

YEAR-END MESSAGE

Once again, we are pleased to report that ABSA staff had a very safe year in terms of injuries to employees. As we look back on last year, we are very pleased to note the continuation of the trend of fewer pressure equipment industry reported accidents and unsafe conditions. More importantly, there were no major pressure equipment accidents involving fatalities or serious injuries in Alberta this year that were caused by the failure of the pressure boundary. This is largely due to the effort of industry with ABSA playing a role in the delivery of pressure equipment safety programs promoting pressure equipment safety in the province.

This was a year of steady activity at ABSA. Certification of power engineers and welders has increased significantly, and activity in audits, design registration and inspections have also increased. Seminar delivery activity also increased this year. Financially, ABSA's reserves at year end met the Board's targets for financial health and the independent external auditor gave ABSA a clean financial audit again this year. There will be no change to ABSA's fee schedule in 2014. However, ABSA revenue from annual vessel registration fees will increase as a result of the policy change respecting process pressure vessels. With our stable, well-experienced workforce and solid infrastructure, ABSA is well positioned to deliver its mandate.

In addition to a knowledgeable and skilled staff, ABSA is very fortunate to have a dedicated and committed Board of Directors. Bob Emmott joined ABSA's Board of Directors on July 1st, 2013, as the member representing the energy generation and utilities sector. Bob is Executive Vice President and Chief Engineer, TransAlta Corporation. ABSA's Board of Directors also comprises Dale Myggland, Owner of BRIAS Inc. and the Minister of Municipal Affairs appointee on the Board; Dr. Gordon Nixon, Vice President Academic of SAIT Polytechnic; Tony Robinson, Operations Manager, Production and Processing at Enerflex Ltd; and Mark Demchuk, Vice President, New Resource Plays - Projects, Facilities and Operations at Cenovus Energy. John Ell, President of ATCO Power, retired from the Board at the end of June 2013. We would like to take this opportunity to thank John for his significant contributions and valued leadership over 6 years.

As we come to the end of the year, the Board and all the staff at ABSA wish you all the best for the holiday season as you share it with family and friends. Our wish is that your new year will be safe and filled with happiness, joy, health and prosperity.

IN THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Year-end Message</i> | 1 |
| <i>Policy Change Affecting In-Service Pressure Equipment Safety</i> | 2 |
| <i>Amended Power Engineers Regulation</i> | 2 |
| <i>ASME 2013 Section VIII-1 Code Errata and Notices</i> | 3 |
| <i>Pressure Relief Device Requirements Document</i> | 3 |
| <i>External Training News</i> | 4 |
| <i>Top Student Award</i> | 4 |



Warmest wishes for the holiday season
and
for Health and Happiness
throughout the New Year

POLICY CHANGE AFFECTING IN-SERVICE PRESSURE EQUIPMENT SAFETY

Effective January 1st, 2014, there will be a policy change affecting approximately 77,000 items of the following types of pressure equipment:

1. Pressure vessels having a volume not exceeding 0.5 m³ (500 litres) that are designated for the following uses:
 - suction, discharge, scrubber or pulsation vessels for compressors;
 - fuel gas scrubbers;
 - vessels metering oil and gas;
 - vessels filtering or straining fluids;
 - vessels operating in well head plants or batteries;
2. Air cooled or plate type heat exchangers; and
3. Direct or indirect fired oil and gas process heaters of the coil type.

The affected pressure equipment requires a certificate of inspection permit in accordance with section 33 of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation. This equipment will have an "A number" and pressure vessel CRN (Canadian Registration Number).

The policy change came about in response to safety concerns raised by industry in 2009 regarding this type of pressure equipment. The concerns related to vessel integrity management systems that did not include this type of pressure equipment. Stakeholder consultation was conducted in October 2013.

The affected items will be brought into the in-service inspection program effective January 1st, 2014, and will be included in the annual registration program effective April 1st, 2014. ❖

AMENDED POWER ENGINEERS REGULATION

The Power Engineers Regulation AR 85/2003 has been amended by the Power Engineers Amendment Regulation AR 218/2013 which came into force on December 1, 2013. The provincial government has considered input from stakeholders during the regulatory review process and determined that a number of changes will be beneficial to those affected by the regulation.

Some of the more **significant** changes are summarized below:

- Alternative supervision may be permitted for certain plants and heating systems to allow a reduction in the requirement of overall and continuous supervision of a certified operator;
- Hot water boiler plants may be eligible for reduction in the required number of checks on the weekends and holidays;
- Candidates are no longer required to meet minimum academic standards to challenge any power engineering examinations;
- The fourth class power engineering 4A examination may be challenged after completing the 4th class part A portion of an approved power engineering course, and after successfully completing the 4th Class part B approved power engineering course, a person may challenge the 4B examination.
- Candidates may challenge all exams for higher certification without providing any testimonials of employment experience. Proof of meeting the required experience must be provided prior to issuance of a certificate;
- The holder of a 5th Class Certificate is no longer eligible to challenge the 4A examination paper without the 4A course completion;
- Chief power engineers may authorize supervision at one level higher than the power engineer certificate held for up to 96 hours, on an emergency basis;

Two New Certifications

- *Steam-powered Traction Engine Operator's Certificate of Competency* is now required to supervise the operation of a historic boiler (other than a locomotive on a railroad) up to a capacity of 250 kW while it is operating in a display or for the purposes of entertainment.
- *Fired Process Heater Operator's Certificate of Competency* can provide supervision for thermal liquid heating systems, power plants containing a thermal liquid under pressure of a blanketing gas not exceeding 700 kPa and power plants containing a water-glycol mixture with a minimum of 40% glycol, under the conditions shown in the Regulation.

Further detail is shown at :

<http://www.absa.ca/ECprogram/PowerEngineering/Amended%20Power%20Engineers%20Regulation.PDF> ❖

ASME 2013 SECTION VIII-1 CODE ERRATA AND NOTICES

Following publication of the 2013 Edition of Section VIII-1 Code, several significant typographical errors and inconsistencies in the text have been noticed, and it is anticipated that these will be addressed in Errata that are published by ASME. Due to the scope of changes in Part UHX, most of these inconsistencies relate to Part UHX.

Some examples of typographical inconsistencies and errors include, but are not limited to, the following: in UHX-13.5.9 (a)(1) (-b), the formula for $\sigma_{t,2}$ should have a 'max' subscript instead of a 'min' subscript; in UHX-13.9.3(b)(3), for configurations b and c, it should read ' \leq ' instead of ' $<$ '; in UHX-14.5.7(b), the denominator should include $(h-h'_g)^2$ and not $(h-h'_g)2$; the caution note on the nameplates depicted in Figure L-11-3 needs to meet the requirements of UHX 19.2.2; etc.

More typographical errors and inconsistencies exist, and these will be addressed in the Errata as discovered. When in doubt about errors and inconsistencies, please refer to the comparable text in the previous edition, to see if the error is typographical in nature.

For more information on current Errata, Special Notifications and subscriptions to notifications, please refer to: <http://cstools.asme.org/BPVErrataAndSpecialNotice.cfm>

Per IB11-019, ASME no longer provides addenda service and no longer distributes Errata as part of the ASME Code book. All organizations who are required to maintain up-to-date ASME Code Section(s) under their quality systems are asked to ensure that they update the Code Section(s) to follow the Errata issued by the ASME. ❖

PRESSURE RELIEF DEVICES REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT

Pressure Relief Devices Requirements document, AB-524, comes into force on January 1, 2014. Compliance with the AB-524 is mandatory effective January 1, 2014, regardless of the renewal date of your Certificate of Authorization Permit for the manufacture, assembly, servicing, setting, repairing or sealing of pressure relief valves (PRVs).

Following extensive consultation in 2012, the pressure equipment Administrator issued IB12-011 respecting the Pressure Relief Devices (PRDs) Requirements. (IB12-011 has been superseded by IB13-002.) The Information Bulletin and the AB-524 documents were posted on ABSA's website on August 14, 2012 providing fairly extensive lead time to the industry to prepare and ensure compliance by January 1, 2014. In addition to posting of the documents, owners of pressure equipment and commercial pressure relief valve servicing shops were informed by mail of the documents. Upon posting the documents, ABSA also audited the servicing shops to assist them with the identification of gaps between their current practices and the new requirements to allow for easy transition and compliance by January 1, 2014.

For new applicants and those who are currently certified by ABSA to manufacture, assemble, service, set or seal PRDs, and for those who are engaged in the selection, sizing and installation of PRDs, the following requirements are highlighted:

Effective January 1, 2014, those who are engaged in the servicing, setting and testing of PRVs are required to:

- comply with the bench testing requirements of Section 3.3 of the AB-524 document, and therefore;
 - ◇ test ASME Section I PRVs with steam;
 - ◇ test ASME Section VIII steam PRVs with steam. Only owner/users, who are certified by ABSA to service and set their own PRVs, may set 'UV' stamped PRVs with air provided a model-specific, manufacturer-supplied steam to air correction factor is available and kept on file. Gas to gas temperature correction factors which apply to gas mediums only are not applicable to steam medium PRVs.

There is no change in the testing routine of ASME Section IV PRVs from the current practices regardless of whether they are installed on steam or hot water boilers.

- practice a documented quality management system that meets the requirements of Section 3.6 of the AB-524 document;
- train the technicians and trainers to the requirements of Section 3.7 of the AB-524 document;
- qualify the testing equipment in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.8 of the AB-524 document and maintain the documentation of doing so.

Background

Pressure Relief Devices Requirements document, AB-524, is a product of an Industry-ABSA joint initiative. The work on the development of the document was initiated in the beginning of 2011 by a 14 member Industry-ABSA steering committee. The committee received input from various stakeholders of industry, in particular from the owners, and identified the developmental process to ensure that the outputs have satisfactorily met the input requirements. The committee members spent countless hours during the developmental period to discuss, review and take the requirement document through 5 draft stages before the first edition was posted on August 14, 2012. ABSA would like to take this opportunity to thank the steering committee members and many other ABSA and industrial members, including the National Board, who provided guidance, advice and technical knowledge to help develop this document.

Edition 3, Rev.0 of the AB-524 document will be posted on ABSA's website on January 1, 2014. Except for formatting enhancements, there are no changes to the content and provisions of the document, a copy of which may be downloaded from ABSA's website at www.absa.ca in the first week of January, 2014. ❖

EXTERNAL TRAINING NEWS

In ABSA's 2013 fiscal year, External Training successfully presented 62 seminars to an audience of 1294 industry members across Alberta, the USA and Europe. As a result of this success, External Training achieved it's 2013 objective of increasing the public's understanding of pressure equipment safety. We hope to reach an even larger audience in 2014 with public seminars scheduled in Edmonton, Calgary, Fort McMurray and Red Deer.

Our 2014 Seminar schedule has been posted on our website www.absa.ca and we invite all those who have an interest in pressure equipment safety to book early to guarantee a seat at one of the seminar locations.

As of December 01, 2013, the Power Engineers Regulation AR 85/2003 has been amended by the Power Engineers Amendment Regulation AR 218/2013 and introduced many changes to the previous legislation. The Regulatory Information for Power Engineers (RIPE) seminar has been updated to discuss the new requirements. Public seminars have been scheduled for the revised RIPE seminar and many owners of pressure equipment have been requesting to have this seminar at their site.

Information on our seminars is available at : <http://www.absa.ca/ECprogram/Seminars/TrainingNews.aspx>. ❖

NATIONAL 4TH CLASS POWER ENGINEERING TOP STUDENT AWARD

At this years annual Interprovincial Power Engineering Curriculum Committee (IPECC) and the Standardization of Power Engineer Examinations Committee (SOPEEC) meetings held in June, an Alberta 4th Class Power Engineering student won the top power engineering student award from PanGlobal Training Systems Ltd.

Mr. Claude Mallet and Yauheni (Eugene) Muzyrou, both from Keyano College in Fort McMurray, obtained the highest and the second highest combined college mark and SOPEEC examination mark average of 96.10% and 92.35% respectively in Canada for last year. The Top Student award was presented to Mr. Mallet by Mr. Bob Clarke, Chief Operating Officer of PanGlobal. This was the seventh time in the last eight years that Alberta students obtained an award. It is good to see that Alberta power engineering students continue to excel. ❖



CAUTION

Previous issues of The Pressure News may contain information which is outdated or no longer valid. Please be cautious when using information from old articles.

This Newsletter is a publication of ABSA. ABSA grants readers permission to make photocopies of this Newsletter for free distribution to employees and business associates. Articles may be copied in part or in whole provided credit be given to ABSA.

ABSA OFFICES

Edmonton - Head Office

9410 - 20 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6N 0A4
Tel (780) 437-9100
Fax (780) 437-7787

Calgary

Tower 3, Suite 590
1212 - 31st Avenue N.E.
Calgary, Alberta T2E 7S8
Tel (403) 291-7070
Fax (403) 291-4545

Grande Prairie

#203, 10109 - 97th Avenue
Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 0N5
Tel (780) 538-9922
Fax (780) 538-9400

Lethbridge

#300, 515 - 7th Street South
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 2G8
Tel (403) 394-1011
Fax (403) 327-2483

Fort McMurray

39C Suncor Industrial Campus
160 MacKenzie Boulevard
Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 4B8
Tel (780) 714-3067
Fax (780) 714-2380

Medicine Hat

#103, 346 - 3rd Street S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0G7
Tel (403) 529-3514
Fax (403) 529-3632

Internet address

<http://www.absa.ca>

Red Deer

#304, 4406 Gaetz Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 3Z6
Tel (403) 341-6677
Fax (403) 341-3377