

Guideline

6/12

CLAP

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Annex I § 3.1.2 - 97/23 EC

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Subject: ESR on manufacturing – Approval of permanent joining procedures and personnel

Question:

In the context of approval of welding procedures and personnel, what is meant by “the third party must perform examinations and tests as set out in the appropriate harmonized standards or equivalent examinations and tests”?

Answer:

Where the directive refers to equivalent examinations and tests it is required that suitable and sufficient tests are conducted to determine the same range of technological properties as those in the harmonized welding standards. Where similar tests have already been conducted that establish a particular property but the precise testing conditions vary from those in the above standard, there is no requirement to repeat the test. However, those technological properties which are not the subject of these similar tests shall be added to the testing schedule. If for example the impact property in the weld has already been tested but not the heat affected zone (HAZ), this latter remains to be tested.

Note 1: The tests which are intended to determine the same range of technological properties are the non-destructive and destructive tests required by the relevant harmonized welding standards.

Note 2: The additional tests shall be performed under the responsibility of a competent third party (see also Guideline 6/1).

Note 3: The current version of ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel code Section IX is an example of where properties are not sufficiently dealt with for some applications in order to comply by itself with the PED (for example: impact property in the HAZ; hardness test etc.). Furthermore, it does not require that the tests and examinations shall be performed under the responsibility of a third party (see also Guidelines 6/1 and 6/4).

Modifications compared to the previous adopted version: Amendment on 2014-03-20.