

BPV Committee on Pressure Vessels

Supplement to Procedures for ASME Codes and Standards Development Committees

Approved by BPTCS – June 6, 2014

Approved by C&S Board on Codes and Standards Operations – November 24, 2008

Revised to Update Reference to Accredited Standards Development Procedures – March, 2015

Revised to Update Approval Process for Recirculation Votes – April, 2016

Revised to Update Maximum Number of Voting Members – September 2016

Revised to Update Reference to the Accredited Standards Committee Procedures - October 2016

Procedures for BPV Committee on Pressure Vessels

These procedures include the Procedures for ASME Codes and Standards Development Committees, Revision 16 dated September 2, 2016 as supplemented below:

1. **Charter (ref. 1.1)**

To establish, for publication in Section VIII of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, rules relating to pressure integrity governing the construction of pressure vessels. Construction, as used in this Charter, is limited to materials, design, fabrication, examination, inspection, testing, certification, and pressure relief.

2. **Limits on number of members (ref. 3.1)**

The standards committee consists of consensus committee members plus delegates. The consensus committee shall consist of not more than 40 voting members. No more than two members of the consensus committee may be affiliated with same organization.

3. **Member interest categories (ref. 3.2.5)**

Members of the standards committee shall be placed in the following interest categories:

- (a) Manufacturers of products covered by the Code (AK);
- (b) Users of the products for which the Code is formulated (AW), except utilities (AX) and oil refining and exploration (AR);
- (c) Manufacturers of material (AM);
- (d) Regulatory (AT);
- (e) Insurance inspection (AH);
- (f) General (AF);
- (g) Designer-constructors (AC);
- (h) Utility (AX);
- (i) Designer (AB);
- (j) Oil Refining/Exploration (AR).

Members of the standards committee shall be classified in accordance with the business interests of their primary source of support for committee participation. Members who provide their own support, and members who provide consulting services, shall be classified in the interest category that most closely reflects their experience and interest.

4. Determining Subordinate Group Membership (ref. 5.1.2; 6.3.2)

a) Conference Groups

Since the primary function of the Code is to promote the safety of the public, the BPV Standards Committees (see para. 10) seek the cooperation and guidance of representatives of the public and by means of conference groups as stated in 1), 2), and 3) below:

1) Conference Committee

Each State, city in the United States not covered by State Law and having a population of more than one million, and province of Canada which has adopted one (1) or more sections of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and maintains a duly constituted department, bureau, division, or delegated authority for the purpose of enforcement of such Code is invited to appoint a representative to act on the Conference Committee of the BPV Standards Committees. Cities currently represented on the Conference Committee wishing to maintain continuous representation may do so even if the population falls below one million provided the requirements stated above continue to be met.

2) Marine Conference Group

The Marine Conference Group is composed of one (1) representative each appointed by the American Bureau of Shipping, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Department of Navy, Lloyds Register of Shipping, and the Canadian Department of Transport.

3) International Interest Review Group

Any national agency that has accepted one or more Sections of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code as a means of meeting regulatory requirements for which they have responsibility is invited to appoint a representative to serve on the International Interest Review Group.

b) Technical Oversight Management Committee (TOMC)

In recognition of the fact that each section of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code is maintained by a separate standards committee, the Board on Pressure Technology Codes and Standards (BPTCS) and the Board on Nuclear Codes and Standards (BNCS) have established the TOMC. Membership on the TOMC and the TOMC's duties are established by BPTCS and BNCS.

c) Subordinate Groups

The consensus committee shall establish such subordinate groups as are needed to accomplish its objectives.

1) Appointment of Members and Delegates

An appointment as member or delegate shall be for a term of membership of not more than five (5) years, subject to reappointment after the same consideration as for initial appointment. The consensus committee shall approve the appointment of members and delegates of all subordinate groups.

2) Appointment of Officers

An appointment of an individual as chair, vice chair, or volunteer secretary of a subordinate group shall be for a term of not more than five years and shall initiate a coincident term of appointment as a member of that group. The consensus committee shall approve the appointment of officers of all subcommittee and other subordinate groups.

5. Determining Project Team Membership (ref. 5.2)

The consensus committee, or its chair, or any subordinate group or, its chair, may appoint project teams. Individual members of the project team need not be from existing groups, however appointment of members outside of existing groups shall be reported to and recorded by the standards committee. A record of project team membership shall be recorded in one of the following for the duration of the existence of the team:

- (1) ASME C&S Connect system
- (2) Minutes of the standards committee

6. Interpretations (ref. 6.1.6, 10.2)

Interpretations shall be provided for Section VIII of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.

7. Code Cases

Code Cases may be issued for the purpose of providing alternatives or additions to existing Code rules, or to permit early implementation of an approved Code revision. Code Cases are effective for use upon the approval date of BPTCS.

Code Cases require approval by the standards committee and BPTCS by the same approval process as Standards Actions except for 8.1 and 9.2 of Ref (1).

All proposals to adopt, revise, or annul Code Cases will be announced on the ASME Web Site for public comment concurrent with the standards committee voting. Public comments received on Code Cases will be handled in accordance with 8.4 of Ref (1).

8. Intent Interpretations

Technical inquiries that cannot be answered on the basis of existing wording of the Code may be answerable by an “intent” interpretation. Intent interpretations are permitted only to clarify conflicting or ambiguous wording or to resolve incorrect wording. An intent interpretation shall be submitted to the standards committee for approval along with the revision(s) to the standard that support the intent interpretation. Both the intent interpretation and the revision(s) to the standard must be approved for the interpretation to be issued.

The intent interpretation and the implementing revision(s) shall be approved by ballot. Both the implementing revision(s) and the intent interpretation shall be approved as a Standards Action in accordance with 9(a) below.

The approved intent interpretation shall be sent to the original inquirer when BPTCS has approved the implementing revision(s).

9. Deviations

a) Approval of Standards Actions

When implementing paragraph 7.2.3 of Ref (1); the Conference Committee, International Interest Review Group, Marine Conference Group, Technical Oversight Management Committee (TOMC), BPTCS, and BPV VIII International Working Groups shall be given the opportunity to review proposed Standards Actions concurrently with the standards committee voting. In addition members of the TOMC shall be given an opportunity to record their disagreement with the project team’s response to a comment they have made during this period.

(1) The following procedure shall be followed in lieu of paragraph 7.2.3(k) of Ref (1):

Items are approved by the standards committee from the first consideration ballot when:

- a) At least two thirds of the eligible consensus committee membership (Not Voting responses reduce this number) vote approved; and
- b) There are no disapprovals from the standards committee, and no substantive comments¹ from the Conference Committee, International Interest Review Group, Marine Conference Group, BPTCS, or BPV VIII International Working Groups, and;
- c) There are no substantive comments from TOMC, or the responses to any unresolved substantive TOMC comments from the first consideration ballot have been approved (in a voice vote at a meeting or in a recirculation ballot) by at least two thirds of the eligible consensus committee membership (Not Voting or Disapproved without Comment responses reduce this number), with no more than three disapprovals from the consensus committee.

(2) The following procedure shall be followed for recirculation votes in lieu of paragraph 7.2.4(f) of Ref (1):

Recirculation proposals are approved by the consensus committee when the results of a recirculation vote indicate:

- a) At least two thirds of the eligible consensus committee membership (Not Voting or Disapproved without Comment responses reduce this number) vote approved; and
- b) There are not more than three disapprovals from the consensus committee; and
- c) Any unresolved² substantive TOMC comments from the first consideration ballot have been discussed at the standards committee meeting and a consensus committee position³ has been provided to the TOMC member; and

¹ A substantive comment is either an objection with basis or a recommended change that is other than editorial

² An unresolved substantive TOMC comment is one in which the Project Technical Manager has provided a response, but the TOMC member is not satisfied with the response.

³ Any unresolved substantive TOMC comment since the last standards committee meeting shall be discussed at the next standards committee meeting and a consensus committee position shall be provided back to the TOMC member. If the action that received the unresolved comment is approved by the standards committee, it shall proceed for supervisory board procedural approval.

- d) There are no new disapprovals from the consensus committee based on disagreement with new changes introduced in the most recent recirculation ballot.

The following procedure shall be followed for recirculation ballots, in lieu of paragraph 7.2.4(h) of Ref (1):

(h) For recirculation proposals that receive more than three negative votes of the consensus committee members, excluding any not voting and disapproved without comment responses, disapproved votes may be withdrawn within three months after the recirculation ballot has closed. If withdrawal reduces the number of negative votes to three or fewer, the proposal shall be opened for reconsideration at a meeting of the standards committee, and the above criteria for recirculation ballots apply.

- b) Approval Voting Process for Interpretations

The following procedure shall be followed in lieu of paragraph 10.4(d) of Ref (1) when voting at a meeting:

No objection by at least 3/4 of the consensus committee members present, but at least 2/3 of the entire consensus committee membership, is required to approve the interpretation.

The following procedure shall be followed in lieu of paragraph 10.4(e)(6) of Ref (1) when voting at other than a meeting:

Interpretations are approved by ballot when a no objection vote is recorded by at least 3/4 of the consensus committee members.

10. BPV Standards Committees (ref 2.0)

All of the standards committees that establish rules published in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code are collectively known as the BPV Standards Committees.

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Administrative Committee (BPVAC) consisting of the chair of each BPV standards committee and the chair of the TOMC shall be responsible for addressing administrative issues affecting the overall organization of the BPV standards committees and their relationship with each other. Duties include determining meeting dates and locations, coordination of policies and procedures, and resolution of issues concerning C&S Connect or publishing.

REFERENCES:

- (1) Procedures for ASME Codes and Standards Development Committees,
Revision 16, dated September 2, 2016.