

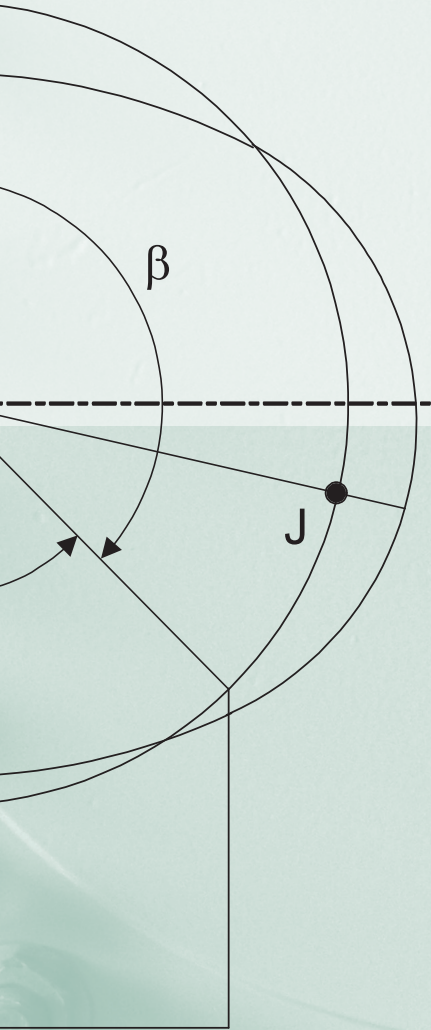
# 2013

# ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code

AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

# I

## Rules for Construction of Power Boilers



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AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

# 2013 ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code

2013 Edition

July 1, 2013

## **RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF POWER BOILERS**

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee  
on Power Boilers



The American Society of  
Mechanical Engineers

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Sections .....	xii
Foreword .....	xiv
Statement of Policy on the Use of the Certification Mark and Code Authorization in Advertising .....	xvi
Statement of Policy on the Use of ASME Marking to Identify Manufactured Items .....	xvi
Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees .....	xvii
Personnel .....	xix
Preamble .....	xxxiv
Summary of Changes .....	xxxvi
List of Changes in Record Number Order .....	xliii
Cross-Referencing and Stylistic Changes in the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code .....	xlvii
<b>Part PG</b>	
	<b>General Requirements for all Methods of Construction</b> .....
	1
	General .....
	1
PG-1	Scope .....
	1
PG-2	Service Limitations .....
	1
PG-3	Referenced Standards .....
	1
PG-4	Units .....
	1
	Materials .....
	2
PG-5	General .....
	2
PG-6	Plate .....
	3
PG-7	Forgings .....
	3
PG-8	Castings .....
	3
PG-9	Pipes, Tubes, and Pressure-Containing Parts .....
	3
PG-10	Material Identified with or Produced to a Specification not Permitted by this Section, and Material not Fully Identified .....
	6
PG-11	Miscellaneous Pressure Parts .....
	7
PG-12	Water Level Indicators and Connector Material .....
	8
PG-13	Stays .....
	9
PG-14	Rivets .....
	9
	Design .....
	9
PG-16	General .....
	9
PG-17	Fabrication by a Combination of Methods .....
	10
PG-18	Design Validation by Proof Test .....
	10
PG-19	Cold Forming of Austenitic Materials .....
	10
PG-20	Cold Forming Of Creep Strength Enhanced Ferritic Steels .....
	10
PG-21	Maximum Allowable Working Pressure .....
	10
PG-22	Loadings .....
	13
PG-23	Stress Values for Calculation Formulas .....
	13
PG-25	Quality Factors for Steel Castings .....
	13
PG-26	Weld Joint Strength Reduction Factor .....
	15
PG-27	Cylindrical Components Under Internal Pressure .....
	15
PG-28	Components Under External Pressure .....
	19
PG-29	Dished Heads .....
	21
PG-30	Stayed Dished Heads .....
	22
PG-31	Unstayed Flat Heads and Covers .....
	23
	Openings and Compensation .....
	26
PG-32	Openings in Shells, Headers, and Dished Heads .....
	26
PG-33	Compensation Required for Openings in Shells and Dished Heads .....
	27
PG-34	Flanged-in Openings in Formed Heads .....
	28



PG-35	Compensation Required for Openings in Flat Unstayed Heads and Flat Stayed Plates .....	28
PG-36	Limits of Metal Available for Compensation .....	31
PG-37	Strength of Compensation .....	32
PG-38	Compensation for Multiple Openings .....	32
PG-39	Methods of Attachment of Pipe and Nozzle Necks to Vessel Walls .....	32
PG-42	General Requirements for Fittings, Flanges, and Valves .....	33
PG-43	Nozzle Neck Thickness .....	37
PG-44	Inspection Openings .....	37
PG-46	Stayed Surfaces .....	37
PG-47	Staybolts .....	38
PG-48	Location of Staybolts .....	38
PG-49	Dimensions of Staybolts .....	38
PG-52	Ligaments .....	38
PG-53	Ligaments .....	41
PG-55	Supports and Attachment Lugs .....	43
	Boiler External Piping and Boiler Proper Connections .....	43
PG-58	Outlets and External Piping .....	43
PG-59	Application Requirements for the Boiler Proper .....	49
	Design and Application .....	50
PG-60	Design and Application Requirements for Miscellaneous Pipe, Valves, and Fittings .....	50
PG-61	Feedwater Supply .....	53
	Overpressure Protection Requirements .....	54
PG-67	Boiler .....	54
PG-68	Superheater and Reheater .....	57
PG-69	Certification of Capacity of Pressure Relief Valves .....	58
PG-70	Capacity of Pressure Relief Valves .....	65
PG-71	Mounting of Pressure Relief Valves .....	65
PG-72	Operation of Pressure Relief Valves .....	68
PG-73	Minimum Requirements for Pressure Relief Valves .....	68
	Fabrication .....	72
PG-75	General .....	72
PG-76	Cutting Plates and Other Stock .....	72
PG-77	Plate Identification .....	72
PG-78	Repairs of Defects in Materials .....	73
PG-79	Tube Holes and Ends .....	73
PG-80	Permissible Out-of-Roundness of Cylindrical Shells .....	73
PG-81	Tolerance for Formed Heads .....	73
PG-82	Holes for Stays .....	73
	Inspection and Tests .....	73
PG-90	General .....	73
PG-91	Qualification of Inspectors .....	75
PG-93	Examination and Repair of Flat Plate in Corner Joints .....	75
PG-99	Hydrostatic Test .....	75
	Certification by Stamping and Data Reports .....	76
PG-101	Heating Surface Computation .....	76
PG-104	General .....	76
PG-105	Certification Marks .....	77
PG-106	Stamping of Boilers .....	79
PG-107	Field Assembly .....	81
PG-108	Stamping for Field-Assembled Boilers .....	82
PG-109	Stamping of Pressure Piping .....	82
PG-110	Stamping of Boiler Pressure Relief Valves .....	82
PG-111	Location of Stampings .....	83
PG-112	Manufacturer's Data Report Forms .....	83

PG-113	Master Data Report Form .....	85
<b>Part PW</b>	<b>Requirements for Boilers Fabricated by Welding .....</b>	<b>86</b>
	General .....	86
PW-1	General .....	86
	Materials .....	86
PW-5	General .....	86
	Design .....	87
PW-8	General .....	87
PW-9	Design of Welded Joints .....	87
PW-10	Heat Treatment .....	88
PW-11	Volumetric Examination of Welded Butt Joints .....	88
PW-13	Head-to-Flange Requirements .....	88
PW-14	Openings in or Adjacent to Welds .....	88
PW-15	Welded Connections .....	88
PW-16	Minimum Requirements for Attachment Welds .....	91
PW-19	Welded-In Stays .....	96
	Fabrication .....	97
PW-26	General .....	97
PW-27	Welding Processes .....	97
PW-28	Welding Qualification and Weld Records .....	98
PW-29	Base Metal Preparation .....	99
PW-31	Assembly .....	99
PW-33	Alignment Tolerance, Shells and Vessels (Including Pipe or Tube Used as a Shell) .....	100
PW-34	Alignment, Tube and Pipe .....	100
PW-35	Finished Longitudinal and Circumferential Joints .....	100
PW-36	Miscellaneous Welding Requirements .....	100
PW-38	Preheating .....	101
PW-39	Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment .....	101
PW-40	Repair of Defects .....	112
PW-41	Circumferential Joints in Pipes, Tubes, and Headers .....	113
PW-42	Joints in Valves and Other Boiler Appurtenances .....	114
PW-43	Loading on Structural Attachments .....	114
PW-44	Fabrication Rules for Bimetallic Tubes When the Clad Strength is Included .....	116
	Inspection and Tests .....	119
PW-46	General .....	119
PW-47	Check of Welding Procedure .....	119
PW-48	Check of Welder and Welding Operator Performance Qualifications .....	119
PW-49	Check of Heat Treatment Practice .....	119
PW-50	Qualification of Nondestructive Examination Personnel .....	119
PW-51	Radiographic Examination .....	119
PW-52	Ultrasonic Examination .....	120
PW-53	Test Plates .....	120
PW-54	Hydrostatic Test .....	124
<b>Part PR</b>	<b>Requirements for Boilers Fabricated by Riveting .....</b>	<b>126</b>
	General .....	126
PR-1	Scope .....	126
PR-2	Responsibility .....	126
	Materials .....	126
PR-3	General .....	126
	Design .....	126
PR-4	General .....	126
PR-5	Strength of Plates .....	126
PR-6	Strength of Rivets .....	126
PR-7	Crushing/Compressive Strength of Plates .....	126

PR-8	Joint Efficiency and the Thickness of Shells and Drums .....	126
PR-9	Thickness of Buttstraps .....	127
PR-10	Longitudinal Joints .....	127
PR-11	Circumferential Joints .....	127
PR-12	Transverse Pitch (Back Pitch) of Rows of Rivets .....	127
PR-13	Preparation of Plate Edges for Calking .....	128
PR-14	Edge Distance .....	128
PR-15	Riveted Connections .....	128
PR-16	Reinforcement of Openings .....	129
PR-17	Reinforcing Shells of Watertube Boilers .....	129
	Fabrication .....	130
PR-18	General .....	130
PR-19	Welded Connections in Riveted Boilers .....	130
PR-20	Buttstraps .....	130
PR-21	Rivet Holes .....	130
PR-22	Assembly of Joints .....	131
PR-23	Riveting .....	131
PR-24	Joint Tightness .....	131
	Inspection, Tests, and Data Reports .....	132
PR-25	General .....	132
PR-26	Hammer Test .....	132
PR-27	Hydrostatic Test .....	132
PR-28	Data Reports .....	132
<b>Part PB</b>	<b>Requirements for Boilers Fabricated by Brazing .....</b>	<b>133</b>
	General .....	133
PB-1	General .....	133
	Materials .....	133
PB-5	General .....	133
PB-6	Brazing Filler Metals .....	134
PB-7	Fluxes and Atmospheres .....	134
	Design .....	134
PB-8	General .....	134
PB-9	Strength of Brazed Joints .....	134
PB-10	Brazed Joint Efficiency .....	134
PB-14	Application of Brazing Filler Metal .....	135
PB-15	Permissible Types of Joints .....	135
PB-16	Joint Clearance .....	135
PB-17	Joint Brazing Procedure .....	135
PB-18	Openings .....	136
PB-19	Brazed Connections .....	136
	Fabrication .....	136
PB-26	General .....	136
PB-28	Qualification of Brazing Procedure .....	136
PB-29	Qualification of Brazers and Brazing Operators .....	136
PB-30	Cleaning of Surfaces to be Brazed .....	137
PB-31	Clearance between Surfaces to be Brazed .....	137
PB-32	Postbrazing Operations .....	137
PB-33	Repair of Defective Brazing .....	137
	Inspection and Tests .....	137
PB-46	General .....	137
PB-47	Check of Brazing Procedure .....	137
PB-48	Brazer and Brazing Operator .....	137
PB-49	Visual Examination .....	137
PB-50	Exemptions .....	138
	Marking and Reports .....	138
PB-51	General .....	138



<b>Part PWT</b>	<b>Requirements for Watertube Boilers</b>	139
	General	139
PWT-1	General	139
	Materials	139
PWT-5	General	139
	Design	139
PWT-8	General	139
PWT-9	Tubes and Pipe	139
PWT-11	Tube Connections	139
PWT-12	Staybolting Box-Type Headers	140
PWT-13	Staying Segment of Heads	141
PWT-14	Firing Doors	141
PWT-15	Access and Firing Doors	141
<b>Part PFT</b>	<b>Requirements for Firetube Boilers</b>	142
	General	142
PFT-1	General	142
	Materials	142
PFT-5	General	142
	Design	142
PFT-8	General	142
PFT-9	Thickness Requirements	142
PFT-10	Shell Joints	142
PFT-11	Attachment of Heads and Tubesheets	142
PFT-12	Tubes	143
	Combustion Chambers	144
PFT-13	Combustion Chamber Tubesheet	144
PFT-14	General	145
PFT-15	Plain Circular Furnaces	145
PFT-17	Ring-Reinforced Type	145
PFT-18	Corrugated Furnaces	146
PFT-19	Combined Plain Circular and Corrugated Type	146
PFT-20	Attachment of Furnaces	146
PFT-21	Fireboxes and Waterlegs	147
	Stayed Surfaces	148
PFT-22	General	148
PFT-23	Working Pressure for Stayed Curved Surfaces	148
PFT-24	Staying Horizontal Return Tube Boilers	150
PFT-25	Staying Segments of Heads	150
PFT-26	Area Supported by Stay	150
PFT-27	Maximum Spacing	150
PFT-28	Staybolts and Stays	151
PFT-29	Flexible Staybolts	152
PFT-30	Crown Bars and Girder Stays	152
PFT-31	Stay Tubes	153
PFT-32	Stresses in Diagonal Stays	153
	Doors and Openings	153
PFT-40	Welded Door Openings	153
PFT-41	Openings in Wrapper Sheets	154
PFT-42	Fireside Access Openings	154
PFT-43	Requirements for Inspection Openings	154
PFT-44	Opening Between Boiler and Pressure Relief Valve	154
	Domes	154
PFT-45	Requirements for Domes	154
	Setting	154
PFT-46	Method of Support	154
	Piping, Fittings, and Appliances	155

PFT-47	Water Level Indicators .....	155
PFT-48	Feed Piping .....	156
PFT-49	Blowoff Piping .....	156
PFT-52	.....	156
<b>Part PFH</b>	<b>Optional Requirements for Feedwater Heater (When Located within Scope of Section I Rules) .....</b>	<b>157</b>
PFH-1	.....	157
<b>Part PMB</b>	<b>Requirements for Miniature Boilers .....</b>	<b>158</b>
	General .....	158
PMB-1	General .....	158
PMB-2	Scope .....	158
	Materials .....	158
PMB-5	General .....	158
	Design .....	158
PMB-8	General .....	158
PMB-9	Welding .....	158
PMB-10	Washout Openings .....	158
PMB-11	Feedwater Supply .....	159
PMB-12	Blowoff .....	159
PMB-13	Water Gages .....	159
PMB-14	Fixtures and Fittings .....	159
PMB-15	Pressure Relief Valves .....	159
PMB-16	Steam Stop Valves .....	159
PMB-17	Automatic Devices .....	159
PMB-21	Hydrostatic Tests and Inspection .....	159
<b>Part PEB</b>	<b>Requirements for Electric Boilers .....</b>	<b>160</b>
	General .....	160
PEB-1	General .....	160
PEB-2	Scope .....	160
PEB-3	Optional Requirements for the Boiler Pressure Vessel .....	160
	Materials .....	160
PEB-5	General .....	160
	Design .....	161
PEB-8	General .....	161
PEB-9	Welding .....	161
PEB-10	Inspection Openings .....	161
PEB-11	Feedwater Supply .....	161
PEB-12	Blowoff .....	161
PEB-13	Water Level Indicators .....	161
PEB-14	Pressure Gages .....	161
PEB-15	Pressure Relief Valves .....	161
PEB-16	Automatic Devices .....	162
PEB-17	Hydrostatic Test .....	162
PEB-18	Inspection and Stamping of Boilers .....	162
PEB-19	Manufacturer's Data Report for Electric Boilers .....	163
<b>Part PVG</b>	<b>Requirements for Organic Fluid Vaporizers .....</b>	<b>164</b>
	General .....	164
PVG-1	General .....	164
	Materials .....	164
PVG-5	General .....	164
	Design .....	164
PVG-8	General .....	164
PVG-9	General Requirements .....	164
PVG-10	Gage Glasses .....	164

PVG-11	Drain Valves .....	164
PVG-12	Pressure Relief Valves .....	164
<b>Part PHRSG</b>	<b>Requirements for Heat Recovery Steam Generators .....</b>	<b>166</b>
PHRSG-1	General .....	166
PHRSG-2	Scope .....	166
PHRSG-3	Requirements for Superheater and Reheater Condensate Removal Connections .....	166
PHRSG-4	Desuperheater Drain Pots .....	166
PHRSG-5	Certification .....	167
<b>Mandatory Appendix I</b>	.....	170
<b>Mandatory Appendix II</b>	<b>Standard Units for Use in Equations .....</b>	<b>171</b>
<b>Mandatory Appendix III</b>	<b>Criteria for Reapplication of a Certification Mark .....</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>Mandatory Appendix IV</b>	<b>Local Thin Areas in Cylindrical Shells and in Spherical Segments of Heads .....</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>Mandatory Appendix V</b>	<b>Additional Rules for Boilers Fabricated by Riveting .....</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>Mandatory Appendix VI</b>	<b>Establishing Governing Code Editions, Addenda, and Cases for Boilers and Replacement Parts .....</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix A</b>	<b>Explanation of the Code Containing Matter not Mandatory Unless Specifically Referred to in the Rules of the Code .....</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix B</b>	<b>Positive Material Identification Practice .....</b>	<b>278</b>
 <b>FIGURES</b>		
PG-28	Maximum Internal Projection of Welded Access or Inspection Openings .....	20
PG-31	Some Acceptable Types of Unstayed Flat Heads and Covers .....	24
PG-33.1	Nomenclature and Equations for Reinforced Openings .....	29
PG-33.2	Some Representative Configurations Describing the Dimensions $t_e$ , $h$ , and $d$ .....	30
PG-33.3	Chart for Determining Value of $F$ .....	31
PG-38	Illustrations of the Rule Given in <a href="#">PG-38.4</a> .....	33
PG-42.1	Welding End Transitions Maximum Envelope .....	36
PG-46.2	Acceptable Proportions for Ends of Through-Stays .....	38
PG-52.1	Diagram for Determining the Efficiency of Longitudinal and Diagonal Ligaments Between Openings in Cylindrical Shells .....	39
PG-52.2	Example of Tube Spacing with Pitch of Holes Equal in Every Row .....	40
PG-52.3	Example of Tube Spacing with Pitch of Holes Unequal in Every Second Row .....	40
PG-52.4	Example of Tube Spacing with Pitch of Holes Varying in Every Second and Third Row .....	40
PG-52.5	Example of Tube Spacing with Tube Holes on Diagonal Lines .....	41
PG-53.3	Diagram for Determining Equivalent Longitudinal Efficiency of Diagonal Ligaments Between Openings in Cylindrical Shells .....	42
PG-58.3.1(a)	Code Jurisdictional Limits for Piping — Drum-Type Boilers .....	44
PG-58.3.1(b)	Code Jurisdictional Limits for Piping — Isolable Economizers Located in Feedwater Piping and Isolable Superheaters in Main Steam Piping .....	45
PG-58.3.1(c)	Code Jurisdictional Limits for Piping — Reheaters and Nonintegral Separately Fired Super- heaters .....	46
PG-58.3.2	Code Jurisdictional Limits for Piping — An Example of Forced-Flow Steam Generators with no Fixed Steam or Waterline .....	47
PG-58.3.3	Code Jurisdictional Limits for Piping — An Example of Steam Separator Type Forced-Flow Steam Generators with no Fixed Steam or Waterline .....	48
PG-59.1	Typical Boiler Bushings .....	50
PG-60.3.7	Y-Type Globe Valve .....	52
PG-60.3.9	Typical Arrangement of Steam and Water Connections for a Water Column .....	53
PG-67.4	Requirements for Overpressure Protection Forced-Flow Steam Generator .....	56

PG-80	Maximum Permissible Deviation from a Circular Form, $e$ , for Cylindrical Parts Under External Pressure .....	74
PG-105.1	Official Certification Mark to Denote the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' Standard for Boilers .....	77
PG-106	Form of Stamping .....	79
PW-9.1	Butt Welding of Plates of Unequal Thickness .....	87
PW-9.2	Prohibited Welded Joint .....	88
PW-15	Examples of Weld Strength Calculations .....	90
PW-16.1	Some Acceptable Types of Welded Nozzles and Other Connections to Shells, Drums, and Headers .....	92
PW-16.2	Some Acceptable Forms of Welds for Lugs, Hangers, and Brackets on Shells, Drums, and Headers .....	96
PW-19.4(a)	Some Acceptable Types of Diagonal Braces for Installation by Welding .....	97
PW-19.4(b)	Unacceptable Types of Diagonal Braces for Installation by Welding .....	98
PW-43.1	Method of Computation of Attachments to Tubes .....	115
PW-43.2	Chart for Determining Load Factor, $L_f$ .....	116
PW-53.1	Test Specimens from Longitudinal Welded Test Plates .....	121
PW-53.2	Method of Forming Longitudinal Test Plates .....	122
PW-53.3(a)	Details of Tension Test Specimens .....	123
PW-53.3(b)	Details of Bend Test Specimens .....	124
PR-13-1	Typical Plate Edge Beveled for Sealing by Calking in a Riveted Joint .....	128
PR-15.4-1	Location of Seams in Inside and Outside Calking Boundaries .....	129
PR-17.2-1	Boundary of Reinforcing Plate on Outside and Inside of Drum .....	130
PR-20.2-1	Allowable Welding of Plate Edges at Ends of Buttstraps .....	131
PB-15	Some Acceptable Types of Brazed Joints .....	135
PWT-11	Examples of Acceptable Forms of Tube Attachment .....	140
PWT-12.1	Box-Type Header Joint .....	141
PWT-12.2	Method of Forming Waterleg Joints by Welding .....	141
PFT-12.1	Some Acceptable Forms of Tube Attachment on Firetube Boilers .....	143
PFT-17.2	Acceptable Type of Ring-Reinforced Furnace .....	145
PFT-18.1	Morison Furnace .....	146
PFT-19	Connection Between Plain and Corrugated Furnace .....	147
PFT-20	Welding Ogee Ring .....	147
PFT-21	Some Acceptable Methods of Forming Waterleg Joints by Welding .....	148
PFT-23.1	Stayed Wrapper Sheet of Locomotive-Type Boiler .....	149
PFT-25	Example of Staying of Heads Adjacent to Cylindrical Furnaces .....	150
PFT-27	Pitch of Staybolts Adjacent to Upper Corners of Fireboxes .....	151
PFT-32	Measurements for Determining Stresses in Diagonal Stays .....	153
PFT-46.1	Spacing and Weld Details for Wall-Support Lugs Set in Pairs on Horizontal-Return Tubular Boilers .....	155
PFT-46.2	Welded Bracket Connection for Horizontal-Return Tubular Boilers .....	156
PVG-12	Constant, $C$ , for Vapor Related to Ratio of Specific Heats ( $k = c_p/c_v$ ) .....	165
PHRSG-4	Some Acceptable Desuperheater Spraywater Protection Device Arrangements .....	168
	Guide for Completing the Certificate of Conformance for Reapplication of the Certification Mark .....	174

**TABLES**

PG-19	Post Cold-Forming Strain Limits and Heat-Treatment Requirements .....	11
PG-20	Post Cold-Forming Strain Limits And Heat-Treatment Requirements .....	12
PG-26	Weld Strength Reduction Factors to be Applied When Calculating Maximum Allowable Working Pressure or Minimum Required Thickness of Components Fabricated With a Longitudinal Seam Weld .....	16
PG-39	Minimum Number of Threads Per Connection .....	34
PG-68.7	Superheat Correction Factor, $K_{sh}$ .....	59
PG-68.7M	Superheat Correction Factor, $K_{sh}$ .....	61
PG-69.2.3	Supercritical Correction Factor, $K_{sc}$ .....	64

PG-69.2.3M	Supercritical Correction Factor, $K_{sc}$ .....	66
PW-11	Required Volumetric Examination of Welded Butt Joints .....	89
PW-33	Alignment Tolerance of Sections to be Butt Welded .....	100
PW-39-1	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 1 .....	102
PW-39-2	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 3 .....	103
PW-39-3	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 4 .....	104
PW-39-4	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 5A .....	105
PW-39-5	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 15E .....	106
PW-39-6	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 6 .....	107
PW-39-7	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 7 .....	108
PW-39-8	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 8 .....	108
PW-39-9	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 10H .....	109
PW-39-10	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 10I .....	109
PW-39-11	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 31 .....	110
PW-39-12	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 43 .....	110
PW-39-13	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 45 .....	111
PW-39-14	Mandatory Requirements for Postweld Heat Treatment of Pressure Parts and Attachments — P-No. 51 .....	111
PW-39.1	Alternate Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels .....	112
PW-43.1	Tube Attachment Angle Design Factor, $K$ .....	115
PR-9-1	Minimum Thickness of Buttstraps .....	127
PR-15.3-1	Allowable Stress on Rivets in Tension .....	129
PB-1	Maximum Design Temperatures [ $^{\circ}$ F ( $^{\circ}$ C)] for Brazing Filler Metal .....	134
PB-16	Recommended Joint Clearance at Brazing Temperature .....	136
PHRSG-4	Minimum Drain Pot Size .....	169

## FORMS

III-1A	Certificate of Conformance for Reapplication of the Certification Mark .....	173
P-2	Manufacturer's Data Report for all Types of Boilers .....	230
P-2A	Manufacturer's Data Report for all Types of Electric Boilers .....	234
P-2B	Manufacturer's Data Report for Electric Superheaters and Reheaters .....	239
P-3	Manufacturer's Data Report for Watertube Boilers, Superheaters, Waterwalls, and Economizers ..	243
P-3A	Engineering-Contractor Data Report for a Complete Boiler Unit .....	248
P-4	Manufacturer's Partial Data Report .....	251
P-4A	Manufacturer's Data Report for Fabricated Piping .....	254
P-4B	Manufacturer's Data Report for Field Installed Mechanically Assembled Piping .....	257
P-5	Summary Data Report for Process Steam Generators .....	259
P-6	Manufacturer's Data Report Supplementary Sheet .....	261
P-7	Manufacturer's Data Report for Pressure Relief Valves .....	262
P-8	Manufacturer's or Assembler's Certificate of Conformance for Pressure Relief Valves .....	266

(13)

## 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 NC — Class 2 Components
    - Subsection ND — Class 3 Components
    - Subsection NE — Class MC Components
    - Subsection NF — Supports
    - Subsection NG — Core Support Structures
    - Subsection NH — Class 1 Components in Elevated Temperature Service
  - Division 2 — Code for Concrete Containments
  - Division 3 — Containments for Transportation and Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Radioactive Material and Waste
  - 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 Power Plant Components
  
- XII Rules for Construction and Continued Service of Transport Tanks

## **INTERPRETATIONS**

ASME issues written replies to inquiries concerning interpretation of technical aspects of the Code.

Interpretations of the Code are posted in January and July at <http://cstools.asme.org/interpretations.cfm>. Any Interpretations issued during the previous two calendar years are included with the publication of the applicable Section of the Code. Interpretations of Section III, Divisions 1 and 2 and Section III Appendices are included with Subsection NCA.

## **CODE CASES**

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code committees meet regularly to consider proposed additions and revisions to the Code and to formulate Cases to clarify the intent of existing requirements or provide, when the need is urgent, rules for materials or constructions not covered by existing Code rules. Those Cases that have been adopted will appear in the appropriate 2013 Code Cases book: "Boilers and Pressure Vessels" or "Nuclear Components." Supplements will be sent automatically to the purchasers of the Code Cases books up to the publication of the 2015 Code.



## FOREWORD

(This Foreword is provided as an aid to the user and is not part of the rules of this Code.)

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)

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 only 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. The Committee also interprets these rules when questions arise regarding their intent. 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. 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 pressure vessels. 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 judgement* 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 responsible for all technical assumptions inherent in the programs they use and the application of these programs to their design.

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

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://cstools.asme.org/csconnect/public/index.cfm?PublicReview=Revisions> 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 an ASME 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.

## **STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE USE OF THE 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 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 Certification Mark for the benefit of the users, the enforcement jurisdictions, and the holders of the 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 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 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 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 Certification Mark who may also use the facsimile in advertising to show that clearly specified items will carry the Certification Mark. General usage is permitted only when all of a manufacturer’s items are constructed under the rules.

## **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 official Certification Mark described in the governing Section of the Code.

Markings such as “ASME,” “ASME Standard,” or any other marking including “ASME” or the 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.

# (13) SUBMITTAL OF TECHNICAL INQUIRIES TO THE BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL STANDARDS COMMITTEES

## 1 INTRODUCTION

(a) The following information provides guidance to Code users for submitting technical inquiries to the committees. See Guideline on the Approval of New Materials Under the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code in Section II, Parts C and D for additional requirements for requests involving adding new materials to the Code. Technical inquiries include requests for revisions or additions to the Code rules, requests for Code Cases, and requests for Code Interpretations, as described below.

(1) *Code Revisions.* Code revisions are considered to accommodate technological developments, address administrative requirements, incorporate Code Cases, or to clarify Code intent.

(2) *Code Cases.* Code Cases represent alternatives or additions to existing Code rules. Code Cases are written as a question and reply, and are usually intended to be incorporated into the Code at a later date. When used, Code Cases prescribe mandatory requirements in the same sense as the text of the Code. However, users are cautioned that not all jurisdictions or owners automatically accept Code Cases. The most common applications for Code Cases are:

(-a) to permit early implementation of an approved Code revision based on an urgent need

(-b) to permit the use of a new material for Code construction

(-c) to gain experience with new materials or alternative rules prior to incorporation directly into the Code

(3) *Code Interpretations.* Code Interpretations provide clarification of the meaning of existing rules in the Code, and are also presented in question and reply format. Interpretations do not introduce new requirements. In cases where existing Code text does not fully convey the meaning that was intended, and revision of the rules is required to support an interpretation, an Intent Interpretation will be issued and the Code will be revised.

(b) The Code rules, Code Cases, and Code Interpretations established by the committees 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 rules.

(c) Inquiries that do not comply with these provisions or that do not provide sufficient information for a committee's full understanding may result in the request being returned to the inquirer with no action.

## 2 INQUIRY FORMAT

Submittals to a committee shall include:

(a) *Purpose.* Specify one of the following:

(1) revision of present Code rules

(2) new or additional Code rules

(3) Code Case

(4) Code Interpretation

(b) *Background.* Provide the information needed for the committee's understanding of the inquiry, being sure to include reference to the applicable Code Section, Division, Edition, Addenda (if applicable), paragraphs, figures, and tables. Preferably, provide a copy of the specific referenced portions of the Code.

(c) *Presentations.* The inquirer may desire or be asked to attend a meeting of the committee to make a formal presentation or to answer questions from the committee members with regard to the inquiry. Attendance at a committee meeting shall be at the expense of the inquirer. The inquirer's attendance or lack of attendance at a meeting shall not be a basis for acceptance or rejection of the inquiry by the committee.