

ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE
AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

SECTION VI
**Recommended Rules for the Care
and Operation of Heating Boilers**

1986 EDITION

JULY 1, 1986



ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEATING BOILERS
SUBGROUP ON CARE AND OPERATION OF HEATING BOILERS (SC IV)

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
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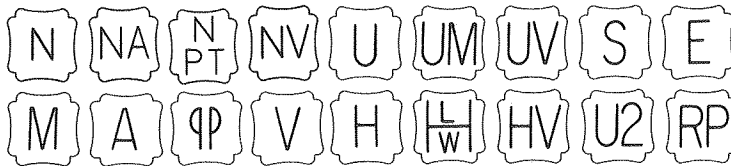
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1986 ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE

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ADDENDA

Colored-sheet Addenda, which include additions and revisions to individual Sections of the Code, are published annually and will be sent automatically to purchasers of the applicable Sections up to the publication of the 1989 Code. The 1986 Code is available only in the loose-leaf format; accordingly, the Addenda will be issued in the loose-leaf, replacement-page format.

INTERPRETATIONS

ASME issues written replies to inquiries concerning interpretation of technical aspects of the Code. The Interpretations for each individual Section will be published separately and will be included as part of the update service to that Section. They will be issued semiannually (July and December) up to the publication of the 1989 Code. Interpretations of Section III, Divisions 1 and 2, will be included with the update service to Subsection NCA. Interpretations are not part of the Code or the Addenda.

CODE CASES

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee meets 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 which have been adopted will appear in the appropriate 1986 Code Cases book: (1) Boilers and Pressure Vessels and (2) Nuclear Components. Supplements will be sent automatically to the purchasers of the Code Cases books up to the publication of the 1989 Code.

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FOREWORD

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers set up a committee in 1911 for the purpose of formulating standard rules for the construction of steam boilers and other pressure vessels. This committee is now called the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee.

The Committee's function is to establish rules of safety governing the design, fabrication, and inspection during construction of boilers and pressure vessels, and to interpret these rules when questions arise regarding their intent. 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 so as to give a reasonably long, safe period of usefulness. Advancements in design and material and the evidence of experience have been recognized.

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee deals with the care and inspection of boilers and pressure vessels in service only to the extent of providing suggested rules of good practice as an aid to owners and their inspectors.

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 Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee meets regularly to consider revisions of the rules, new rules as dictated by technological development, Code Cases, and requests for interpretations. Requests for interpretation must be addressed to the Secretary in writing and must give full particulars in order to receive consideration and a written interpretation (see Mandatory Appendix covering preparation of technical inquiries). Proposed revisions to the Code resulting from inquiries will be presented to the Main Committee for appropriate action. The action of the Main Committee becomes effective only after confirmation by letter 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 and published in *Mechanical Engineering* to invite comments from all interested persons. After the allotted time for public review and final approval by ASME, revisions are published annually in Addenda to the Code.

Code Cases may be used in the construction of components to be stamped with the ASME Code symbol beginning with the date of their approval by ASME.

After Code revisions are approved by ASME, they may be used beginning with the date of issuance shown on the Addenda. Revisions become mandatory as minimum requirements six months after such date of issuance, except for boilers or pressure vessels contracted for prior to the end of the six-month period.

Manufacturers and users of components are cautioned against making use of revisions and Cases that are less restrictive than former requirements without having assurance that they have been accepted by the proper authorities in the jurisdiction where the component is to be installed.

Each state and municipality in the United States and each province in the Dominion of Canada that adopts or accepts one or more Sections of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code is invited to appoint a representative to act on the Conference Committee to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee. Since the members of the Conference Committee are in active contact with the administration and enforcement of the rules, the requirements for inspection in this Code correspond with those in effect in their respective jurisdictions. The required qualifications for an Authorized Inspector or an Authorized Nuclear Inspector under these rules may be obtained from the administrative authority of any state, municipality, or province which has adopted these rules.

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee in the formulation of its rules and in the establishment of maximum design and operating pressures considers materials, construction, methods of fabrication, in-

spection, and safety devices. Permission may be granted to regulatory bodies and organizations publishing safety standards to use a complete Section of the Code by reference. If usage of a Section, such as Section IX, involves exceptions, omissions, or changes in provisions, the intent of the Code might not be attained.

Where a state or other regulatory body, in the printing of any Section of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, makes additions or omissions, it is recommended that such changes be clearly indicated.

The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors is composed of chief inspectors of states and municipalities in the United States and of provinces in the Dominion of Canada that have adopted the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. This Board, since its organization in 1919, has functioned to uniformly administer and enforce the rules of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. The cooperation of that organization with the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee has been extremely helpful.

It should be pointed out that the state or municipality where the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code has been made effective has definite jurisdiction over any particular installation. Inquiries dealing with problems of local character should be directed to the proper authority of such state or municipality. Such authority may, if there is any question or doubt as to the proper interpretation, refer the question to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee.

The Specifications for base materials given in Section II, Parts A and B, are identical with or similar to those of The American Society for Testing and Materials. When reference is made in an ASME Material Specification to an ASTM Specification for which a companion ASME Specification exists, the reference shall be interpreted as applying to the ASME Material Specification. Specifications for welding materials given in Section II, Part C, are identical

with or similar to those of the American Welding Society. Not all materials included in the ASME Material Specifications in Section II have been adopted for Code use. Usage is limited to those materials and grades adopted by at least one of the other Sections of the Code for application under rules of that Section. All materials allowed by these various Sections and used for construction within the scope of their rules shall be furnished in accordance with ASME Material Specifications contained in Section II except where otherwise provided in Code Cases or in the applicable Section of the Code. Materials covered by these Specifications are acceptable for use in items covered by the Code Sections only to the degree indicated in the applicable Section. Materials for Code use should preferably be ordered, produced, and documented on this basis; however, material produced under an ASTM Specification may be used in lieu of the corresponding ASME Specification, provided the requirements of the ASTM Specification are identical (excluding editorial differences) or more stringent than the ASME Specification for the Grade, Class, or Type produced and provided that the material is confirmed as complying with the ASTM Specification. Material produced to an ASTM specification with requirements different from the requirements of the corresponding ASME Specification may also be used in accordance with the above, provided the material manufacturer or vessel manufacturer certifies with evidence acceptable to the Authorized Inspector or Authorized Nuclear Inspector that the corresponding ASME Specification requirements have been met. Material produced to an ASME or ASTM Material Specification is not limited as to country of origin.

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 CODE SYMBOLS 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 Code Symbols for marking items or constructions which 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 Code Symbols for the benefit of the users, the enforcement jurisdictions, and the holders of the symbols who comply with all requirements.

Based on these objectives, the following policy has been established on the usage in advertising of facsimiles of the symbols, Certificates of Authorization, and reference to Code construction. The Ameri-

can Society of Mechanical Engineers does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, or activity and there shall be no statements or implications which might so indicate. An organization holding a Code Symbol 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."

The ASME Symbol 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 a Code Symbol who may also use the facsimile in advertising to show that clearly specified items will carry the symbol. 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 Code Symbol Stamp described in the governing Section of the Code.

Markings such as "ASME," "ASME Standard," or any other marking including "ASME" or the various Code Symbols shall not be used on any item which 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 which 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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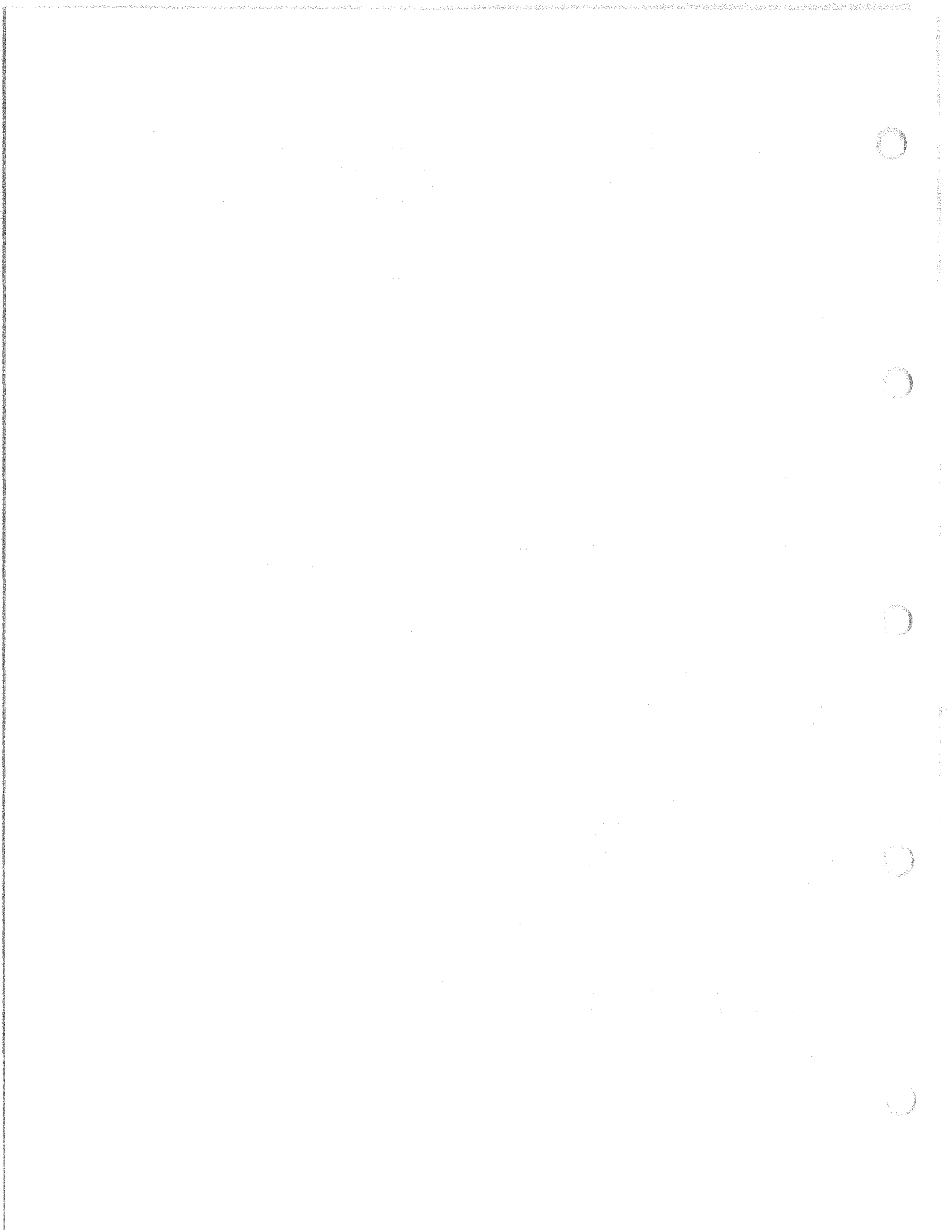
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1. GENERAL

1.01 SCOPE

This portion of the rules is intended to cover general descriptions, terminology, and basic fundamentals of heating boilers, controls, and automatic fuel burning equipment. Because of the wide variety of makes and types of equipment in use, it is general in scope.

1.02 USE OF ILLUSTRATIONS

The illustrations used in this Section have been selected to show typical examples of the equipment referred to in the text and are not intended to endorse or recommend any one manufacturer's product; nor are the illustrations intended to be used as design criteria or as examples of preferred configurations of equipment.

1.03 MANUFACTURER'S INFORMATION

For detailed information on any specific unit, the manufacturer's information should be consulted.

1.04 REFERENCE TO SECTION IV

The boilers discussed in this Section will be those limited to the operating ranges of Section IV, Heating Boilers, of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code as follows:

(a) steam boilers for operation at pressure not exceeding 15 psi;

(b) hot water heating and hot water supply boilers for operation at pressures not exceeding 160 psi and/or temperatures not to exceed 250°F.

1.05 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

For terms relating to boiler design, refer to Section IV, Heating Boilers, Appendix E, Definitions. For terms relating to boiler water treatment refer to 9.12, this Section, "Glossary of Water Treatment Terms."

A. Boilers and General Terms

absolute pressure — pressure above zero pressure, the sum of the gage and atmospheric pressures

accumulator (steam) — a pressure vessel containing water and steam, which is used to store the heat of steam for use at a later period and at some lower pressure

air purge — the removal of undesired matter by replacement with air

air vent — a valve opening in the top of the highest drum of a boiler or pressure vessel for venting air. Also a device, manual or automatic, which will effect the removal of air from a steam or hot water heating system. It is usually located at the highest point in the system.

allowable working pressure — the maximum pressure for which the boiler was designed and constructed

altitude gage — a pressure gage calibrated in feet, indicating the height of the water in the system above the gage. Usually found as combination pressure, altitude, and temperature gage.

ambient temperature — the temperature of the air surrounding the equipment

baffle — a plate or wall for deflecting gases or liquids

base — support for boiler

beaded tube end — the rounded exposed end of a rolled tube when the tube metal is formed over against the sheet in which the tube is rolled

belled tube end — see *flared tube end*

bellows seal — a seal in the shape of a bellows used to prevent air or gas leakage

blind nipple — a nipple, or a short piece of piping or tube, closed at one end

blowdown — the difference between the opening and closing pressures of a safety or safety relief valve

boiler — a closed pressure vessel in which a liquid, usually water, is vaporized by the application of heat

(a) *watertube* — a boiler in which the tubes contain water and steam, the heat being applied to the outside surface