE-3228.3(b)-1 deleted
52	NE-3225.2	Subparagraph (a) corrected by errata
56	NE-3331	Subparagraph (b) revised
72	NE-3366.2(g)	Revised
73	NE-4121.1	Cross-references revised
91	NE-4335	Second sentence revised
92	NE-4335.1	(1) In subpara. (a), last two lines revised (2) Subparagraph (c) revised
95	Figure NE-4427-1	Illustration (c-1) revised
97	NE-4451	Revised
99	Table NE-4622.1-1	Revised
98	NE-4622.3	Last sentence revised
106	NE-5320	In subpara. (d), first line revised
107	NE-5510	Cross-references updated
108	NE-5540	Added
112	NE-6412	Subparagraph (b) revised
112	NE-6413	Subparagraph (a) added and existing para. designated as (b)

CROSS-REFERENCING IN THE ASME BPVC

(23)

Paragraphs within the ASME BPVC may include subparagraph breakdowns, i.e., nested lists. The following is a guide to the designation and cross-referencing of subparagraph breakdowns:

(a) Hierarchy of Subparagraph Breakdowns

- (1) First-level breakdowns are designated as (a), (b), (c), etc.
- (2) Second-level breakdowns are designated as (1), (2), (3), etc.
- (3) Third-level breakdowns are designated as (-a), (-b), (-c), etc.
- (4) Fourth-level breakdowns are designated as (-1), (-2), (-3), etc.
- (5) Fifth-level breakdowns are designated as (+a), (+b), (+c), etc.
- (6) Sixth-level breakdowns are designated as (+1), (+2), etc.

(b) Cross-References to Subparagraph Breakdowns. Cross-references within an alphanumerically designated paragraph (e.g., PG-1, UIG-56.1, NCD-3223) do not include the alphanumeric designator of that paragraph. The crossreferences to subparagraph breakdowns follow the hierarchy of the designators under which the breakdown appears. The following examples show the format:

- (1) If X.1(c)(1)(-a) is referenced in X.1(c)(1), it will be referenced as (-a).
- (2) If X.1(c)(1)(-a) is referenced in X.1(c)(2), it will be referenced as (1)(-a).
- (3) If X.1(c)(1)(-a) is referenced in X.1(e)(1), it will be referenced as (c)(1)(-a).
- (4) If X.1(c)(1)(-a) is referenced in X.2(c)(2), it will be referenced as X.1(c)(1)(-a).

ARTICLE NE-1000

INTRODUCTION

NE-1100 SCOPE AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

NE-1110 ASPECTS OF CONSTRUCTION COVERED BY THESE RULES

(a) Subsection NE establishes rules for material, design, fabrication, examination, inspection, testing, and preparation of reports for metal containment vessels.

(b) Class MC containment vessels shall be constructed in accordance with the rules of this Subsection, except as provided in NCA-2134(c). Only containment vessels and their appurtenances shall be classified as Class MC. Piping, pumps, and valves that are part of the containment system (see NE-1130) or which penetrate or are attached to the containment vessel shall be classified as Class 1 or Class 2 by the Design Specification and meet the requirements of the applicable Subsection. Figure NE-1110-1 shows some typical penetrations with different Class designations.

(c) Subsection NE does not contain rules to cover all details of construction of Class MC containment vessels. The Certificate Holder shall provide details of construction that will be consistent with those provided by the rules of this Subsection. These details of construction shall be subject to the approval of the Owner or its designee, and acceptance by the Inspector.

NE-1120 TEMPERATURE LIMITS

The rules of Subsection NE shall not be used for items that are to be subjected to metal temperatures that exceed the temperature limit in the applicability column shown in Section II, Part D, Subpart 1, Tables 1A, 1B, and 3 for design stress values, or in Section II, Part D, Subpart 1, Tables 2A, 2B, and 4 for design stress intensity values. Above those temperatures, the creep and stress rupture characteristics of materials permitted to be used become significant factors, which are not presently covered by the rules of this Subsection. Fatigue design curves and specified methods for fatigue analysis are not applicable above 700°F (370°C) for materials covered by Section III Appendices, Mandatory Appendix I, Figures I-9.1 and I-9.4 and above 800°F (425°C) for materials covered by Section III Appendices, Mandatory Appendix I, Figures I-9.2 and I-9.3.

NE-1130 BOUNDARIES OF JURISDICTION

The containment system includes (a) through (c) as follows:

- (a) the containment vessel;
- (b) all penetration assemblies or appurtenances attached to the containment vessel;
- (c) all piping, pumps, and valves attached to the containment vessel, or to penetration assemblies out to and including any valves required to isolate the system and provide a pressure boundary for the containment function. Classification of such items shall be given in the Design Specifications (see NCA-3211.19 and NE-1110).

NE-1131 Boundaries of the Containment Vessel

The Design Specification shall define the boundary of a containment vessel to which piping or another component is attached. Figure NE-1131-1 shows typical jurisdictional boundaries. The boundary shall not be closer to the containment vessel than:

- (a) the first circumferential joint in welded connections (the connecting weld shall be considered part of the piping);
- (b) the face of the first flange in bolted connections (the bolts shall be considered part of the piping);
- (c) the first threaded joint in screwed connections.

NE-1132 Boundary Between Containment Vessel and Attachments

NE-1132.1 Attachments.

(a) An attachment is an element in contact with or connected to the inside or outside of the pressure-retaining portion of a containment vessel.

(b) Attachments may have either a pressure-retaining function or a non-pressure-retaining function.

(1) Attachments with a pressure-retaining function include items such as:

- (-a) pressure boundary stiffeners;
- (-b) vessel opening reinforcement.

(2) Attachments with non-pressure-retaining function include items such as:

- (-a) thermal sleeves and turning vanes;
- (-b) vessel saddles, support and shear lugs, brackets, skirts, and other items within the containment vessel support load path.

(c) Attachments may also have either a structural or nonstructural function.

(1) Attachments with a structural function (structural attachments):

(-a) perform a pressure-retaining function;

(-b) are in the containment vessel support load path.

(2) Attachments with a nonstructural function (nonstructural attachments):

(-a) do not perform a pressure-retaining function;

(-b) are not in the containment vessel support load path;

(-c) may be permanent or temporary.

Nonstructural attachments include items such as nameplates, insulation supports, and locating and lifting lugs.

NE-1132.2 Jurisdictional Boundary. The jurisdictional boundary between the containment vessel and an attachment defined in the Design Specification shall not be any closer to the pressure-retaining portion of the vessel than as defined in (a) through (g) below. Figures NE-1132.2-1, NE-1132.2-2, and NE-1132.2-3 are provided as an aid in defining the boundary and construction requirements of this Subsection.

(a) Attachments cast or forged with the containment vessel and weld buildup on the vessel surface shall be considered part of the containment vessel.

(b) Attachments, welds, and fasteners having a pressure-retaining function shall be considered part of the containment vessel.

(c) Except as provided in (d) and (e) below, the boundary between the containment vessel and an attachment not having a pressure-retaining function shall be at the surface of the vessel.

(d) The first connecting weld of a non-pressure-retaining structural attachment to the containment vessel shall be considered part of the vessel unless the weld is more than $2t$ from the pressure-retaining portion of the vessel, where t is the nominal thickness of the pressure-retaining material. Beyond $2t$ from the pressure-retaining portion of the vessel, the first weld shall be considered part of the attachment.

(e) The first connecting weld of a welded nonstructural attachment to the containment vessel shall be considered part of the attachment. At or within $2t$ from the pressure-retaining portion of the component the first connecting weld shall conform to NE-4430.

(f) Mechanical fasteners used to connect a non-pressure-retaining attachment to the containment vessel shall be considered part of the attachment.

(g) The boundary may be located further from the pressure-retaining portion of the containment vessel than as defined in (a) through (f) above when specified in the Design Specification.