

Information Bulletin No. IB98-001

March 17, 1998

From: K. T. Lau
Chief Inspector and Administrator

To: All Canadian Chief Inspectors

Re: **PROPOSED CODE CASES 2278 and 2274**

Proposed Code Cases 2278 and 2274 allow for alternative maximum allowable stresses based on a factor of 3.5 for design and construction in accordance with ASME Section I and ASME Section VIII Division 1. The proposed Code Cases, allowing a design factor of 3.5, will generally provide for allowable design stresses of 14.3% higher, or a reduction of 12.5% in the pressure vessel wall thicknesses. This reduction is significant economically, not only relative to material costs but there will be a significant corresponding reduction in all costs with respect to welding resources (consumables and manhours), transportation and handling and others. This may also result in possible savings in non-destructive examination, heat-treatment and other requirements.

These Code Cases have received ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Main Committee Approval during the meetings of the ASME Code Committees the week of February 23-27, 1998. A ballot of the Board on Pressure Technology Codes and Standards is expected in the near future and no later than May 18, 1998. Subject to a ballot of the Board on the Pressure Technology Codes and Standards Board, the Code Cases will be effective immediately thereafter. It is expected that Alberta will receive requests for the use of these Code Cases immediately following their being made effective.

During the Alberta Boiler and Pressure Vessel Technical Council's meeting of November 13, 1997, the Council resolved that these Code Cases, when published by ASME, be accepted for use in Alberta. This acceptance will be for the construction of pressure equipment for export (when allowed for use in the jurisdictions of installation) as well as for pressure equipment for use in Alberta. However, the acceptance of these Code Cases for pressure equipment for use in Alberta will be restricted to conditions to be discussed in the the proposed seminars on April 7 and 8 in Edmonton and Calgary respectively. ABSA organizes these seminars to advise all clients (manufacturers, designers, owner/users etc.,) of these Code Cases together with a review of the Code Cases' implications and applications.

c.c. The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors