INTERPRETATIONS
No. 1
March 1984 – December 1985

INTRODUCTION
As a service to persons who use the QEI-1 Standard, the QEI Committee renders interpretations of the requirements upon request. The Preface to the Standard explains the procedure for requesting interpretations.
This booklet includes the interpretations which were issued by the Committee from March 1984 through December 1985. Subsequent interpretations will be included with each addenda and new edition of the Standard.

APPLICABILITY OF INTERPRETATIONS
Each interpretation applies only to the edition and addenda listed for that inquiry. Some of the paragraphs on which the interpretation has been made have been revised in later editions or addenda. Where such revisions have been made, the interpretation may no longer be applicable to the revised paragraph.
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FORM AND ARRANGEMENT
Inquiry Number. The interpretations are listed in the order of the assigned serial numbers. The first two digits represent the administrative year in which the interpretation was received.
Subject. The primary paragraph and subject of the interpretation is listed for each inquiry.
Edition. For each interpretation, the edition and addenda, if any, on which the interpretation was rendered are listed.
Question. The questions are taken verbatim from the original inquiries except for editorial corrections necessary to improve clarity.
Answer. The answers are those approved by the QEI Committee, except for editorial corrections necessary to improve clarity.
Approval Dates. The date of approval by the QEI Committee is listed for each interpretation.
Inquiry: 84-1

Subject: Scope

Edition: QEI-1–1984

Question: Does the QEI-1 Standard apply to an elevator consultant who is making an inspection?

Answer: The QEI-1 Standard applies to any person who is making an inspection or test to determine compliance with the requirements of ANSI/ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, except as noted in para. 1.1.3. Paragraph 1.1.2 lists the typical employment of such persons, but the application of the Standard is not limited to the specific categories which are listed.

Main Committee Approval: February 1, 1985

Inquiry: 85-1

Subject: 4.2.4, Control of Subcontracted Services

Edition: QEI-1–1984 including QEI-1a–1985

Question: Paragraph 4.2.4 permits the certifying organization to subcontract services. Must the certification manual include a list of approved subcontractors?

Answer: The certification manual must include the procedures for:
(1) ascertaining the capability of the subcontractor to meet the applicable provisions of this Standard; and
(2) monitoring the activities of the subcontractor to assure continued compliance.
It is not necessary to include a list of subcontractors in the certification manual provided that there is other documentation to show that the above two items have been complied with. Part of this documentation would be a list of approved subcontractors.

Main Committee Approval: April 1, 1985
INTERPRETATIONS
No. 2
January 1986 — December 1987

INTRODUCTION
As a service to persons who use the QEI-1 Standard, the QEI Committee renders interpretations of the requirements upon request. The Preface to the Standard explains the procedure for requesting interpretations.
Interpretations No. 2 includes the interpretations which were issued by the Committee from January 1986 through December 1987. Subsequent interpretations will be included with each addenda and new edition of the Standard.

APPLICABILITY OF INTERPRETATIONS
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Inquiry: 87-1

Subject: 2.3, Maintenance of Qualifications

Edition: QEI-1–1984 including QEI-1b–1986

Question: What meetings, seminars, and educational programs related to duties would qualify under 2.3(d), to maintain the qualifications of an elevator inspector?

Answer: Approval of meetings, seminars, or educational programs acceptable under 2.3(d) are the responsibility of the Accredited Certifying Agency.

Paragraph 4.2.2, Methods of Evaluating Qualifications, states, “The certification program shall clearly delineate the method of evaluating whether applicants meet the qualifications of inspectors (Part II) and/or …”

"Means shall be provided to assure that certified Inspectors meet the maintenance of qualifications provisions of para. 2.3 and …"
INTRODUCTION

As a service to persons who use the QEI-1 Standard, the QEI Committee renders interpretations of the requirements upon request. The Preface to the Standard explains the procedure for requesting interpretations.

Interpretations No. 3 includes the interpretations which were issued by the Committee from January 1988 through January 1989. Subsequent interpretations will be included with each addenda and new edition of the Standard.

APPLICABILITY OF INTERPRETATIONS

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Approval Dates. The date of approval by the QEI Committee is listed for each interpretation.
Inquiry: 88-1

Subject: 1.1, Scope

Edition: QEI-1-1987

Question: Paragraph 1.1.1 indicates that the Standard covers "inspectors and inspection supervisors engaged in inspection and testing of equipment." Does a person have to be currently or previously "engaged" in inspections or testing for the Standard to be applicable to the person in accordance with 1.1.2?

Answer: Paragraph 1.1.2 does not require that certification be limited only to persons actively "engaged" in inspection and testing. However, the certifying organization may include such requirements in its certification program.

Main Committee Approval: January 10, 1989
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
March 1994 — September 1995

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretations: 95-01

Subject: Paragraph 3.1 of ASME QEI-1-1993
        Qualifications of Inspection Supervisors

Date Issued: September 21, 1995

Question: Can a person be qualified as an Inspection Supervisor without first qualifying as an Inspector?

Reply: No, because the individual has to meet the requirements necessary to prove they are qualified as an Inspector.
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
August 1997 — December 1998

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretation: 97-01

Subject: QE1-1–1997, Paragraph 1.5, Use of QE1 Logo

Date Issued: January 30, 1998

Question: Paragraph 1.5 does not separate the use of the symbol for advertising materials on literature between certified inspectors, certified inspection supervisors, and the accredited organization; the last sentence does not mention that the certifying organization has to have a name or acronym of the accredited organization adjacent to the logo. Does the sentence apply to accredited organizations?

For example:

![QE1 Logo]

Reply: All requirements in para. 1.5 apply to an accredited organization, including the last sentence. The example given is incorrect, as the acronym would be the one used by the accredited organization (e.g., NAESA, LTI, or USPS), not the acronym for The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
December 1998 — March 2000

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretation: 01-01

Subject: QEII-1-1997, Paragraphs 4.2.2 and 4.2.3

Date Issued: March 9, 2000

Question: Is it permissible to use a database of examination questions for the preparation of examinations to evaluate code knowledge of applicants who have applied for verification of competence in a non-QEII program that an accredited organization sponsors?

Reply: No.
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
April 2000 through December 2002

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretation: 02-01

Subject: QEI-1—2001, Paragraphs 2.3(f) and 3.3(c)

Date Issued: January 14, 2002

Question: In QEI-1—2001, paras. 2.3(f) and 3.3(c) state that the elevator inspector [para. 2.3(f)] and inspector supervisor [para. 3.3(c)] “shall have workplace access to reference standards listed in para. 1.3.”

We interpret this requirement to mean that as long as the inspector/supervisor can have access to these reference standards through the accredited organization, by contemporary communication means (e.g., fax, e-mail, etc.), these QEI paragraphs are satisfied.

Reply: The current wording of paras. 2.3(f) and 3.3(c) is not specific as to availability of documents. Therefore, example methods noted do satisfy the requirement as written.
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
January 2003 Through December 2006

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretation: 06-01

Subject: ASME QEI-1-2004, Para. 1.4 Certificate Holder Reference Standards
Date Issued: December 7, 2006

Question (1): The last paragraph of para. 1.4 refers to "Certificate holders with limited certificates." What is a limited certificate?

Reply (1): Paragraph 1.4 applies to an accredited certifying organization whose scope of activity has been limited either by themselves as described in their "Certification Manual" (QEI-1, para. 4.2) or by ASME per QEI-1, para. 4.3.3. As an example, an organization applying for accreditation may decide to limit their certification program to a particular state or municipality; and therefore, may be required to be in possession of only those codes/standards that have been adopted by that jurisdictional authority.

Question (2): How does one obtain a limited certificate?

Reply (2): See Reply (1).
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
January 2007 Through December 2009

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretation: 09-01

Subject: ASME QEI-1-2007, Paras. 2-1(p) and 3-1(d)

Date Issued: September 28, 2009

Question (1): Concerning the qualification requirement cited under para. 2-1(p) for an inspector and para. 3-1(d) for an inspection supervisor, are the candidates who are applying to become either a "Certified Elevator Inspector" or "Certified Elevator Inspection Supervisor" required to have the documents referenced in para. 1-5(a) in his/her personal possession at the time of evaluation?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Concerning the qualification requirement cited under para. 2-1(p) for an inspector, is the reference to "Standards Committee" referring to the QEI, A17, or A18 Standards Committee?

Reply (2): The QEI Standards Committee.
ASME QEI-1 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries
January 2010 Through October 2011

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME QEI Committee on Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of the QEI-1 Standard.

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Interpretation: 13-01

Subject: ASME QEI-1–2007, Continuing Education Units
Date Issued: January 5, 2010

Question: Is the list in para. 2-3(f)(2) an exclusive list of a way to obtain Continuing Education Units (CEUs)?

Reply: No, this is a helpful list to obtain CEUs that was developed using training technologies available at the time the Standard was developed. Paragraph 2-3(f) states: "obtain 1.0 continuing education unit (CEU) on an annual basis by participating in continuing education and professional development activities acceptable to the QEI accredited certifying organization (para. 4-2.2). Continuing education credit may be awarded for a wide variety of activities that involve training, education, or other endeavors wherein the objective includes achieving relevant professional knowledge, skills, and abilities beyond those required for initial certification."

Interpretation: 13-02

Subject: ASME QEI-1–2007, Paras. 2-1(p) and 2-2(d)
Date Issued: May 21, 2010

Question (1): Does para. 2-1(p) require inspectors to have the applicable codes on site and available for reference when performing inspections?

Reply (1): No. Paragraph 2-1(p) requires “access” to current editions of the documents referenced in para. 1-5(a) as defined in section 1-2.

Question (2): Does para. 2-2(d) require inspectors to have the applicable codes on site and available for reference when performing inspections?

Reply (2): No. Paragraph 2-2(d) requires the inspector to “maintain” his or her personal copy of the QEI-1 Standard to be the latest edition as well as the current edition of the documents referenced in para. 1-5(a) and defined in section 1-2.

Question (3): What is the definition of “personal possession”?

Reply (3): “Personal possession” is not defined in section 1-2 of the QEI-1 Standard.
Interpretation: 13-03

Subject: ASME QEI-1–2010, Paras. 2.2(a) and 2.2(b)
Date Issued: September 22, 2010

Question (1): Where the words "witnessing tests" are used in paras. 2.2(a) and 2.2(b), is it intended that the "duty of the inspector" is to be physically present to verify the test results prior to certifying the test results as described in para. 2.2(c)(1)?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): When the inspector is not physically present, is it acceptable for the inspector to certify the results of a test per para. 2.2(c)(1) based solely on an elevator mechanic's written or verbal confirmation of the test results?

Reply (2): No.

Interpretation: 13-04

Subject: ASME QEI-1–2010, Para. 4.2.5, Control of Certification Documentation, and Para. 4.2.6, Disputes and Appeals
Date Issued: May 4, 2011

Question (1): Is the term "effective date," as indicated on the Elevator Inspector's Certification Cards per QEI-1–2010, para. 4.2.5(d), the date certification was initially issued by that Certifying Organization to that individual?

Reply (1): The term "effective date" is not defined in the QEI-1 Standard.

Question (2): In para. 4.2.6, Disputes and Appeals, are disputes defined as disagreements between an Elevator Inspector (or Inspection Supervisor) and the Certifying Organization regarding that individual's certification status?

Reply (2): The term "dispute" is not defined in the QEI-1 Standard.

Question (3): In para. 4.2.6, Disputes and Appeals, are complaints defined as a challenge issued by any individual in the industry or general public to a Certifying Organization regarding the qualifications of a certified person?

Reply (3): The term "complaint" is not defined in the QEI-1 Standard.

Question (4): In para. 4.2.6, Disputes and Appeals, are Certifying Organizations expected to notify ASME in the event of a dispute in the same way as complaints are required to be reported?

Reply (4): This is not addressed in the QEI-1 Standard.

Question (5): In para. 4.2.6, Disputes and Appeals, are individuals in the industry or general public who issue a complaint required to be notified of the results of adjudication and are such persons afforded the same appeal mechanism as granted in the case of disputes?

Reply (5): This is not addressed in the QEI-1 Standard.
Interpretation: 13-05

Subject: ASME QEI-1–2010, Section 1.2, Definitions, and Para. 2.3(f)(2)(a)
Date Issued: October 12, 2011

Question (1): Does the definition of continuing education credit in the ASME QEI-1–2010 Standard require that there be one hour of classroom instruction per 0.1 CEU?

Reply (1): No. There are additional ways of accruing CEUs; see para. 2.3(f).

Question (2): Does para. 2.3(f)(2)(a) require that CEUs be granted at not more than the rate of 0.1 CEUs for each clock hour of attendance at a training program for the purpose of maintaining inspector qualifications?

Reply (2): Yes.

Question (3): What are the implications for attendees regarding receiving a certificate with 0.8 CEUs when the actual classroom hours were only equivalent to 0.575 CEUs?

Reply (3): The Standard does not address this issue.

Question (4): What are the obligations of attendees regarding reporting this inconsistency to ASME?

Reply (4): The Standard does not address this issue.

Question (5): Is attendance at an online webinar acceptable for obtaining the CEUs necessary to maintain inspector qualifications?

Reply (5): Yes, if approved by the accredited organization.

Interpretation: 13-05 (Reconsideration)

Subject: ASME QEI-1–2010, Section 1.2, Definitions, and Para. 2.3(f)(2)(a)

Question (1): When the manner in which the CEU is accrued is by a person’s physical presence in a physical classroom setting with a live in-person instructor providing the instruction, does QEI-1–2010 require that there be one hour of classroom instruction per 0.1 CEU?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Would an in-person training program that consisted of less than 8.0 hr of instruction violate any provision of the QEI-1–2010 document if a Certificate of Completion were issued for 0.8 CEUs?

Reply (2): Yes; see para. 2.3(f)(2)(a).

Question (3): What is the name and the contact information of the individual within ASME to whom an interested party should file a complaint regarding the issuance of a Certificate of Completion for 0.8 CEUs when only 5.75 hr of classroom instruction was provided?

Reply (3): ASME Staff Secretary, QEI Standards Committee.

Question (4): Would the QEI Standards Committee have the authority to investigate and potentially take disciplinary action against an accredited QEI organization for violating any of the provisions of the QEI-1–2010 document?

Reply (4): No, this is not within the Scope of this Committee.