GENERAL INFORMATION

It has been agreed to publish interpretations issued by the B31 Committee concerning B31.3 as part of the update service to the Code. The interpretations have been assigned numbers in chronological order. Each interpretation applies to the Edition stated in the interpretation, or if none is stated, to the Edition in effect on the date of issuance of the interpretation. Subsequent revisions to the Code may have superseded the reply.

These replies are taken verbatim from the original letters, except for a few typographical and editorial corrections made for the purpose of improved clarity. In some instances, a review of the interpretation revealed a need for corrections of a technical nature. In these cases, a revised reply bearing the original interpretation number with the suffix R is presented. In the case where an interpretation is corrected by errata, the original interpretation number with the suffix E is used.

ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of these interpretations when or if additional information is available which the inquirer believes might affect the interpretation. Further, persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME committee or subcommittee. As stated in the Statement of Policy in the Code documents, ASME does not “approve,” “certify,” “rate,” or “endorse” any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

For detailed instructions on preparation of technical inquiries to the B31 Committee, refer to Appendix Z.

NUMERICAL AND SUBJECT INDEXES

Numerical and Subject Indexes have been prepared to assist the user in locating interpretations by location or by subject matter in the Code. They cover interpretations issued from Volume 1 up to and including the present volume, and will be updated with each volume.
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Interpretation 22-03R

Subject: Table 323.2.2, Items A-4(a) and A-4(b), and Paras. 323.2.2(f)(1) and (2), Use of Austenitic Stainless Steel Materials at Low Temperatures (ASME B31.3-2006)

Date Issued: April 14, 2014

File: 08-477

Question: Does the code permit austenitic stainless steel materials listed in Table A-1 to be used to the minimum temperatures listed regardless if they are seamless or welded product form?

Reply: Yes, provided the requirements of Table 323.2.2, items A-4(a) and A-4(b), and applicable Notes in Table A-1 are followed.

Interpretation 22-35R

Subject: Para. 328.5.1(c), Tack Welding Welder Performance Qualifications (B31.3-2008)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015

File: 09-1003

Question (1): Does ASME B31.3, para. 328.5.1(c) require that tack welds, whether they are to be incorporated into the final weld or be removed, be made by a qualified welder?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Does ASME B31.3, para. 328.5.1(c) require that tack welds be made to a qualified WPS for that joint?

Reply (2): Yes; see para. 328.5.1(a).

Question (3): Does ASME B31.3, para. 328.5.1(c) provide rules for the qualification of welders or welding operators depositing tack welds?

Reply (3): No. See para. 328.2.
Interpretation 24-21R

Subject: Paras. 344.2 and 342.1, Visual Examination (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015

File: 13-710

Question (1): Does ASME B31.3-2012 have any qualification requirements for visual examiners performing Code-required examinations?
Reply (1): Yes. See paras. 342.1 and 344.2.

Question (2): Does ASME B31.3-2012 require individuals to be qualified for visual examination as described in paras. 342.1 and 344.2 when performing visual examinations of weld joints to meet the examination requirements of para. 341.4.1(a) and the engineering design?
Reply (2): Yes.

Question (3): Does ASME B31.3-2012 require individuals to be qualified for visual examination as described in paras. 342.1 and 344.2 when performing visual examinations of weld joints beyond the examination requirements of para. 341.4.1(a) and the engineering design?
Reply (3): No.

Question (4): Does ASME B31.3-2012 require individuals that check the fit and alignment of weld joints during fabrication to be qualified for visual examination as described in paras. 342.1 and 344.2?
Reply (4): No.

Interpretation 25-01

Subject: Para. 335.1(c), Alignment of Assembly and Erection (B31.3-1999)

Date Issued: April 14, 2014

File: 13-1677

Question (1): Does the Code specify who is responsible for meeting the flange alignment requirements of ASME B31.3-1999, para. 335.1(c)?
Reply (1): No.

Question (2): May the flange alignment requirements of ASME B31.3-1999, para. 335.1(c) be verified by measuring the parallelism between flanges?
Reply (2): The Code does not address this issue.
Interpretation 25-02

Subject: Para. 302.3.5(c), Stress Due to Sustained Loads (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-44

Question (1): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, does the phrase “all possible support scenarios” in para. S302.6.2 include the effects of liftoff due to the effects of temperature?
   Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, are the requirements of para. 302.3.5(c) satisfied by compliance with ASME B31.3-2012, Appendix P, para. P302.3.5?
   Reply (2): No, Appendix P does not provide an alternative to 302.3.5(c). See para. P300(c).

Interpretation 25-03

Subject: Para. 304.7.2, Pressure Design of Other Components, Unlisted Components (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-257

Question (1): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, do branch outlet fittings in accordance with MSS SP-97 require qualification in accordance with para. 304.7.2?
   Reply (1): No; see para. 303.

Question (2): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, do tees and reducing tees in accordance with ASME B16.9 require qualification in accordance with para. 304.7.2?
   Reply (2): No; see para. 303.

Interpretation 25-04

Subject: Para. 345.5.5, Pneumatic Leak Test Procedure (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-269

Question (1): Does ASME B31.3-2012, para. 345.5.5 specify the method of examination for leakage under the provisions of para. 345.2.2(a)?
   Reply (1): No.

Question (2): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, para. 345.5.5, are leak detection fluids, noble gas leak detection methods, pressure gauge measurements, and other methods prohibited during the examination for leakage during a pneumatic leak test?
   Reply (2): No.

Question (3): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, are examination personnel qualifications in para. 342 and examination procedures in para. 343 required for para. 345.5.5?
   Reply (3): No. See Interpretation 24-07.
Interpretation 25-05

Subject: Para. 341.3.4(f), Progressive Sampling for Examination (B31.3-2010)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-355

Question: A weld in an examination lot is found defective, is replaced or repaired, and is again found defective. Per para. 341.3.4(f) of ASME B31.3-2010, does the second failure of this weld require further progressive examinations?

Reply: No.

Interpretation 25-06

Subject: Para. 333.1.2, Soldering Qualification (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-433

Question: Does ASME B31.3-2012 include qualification criteria for solderers?

Reply: No.

Interpretation 25-07

Subject: Para. 345.5, Pneumatic Leak Test (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-435

Question: In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, para. 345.5.4, for piping connected with no isolation capability and different design pressures, does the Code permit the pneumatic test pressure to be less than 1.1 times the highest design pressure or more than 1.33 times the lowest design pressure?

Reply: No.

Interpretation 25-08

Subject: Para. 304.7.2, Unlisted Components (B31.3-2006 Through B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-482

Question: In accordance with ASME B31.3-2006 through ASME B31.3-2012, para. 304.7.2(a), does the Code limit the source of the extensive, successful service experience?

Reply: No.
Interpretation 25-09

Subject: Chapters V and VI (B31.3-1996 Through B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 14, 2014
File: 14-483

Question: Do ASME B31.3-1996 through B31.3-2012 require that welding-related requirements presented in B31.3 Chapters V and VI, including weld acceptance criteria, welding procedures, and welding and nondestructive examination personnel certifications, be met in the manufacture of unlisted components meeting the requirements of para. 302.2.3?

Reply: No.

Interpretation 25-10

Subject: Para. K331.1.1(b), Minimum Difference Between Tempering and PWHT Temperature (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-690

Question: In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, para. K331.1.1, for welds other than longitudinal in P-No. 1 quenched and tempered materials where heat treatment is required by the engineering design, shall the heat treatment requirements specified in Table 331.1.1 apply?

Reply: Yes, unless the requirements in para. K331.1.1(b) apply or the provisions of para. 331.2.2 are met.

Interpretation 25-11

Subject: Paras. 304.3, 304.7.2, and 300.2, Branch Connections, Unlisted Components, and Definitions (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-1171

Question: Does ASME B31.3-2012 permit the use of a branch connection fitting qualified in accordance with para. 304.7.2?

Reply: Yes, provided the other applicable requirements of the Code are met.
Interpretation 25-12

Subject: Fig. 323.2.2B, General Notes, Allowable Stress, $S$, at Temperature Lower Than Impact Test Temperature/Minimum Temperature (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1182

Question (1): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, Fig. 323.2.2B, General Note (a)(1), is $S$ the allowable stress listed in the column "Min. Temp. to 100" of Table A-1?

Reply (1): Yes. Also see para. 323.2.2(e).

Question (2): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, Fig. 323.2.2B, General Note (a)(2), is the component pressure rating used to determine the stress ratio the component pressure rating at the temperature for the condition under consideration?

Reply (2): Yes.

Interpretation 25-13

Subject: Para. 341.3.3, Defective Components and Workmanship (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1259, 14-1266

Question: If a weld that is part of an examination lot is repaired or replaced by the same or a different welder, is the repair or replacement weld subject to progressive sampling?

Reply: No. See para. 341.3.3 and Interpretation 16-01.

Interpretation 25-14

Subject: Para. 341.3.4, Progressive Sampling for Examination (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1287

Question: When both radiography and ultrasonic examination are acceptable methods in accordance with the engineering design, and a weld defect is located, may progressive sampling of welds per para. 341.3.4(a) be performed by either of these examination methods?

Reply: Yes.

Interpretation 25-15

Subject: Paras. 304.3, 304.7.2, and 300.2, Branch Connections, Unlisted Components, and Definitions (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1312

Question: Does ASME B31.3-2012 permit the use of a branch connection using a branch connection fitting conforming to the referenced edition of MSS SP-97?

Reply: Yes, provided the other applicable requirements of the Code are met.
**Interpretation 25-16**

Subject: Para. X302.2.3, Leak Test Under Pneumatic Condition on Appendix X Expansion Joints (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1372

Question: If a pneumatic leak test is performed in accordance with the requirements of para. X302.2.3, does the Code permit the use of a test pressure value of 1.1 times the design pressure in accordance with the rules of para. 345.5.4?

Reply: No.

**Interpretation 25-17**

Subject: Paras. 341.4.1(b), 345.2.3(c), and 345.2.6, and Figs. 328.5.4D and 328.5.4E, Branch Attachment Welds and Radiography (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1383

Question (1): Are welds attaching contour outlet fittings to the run pipe as shown in Fig. 328.5.4E, sketch (1) in a Normal Fluid Service piping system required to be included in the random radiographic or ultrasonic examinations of para. 341.4.1(b)?

Reply (1): No.

Question (2): May branch connection welds that cannot be fully examined by radiography or ultrasonic examination, such as those shown in Fig. 328.5.4D, be considered closure welds in accordance with para. 345.2.3(c)?

Reply (2): No.

Question (3): May welds connecting contour outlet fittings to a run pipe, like those shown in Fig. 328.5.4E, sketch (1), be considered closure welds per para. 345.2.3(c)?

Reply (3): Yes.

Question (4): May a socket weld that cannot be fully examined by radiography or ultrasonic examination be considered a closure weld in accordance with para. 345.2.3(c)?

Reply (4): No.

Question (5): May welds connecting a contour outlet fitting to the run pipe and to the branch pipe, as shown in Fig. 328.5.4E, sketch (1), both be considered closure welds per para. 345.2.3(c)?

Reply (5): Yes; see Interpretation 22-16.
Interpretation 25-18


Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1401

Question (1): Are the leak tests required in para. 345.1 independent from the examinations required in para. 341.4.1?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): In accordance with para. 345.1, are the applicable examinations required by para. 341 to be performed prior to leak testing?

Reply (2): Yes.

Interpretation 25-19

Subject: Para. 304.7.2, Clarification of Pressure Design Using Proof Testing (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1466

Question: Does the Code permit substantiation of the pressure design of an unlisted component using a proof test in accordance with para. 304.7.2(c) when the component will be used at temperatures where time-dependent properties govern allowable stress values?

Reply: Yes.
Interpretation 25-20

Subject: Fig. 328.5.4D, Acceptable Details for Branch Attachment Welds (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-1470

Question (1): Does ASME B31.3 prohibit branch connections like those shown in Fig. 328.5.4D to be installed through a circumferential butt weld?
Reply (1): No.

Question (2): If branch connections like that shown in Fig. 328.5.4D are installed through a circumferential butt weld, must the Code-required leak test be performed prior to installation of any required ring or saddle reinforcement?
Reply (2): No, provided that all joints and connections are examined for leaks during the leak test, as required in para. 345.2.2(a).

Question (3): If branch connections like those shown in Fig. 328.5.4D are installed through a circumferential butt weld that requires examination, does the portion of the weld that will be covered by the reinforcement ring or saddle require examination of the weld prior to installation of the ring or saddle?
Reply (3): Yes.

Question (4): Does ASME B31.3 allow branch connections like those shown in Fig. 328.5.4D to be installed through a longitudinal butt weld in pipe?
Reply (4): Yes.

Question (5): Does ASME B31.3 allow branch connections like those shown in Fig. 328.5.4D to be installed through the weld intersection of a longitudinal butt weld in pipe and a circumferential butt weld?
Reply (5): Yes.

Question (6): Does ASME B31.3 provide any rules, restrictions, or limits for the distance between circumferential butt welds in a piping assembly?
Reply (6): No.

Interpretation 25-21

Subject: Para. 341.3.4, Progressive Sampling for Examination (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-1482

Question: Does para. 341.3.4(e) require that all welds represented by the progressive sampling in para. 341.3.4(e) be evaluated in accordance with para. 341.3.4(e)(1) or (e)(2)?
Reply: Yes.
Interpretation 25-22

Subject: Table 323.3.1, Column B, Simulation Heat Treatment for Low Temperature Carbon Steel Piping Material (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1553

Question (1): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, Table 323.3.1, is item B-3 applicable to manufacturers?

Reply (1): No.

Question (2): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, is it mandatory to procure Low Temperature Carbon Steel (LTCS) fittings of thickness greater than 20 mm to be tested with simulation heat treatment?

Reply (2): The Code does not address this issue.

Interpretation 25-23

Subject: Paras. 345.1, 345.2.3, and 345.9, Leak Test (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1681

Question (1): When the owner considers hydrostatic and pneumatic leak testing impracticable, does para. 345.1(c) allow use of the alternative leak test per para. 345.9, provided at least one condition in each of paras. 345.1(c)(1) and (c)(2) are met?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Does para. 345.1 require leak testing of each piping system, except for specific joints where the provisions of para. 345.2.3 are applicable?

Reply (2): Yes; see Interpretation 22-16.

Interpretation 25-24

Subject: Paras. 345.2.3(c) and K345.2.3(c), Closure Welds (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 25, 2014

File: 14-1682

Question (1): May a through-wall or partial weld removal and repair of a weld that has previously passed the required leak test be examined in accordance with the requirements of para. 345.2.3(c)?

Reply (1): No; however, see para. 300(c)(3).

Question (2): May a through-wall or partial weld removal and repair of a weld in a High Pressure Fluid Service system meeting Chapter IX, which has previously passed the required leak test, be examined in accordance with the requirements of para. K345.2.3(c)?

Reply (2): No; however, see para. 300(c)(3).
Interpretation 25-25

Subject: Para. 323.4.3, Cladding and Lining Materials (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-1683

   Question (1): Shall the stress caused by differential thermal expansion between the metallic liner and base metal be considered in the piping design?
   Reply (1): Yes; see para. 301.7.3.

   Question (2): Is the residual base metal hoop stress caused by liner mechanical expansion during fabrication required to be included in the base metal pipe pressure design wall thickness calculations?
   Reply (2): No.

   Question (3): Does the Code prescribe specific methodology for flexibility analyses of lined pipe?
   Reply (3): No.

Interpretation 25-26

Subject: Paras. 328.2 and U341.4.1, Welding Radiography (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-1790

   Question (1): May a welding operator be qualified by radiography of his/her initial production welding?
   Reply (1): Yes; see para. 328.2.

   Question (2): May the production welding be examined by weld coupon examination in lieu of radiography?
   Reply (2): Yes, in accordance with para. U341.4.1.

   Question (3): May weld coupon examination be used for welding operator’s performance qualification in lieu of radiography?
   Reply (3): No.
Interpretation 25-27

Subject: Chapter VI (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: September 25, 2014
File: 14-1817

Question: Does ASME B31.3-2012 provide an acceptance criterion for the amount of base material deformation adjacent to butt welds, commonly referred to as “hoop shrinkage,” shown in the following diagram?

**Fig. 25-27 Schematic Showing Shrinkage in Buttwelded Pipe**

![Diagram showing shrinkage in buttwelded pipe](image)


Reply: No.

Interpretation 25-28

Subject: Para. 345.9, Alternative Leak Test (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 28, 2015
File: 14-1907

Question: When the owner elects to apply alternative leak-testing provisions given in para. 345.9 as permitted by para. 345.1(c), does the Code require that all of the requirements described in para. 345.9 be followed?

Reply: Yes.
Interpretation 25-29

Subject: Table 323.3.1, Welding Procedures With Impact Tests (B31.3-2012)
Date Issued: April 28, 2015
File: 15-586

Question: The requirements for qualification of a welding procedure with impact tests given in Table 323.3.1 are different from the requirements of ASME Section IX, QW-403.6. Moreover, QG-100(b) of Section IX states that the rules of the construction code take precedence over the rules of Section IX. Does the Code require Table 323.3.1 be applied when qualifying a welding procedure with impact tests?

Reply: Yes.

Interpretation 25-30

Subject: Paras. 331.1.3(a)(2) and (c), Preheat and PWHT Governing Thickness (B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: April 28, 2015
File: 15-616

Question (1): In para. 331.1.3(a)(2), does the phrase “the thickness of the materials being joined at the weld” mean the nominal thickness of the materials being joined at the weld?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): In para. 331.1.3(a)(2), does the phrase “the thickness of the pressure-containing material” mean the nominal thickness of the pressure-containing material?

Reply (2): Yes.

Question (3): In para. 331.1.3(c), does the phrase “the thicker of the materials being joined at the weld” mean the nominal thickness at the weld of the thicker of the materials being joined?

Reply (3): Yes.

Interpretation 25-31

Subject: Para. 304.3.4(d)(4), Limitations on Radius (B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: April 28, 2015
File: 15-788

Question: Does para. 304.3.4(d)(4) apply only to extruded outlets?

Reply: Yes; see para. 304.3.1(a).
Interpretation 25-32

Subject: Par. 323.2.2(d), (d)(1), and (d)(2), and Fig. 323.2.2B, Impact Tested Material (B31.3-2008 Through B31.3-2014)

Date Issued: April 28, 2015
File: 15-810

Question (1): For a carbon steel material, when applying the rules of paras. 323.2.2(d) and (d)(2) in B31.3-2014, if the design metal temperature is colder than −55°F but at or warmer than −155°F, and the stress ratio as defined in Fig. 323.2.2B does not exceed 0.3, does the Code require impact tested material if the piping under question
(a) may experience shock loading or thermal bowing?
(b) contains welds between dissimilar materials?

Reply (1):
(a) Yes.
(b) Yes.

Question (2): For a carbon steel material, when applying the rules of paras. 323.2.2(d) and (d)(1) in B31.3-2008 through B31.3-2012, if the design metal temperature is -55°F or warmer, and the stress ratio as defined in Fig. 323.2.2B is less than 1.0, is the designer required to consider shock loading or thermal bowing and/or welds between dissimilar materials, beyond what is required in paras. 301.4 through 301.11 of the Code, when using Fig. 323.2.2B?

Reply (2): No; however, see para. 300(c)(5).

Interpretation 25-33

Subject: Para. K304.7.3, Components With Nonmetallic Parts (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015
File: 15-1690

Question (1): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, para. K304.7.3, is a valve considered to be a piping component?

Reply (1): Yes; see para. 300.2.

Question (2): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, para. K304.7.3, may O-rings and lip seals acting as gaskets or packing be used in valves in High Pressure Fluid Service?

Reply (2): Yes.

Question (3): In accordance with ASME B31.3-2012, para. K304.7.3, may nonmetallic seats be used in valves in High Pressure Fluid Service?

Reply (3): No.

Interpretation 25-34

Subject: Para. 345.2.3(c), Special Provisions for Testing, Closure Welds (B31.3-2014)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015
File: 15-1723

Question: Does ASME B31.3-2014, para. 345.2.3(c) permit the use of a socket weld that cannot be 100% examined in accordance with paras. 344.5 or 344.6 as a closure weld?

Reply: No.
**Interpretation 25-35**

Subject: Table K326.1 and Para. K323.3, HP Valve Product Codes (B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: September 23, 2015
File: 15-1804

Question: In accordance with ASME B31.3-2014, may API Specification 6A piping components be used in Chapter IX High Pressure Fluid Service?

Reply: No, unless the requirements of para. K302.2.3 are met.

**Interpretation 25-36**

Subject: Table 308.2.1, Flange Thickness (B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: September 23, 2015
File: 15-1885

Question: May slip-on flanges be used as lapped flanges within the size ranges specified in Table 308.2.1 when the thickness at the bolt circle satisfies the minimum requirements for slip-on flanges, but does not meet the minimum requirements for lapped flanges?

Reply: No, unless pressure design is qualified per para. 304.5.1.

**Interpretation 25-37**

Subject: Para. 323.3 and Table 323.3.1, Item A-4, Impact Testing Requirements for Metals (B31.3-2012 and B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: September 23, 2015

Question (1): For welds made by the fabricator, does ASME B31.3-2014, Table 323.3.1, item 4 require the heat treatment of test pieces to be the same as for production welds?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): For welds made by the component manufacturer, does ASME B31.3-2014, Table 323.3.1, item 4 require the heat treatment of test pieces to be the same as for production welds?

Reply (2): Yes.

Question (3): Does ASME B31.3-2014, Table 323.3.1, item 4 require that separate test pieces be qualified individually using base materials in the various heat treated conditions (e.g., as-rolled, normalized, quenched and tempered, etc.)?

Reply (3): No.
Interpretation 25-38

Subject: Para. 323.3.5(d), Retest for Impact Test (B31.3-2012)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015

File: 15-1997

Question: In accordance with ASME B31.3-2014, para. 323.3.5(d)(1), where the average absorbed energy value in Charpy V-notch impact test results exceeds the minimum required value for a single specimen, two individual values are below the required average value, and one of the individual values is below the minimum required value for a single specimen, is a retest permitted?

Reply: Yes.

Interpretation 25-39

Subject: Paras. 302.3.2(f), 304.7.2, and 323.1.2, Additive Manufacturing Materials (B31.3-2014)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015

File: 15-2052

Question: Does ASME B31.3 permit the use of an unlisted piping component manufactured using the additive manufacturing process?

Reply: Yes, provided it meets all of the requirements of the Code, including the material being qualified in accordance with the requirements of para. 323.1.2, and the component meeting the requirements of paras. 326.1.2 and 326.2.2.

Interpretation 25-40

Subject: Paras. 302.3.2(f), 304.7.2, and 323.1.2, Additive Manufacturing (B31.3-2014)

Date Issued: September 23, 2015

File: 15-2053

Question (1): Does ASME B31.3 permit the use of an unlisted piping component manufactured using the additive manufacturing process?

Reply (1): Yes, provided it meets all of the requirements of the Code, including the material being qualified in accordance with the requirements of para. 323.1.2, and the component meeting the requirements of paras. 326.1.2 and 326.2.2.

Question (2): Does ASME B31.3 provide different requirements for piping that is inside a secondary containment?

Reply (2): No.

Question (3): According to ASME B31.3, may piping that is inside a secondary containment be considered to be safeguarded?

Reply (3): Yes. See Appendix G.
Interpretation 25-41

Subject: Para. 306.1, Pipe Fittings (B31.3-1996 Through B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: September 23, 2015
File: 15-2061

Question (1): Does the Code address the pressure boundary portions of an instrument that is inserted through a threaded, welded, or flanged joint?
   Reply (1): No.

Question (2): Does the Code address the pressure boundary portions of a thermowell that is inserted through a threaded, welded, or flanged joint?
   Reply (2): Yes; see para. 306.6.

Interpretation 25-42

Subject: Table 302.3.5, Para. 302.2.4, and Para. 302.3.5(e), Pressure and Temperature Conditions (B31.3-1996 Through B31.3-2014)
Date Issued: September 23, 2015
File: 15-2137

Question (1): Are the values to be determined for $W$ to be based on anticipated coincident operating pressure and temperature conditions?
   Reply (1): Yes; see Table 302.3.5, General Note (c).

Question (2): May a value of $W = 1.0$ be used for the assessment of pressure and temperature conditions that exceed the anticipated long-term operating conditions?
   Reply (2): Yes, provided the requirements of paras. 302.2.4 and 302.3.5(e) are satisfied.