

**SECTION XII**

**2025**

ASME Boiler and  
Pressure Vessel Code  
An International Code

**Rules for Construction  
and Continued Service  
of Transport Tanks**

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AN INTERNATIONAL CODE

# 2025 ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code

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## **XIII** **RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION AND CONTINUED SERVICE OF TRANSPORT TANKS**

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Committee  
on Transport Tanks



The American Society of  
Mechanical Engineers

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Sections .....		xvii
Foreword .....		ix
Statement of Policy on the Use of the ASME Single Certification Mark and Code Authorization in Advertising .....		xxii
Statement of Policy on the Use of ASME Marking to Identify Manufactured Items .....		xxi
Personnel .....		xxii
Correspondence With the Committee .....		xlv
Summary of Changes .....		xlvii
Cross-Referencing in the ASME BPVC .....		xlix
<b>Part TG</b>	<b>General Requirements</b> .....	1
<b>Article TG-1</b>	<b>Scope and Jurisdiction</b> .....	1
TG-100	Introduction .....	1
TG-110	Scope .....	1
TG-120	Vessel Classifications .....	2
TG-130	Documents Referenced by This Section .....	2
TG-140	Units of Measurement .....	3
TG-150	Equations .....	4
TG-160	Tolerances .....	4
<b>Article TG-2</b>	<b>Organization of Section XII</b> .....	5
TG-200	Parts .....	5
TG-210	Appendices .....	5
TG-220	Article and Paragraphs .....	5
TG-230	References .....	5
TG-240	Terms and Definitions .....	6
<b>Article TG-3</b>	<b>Responsibilities and Duties</b> .....	7
TG-300	General .....	7
TG-310	Owner's Responsibility .....	7
TG-320	Manufacturer's Responsibility .....	7
TG-330	Inspector's Duties .....	8
<b>Article TG-4</b>	<b>General Rules for Inspection</b> .....	9
TG-400	General Requirements for Inspection and Examination .....	9
TG-410	The Inspector .....	9
TG-420	Access for the Inspector .....	9
TG-430	The Manufacturer .....	10
TG-440	Continued Service .....	10
<b>Part TM</b>	<b>Material Requirements</b> .....	11
<b>Article TM-1</b>	<b>Material Requirements</b> .....	11
TM-100	General .....	11

TM-110	General Requirements for All Products . . . . .	11
TM-120	Material Identified With or Produced to a Specification Not Permitted by This Section, and Material Not Fully Identified . . . . .	15
TM-130	Material Specifications . . . . .	16
TM-140	Inspection and Marking of Materials . . . . .	16
TM-150	Additional Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels . . . . .	34
TM-160	Additional Requirements for High Alloy Steels . . . . .	35
TM-170	Additional Requirements for Nonferrous Materials . . . . .	35
TM-180	Additional Requirements for Ferritic Steels Enhanced by Heat Treatment . . . . .	35
TM-190	Additional Requirements for Castings . . . . .	36
<b>Article TM-2</b>	<b>Notch Toughness Requirements</b> . . . . .	37
TM-200	General Toughness Requirements for All Steel Products . . . . .	37
TM-210	General . . . . .	37
TM-220	Acceptance Criteria for Impact Tests of Ferrous Materials Other Than Bolting . . . . .	38
TM-230	Impact Test Requirements for Welded Joints . . . . .	41
TM-240	Impact Test Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels . . . . .	42
TM-250	Impact Test Requirements for High Alloy Steels . . . . .	52
TM-260	Impact Test Requirements for Ferritic Steels With Tensile Properties Enhanced by Heat Treatment . . . . .	56
TM-270	Use of Nonferrous Materials At Low Temperatures . . . . .	57
<b>Part TD</b>	<b>Design Requirements</b> . . . . .	58
<b>Article TD-1</b>	<b>General Design Rules</b> . . . . .	58
TD-100	General . . . . .	58
TD-110	Methods of Fabrication in Combination . . . . .	58
TD-120	Materials in Combination . . . . .	58
TD-130	Corrosion . . . . .	59
TD-140	Design Temperature . . . . .	59
TD-150	Design Pressure . . . . .	59
TD-160	MAWP . . . . .	59
<b>Article TD-2</b>	<b>Loading and Stress Allowables</b> . . . . .	60
TD-200	Loadings . . . . .	60
TD-210	Maximum Allowable Stress Values . . . . .	61
<b>Article TD-3</b>	<b>Design for Internal Pressure</b> . . . . .	63
TD-300	Thickness of Shells Under Internal Pressure . . . . .	63
TD-310	Formed Heads and Sections, Pressure on Concave Side . . . . .	63
TD-320	Other Types of Closures . . . . .	65
<b>Article TD-4</b>	<b>Design for External Pressure</b> . . . . .	69
TD-400	Thickness of Shells Under External Pressure . . . . .	69
TD-410	Stiffening Rings for Cylindrical Shells Under External Pressure . . . . .	71
TD-420	Attachment of Stiffening Rings for External Pressure . . . . .	72
TD-430	Formed Heads, Pressure on Convex Side . . . . .	74
TD-440	Alternative Allowable Compressive Stresses in Cylindrical Shells and Formed Heads . . . . .	76
<b>Article TD-5</b>	<b>Unstayed Flat Heads and Covers</b> . . . . .	80
TD-500	Design of Unstayed Flat Heads and Covers . . . . .	80

<b>Article TD-6</b>	<b>Openings and Reinforcements</b> . . . . .	84
TD-600	Openings in Transport Tanks . . . . .	84
TD-610	Reinforcement Required for Openings in Shells and Formed Heads . . . . .	85
TD-620	Flued Openings in Shells and Formed Heads . . . . .	90
TD-630	Reinforcement Required for Openings in Flat Heads and Covers . . . . .	90
TD-640	Limits of Reinforcement . . . . .	91
TD-650	Strength of Reinforcement . . . . .	91
TD-660	Reinforcement of Multiple Openings . . . . .	98
TD-670	Methods of Attachment of Pipe and Nozzle Necks to Vessel Walls . . . . .	99
TD-680	Nozzle Neck Thickness . . . . .	99
TD-690	Inspection Openings . . . . .	99
<b>Part TW</b>	<b>Requirements for Tanks Fabricated by Welding</b> . . . . .	101
<b>Article TW-1</b>	<b>General Requirements for Tanks Fabricated by Welding</b> . . . . .	101
TW-100	General . . . . .	101
TW-120	Materials . . . . .	101
TW-130	Design of Welded Joints . . . . .	102
TW-140	Welded Connections . . . . .	115
<b>Part TF</b>	<b>Fabrication Requirements</b> . . . . .	124
<b>Article TF-1</b>	<b>General Requirements for Fabrication</b> . . . . .	124
TF-100	General . . . . .	124
TF-110	Materials . . . . .	124
TF-120	Forming and Fabrication . . . . .	125
<b>Article TF-2</b>	<b>Requirements for Welding Fabrication</b> . . . . .	128
TF-200	General Requirements for All Welds . . . . .	128
TF-210	Welding Qualifications, Records, and Identifying Stamps . . . . .	128
TF-220	Requirements for Production Welding . . . . .	130
<b>Article TF-3</b>	<b>Requirements for Vessels Constructed of Carbon and Low Alloy Steels</b> . . . . .	133
TF-300	General . . . . .	133
TF-310	Fabrication . . . . .	133
TF-320	Welded Joints . . . . .	134
<b>Article TF-4</b>	<b>Requirements for Vessels Constructed of High Alloy Steel</b> . . . . .	135
TF-400	General . . . . .	135
TF-410	Fabrication . . . . .	135
<b>Article TF-5</b>	<b>Requirements for Vessels Constructed of Nonferrous Materials</b> . . . . .	137
TF-500	General . . . . .	137
TF-510	Fabrication . . . . .	137
<b>Article TF-6</b>	<b>Requirements for Vessels Constructed of Ferritic Steels That Are Heat Treated to Enhance Tensile Properties</b> . . . . .	138
TF-600	General . . . . .	138
TF-610	Fabrication . . . . .	138
<b>Article TF-7</b>	<b>Postweld Heat Treatment of Weldments</b> . . . . .	142
TF-700	Procedures for Postweld Heat Treatment . . . . .	142
TF-710	Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels . . . . .	143
TF-720	Requirements for High Alloy Steels . . . . .	150
TF-730	Requirements for Nonferrous Materials . . . . .	150

TF-740	Requirements for Ferritic Steels With Tensile Properties Enhanced by Heat Treatment . . . . .	150
<b>Article TF-8</b>	<b>Requirements for Vessels Lined for Corrosion/Erosion Control . .</b>	<b>154</b>
TF-800	General . . . . .	154
TF-810	Fabrication . . . . .	154
<b>Part TE</b>	<b>Examination Requirements . . . . .</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>Article TE-1</b>	<b>Requirements for Examination Procedures and Personnel Qualification . . . . .</b>	<b>155</b>
TE-100	General . . . . .	155
TE-110	Nondestructive Examination Procedures . . . . .	155
TE-120	Qualification and Certification of Nondestructive Examination Personnel . . . . .	156
<b>Article TE-2</b>	<b>Examination of Welds and Acceptance Criteria . . . . .</b>	<b>157</b>
TE-200	Time of Examination of Welded Joints . . . . .	157
TE-210	Examination of Weld Edge Preparation Surfaces . . . . .	157
TE-220	Types of Welded Joints and Their Examination . . . . .	157
TE-230	Radiographic and Ultrasonic Examination . . . . .	157
TE-240	Magnetic Particle and Liquid-Penetrant Examination . . . . .	159
TE-250	Acceptance Criteria . . . . .	160
<b>Part TT</b>	<b>Testing Requirements . . . . .</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Article TT-1</b>	<b>General Requirements for Testing . . . . .</b>	<b>162</b>
TT-100	General . . . . .	162
<b>Article TT-2</b>	<b>Requirements for Pressure Testing . . . . .</b>	<b>163</b>
TT-200	General . . . . .	163
TT-210	Test Requirements . . . . .	163
TT-220	Test Media . . . . .	164
TT-230	Appurtenances . . . . .	164
TT-240	Test Gages . . . . .	164
<b>Article TT-3</b>	<b>Requirements for Proof Testing to Establish Maximum Allowable Working Pressure (MAWP) . . . . .</b>	<b>166</b>
TT-300	General . . . . .	166
TT-310	Previous Tests . . . . .	166
TT-320	Complex and Similar Parts . . . . .	166
TT-330	Evaluation . . . . .	167
TT-340	Procedures . . . . .	167
<b>Article TT-4</b>	<b>Requirements for Elastomeric Lining Test . . . . .</b>	<b>169</b>
TT-400	General . . . . .	169
<b>Part TR</b>	<b>Pressure Relief Devices . . . . .</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Part TOP</b>	<b>Overpressure Protection . . . . .</b>	<b>171</b>
<b>Article TOP-1</b>	<b>General Requirements . . . . .</b>	<b>171</b>
TOP-100	General . . . . .	171
TOP-110	Definitions . . . . .	171
TOP-120	Responsibilities . . . . .	171
TOP-130	Determination of Pressure-Relieving Requirements . . . . .	172
TOP-140	Overpressure Limits . . . . .	172
TOP-150	Permitted Pressure Relief Devices . . . . .	172
TOP-160	Pressure Setting and Performance Requirements . . . . .	173

TOP-170	Installation	173
<b>Part TS</b>	<b>Stamping, Marking, Certification, Reports, and Records</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>Article TS-1</b>	<b>Contents and Method of Stamping Transport Tanks</b>	<b>175</b>
TS-100	Required Markings	175
TS-110	Marking of Parts	177
TS-120	Application of Certification Mark	177
TS-130	Nameplates	177
<b>Article TS-2</b>	<b>Obtaining and Applying Certification Marks to Transport Tanks</b>	<b>178</b>
TS-200	Certification Marks	178
<b>Article TS-3</b>	<b>Report Forms and Record Maintenance</b>	<b>180</b>
TS-300	Manufacturer's Data Reports	180
TS-310	Partial Data Reports	180
<b>Article TS-4</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>	<b>181</b>
TS-400	General	181
<b>Part TP</b>	<b>Requirements for Repair, Alteration, Testing, and Inspection for Continued Service</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>Article TP-1</b>	<b>General Requirements and Responsibilities</b>	<b>182</b>
TP-100	General	182
<b>Article TP-2</b>	<b>Requirements for Repairs and Alterations</b>	<b>183</b>
TP-200	General Requirements	183
<b>Article TP-3</b>	<b>Requirements for Tests and Inspections</b>	<b>184</b>
TP-300	General Requirements	184
<b>Article TP-4</b>	<b>Tests and Inspections</b>	<b>185</b>
TP-400	General	185
TP-410	Types of Tests and Inspections	185
<b>Article TP-5</b>	<b>Criteria for Tests and Inspections</b>	<b>187</b>
TP-500	General	187
<b>Article TP-6</b>	<b>Report and Records</b>	<b>188</b>
TP-600	Report and Records	188
<b>Modal Appendix 1</b>	<b>Cargo Tanks</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>Article 1</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>189</b>
1-1.1	Scope	189
1-1.2	Definitions	189
1-1.3	Materials	191
1-1.4	Design Requirements Common to More Than One Category	192
1-1.5	Special Requirements	200
1-1.6	Protection Against Defined Incident Loads	200
1-1.7	Fabrication and Examination	201
1-1.8	Pressure Relief Devices	201
1-1.9	Operations, Maintenance, and Inspection	203
1-1.10	ASME Nameplate Requirements	204
1-1.11	Jurisdictional Markings	204
1-1.12	Design Certification	205
<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Category 406, 407, and 412 Cargo Tanks</b>	<b>206</b>
1-2.1	Category 406 Special Design Requirements	206

1-2.2	Category 407 Special Design Requirements . . . . .	206
1-2.3	Category 412 Special Design Requirements . . . . .	206
<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Category 331 Cargo Tanks . . . . .</b>	<b>207</b>
1-3.1	Scope . . . . .	207
1-3.2	Definitions . . . . .	207
1-3.3	General Requirements . . . . .	207
1-3.4	Material . . . . .	207
1-3.5	Design Requirements . . . . .	208
1-3.6	Fabrication and Examination . . . . .	211
1-3.7	Safety Relief Devices . . . . .	212
1-3.8	ASME Nameplate Requirements . . . . .	212
1-3.9	Jurisdictional Markings and Certification . . . . .	212
1-3.10	Operation, Maintenance, and Inspections . . . . .	212
1-3.11	Additional Requirements . . . . .	213
<b>Article 4</b>	<b>Category 338, Vacuum Insulated Cargo Tanks for Transporting Refrigerated Fluids . . . . .</b>	<b>216</b>
1-4.1	Scope . . . . .	216
1-4.2	General Requirements . . . . .	217
1-4.3	Materials . . . . .	217
1-4.4	Design Requirements . . . . .	217
1-4.5	Fabrication and Examination . . . . .	220
1-4.6	Pressure Relief Devices . . . . .	220
1-4.7	ASME Nameplate Requirements . . . . .	221
1-4.8	Jurisdictional Markings . . . . .	221
1-4.9	Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection . . . . .	222
<b>Modal Appendix 2</b>	<b>Rail Tank Cars . . . . .</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>Modal Appendix 3</b>	<b>Portable Tanks . . . . .</b>	<b>224</b>
<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Portable Tanks for Transporting Refrigerated Fluids . . . . .</b>	<b>224</b>
3-1.1	Scope . . . . .	224
3-1.2	Definitions . . . . .	224
3-1.3	General Requirements . . . . .	224
3-1.4	Materials . . . . .	225
3-1.5	Design Requirements . . . . .	226
3-1.6	Fabrication and Examination . . . . .	228
3-1.7	Pressure Relief Devices . . . . .	228
3-1.8	ASME Nameplate Requirements . . . . .	229
3-1.9	Jurisdictional Markings . . . . .	229
3-1.10	Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection . . . . .	230
<b>Modal Appendix 4</b>	<b>Category 106A500-X, 106A800-X, 110A500-W, 110A600-W, 110A800-W, 110A1000-W, and 110A2000-W Ton Containers . . . . .</b>	<b>232</b>
<b>Article 1</b>	<b>. . . . .</b>	<b>232</b>
4-1.1	Scope . . . . .	232
4-1.2	Definitions . . . . .	232
4-1.3	Physical Scope . . . . .	232
4-1.4	General Requirements . . . . .	232
4-1.5	Materials . . . . .	233

4-1.6	Design Requirements . . . . .	233
4-1.7	Fabrication . . . . .	234
4-1.8	Pressure Relief Devices . . . . .	234
4-1.9	Testing . . . . .	235
4-1.10	ASME Nameplate Requirements . . . . .	235
4-1.11	Markings Required by the Competent Authority . . . . .	235
4-1.12	Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection . . . . .	235
<b>Mandatory Appendix I</b>	<b>Quality Control System</b> . . . . .	<b>236</b>
I-1	General . . . . .	236
I-2	Outline of Features to Be Included in the Written Description of the Quality Control System . . . . .	236
I-3	Authority and Responsibility . . . . .	236
I-4	Organization . . . . .	236
I-5	Drawings, Design Calculations, and Specification Control . . . . .	236
I-6	Material Control . . . . .	237
I-7	Examination and Inspection Program . . . . .	237
I-8	Correction of Nonconformities . . . . .	237
I-9	Welding . . . . .	237
I-10	Nondestructive Examination . . . . .	237
I-11	Heat Treatment . . . . .	237
I-12	Calibration of Measurement and Test Equipment . . . . .	237
I-13	Records Retention . . . . .	237
I-14	Certification . . . . .	237
I-15	Sample Forms . . . . .	237
I-16	Inspection of Vessels and Vessel Parts . . . . .	237
<b>Mandatory Appendix II</b>	<b>Special Commodities</b> . . . . .	<b>238</b>
<b>Mandatory Appendix III</b>	<b>Definitions for Transport Tanks</b> . . . . .	<b>239</b>
III-1	Introduction . . . . .	239
III-2	Definitions . . . . .	239
<b>Mandatory Appendix IV</b>	<b>Rounded Indication Charts, Acceptance Standards for Radiographically Determined Rounded Indications in Welds .</b>	<b>241</b>
IV-1	Applicability of These Standards . . . . .	241
IV-2	Terminology . . . . .	241
IV-3	Acceptance Criteria . . . . .	241
<b>Mandatory Appendix V</b>	<b>Methods for Magnetic Particle Examination (MT)</b> . . . . .	<b>249</b>
V-1	Scope . . . . .	249
V-2	Certification of Competency for Nondestructive Examination Personnel	249
V-3	Evaluation of Indications . . . . .	249
V-4	Acceptance Standards . . . . .	249
V-5	Repair Requirements . . . . .	249
<b>Mandatory Appendix VI</b>	<b>Methods for Liquid-Penetrant Examination (PT)</b> . . . . .	<b>251</b>
VI-1	Scope . . . . .	251
VI-2	Certification of Competency of Nondestructive Examination Personnel	251
VI-3	Evaluation of Indications . . . . .	251
VI-4	Acceptance Standards . . . . .	251
VI-5	Repair Requirements . . . . .	251

<b>Mandatory Appendix VIII</b>	<b>Low Pressure Tank Design</b> . . . . .	252
VIII-1	Scope . . . . .	252
VIII-2	Design Requirements . . . . .	252
VIII-3	Fabrication and Welding . . . . .	254
<b>Mandatory Appendix IX</b>	<b>Ultrasonic Examination of Welds (UT)</b> . . . . .	259
IX-1	Scope . . . . .	259
IX-2	Certification of Competence of Nondestructive Examiner . . . . .	259
IX-3	Acceptance/Rejection Standards . . . . .	259
IX-4	Report of Examination . . . . .	259
<b>Mandatory Appendix X</b>	<b>Examination of Steel Castings</b> . . . . .	260
X-1	Scope . . . . .	260
X-2	Examination Techniques . . . . .	260
X-3	Examination Requirements . . . . .	260
X-4	Repairs . . . . .	261
X-5	Identification and Marking . . . . .	262
<b>Mandatory Appendix XI</b>	<b>Adhesive Attachment of Nameplates</b> . . . . .	263
XI-1	Scope . . . . .	263
XI-2	Nameplate Application Procedure Qualification . . . . .	263
<b>Mandatory Appendix XII</b>	<b>Standard Units for Use in Equations</b> . . . . .	264
<b>Mandatory Appendix XIII</b>	<b>Reference Material and Equivalent Thickness</b> . . . . .	265
XIII-1	Introduction . . . . .	265
XIII-2	Method A . . . . .	265
XIII-3	Method B, Equivalent Thickness . . . . .	266
<b>Mandatory Appendix XIV</b>	<b>Hot Pressure Welded Joint for Head-To-Shell Welds of Ton Containers</b> . . . . .	267
XIV-1	General . . . . .	267
XIV-2	Design . . . . .	267
XIV-3	Materials . . . . .	267
XIV-4	Fabrication . . . . .	267
XIV-5	Essential Variables for Procedure Qualification . . . . .	267
XIV-6	Procedure Qualification Testing . . . . .	267
XIV-7	Welding Operator Qualification . . . . .	268
<b>Mandatory Appendix XV</b>	<b>Rules for Mass Production of Pressure Vessels</b> . . . . .	269
XV-1	Introduction . . . . .	269
XV-2	Scope . . . . .	269
XV-3	General . . . . .	269
XV-4	Quality Control Procedures . . . . .	269
XV-5	Data Reports . . . . .	270
XV-6	Pneumatic Testing . . . . .	270
XV-7	Hydrostatic Testing . . . . .	271
<b>Mandatory Appendix XVI</b>	<b>Local Thin Areas in Cylindrical Shells and in Spherical Segments of Shells</b> . . . . .	272
XVI-1	Scope . . . . .	272
XVI-2	General Requirements . . . . .	272
XVI-3	Nomenclature . . . . .	272
XVI-4	Single Local Thin Areas in Cylindrical Shells . . . . .	272

XVI-5	Multiple Local Thin Areas in Cylindrical Shells . . . . .	272
XVI-6	Single Local Thin Areas in Spherical Segments of Shells . . . . .	273
XVI-7	Multiple Local Thin Areas in Spherical Segments of Shells . . . . .	273
XVI-8	Data Reports . . . . .	273
<b>Mandatory Appendix XVII</b>	<b>Cold-Stretching of Austenitic Stainless Steel Pressure Vessels . . .</b>	<b>276</b>
XVII-1	Scope . . . . .	276
XVII-2	General Requirements . . . . .	276
XVII-3	Nomenclature . . . . .	276
XVII-4	Materials and Allowable Design Stress . . . . .	276
XVII-5	Design . . . . .	276
XVII-6	Fabrication Process . . . . .	277
XVII-7	Stamping and Certification . . . . .	278
<b>Mandatory Appendix XVIII</b>	<b>Establishing Governing Code Editions, Addenda, and Cases for</b>	
	<b>Transport Tanks . . . . .</b>	<b>279</b>
XVIII-1	General . . . . .	279
XVIII-2	Construction . . . . .	279
XVIII-3	Materials . . . . .	279
<b>Mandatory Appendix XX</b>	<b>Rules for Bolted Flange Connections With Ring Type Gaskets . . .</b>	<b>280</b>
XX-1	Scope . . . . .	280
XX-2	Materials . . . . .	280
XX-3	Notation . . . . .	281
XX-4	Circular Flange Types . . . . .	282
XX-5	Bolt Loads . . . . .	283
XX-6	Flange Moments . . . . .	287
XX-7	Calculation of Flange Stresses . . . . .	291
XX-8	Allowable Flange Design Stresses . . . . .	298
XX-9	Split Loose Flanges . . . . .	298
XX-10	Noncircular Shaped Flanges With Circular Bore . . . . .	299
XX-11	Flanges Subject to External Pressures . . . . .	299
XX-12	Flanges With Nut-Stops . . . . .	299
XX-13	Reverse Flanges . . . . .	299
XX-14	Flange Rigidity . . . . .	301
XX-15	Qualification of Assembly Procedures and Assemblers . . . . .	302
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix A</b>	<b>Suggested Good Practice Regarding Piping Reactions and Design of</b>	
	<b>Supports and Attachments . . . . .</b>	<b>303</b>
A-1	. . . . .	303
A-2	. . . . .	303
A-3	. . . . .	303
A-4	. . . . .	303
A-5	. . . . .	303
A-6	. . . . .	304
A-7	. . . . .	304
A-8	. . . . .	304
A-9	References . . . . .	304
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix B</b>	<b>Suggested Good Practice Regarding Internal Structures . . . . .</b>	<b>305</b>
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix C</b>	<b>Guide for Preparing Manufacturer's Data Reports . . . . .</b>	<b>306</b>

C-1	Introduction . . . . .	306
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix D</b>	<b>Guide to Information Appearing on Certificate of Authorization . . . . .</b>	<b>319</b>
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix E</b>	<b>Recommended Practices for Vacuum Insulated Cargo Tanks and Portable Tanks for Refrigerated Fluids . . . . .</b>	<b>321</b>
E-1	Introduction . . . . .	321
E-2	Design . . . . .	321
E-3	Insulating Jackets . . . . .	322
E-4	Insulation and Holding Times . . . . .	323
E-5	Filling and Discharge Openings . . . . .	326
E-6	Piping, Valves, and Fittings . . . . .	326
E-7	Outage (Ullage) . . . . .	327
E-8	Supports, Framework, Lifting, and Tie-Down Attachments for Portable Tanks . . . . .	327
E-9	Support, Anchoring, and Collision Protection for Cargo Tanks . . . . .	328
E-10	Pressure Testing . . . . .	328
E-11	Cleanliness . . . . .	329
E-12	Hydrogen Environment Embrittlement of Cold-Worked Stainless Steels at Low Temperatures . . . . .	329
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix F</b>	<b>Recommended Practices for Noncryogenic Portable Tanks . . . . .</b>	<b>330</b>
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix G</b>	<b>Guidance for the Use of U.S. Customary and SI Units in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code . . . . .</b>	<b>331</b>
G-1	Use of Units in Equations . . . . .	331
G-2	Guidelines Used to Develop SI Equivalents . . . . .	331
G-3	Soft Conversion Factors . . . . .	333
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix H</b>	<b>Activities and Responsibilities of Section XLI Users, ASME, and the Competent Authorities for Cargo Tanks . . . . .</b>	<b>334</b>
H-1	Scope and Introduction . . . . .	334
H-2	Definitions . . . . .	334
H-3	Recommended Cargo Tank Motor Vehicle Design Procedures . . . . .	334
H-4	Support Structure and Defined Incident Protection . . . . .	336
H-5	Marking of Cargo Tanks and Cargo Tank Motor Vehicles . . . . .	337
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix J</b>	<b>Flowcharts Illustrating Toughness Testing Requirements and Exemptions From Toughness Testing by the Rules of TM-250 . . . . .</b>	<b>339</b>
J-1	TM-250 Toughness Test Requirements for High Alloy Vessels . . . . .	339
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix K</b>	<b>Preheating . . . . .</b>	<b>345</b>
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix L</b>	<b>Quality Control System Guidelines . . . . .</b>	<b>347</b>
L-1	General . . . . .	347
L-2	Scope . . . . .	347
L-3	Acronyms/Glossary of Abbreviations . . . . .	347
L-4	Statement of Authority . . . . .	347
L-5	Organization Chart . . . . .	347
L-6	Manual Control . . . . .	347
L-7	Drawing and Design Control . . . . .	347
L-8	Manufacture . . . . .	348
L-9	Assembly . . . . .	348
L-10	Modification . . . . .	348

L-11	Material Control . . . . .	349
L-12	Inspection and Testing — Examination . . . . .	349
L-13	Test and Inspection Marking . . . . .	349
L-14	Nonconformities — Corrective Action . . . . .	349
L-15	Welding Control . . . . .	349
L-16	Calibration . . . . .	349
L-17	Mobile Units . . . . .	349
L-18	Records Retention . . . . .	349
L-19	Exhibits . . . . .	349
L-20	Quality Audits . . . . .	349
L-21	Registration — Facilities and Personnel . . . . .	350
L-22	Nondestructive Examination . . . . .	350
L-23	Heat Treatment . . . . .	350
L-24	Certification . . . . .	350
L-25	Inspection of Vessels and Parts . . . . .	350
L-26	Inspection of Pressure Relief Valves . . . . .	350
<b>Nonmandatory Appendix N</b>	<b>Guide for the Design and Operation of Quick-Actuating and Quick-Opening Closures . . . . .</b>	<b>351</b>
N-1	Introduction . . . . .	351
N-2	Responsibilities . . . . .	351
N-3	Design . . . . .	351
N-4	Installation . . . . .	352
N-5	Maintenance . . . . .	352
N-6	Inspection . . . . .	352
N-7	Training . . . . .	352
N-8	Administrative Controls . . . . .	353
 <b>Figures</b>		
TM-210.2	Simple Beam Impact Test Specimens (Charpy-Type Test) . . . . .	38
TM-220.1	Charpy V-Notch Impact Test Requirements for Full-Size Specimens for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels, Having Specified Minimum Tensile Strength Less Than 655 MPa (95 ksi), Listed in Table TM-130.2-1 . . . . .	39
TM-220.2	Illustration of Lateral Expansion in a Broken Charpy V-Notch Specimen . . . . .	40
TM-240.1-1	Impact Test Exemption Curves . . . . .	43
TM-240.1-2	Some Typical Tank Details Showing the Governing Thicknesses as Defined in TM-240.1 . . . . .	47
TM-240.3-1	Reduction in Minimum Design Metal Temperature Without Impact Testing . . . . .	50
TM-240.3-2	Diagram of TM-240.1 Rules for Determining Lowest Minimum Design Metal Temperature (MDMT) Without Impact Testing . . . . .	51
TM-250.1	Weld Metal Delta Ferrite Content . . . . .	54
TD-310.1	Principal Dimensions of Typical Heads . . . . .	67
TD-400.1	Diagrammatic Representation of Variables for Design of Cylindrical Vessels Subjected to External Pressure . . . . .	70
TD-410.2-1	Various Arrangements of Stiffening Rings for Cylindrical Vessels Subjected to External Pressure . . . . .	73

TD-410.2-2	Minimum Arc of Shell Left Unsupported Because of Gap in Stiffening Ring of Cylindrical Shell Under External Pressure . . . . .	74
TD-420	Some Acceptable Methods of Attaching Stiffening Rings . . . . .	75
TD-440.4	Bending Stress Distribution in a Typical Transport Tank . . . . .	78
TD-500	Some Acceptable Types of Unstayed Flat Heads and Covers . . . . .	81
TD-610.3-1	Chart for Determining Value of $F$ , as Required in <a href="#">TD-610.3</a> . . . . .	86
TD-610.3-2	Nomenclature and Equations for Reinforced Openings . . . . .	87
TD-610.7	Openings for Radial Nozzles in Cylindrical Shells . . . . .	89
TD-620	Minimum Depth for Flange of Flued in Openings . . . . .	90
TD-630	Openings in Flat Heads and Covers . . . . .	92
TD-640	Some Representative Configurations Describing the Reinforcement Dimension, $t_e$ , and the Opening Dimension, $d$ . . . . .	93
TD-660	Examples of Multiple Openings . . . . .	97
TW-100.1	Fabricated Lap Joint Stub Ends for Fluids With United Nations Hazard Classifications Defined in <a href="#">TW-100.1(a)</a> . . . . .	102
TW-130.2	Butt Welding of Plates of Unequal Thickness . . . . .	103
TW-130.3	Illustration of Welded Joint Locations Typical of Categories A, B, C, and D Heads Attached to Shells (See <a href="#">Table TW-130.4</a> for Limitations) . . . . .	108
TW-130.5-1	Attachment of Pressure Parts to Flat Plates to Form a Corner Joint . . . . .	111
TW-130.5-2	Nozzle Necks Attached to Piping of Lesser Wall Thickness . . . . .	112
TW-130.5-3	Acceptable Welded Nozzle Attachment Readily Radiographed to Code Standards . . . . .	113
TW-130.7-1	Acceptable Full Penetration Welded Nozzle Attachments Radiographable With Difficulty and Generally Requiring Special Techniques Including Multiple Exposures to Take Care of Thickness Variations . . . . .	114
TW-140.2-1	Some Acceptable Types of Welded Nozzles and Other Connections to Shells, Heads, Etc. . . . .	118
TW-140.2-2	Some Acceptable Types of Small Fittings [See <a href="#">TW-140.2(f)(3)</a> for Limitations] . . . . .	123
TF-120.2-1	Example of Differences Between Maximum and Minimum Inside Diameters in Cylindrical, Conical, and Spherical Shells . . . . .	125
TF-120.2-2	Maximum Permissible Deviation From a Circular Form, $e$ , for Vessels Under External Pressure . . . . .	126
TS-100	Form of Stamping . . . . .	175
1-1.4(a)-1	Maximum Range for Tensile Strength Properties, for Categories 406, 407, and 412 Class 3 Tanks Where Allowable Tensile Strength Is the Determining Criterion for Allowable Tensile, and Compressive, Stresses, When Buckling ( <a href="#">Article TD-4</a> ) Is Not Controlling . . . . .	194
1-1.4(a)-2	Maximum Range for Tensile Strength Properties, for Categories 406, 407, and 412 Class 3 Tanks Where Yield Strength Is the Determining Criterion for Allowable Tensile or Compressive Stresses per <a href="#">TD-440</a> . . . . .	195
1-1.4	Loading Conditions . . . . .	196
IV-3-1	Aligned Rounded Indications . . . . .	243
IV-3-2	Groups of Aligned Rounded Indications . . . . .	244
IV-3-3	Charts for $t$ Equal to 3.2 mm to 6.4 mm ( $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to $\frac{1}{4}$ in.), Inclusive . . . . .	245
IV-3-4	Charts for $t$ Over 6.4 mm to 9.5 mm ( $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in.), Inclusive . . . . .	245
IV-3-5	Charts for $t$ Over 9.5 mm to 19 mm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ in. to $\frac{3}{4}$ in.), Inclusive . . . . .	246
IV-3-6	Charts for $t$ Over 19 mm to 50 mm ( $\frac{3}{4}$ in. to 2 in. ), Inclusive . . . . .	246

IV-3-7	Charts for $t$ Over 50 mm to 100 mm (2 in. to 4 in.), Inclusive . . . . .	247
IV-3-8	Charts for $t$ Over 100 mm (4 in.) . . . . .	248
VIII-2-1	Types of Tanks: Design Moments and Bending Stresses . . . . .	255
VIII-2-2	Bending Moments in Noncircular Shells . . . . .	256
VIII-2-3	Noncircular Cargo Tank Structural Properties . . . . .	257
VIII-2-4	Noncircular Tank . . . . .	258
XVI-3-1	Nomenclature . . . . .	274
XVI-6-1	Limits for Torispherical Head . . . . .	274
XVI-6-2	Limits for Ellipsoidal Head . . . . .	274
XVI-6-3	Limits for Hemispherical Head . . . . .	275
XX-4	Types of Flanges . . . . .	284
XX-7.1	Values of $T$ , $U$ , $Y$ , and $Z$ (Terms Involving $K$ ) . . . . .	292
XX-7.2	Values of $F$ (Integral Flange Factors) . . . . .	293
XX-7.3	Values of $V$ (Integral Flange Factors) . . . . .	294
XX-7.4	Values of $F_L$ (Loose Hub Flange Factors) . . . . .	295
XX-7.5	Values of $V_L$ (Loose Hub Flange Factors) . . . . .	295
XX-7.6	Values of $f$ (Hub Stress Correction Factor) . . . . .	296
XX-13.1	Reverse Flange . . . . .	300
XX-13.2	Loose Ring Type Reverse Flange . . . . .	301
D-1	Sample Certificate of Authorization . . . . .	320
J-1.2-1	Austenitic Stainless Steel Base Metal and HAZ Toughness Testing Requirements . . . . .	340
J-1.2-2	Welding Procedure Qualification With Toughness Testing Requirements for Austenitic Stainless Steel . . . . .	341
J-1.2-3	Welding Consumable Pre-Use Testing Requirements for Austenitic Stainless Steel . . . . .	342
J-1.2-4	Production Toughness Testing Requirements for Austenitic Stainless Steel . . . . .	343
J-1.2-5	Austenitic-Ferritic Duplex, Ferritic Chromium, and Martensitic Stainless Steel Toughness Testing Requirements . . . . .	344
 <b>Tables</b>		
TG-130	Product Standards Referenced by This Section . . . . .	3
TM-130.2-1	Carbon and Low Alloy Steels . . . . .	17
TM-130.2-2	High Alloy Steels . . . . .	20
TM-130.2-3	Aluminum and Aluminum Alloy Products . . . . .	27
TM-130.2-4	Copper and Copper Alloys . . . . .	28
TM-130.2-5	Nickel and Nickel Alloys . . . . .	29
TM-130.2-6	Ferritic Steels With Tensile Properties Enhanced by Heat Treatment . . . . .	31
TM-130.2-7	Titanium and Titanium Alloys . . . . .	32
TM-210.1	Impact Test Temperature Differential . . . . .	37
TM-220.2	Minimum Lateral Expansion Requirements . . . . .	40
TM-220.3	Charpy Impact Test Temperature Reduction Below Minimum Design Metal Temperature (MDMT) . . . . .	40
TM-240.1	Tabular Values for <a href="#">Figure TM-240.1-1</a> . . . . .	46
TD-310.2-1	Values for $M$ . . . . .	68

TD-310.2-2	Values for $K$ . . . . .	68
TD-310.2-3	Maximum Metal Temperature . . . . .	68
TD-310.3-1	Values of Spherical Radius Factor, $K_1$ , and Knuckle Radius, $r$ . . . . .	68
TD-430	Values of Spherical Radius Factor $K_o$ for Ellipsoidal Head With Pressure on Convex Side . . . . .	76
TD-610.1	Values of Spherical Radius Factor, $K_1$ . . . . .	86
TD-650	Nozzle Attachment Welds . . . . .	96
TD-670	Minimum Number of Pipe Threads for Connections . . . . .	98
TD-680	Nozzle Neck Thickness . . . . .	99
TW-130.4	Maximum Allowable Joint Efficiencies for Arc- and Gas-Welded Joints	105
TF-220.3	Maximum Offset Values . . . . .	130
TF-220.4	Thickness of Weld Reinforcement . . . . .	131
TF-710-1(a)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 1 . . . . .	145
TF-710-1(b)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 3 . . . . .	146
TF-710-1(c)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 9A . . . . .	147
TF-710-1(d)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 9B . . . . .	147
TF-710-1(e)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 10A . . . . .	148
TF-710-1(f)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 10B . . . . .	148
TF-710-1(g)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 10C . . . . .	149
TF-710-1(h)	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels — P-No. 10F . . . . .	149
TF-710-2	Alternative Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Carbon and Low Alloy Steels . . . . .	150
TF-720-1	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for High Alloy Steels — P-No. 6	151
TF-720-2	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for High Alloy Steels — P-No. 7	151
TF-720-3	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for High Alloy Steels — P-No. 8	151
TF-720-4	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for High Alloy Steels — P-No. 10H . . . . .	152
TF-720-5	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for High Alloy Steels — P-No. 10I	152
TF-720-6	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for High Alloy Steels — P-No. 10K . . . . .	152
TF-740	Postweld Heat Treatment Requirements for Ferritic Steels Enhanced by Heat Treatment . . . . .	153
TE-230.2	Thickness Above Which Full Radiographic Examination of Butt-Welded Joints Is Mandatory . . . . .	158
1-1.8	Minimum Emergency Vent Capacity (Interpolation Allowed) . . . . .	202
1-1.8M	Minimum Emergency Vent Capacity (Interpolation Allowed) . . . . .	203
1-1.9	Periodic Inspection and Test Frequencies . . . . .	204
1-4.1	Refrigerated Nontoxic Gases . . . . .	216
1-4.4-1	Design Load Factors for Normal Operations in Specified Transportation Modes . . . . .	218

1-4.4-2	Factors for Fatigue Analysis . . . . .	219
3-1.1	Refrigerated Nontoxic Gases . . . . .	225
3-1.5-1	Design Load Factors for Normal Operations in Specified Transportation Modes . . . . .	226
3-1.5-2	Factors for Fatigue Analysis in Specified Transportation Modes . . . . .	227
4-1.6.1-1	Minimum Thicknesses, Test Pressures, Start-to-Discharge or Burst Pressures, and Minimum Vapor-Tightness Pressures of Relief Devices . . . . .	233
IV-3	Acceptable Rounded Indications . . . . .	242
XII-1	Standard Units for Use in Equations . . . . .	264
XVII-4-1	Allowable Materials and Design Stress . . . . .	276
XX-4	Recommended Minimum Gasket Contact Widths for Sheet and Composite Gaskets . . . . .	287
XX-5.1	Gasket Materials and Contact Facings Gasket Factors $m$ for Operating Conditions and Minimum Design Seating Stress $y$ . . . . .	288
XX-5.2	Effective Gasket Width . . . . .	290
XX-6	Moment Arms for Flange Loads Under Operating Conditions . . . . .	291
XX-7.1	Flange Factors in Formula Form . . . . .	297
XX-14	Flange Rigidity Factors . . . . .	302
C-1	Instructions for the Preparation of Manufacturer's Data Reports . . . . .	307
E-3-1	Acceptance Levels for Surface Imperfections . . . . .	324
K-1	Preheating Temperatures . . . . .	346
 <b>Forms</b>		
T-1A	Manufacturer's Data Report for Class 1 Transport Tanks . . . . .	310
T-1B	Manufacturer's Data Report for Class 2 Transport Tanks . . . . .	311
T-1C	Manufacturer's Data Report for Class 3 Transport Tanks . . . . .	312
T-2A	Manufacturer's Partial Data Report for Class 1 Transport Tanks . . . . .	313
T-2B	Manufacturer's Partial Data Report for Class 2 Transport Tanks . . . . .	314
T-2C	Manufacturer's Partial Data Report for Class 3 Transport Tanks . . . . .	315
T-3A	Class 1 Transport Tank Manufacturer's Data Report Supplementary Sheet . . . . .	316
T-3B	Class 2 Transport Tank Manufacturer's Data Report Supplementary Sheet . . . . .	317
T-3C	Class 3 Transport Tank Manufacturer's Data Report Supplementary Sheet . . . . .	318
<b>Endnotes</b>	. . . . .	354

# 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 Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components
  - 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\*

(25)

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. The rules 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. The 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.

The 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 the Code. Requests for revisions, new rules, Code cases, or interpretations shall be addressed to the staff secretary in writing and shall give full particulars in order to receive consideration and action (see the Correspondence With the Committee page). 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 the Code, the singular shall be interpreted as the plural, and vice versa.

The words "shall," "should," and "may" are used in the Code 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.