Alberta Municipal Affairs

ABSA the pressure equipment safety authority

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Quality Plan for Design Submissions

This Information Bulletin establishes the Quality Plan (QP) process for design submissions. This information Bulletin replaces IB18-008 which is hereby withdrawn.

The QP is an alternative design submission process. Designs submitted under the QP process are expected to be free of deficiencies, and thus can be registered in a more efficient and timely manner. Participation is voluntary and eligibility is limited to Alberta pressure vessel manufacturers and owner-users that hold a valid Certificate of Authorization Permit.

In accordance with Sections 12(1)(e) and 15(1)(j) of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation for pressure vessel design submissions, and Sections 12(1)(e) and 16(1)(i) for pressure piping design submissions, the following documents hereby establish requirements that must be met by an Alberta pressure vessel manufacturer or owner-user that chooses to develop and implement a QP process:

(i) ABSA document AB-530, "*Quality Plan Requirements for an Alberta Certificate of Authorization Permit Holder Pressure Vessel Design Submission*", Edition 1, Revision 3 issued 2019-04-16.
(ii) ABSA document AB-531, "*Quality Plan Requirements for an Alberta Owner-User Pressure Piping Design Submission"*, Edition 1, Revision 3 issued 2019-04-16.

The AB-530 and AB-531 define specific features of the QP process that must be addressed in quality management systems. These documents also provide implementation guidance to assist pressure vessel manufacturers and owner-users to meet the requirements and implement an effective quality management system. A pressure vessel manufacturer or owner-user that chooses to participate in the QP process must ensure their quality management system addresses the requirements specified in the respective document, and must successfully demonstrate implementation of the process to an ABSA safety codes officer during an evaluation of the quality management system.

The QP process was developed by Alberta pressure vessel manufacturers, owner-users, and ABSA to streamline the general design registration process through the development of quality system improvements intended to enhance safety by ensuring that pressure vessel and pressure piping designs meet the owner's specifications, the construction code, and the requirements of applicable legislation for the purpose of registration.

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