Approved ASME B20 Interpretations

The following official interpretations have been rendered by the B20 Standards Committee, and will be published within the next edition.

Disclaimer: Each interpretation applies to the edition and supplements listed for that inquiry. Many of the Rules on which the interpretations have been made have been revised in later editions or supplements. Where such revisions have been made, the interpretations may no longer be applicable to the revised requirement.

ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of these interpretations when or if additional information is available which might affect any interpretation.

Further, persons aggrieved by any interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME committee or subcommittee. ASME does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

Interpretation: 20-25

Subject: ASME B20.1-2012
Para. 6.21, Moving Vertical Reciprocating Conveyors

Date Issued: November 4, 2015
File: 15-2075

Question (1): Does Section 6.21 "Vertical-Reciprocating Conveyors" apply to relatively large, self-propelled material lifts that are part of a continuously moving (extremely/imperceptibly-slow rate of travel) vehicle assembly line?

Response (1): See definition of "conveyor, vertical reciprocating" in ASME B20.1:

conveyor, vertical reciprocating: a reciprocating power or gravity-actuated unit (not designed to carry passengers or an operator) that receives objects on a carrier and transmits these objects vertically between two or more levels.

ASME does not “approve,” “certify,” “rate,” or “endorse” any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

Question (2): Specifically, can a "vertical-reciprocating conveyor" be utilized to routinely transport people up and down per ASME B20.1?

Response (2): ASME B20.1 vertical-reciprocating conveyors do not allow for the transport of passengers or operators.