

STP-PT-028

IMPACT TESTING EXEMPTION CURVES

FOR LOW TEMPERATURE OPERATION
OF PRESSURE PIPING



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Pressure Vessel Research Council

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	v
Abstract	vi
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 BACKGROUND	2
3 APPROACH	3
3.1 History and Concepts	3
4 NEW FRACTURE MECHANICS APPROACH TO REQUIRED TOUGHNESS.....	6
4.1 Description of FAD-Based Fracture Mechanics	6
4.2 Reference Flaw Size	6
4.3 Required Material Fracture Toughness	7
5 DERIVATION OF CHARPY V-NOTCH IMPACT TEST REQUIREMENTS	10
5.1 Required Fracture Toughness.....	10
5.2 Lower Shelf Vicinity CVN.....	10
5.3 Upper Shelf Region CVN.....	10
5.4 Transition Region CVN.....	11
5.5 Final CVN Requirement.....	11
5.6 Derivation of Impact Test Exemption Curves for Thin Piping	11
5.7 Derivation of Curves for Reduction in the MDMT Without Impact Testing.....	12
6 CONCLUSION.....	13
Figures.....	15
References	23
Acknowledgments	24
Abbreviations and Acronyms.....	25
Nomenclature	26

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 - UCS 60 Exemption Curves are Shown. Indicated Notes Define Covered Materials.....	15
Figure 2 - Representative Hyperbolic Tangent Fracture Toughness Curve	15
Figure 3 - Implied Dynamic Toughness Curves for Indicated Various Specified Minimum Yield Strength Values	16
Figure 4 - Calculated Exemption Curves Based on Documented Initial Fracture Mechanics Assumptions as Compared with Published Curves	16
Figure 5 - Dependence of Charpy Energy Needed Meet the Toughness Requirement of the Exemption Curve for Indicated Thicknesses as a Function of Loading Rates (Per Second) Shown in the Legend, Ranging from Impact to Static (1E+01/Sec) to Static (1E-05/Sec), for a Material with 38 KSI Specified Minimum Yield Strength.....	17
Figure 6 - The FAD Approach Schematic.....	17

Figure 7 - Modified Hyperbolic Tangent Equation to Provide Uniform Lower Shelf Energy. The Relative Temperature is with Respect to T_0	18
Figure 8 - Example of Charpy Toughness Requirement for As Welded Material for the Case that the Minimum is Set at 20 ft-lbs.....	18
Figure 9 - Pressure Vessel Exemption Curves Calculated for Section VIII, Division 2 for Parts not Subject to PWHT	19
Figure 10 - Exemption Curves for Type A Assigned Materials of Various Possible Yield Strengths	19
Figure 11 - Exemption Curves for Type B Assigned Materials of Various Possible Yield Strengths	20
Figure 12 - Exemption Curves for Type C Assigned Materials of Various Possible Yield Strengths	20
Figure 13 - Exemption Curves for Type D Assigned Materials of Various Possible Yield Strengths	21
Figure 14 - Exemption Curves for Type C Assigned Materials of Various Possible Yield Strengths Where PWHT has been Performed.....	21
Figure 15 - Temperature Reduction Plots for Various Indicated Yield Strengths.....	22
Figure 16 - Fracture Toughness Expectations Calculated from the Charpy Requirements in ASTM 333 for Steels for Low Temperature Service Using the Procedures Described Herein	22

FOREWORD

This document was developed under a research and development project which resulted from ASME Pressure Technology Codes & Standards (PTCS) committee requests to identify, prioritize and address technology gaps in current or new PTCS Codes, Standards and Guidelines. This project is one of several included for ASME fiscal year 2008 sponsorship which are intended to establish and maintain the technical relevance of ASME codes & standards products. The specific project related to this document is project 07-04 (B31#2), entitled, "Impact Testing Exemption Curves For Low Temperature Operation Of Pressure Piping."

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ABSTRACT

Extension of ASME exemption curves has been accomplished by consistent application of old and new ASME fracture mechanics concepts originally intended for pressure vessels. It is recognized that materials produced by modern means may be deserving of greater credit for toughness and reassignment to different traditional curves or even new curves may be in order. Where there is impact toughness data, the mean temperature in the transition region may be estimated and new exemption curves developed. Procedures described were used to adjust exemption curves for thickness where pipe wall is less than the normal Charpy specimen width.

1 INTRODUCTION

This study investigated the impact test exemption curves of ASME Section VIII, UCS-66, with the objective of extending them to thicknesses representative of piping components. Specifically, the purposes of the investigation included:

- Extension of the curves (particularly Curves for material groups A and B) to lower temperatures and to thicknesses less than 0.394 inches
- To understand the technical and historical origin of these curves
- To expand in a more systematic and complete way the several exceptions to these curves, namely UCS-66(d) and UG-20(f)
- Evaluation of data and history in light of modern steel production methods, which produce materials that are less prone to low temperature failures.