Case OMN-24

Alternative Requirements for Testing ASME Class 2 and 3 Pressure Relief Valves (For Relief Valves in a Group of One)

Applicability: See Applicability Index.

Inquiry: What alternative requirements to the ASME OM Code Appendix I sample plan approach described by the ASME OM Code Section I-1350(a) may be used to test ASME Class 2 and 3 Relief Valves when there is only one (1) valve in a group?

Reply: It is the opinion of the Committee that when addressing a valve group of one (1), in lieu of the sample plan approach described by ASME OM Code Section I-1350(a), ASME Class 2 and 3 Relief Valves, except for PWR Main Steam Safety Valves, may be tested using the alternative methods described below:

a) The relief valve shall be tracked by its plant identification number as provided by its manufacturer or as applied by the Owner.

b) Upon adoption of this Code Case, the initial test interval shall not exceed 48 months since its last set-pressure test. A 12 month period is allowed to complete testing once the relief valve is removed from the system.

c) A relief valve that satisfies the as-found set-pressure test criterion may have its test interval extended by up to 24 months. The test interval shall begin from the date of the as-left set-pressure test for the installed valve.

d) A relief valve that fails the as-found set-pressure test shall have its test interval reduced by 24 months. The minimum required test frequency for this circumstance is a 24 month interval.

e) The test interval for any individual relief valve shall not exceed 120 months except that a six (6) month grace period is allowed to coincide with refueling outages to accommodate extended operation or shutdown periods.

f) The Owner may satisfy testing requirements by installing a pretested valve to replace the valve that had been in service provided that the valve removed from service shall be tested within 12 months of removal from the system.