

Welding Processes, Inspection, and Metallurgy

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Contents

	Page
1 Scope	1
2 Normative References	1
3 Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms	3
3.1 Terms and Definitions	3
3.2 Acronyms	12
4 Welding Processes	12
4.1 General	12
4.2 Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)	12
4.3 Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW)	15
4.4 Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)	18
4.5 Flux-Cored Arc Welding (FCAW)	21
4.6 Submerged Arc Welding (SAW)	24
4.7 Stud Arc Welding (SW)	26
4.8 Plasma Arc Welding (PAW)	26
4.9 Electrode Gas Welding (EGW)	28
5 Welding Materials	30
5.1 General	30
5.2 P-Number Assignment to Base Metals	30
5.3 F-Number Assignment to Filler Metals	31
5.4 AWS Classification of Filler Metals	31
5.5 A-Number	31
5.6 Filler Metal Selection	31
5.7 Consumable Storage and Handling	32
6 Welding Procedure	32
6.1 General	32
6.2 Welding Procedure Specification (WPS)	33
6.3 Procedure Qualification Record (PQR)	45
6.4 Reviewing the WPS and PQR	45
6.5 Tube-to-Tubesheet Welding Procedures	45
7 Welder Qualification	47
7.1 General	47
7.2 Welders and Welding Operators	47
7.3 Examination Failure of a Production Weld	47
7.4 Retest for qualification	47
7.5 Expiration, Revocation, and Renewal of Welder or Welding Operator Qualification	47
7.6 Welder Performance Qualification	47
7.7 Reviewing a WPQ	48
7.8 Limitations for Welder Qualifications	49
8 Nondestructive Examination	50
8.1 Discontinuities/imperfections	50
8.2 Materials Identification	54
8.3 Visual Examination (VT)	55
8.4 Magnetic Particle Examination (MT)	62
8.5 Alternating Current Field Measurement	66
8.6 Liquid Penetrant Examination (PT)	67

Contents

	Page
8.7 Eddy Current Examination (ET)	69
8.8 Radiographic Examination (RT)	69
8.9 Ultrasonic Examination (UT)	83
8.10 Hardness Testing	95
8.11 Pressure and Leak Testing/Examination (LT)	96
9 Welding Inspection	97
9.1 General	97
9.2 Tasks Prior to Welding	97
9.3 Tasks During Welding Operations	101
9.4 Tasks Upon Completion of Welding	103
9.5 Nonconformances and Defects	105
9.6 NDE Examiner Certification	105
9.7 Weld Inspection Data Recording	106
10 Metallurgy	109
10.1 General	109
10.2 Structure of Metals and Alloys	109
10.3 Physical Properties	111
10.4 Mechanical Properties	113
10.5 Preheating	116
10.6 Heat Treatment	116
10.7 Material Test Reports	119
10.8 Weldability of Metals	120
10.9 Weldability of High Alloys	122
11 Refinery and Petrochemical Plant Welding Issues	124
11.1 General	124
11.2 Hot Tapping and In-Service Welding	124
11.3 Lack of Fusion With GMAW-S Welding Process	127
11.4 Caustic Service	128
11.5 Controlled Deposition Welding	128
12 Safety Precautions	130
Annex A (normative) Technology and Symbols	131
Annex B (normative) Actions to Address Improperly Made Production Welds	137
Annex C (informative) WPS/PQR Review	139
Annex D (normative) Guide to Common Filler Metal Selection	174
Annex E (informative) Example Report of RT Results	178
Annex F (informative) Inspection Considerations	179
Annex G (informative) Welding Safety	181
Bibliography	182
Figures	
1 SMAW Welding Process	13
2 SMAW Welding Electrode Deposition	14
3 GTAW Welding Equipment	16

Contents

Page

4	GTAW Welding Process	17
5	GMAW Equipment	18
6	GMAW Welding Process	19
7	FCAW Equipment	22
8	FCAW Welding Process	23
9	FCAW Welding Process, Self-shielded	23
10	SAW Welding Process	25
11	Comparison of the Gas Tungsten Arc and Plasma Arc Welding Processes	27
12	Electrogas Welding With a Solid Electrode	29
13	Typical Discontinuities Present in a Single Bevel Groove Weld in a Butt Joint	52
14	Direct Visual Examination Requirements	55
15	Inspector's Kit	58
16	Bridge Cam Gauge	58
17	Adjustable Fillet Weld Gauge	59
18	Skew-T Fillet Weld Gauge	59
19	Weld Fillet Gauge	60
20	Weld Fillet Gauge	60
21	Weld Size Gauge	61
22	Hi-Lo Gauge	61
23	Surface-Breaking Discontinuity	62
24	Subsurface Discontinuity	62
25	Weld Discontinuity	64
26	Flux Lines	64
27	Detecting Discontinuities Transverse to Weld	65
28	Detecting Discontinuities Parallel to the Weld	65
29	Pie Gauge	66
30	Fluorescent Penetrant Technique	68
31	IQI Common Hole Diameters	71
32	IQI	72
33	Single-Wall Techniques	74
34	Double-Wall Techniques	74
35	Incomplete or Lack of Penetration (LOP)	77
36	Interpass Slag Inclusions	77
37	Cluster Porosity	78
38	Lack of Side Wall Fusion	78
39	Elongated Slag (Wagon Tracks)	79
40	Burn-Through	79
41	Offset or Mismatch With Lack of Penetration (LOP)	80
42	Excessive Penetration (Icicles, Drop-Through)	80
43	Internal (Root) Undercut	81
44	Transverse Crack	81
45	Tungsten Inclusions	82
46	Root Pass Aligned Porosity	82
47	A-Scan	84
48	B-Scan	84
49	C-Scan	85
50	D-Scan	86
51	S-Scan	87
52	TOFD D-Scan Display	88

Contents

	Page
53 TOFD B-Scan	89
54 TOFD Transducer Arrangement and Ultrasonic Energy Beam Propagation	89
55 DAC Curve for a Specified Reference Reflector.	92
56 DAC Curve for an Unknown Reflector.	92
57 Location of Hardness Measurements	96
A.1 Joint Types and Applicable Welds.	132
A.2 Symbols for Various Weld Joints	133
A.3 Supplementary Symbols for Welds.	133
A.4 Standard Weld Symbols	134
A.5 Groove Weld Nomenclature	135
A.6 SMAW Welding Electrode Identification System	135
A.7 GMAW/GTAW/PAW Welding Electrode Identification System.	135
A.8 FCAW Welding Electrode Identification System	136
A.9 SAW Welding Electrode Identification System.	136
A.10 EGW Welding Electrode Identification System	136
B.1 Suggested Actions for Welds Made by an Incorrect Welder.	137
B.2 Steps to Address Production Welds Made by an Improper Welding Procedure	138

Tables

1 P-Number Assignments	31
2 Common Types of Discontinuities	51
3 Commonly Used NDE Methods	52
4 Capability of the Applicable Examination Method for Weld-Type Joints	53
5 Capability of the Applicable Method vs. Discontinuity	53
6 Discontinuities Commonly Encountered with Welding Processes.	54
7 ASTM E94 IQIs	71
8 Conditions That May Exist in a Material or Product	108
9 Results of Nondestructive Examination	108
10 Results of Application of Acceptance/Rejection Criteria	108
11 Brinell Hardness Limits for Steels in Refining Services	118
12 Weld Crack Tests.	122
13 Hot Tapping/In-Service Welding Hazards Associated With Some Particular Substances.	126
D.1 Common Welding Consumables for SMAW of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel	174
D.2 Common Welding Consumables for SMAW of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel	175
D.3 Copper-Nickel and Nickel-Based Alloys	176
D.4 Classification Changes in Low-Alloy Filler Metal Designations.	177

Welding Processes, Inspection, and Metallurgy

1 Scope

This recommended practice (RP) provides guidance to the API authorized inspector on welding inspection as encountered with fabrication and repair of refinery and chemical plant equipment and piping, pipelines, and other related industries. This RP includes descriptions of common welding processes, welding procedures, welder qualifications, metallurgical effects from welding, and inspection techniques to aid the inspector in fulfilling their role implementing API 510, API 570, API 653, and API 582. The level of learning and training obtained from this document is not a replacement for the training and experience required to be a certified welding inspector under one of the established welding certification programs, such as the American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welding Inspector (CWI), or Canadian and European equivalent schemes such as CWB, CSWIP, PCN, or EFW.

This RP does not require all welds to be inspected, nor does it require welds to be inspected to specific techniques and extent. Welds selected for inspection, and the appropriate inspection techniques, should be determined by the welding inspectors, engineers, or other responsible personnel using the applicable code or standard. The importance, difficulty, and problems that could be encountered during welding should be considered by all involved. A welding engineer should be consulted on any critical, specialized, or complex welding issues.

2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

API 510, *Pressure Vessel Inspection Code: Maintenance, Inspection, Rating, Repair, and Alteration*

API 570, *Piping Inspection Code: Inspection, Repair, Alteration, and Rerating of In-Service Piping Systems*

API Recommended Practice 571, *Damage Mechanisms Affecting Fixed Equipment in the Refining Industry*

API Recommended Practice 574, *Inspection Practices for Piping System Components*

API Recommended Practice 578, *Material Verification Program for New and Existing Alloy Piping Systems*

API Recommended Practice 582, *Recommended Practice and Supplementary Welding Guidelines for the Chemical, Oil, and Gas Industries*

API Recommended Practice 2201, *Procedures for Welding or Hot Tapping on Equipment in Service*

ASME *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code*¹

Section VIII, *Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels*

¹ ASME International, 3 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10016-5990, www.asme.org.