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INTERPRETATION

Rubber Hose Assemblies Manufactured in accordance with Rubber Manufacturers Association RMA IP-2

1. Introduction

In the 2009 edition of CSA B51 *Boiler, pressure vessel, and pressure piping code* (CSA B51-09), Clause 8.2 was revised. After CSA B51-09 was adopted by the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation under the Safety Codes Act, it became necessary to provide a clarification regarding the design registration requirements for rubber hose assemblies manufactured in accordance with Rubber Manufacturers Association RMA IP-2 (The 2003 Hose Handbook).

2. Interpretation

Clause 8.2 of CSA B51-09 has the following note: “For flexible hose assemblies, refer to RMA IP-2”. With this note, for applications in Alberta, under the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation, rubber hose designs do not require design registration (CRN) in the Province of Alberta provided such rubber hose assemblies are manufactured in accordance with and fully comply with all requirements of Rubber Manufacturers Association RMA IP-2 (The 2003 Hose Handbook).

All other types of rubber hose designs that are not in accordance with Rubber Manufacturers Association RMA IP-2, such as those that are based on different design code requirements (e.g., ASME B31.3, paragraph 304.7.2(c)), require design registration (CRN).

Notwithstanding the interpretation provided herein above, if a rubber hose manufacturer requests their rubber hose designs, which are designed in accordance with RMA IP-2, to be registered, an application for registration can be made to ABSA and ABSA will process those applications, and issue registrations for those designs that meet Alberta Regulations, CSA B51, and RMA IP-2 requirements.

3. Background

In the 2003 edition of CSA B51 (CSA B51-03) *Boiler, Pressure Vessel, and Pressure Piping Code*, Clause 8.2 provided that “*rubber hose assemblies manufactured in accordance with Rubber Manufacturers Association RMA IP-2 or an equivalent standard shall not require registration*”.

For years, common industry practice has been to apply this exemption and design registration of rubber hose assemblies had not been required. This means that, with few exceptions (whereby manufacturers specifically voluntarily requested and obtained design registration for their rubber hose assembly designs), rubber hose assemblies that are in service now

- (i) do not have CRN's,
- (ii) were not manufactured by manufacturers with appropriate quality control programs as required by clause 4.9 of CSA B51 and Section 11 of AR 49/2006, and
- (iii) were not marked in accordance with Clause 5.4 of CSA B51 rules, and Alberta Regulations (Section 17(2) of AR 49/2006).

The interpretation provides for current industry practice.

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