Inspection of Pressure-relieving Devices

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Contents

Page

1 Scope . . . 1
2 Normative References . . . 1
3 Terms and Definitions . . . 2
4 Pressure-relieving Devices . . . 4
4.1 General . . . 4
4.2 Pressure-relief Valve . . . 4
4.3 Direct-acting Pressure-relief Valve . . . 6
4.4 Pilot-operated Pressure-relief Valves . . . 10
4.5 Rupture Disk Device . . . 11
4.6 Pin-actuated Devices . . . 22
5 Causes of Improper Performance . . . 23
5.1 Corrosion . . . 23
5.2 Damaged Seating Surfaces . . . 27
5.3 Failed Springs . . . 28
5.4 Improper Setting and Adjustment . . . 30
5.5 Plugging and Fouling . . . 30
5.6 Galling . . . 34
5.7 Misapplication of Materials . . . 34
5.8 Improper Location, History, or Identification . . . 34
5.9 Improper Handling . . . 34
5.10 Improper Differential Between Operating and Set Pressures . . . 37
5.11 Improper Inlet/Outlet Piping Test Procedures . . . 37
6 Inspection and Testing . . . 37
6.1 Reasons for Inspection and Testing . . . 37
6.2 Shop Inspection/Overhaul . . . 38
6.3 Inspection, Testing, Maintenance and Setting of Direct-acting Spring-loaded Valves on Equipment . . . 48
6.4 Inspection, Testing, Maintenance, and Setting of Direct Spring-operated Safety Valves Used on Fired Pressure Vessels . . . 50
6.5 Inspection, Testing, Maintenance, and Setting of Pilot-operated Pressure-relief Valves . . . 51
6.6 Inspection, Testing, Maintenance, and Setting of Weight-loaded Pressure and/or Vacuum Vents on Tanks . . . 52
7 Inspection and Replacement of Rupture Disk Devices . . . 53
7.1 Rupture Disk Removal and Replacement . . . 53
7.2 Examples of Rupture Disk Failure Modes . . . 53
7.3 Rupture Disk Holder . . . 57
7.4 Inspection and Replacement of Rupture Disks . . . 57
8 Pressure-relief Valve Visual On-stream Inspection . . . 57
8.1 General . . . 57
8.2 Pre-relief Event . . . 58
9 Inspection Frequency . . . 58
9.1 General . . . 58
9.2 Frequency of Shop Inspection/Overhaul . . . 59
9.3 Time of Inspection . . . 60
9.4 Inspection and Servicing Deferral . . . 61

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Contents

Page

10 Records and Reports . . . 61
10.1 General . . . 61
10.2 The Need to Keep Records . . . 61
10.3 Responsibilities . . . 62
10.4 Sample Record and Report System . . . 63

Annex A (informative) Pressure-relief Valve Testing . . . 64
Annex B (informative) Sample Record and Report Forms . . . 67
Bibliography . . . 73

Figures
1 Pressure-/Vacuum-relief Valve . . . 6
2 Weight-loaded Emergency Vent . . . 7
3 Open Bonnet, Direct-acting Spring-loaded Pressure-relief Valve . . . 8
4 Closed Bonnet, Direct-acting Spring-loaded Relief Valve . . . 9
5 Balanced Bellows Direct-acting Spring-loaded Pressure-relief Valve . . . 10
6 Unbalanced Piston Main Valve, Pilot-operated Pressure-relief Valve . . . 12
7 Diaphragm Main Valve, Pilot-operated Pressure-relief Valve . . . 13
8 Diaphragm Main Valve, Pilot-operated Pressure- and Vacuum-relief Valve . . . 14
9 Forward-acting Conventional Rupture Disk . . . 14
10 Forward-acting Scored Rupture Disk . . . 15
11 Reverse-acting Knife Blade Rupture Disk . . . 16
12 Reverse-acting Scored Rupture Disk . . . 17
13 Graphite Rupture Disk . . . 18
14 Rupture Disk in Union Holder . . . 19
15 Rupture Disk in Screw-type Holder . . . 19
16 Rupture Disk with Insert-type Holder . . . 19
17 Insert-type Holder Installation . . . 19
18 Conventional Domed Rupture Disk . . . 20
19 Piston-type Pin-actuated Device . . . 22
20 Butterfly-type Pin-actuated Device . . . 23
21 Acid Corrosion in Carbon Steel Bonnet Caused by Leaking Seating Surfaces . . . 24
22 Chloride Corrosion on 18Cr-8Ni Steel Nozzle (with Machined Seating Surface) . . . 24
23 Sulfide Corrosion on Carbon Steel Disc from Crude Oil Distillation Unit . . . 25
24 Chloride Attack on 18Cr-8Ni Steel Disc . . . 25
25 Pit-type Corrosion on 18Cr-18Ni Steel Bellows . . . 25
26 Alloy 400 Rupture Disks Corroded in Sour Gas Service . . . 26
27 Body and Bonnet Coated with Epoxy for Corrosion Protection . . . 26
28 Seating Surface of Disc Deformed by Chattering . . . 27
29 Seating Surface of Disc Damaged by Frequent Operation of Valve Too Close to Operating Pressure . . . 28
30 Spring Failure Due to Corrosion . . . 29
31 Spring Failure Due to Stress Corrosion . . . 29
32 Inlet Nozzle Plugged with Coke and Catalyst After Nine Months in Reactor Vapor Line . . . 32
33 Outlet Valve Plugged with Deposits from Other Valves in Common Discharge Header . . . 32
34 Moving Parts of Valve Fouled with Iron Sulfide (FeS_2) . . . 33
35 Disc Frozen in Guide Because of Buildup of Products of Corrosion in Sour Oil Vapor Service . . . 33
36 Improper Storage of Valves . . . 35
37 Example of Improper Storage of Valves . . . 35

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Contents

Page

38 Identification Tag for Pressure-relieving Device . . . 39
39a Identification Tag for Pressure-relieving Device (pre-2013) . . . 39
39b Identification Tag for Pressure-relieving Device (mandatory Jan. 1, 2013) . . . 39
40a Identification Tag for Pressure-relieving Device (pre-2013) . . . 40
40b Identification Tag for Pressure-relieving Device (mandatory Jan. 1, 2013) . . . 40
41 Block Valves on Pressure-relief Valve Inlet and Outlet Sealed Open . . . 42
42 Sulfur Deposits in Body of Valve . . . 43
43 Safety Valve and Relief Valve Leak Detector . . . 49
44 Operating Ratio Exceeded, Then Subjected to Vacuum . . . 53
45 Operating Ratio Exceeded—Tabs Are Stretched . . . 54
46 Disk Subjected to Corrosion . . . 54
47 Dent Caused by Water Freezing in Discharge Line . . . 55
48 Rupture Disk Holder Subjected to Excessive Corrosion . . . 55
49 Rupture Disk Holder Subjected to Corrosion . . . 56
50 Rupture Disk Holder Corrosion Due to Leakage . . . 56
51 Rupture Disk Holder Subjected to Overtorque . . . 57
A.1 Typical Safety Valve and Relief Valve Test Block Using Air as Test . . . 66
B.1 Sample Form for Recording Pressure-relieving Device Specifications . . . 68
B.2 Sample Historical Record . . . 69
B.3 Sample Inspection and Repair Work Order Form . . . 70
B.4 Sample Testing Report . . . 71
B.5 Sample In-service Report . . . 72

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Inspection of Pressure-relieving Devices

1 Scope

This recommended practice (RP) describes the inspection and repair practices for self-actuated pressure-relieving devices commonly used in the oil/gas and petrochemical industries. As a guide to the inspection and repair of these devices in the user's plant, it is intended to ensure their proper performance. This publication covers self-actuated devices such as direct-acting spring-loaded valves, pilot-operated pressure-relief valves, rupture disks, pin-actuated devices, and weight-loaded pressure vacuum vents.

The recommendations in this publication are not intended to supersede requirements established by regulatory bodies. This publication excludes tank weak seams and/or sections or tank thief hatches, explosion doors, fusible plugs, control valves, pressure-regulating devices, integral rotating equipment components, other devices that either depend on an external source of power for operation or are manually operated, or devices not designed to be inspected or recertified. Inspections and tests made at manufacturers' plants, which are usually covered by codes or purchase specifications, are not covered by this publication.

This publication does not cover training requirements for personnel involved in the inspection and repair of pressure-relieving devices. Those seeking these requirements should see API 510 and API 570, which give the requirements for a quality control system and specify that the repair organization maintain and document a training program ensuring that personnel are qualified.

2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

API 510, *Pressure Vessel Inspection Code: In-service Inspection, Rating, Repair, and Alteration*

API Standard 520 (all parts), *Sizing, Selection, and Installation of Pressure-relieving Devices*

API Standard 521, *Pressure-relieving and Depressuring Systems*

API Standard 526, *Flanged Steel Pressure-relief Valves*

API Standard 527, *Seat Tightness of Pressure Relief Valves*

API 570, *Piping Inspection Code: In-service Inspection, Rating, Repair, and Alteration of Piping Systems*

API Recommended Practice 580, *Risk-Based Inspection*

API Standard 620, *Design and Construction of Large, Welded, Low-pressure Storage Tanks*

API Standard 2000, *Venting Atmospheric and Low-pressure Storage Tanks*

ASME *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code* (*BPVC*) [1], *Section VIII: Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels; Division 1: Pressure Vessels*

ASME PTC 25, *Pressure Relief Devices*

NB-18 [2], *Pressure Relief Device Certification*

[1] ASME International, 2 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10016-5990.

[2] The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, 1055 Crupper Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43229, www.nationalboard.org.

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