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ABSA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mr. Mark Demchuk



Mr. Dave Rushford

Mr. Mark Demchuk will be joining ABSA's Board of Directors for a 3 year term beginning July 1st, 2012. He was selected by a 3 member nominating committee consisting of a Board member, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and a member of the public.

Mr. Demchuk is Vice President, Business Services, Cenovus Energy and will represent the oil and gas sector on ABSA's Board. He has twenty eight years of experience in the upstream oil and gas industry and in his current role with Cenovus is responsible for managing the central engineering specialist team which includes oversight and responsibility for their Pressure Equipment Integrity Management System and quality assurance for shop and field fabrication and repairs.

We look forward to the industry insight and strategic guidance that Mark will bring to ABSA.

He will be joining John Ell, President, ATCO Power; Dr. Gordon Nixon, Vice President Academic, SAIT Polytechnic; Dale Myggland, Owner, BRIAS Inc. and Minister's Appointee, and Tony Robinson, Operations Manager, Enerflex Ltd. Mark replaces Dave Rushford who is Senior VP and Chief Operating Officer, Quicksilver Resources Canada Inc. Dave will be completing two terms on ABSA's Board of Directors at the end of June. He served as Board Chair for two of the six years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave for his significant contributions and valued leadership. ❖

NATIONAL BOARD ANNOUNCES LIBRARY SERVICE

The National Board, by agreement with the ASME, has announced a library service (with applicable fee) to provide out-of-print editions of the *ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code*. This service will greatly assist the pressure equipment industry to obtain the correct ASME Code edition their pressure equipment was constructed to when reviewing their plant operation, and even more importantly, for the repair and alteration of their pressure equipment.

For more information, please contact the National Board at phone 614-888-8320 or follow link below:
<http://www.nationalboard.org/Index.aspx?pageID=290> ❖

EXPIRATION OF EXAM RESULTS AND EXPERIENCE

In accordance with provisions of the Power Engineers Regulation (Alberta Regulation 85/2003) under the Safety Codes Act, to achieve a "Certificate of Competency" as a power engineer in the province of Alberta, a person must successfully complete examinations and meet a prescribed level of work experience. The Administrator has issued a Directive that, effective July 1, 2012, only examination results and experience gained within 7 years of certification will be considered towards that certification.

Seven years after an examination paper was passed, it can no longer be considered towards higher certification and the examination paper will have to be written again. Operating experience older than seven years will not be accepted for higher level of certification. To achieve certification, an applicant will have to re-submit up-to-date pressure equipment work experience.

The Directive and additional information are available at www.absa.ca. ❖

APPLICATION PROCESS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION PERMIT

This is a general process to obtain a "Certificate of Authorization Permit" for the **Construction, Repair and Alteration** of pressure piping in accordance with the provisions of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulations AR49/2006 and the requirements of CSA B51 and ASME codes.

Section 11(1) of the Pressure Equipment Safety regulations (PESR), states that "*a person shall not (a) construct or manufacture pressure equipment, (b) repair or alter pressure equipment, or (c) service, repair, set or seal a pressure relief valve, unless that person holds a certificate of authorization permit*". Section 12(1) of the Regulation requires an application to be submitted to the Administrator. Form AB-29 is provided for the convenience of the applicants, however a form satisfactory to the Administrator providing all the necessary information may also be used.

The required fee (as per ABSA fee schedule), a written description (in the form of a manual) and a completed Pressure Piping Construction Requirements QMS Manual and Audit Checklist Form (AB-518b) are to accompany the application. The manual has to address the scope of work to be undertaken and management support for the "Quality Management system" as well as meeting the provisions of Pressure Piping Construction Requirements Document (AB-518). Both AB-518 and AB-518b are available on the ABSA website www.absa.ca.

Once the appropriate documentation is received, an ABSA auditor will be assigned. The auditor will review the manual and the AB-518b and when the quality control manual and the AB-518b are acceptable, then the auditor will schedule an audit on an actual project undertaken by the contractor to ensure the contractor understands the system and the system is properly implemented.

Upon successful completion of the audit, the auditor may recommend to the Administrator that a Certificate of Authorization be issued for the scope of work applied for. The fee schedules for this audit are available at www.absa.ca.

For further information, please contact the closest ABSA office. ❖

IMPACT TESTING OF WELDING CONSUMABLES

In the Volume 11 Issue 1, March 2006 issue of the Pressure News, under the title of Production Impact Testing it was stated that a vessel Manufacturer wanting to exempt these welding consumables (i.e. Gas Metal Arc Welding – SFA-5.18) from production impact testing has two options:

- 1) have the welding consumable manufacturer certify the electrode by impact testing to the MDMT of the vessel (see Interpretation VIII-1-01-64)
- 2) have a specific heat, batch or lot of wire electrode impact tested following the procedure of the applicable SFA specification to the MDMT of the vessel.

Using either of these options would require complete control of the welding consumable used by the vessel manufacturer.

We alerted our industry previously through the ABSA Code Update seminar that ASME Code was under review in this regard to ensure that welding consumables would be properly tested and certified by the welding consumable manufacturers.

With the publication of the 2011 Addenda of the ASME Section VIII Div. I, paragraph UCS-67(a)(3) has been revised to clearly indicate that only "*Additional testing beyond the scope of the SFA specification may be performed by the filler metal and/or flux manufacturer to expand their classification for a broader range of temperatures.*". As a result of this Code revision, the second option in the newsletter article is no longer valid since the Code clearly does not provides for the vessel Manufacturer to impact test consumables to a lower temperature than allowed by the applicable SFA specification. ❖

COPYING OF EXAMINATION QUESTIONS AND POSTING ON WEBSITES

Concerned members of the public have reported to ABSA that some examination questions, that are being used in the testing of power engineer's for their certificate of competency, are being posted on the internet with the purpose of exposing examination candidates to the examination questions along with the answers prior to writing an examination. This practice has serious safety implications and discredits the validity and value of power engineering certification. If a power engineer has obtained certification without having the appropriate skill and knowledge, the operation of pressure equipment can result in serious consequences of injury to people and damage to equipment.

Sharing of examination questions and answers is in violation of rules for the examinations and, therefore, an offence under the Safety Codes Act. It is also in violation of copyright laws.

Investigation on one website posting has resulted in imposed penalties on the individual involved. This also led to the website's being shut down and passed examination being declared a failure. We are continuing to investigate this matter. It is important for all to be vigilant not to participate in this type of activity and to discourage others from doing so. ❖

DESIGNATION OF A CHIEF POWER ENGINEER UNDER THE POWER ENGINEERS REGULATION

As provided for under Section 2 of the Power Engineers Regulation, a power plant requiring a Chief Power Engineer, must not be operated unless it is under the overall supervision and responsibility of a Chief Power Engineer. And as defined under Section 1(g) of the Regulation, a Chief Power Engineer is one who is designated by the owner of a power plant to fulfill the responsibilities of the Chief Power Engineer. Accordingly, only one person can be designated to carry out the duties of the Chief Power Engineer. If the Chief Power Engineer is absent from the power plant for more than 96 hours, the owner must designate another competent power engineer to act as the Chief Power Engineer.

Some power plants currently operate with the Chief Power Engineer being away from the plant site on a regular basis, a typical example of which would be on a seven days on and seven days off rotation. Therefore, clear direction must be given as to who is being designated to act as the Chief Power Engineer, what responsibilities are given to the individual so appointed and how this authority is communicated to the shift engineers.

An information bulletin will be issued by the "Administrator" addressing the process for the "Owner" of a power plant, to designate a person to carry out the responsibilities of a Chief Power Engineer in accordance with the Power Engineers Regulation (Alberta Regulation 85/2003) under the Safety Codes Act.

The owner must have a process that:

- defines how the acting Chief Power Engineer is designated;
- ensures that the designated individual is competent and holds a Certificate of Competency that meets or exceeds certification required under the Power Engineers Regulation;
- shows the appointment time and ensures that there is no gap or overlap in coverage;
- ensures that the responsibilities of the Chief Power Engineer are fulfilled as established by the Power Engineers Regulation;
- defines the turnover process between the Chief Power Engineer and the individual acting in that capacity during the changeover;
- ensures that the appointment is communicated to the shift engineers, assistant shift engineers, assistant engineers and any other person who represents the 'Owner' of the power plant. ❖

WORK EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION FROM OUTSIDE CANADA

The process for assessing candidates from outside Canada, who wish to pursue power engineering certification in Alberta, has been updated and approved. Provision is made in the process recognizing experience for use up to 2nd Class certification with candidates having to successfully complete the examinations starting at the 4th Class level. For further details, please see Information Bulletin No. IB12-003. ❖

ABSA CODE UPDATE SEMINAR

The ABSA Code Update Seminar this year will be held in Nisku on September 20 and in Calgary on September 26. To attend the seminar, readers are reminded to register early to avoid being disappointed since this seminar has always been highly popular.

For thirty years, this seminar has been providing updates to industry annually on all matters relating to legislative and technical provisions of pressure equipment programs in Alberta. Included are updates on the CSA Codes, ASME BPV Code, NBIC and other codes and standards, legislated provisions, amendments and directives, recent issues/problems and other issues related to pressure equipment technology and industry

Previously, with annual issuance of addenda to the ASME BPV Code, a portion of the seminar was devoted to changes to the ASME Code. There is no new addenda to the ASME BPV Code in 2012, but the Update Seminar will continue to provide the latest information on the ASME BPV Code, including the latest errata and Code Cases. The seminar this year will inform industry on new/revised ABSA's AB-500 series documents and provide discussion on some of the Informational Bulletins. In a summary, proposed topics for possible inclusion in the seminar include:

- Alternative Rules for Nozzle Reinforcement (ASME VIII, I-9 and I-10)
- Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Errata
- Use of ASME Code Case 2695 vs ASME Code Case 2260
- New AB-500 series document on Overpressure Protection by System Design (OPPSD) requirements
- AB-520 Finite Element Analysis (FEA) Requirements in Design Survey
- AB-522 Standard Pneumatic Test Procedure Requirements
- Design Registration e-Learning technology
- What is on the Horizon (potential future changes of pressure equipment codes and standards)

The detailed content of this year's seminar will be available and posted on ABSA's website within a few weeks. ❖

EXTERNAL TRAINING NEWS

As a result of stakeholders' request, a seminar was developed to specifically address the needs of those who operate, maintain and inspect steam locomotives, which are popular and endearing to the general public, could have very serious public safety implications. This seminar covers pressure equipment legislation along with repair and alteration to steam locomotives. The seminar was well received by not only our Alberta steam locomotive engineers but also other locomotive owners and regulators from neighboring provinces.

On a special request from a Japanese manufacturer producing fittings for use on pressure equipment in Alberta, our normal two day "Design Registration" seminar was customized to meet the company's needs and delivered at their office.. Our instructor delivered the seminar in English and the company provided an interpreter who translated the lessons into Japanese. The seminar was a success and the company has implemented changes to their design registration process.

The Pressure Equipment Safety Legislation (PESL) seminar, one of the oldest seminars we conduct, has been delivered to the public for almost a decade. This seminar is currently under review to make sure that it continues to meet the needs of public safety and is updated to our Continuing Education and Training (CE/T) standard. ❖

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