

ABSA THE PRESSURE NEWS

Alberta Boilers Safety Association

Volume 2, Issue 1, February 1997



Mr. Al Futcher

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the ABSA Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on ABSA. ABSA's management and staff participated in so many important aspects of improving service to our customers in the past year that it is impossible to do them justice in this short message. The linkages between the stakeholders, who fund the operation costs, and the ABSA staff has been strengthened by industry information meetings, customer training seminars, and a customer survey. This survey shows many areas where we are seen to be very supportive and several areas where we need to be more responsive to customer needs. Perhaps most important has been the work which has gone on which helps every employee understand the ABSA goals and objectives and the part they each play. Our first year of operation has indeed shown that everyone is committed and understands the challenges ahead. Our employees conducted over 26,000 inspections which is a 23% increase over the previous year!

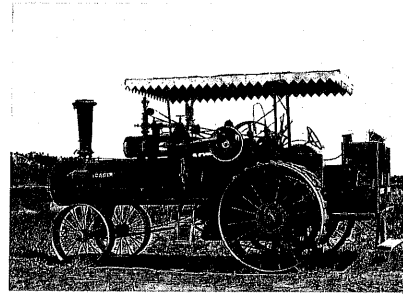
We now want to look forward and give some thought to some of the issues the Association faces and the development of guidelines which we will follow. We, like every other organization, will be required to provide more with less. The very competitive environment in which many of our stakeholders operate will inevitably challenge ABSA's ability to provide all its programs in the most cost effective manner and above all we must remember that pressure equipment safety in Alberta comes first.

What this means is that everyone must pull together to make the delivery of



100 YEARS OF BOILER SAFETY!

In 1997 it will be 100 years since regulation to promote Boiler and Pressure Vessel safety was introduced in the Province of Alberta. This historical event took place as the Steam Boilers Ordinance was enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territories in 1897 setting the foundation of our province's greatest industry and ensuring that public safety is not compromised.



To commemorate this 100-year milestone, ABSA is coordinating the production of a book which is an historical account of the last 100 years. The book also explores the many facets of our pressure equipment industry as it is today.

service very effective and we must all be conscious that fees and charges must be levied with justification. We look forward to further input from our employees and our stakeholders to help us in seeking improvements. Please help us in 1997 to keep up the momentum.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers, Managers, and all the ABSA employees for their dedication in working toward achieving the financial and program delivery objectives in 1996. We are extremely positive about the current forecast for the foreseeable future. We are also determined to provide increased service in line with need and look forward enthusiastically to the year ahead.

Al Futcher,
Chairman of the Board of Directors

If you wish to have photographs of your plant site and a description of your organization included in the proposed historic book, you must contact us as soon as possible. This

book will be a collection of written and photographic, historic and recent events and it can be used for promotion of the pressure equipment industry and your organizations as

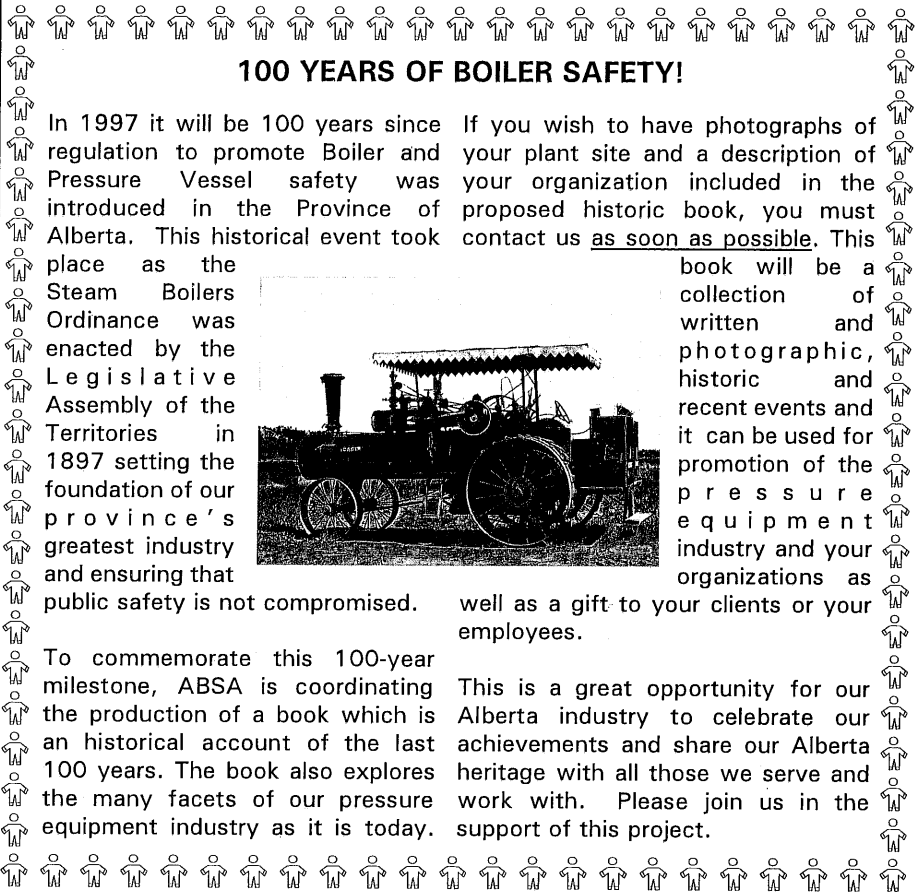
well as a gift to your clients or your employees.

This is a great opportunity for our Alberta industry to celebrate our achievements and share our Alberta heritage with all those we serve and work with. Please join us in the support of this project.

DESIGN SURVEY REGISTRATION APPLICATION FORM

ABSA has developed a new application form for the registration of designs and procedures. The reaction to the draft form unveiled at last fall's design survey seminars seemed to be very positive.

This form will serve a number of purposes. First, it will do away with the need for submitters to prepare their own transmittal forms. Then, it will become a reply document for ABSA to let you know by fax that the submission has been received, which engineer is dealing with it and when you may expect some response. Finally, the form will have a space for the acceptance stamp to allow us to fax notice of acceptance to you right away. Watch for copies of these forms coming your way in the near future.



ASME CODE CASES RELATING TO PRESSURE RELIEF VALVES

ASME Code Cases are not considered to be part of the Code that is adopted by jurisdictional authorities. As such, the ASME Code cautions manufacturers and users of components against making use of Cases that are less restrictive than former requirements without having assurance that they have been accepted by the proper authorities in the jurisdiction where the component is to be installed.

The following information is provided to pressure equipment users and authorized servicing organizations to clarify the application of recent ASME Section VIII pressure relief valve related code cases in Alberta.

Code Case #2203 - Use of Lifting Levers Under ASME Section VIII

For new pressure relief valves supplied under Section VIII of the ASME Code, Code Case #2203 defines under what circumstances the lifting lever may be omitted when the valve is to be used on air, steam and hot water (over 140° F) service.

The Code Case states that the requirement for a lifting lever may be omitted provided:

1. The user has a documented procedure and an associated implementation program for the periodic removal of the Pressure Relief Valves for inspection, testing, and repair as necessary.
2. The user specifies that no test lever be supplied.
3. The user shall obtain permission to omit the lifting lever (device) from the authority having jurisdiction over the installation of pressure vessels.

Individual installation acceptance is required to utilize this Code Case in Alberta. Under normal circumstances permission will be granted when the first requirement can be demonstrated, and process conditions warrant the omission of the lifting lever. Requests for permission to utilize this code case, along with supporting procedures and justification must be submitted to ABSA.

Employment Opportunities

Visit the ABSA Internet e-mail address for current ABSA job opportunities.

Organizations that have obtained Owner User Quality Program authorization will be deemed to have met the first requirement of the Code Case and may revise their quality program including provisions to utilize this Code Case without seeking permission for individual installations. The necessary quality program revisions must be accepted by ABSA prior to their implementation.

If original manufacturers' parts are available to allow the alteration of an existing pressure relief valve to omit the lifting lever, the valve may be altered by complying with the requirements of this Code Case and obtaining permission as stated above. The valve alteration must be conducted by qualified personnel within an organization authorized to service pressure relief valves.

Code Case #2204 - Body Drains on Pressure Relief Valves Under ASME Section VIII

(Only Applicable to Pressure Relief Valve Manufacturers)

Under paragraph UG-136(a)(8) of Section VIII of the ASME Code, a body drain is required on pressure relief valves if the seat of the valve is below the level of the discharge opening. Code Case #2204 allows for the drain to be omitted under certain conditions, on valves with an inlet size of 1 NPS or smaller.

This Code Case may be utilized in Alberta. It is, however, significant that end users recognize the importance of body drains in all installations where there is the possibility of liquid discharge or liquid formed by condensation occurring in the discharge piping or water and other contaminants entering the valve discharge. In cases where such possibility exists, irrespective of valve inlet sizes, valve body drains provided must be utilized to prevent the destructive build up of liquids within the valve body.

Code Case #2208 - Corrosion Resistant Coating of Pressure Relief Valve Springs Under ASME Section VIII

Section VIII of the ASME Code requires Assemblers to use only original, unmodified factory supplied parts in valves bearing the Code

symbol stamp. Under certain conditions the Assembler may apply or contract to have applied, a corrosion resistant coating to springs used in pressure relief valves. Code Case #2208 provides for specific rules to be followed for the coating of springs by Assemblers.

If a user wishes to alter an existing pressure relief valve by having a corrosion resistant spring installed by an organization authorized to service pressure relief valves, the spring shall be obtained from the valve Manufacturer or an Assembler with authorization from the valve Manufacturer in accordance with this Code Case.

FIRST ANNUAL PRESSURE EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

The Energy & Natural Resources Department of SAIT, with support from ABSA, is coordinating the First Annual Pressure Equipment Industry Conference scheduled for February 24 & 25, 1997. The conference will be held at the Banff Centre in Banff, Alberta.

For more information, please call Milt Deck, Energy & Natural Resources Department of SAIT at (403) 284-7118.

ON-STREAM LEAK SEALING OF FLANGES, VALVES, ETC.

Companies wishing to carry out on-stream sealing of leaking flange pairs, valves or fittings must be aware of the following:

- ◆ Such procedures are only permitted as a **temporary measure** until proper permanent repairs can be effected.
- ◆ The repair must be acceptable to the local ABSA Inspector.
- ◆ The component to be sealed must be shown to be capable of withstanding the application of the leak-sealing device. For example, welding must not be carried out on paper-thin metal which might fail during the welding process. Also the cause of the leak must not preclude the use of the proposed device.

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**POWER ENGINEERING
PROPOSED NEW 4TH AND 5TH
CLASS CERTIFICATES OF
COMPETENCY
AND INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Recent developments regarding the standardization of Certification for Power Engineers has led to the approval of recommendations for the introduction of a new 4th and 5th class examination syllabus by the Standardization of Power Engineers Examination Committee (SOPEEC), and the Association of Chief Inspectors (ACI). Subsequently, a recommendation regarding the introduction of the new 4th and 5th Class Certificate of Competency into the Safety Codes Act, Engineers Regulation was addressed and approved by the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Technical Council, and is being submitted to the Provincial Government for approval and legislative changes.

The introduction of the new 4th and 5th Class Certificates of Competency will allow Alberta to become consistent with other Provinces and Territories in Canada, thereby achieving standardization of certification for those levels of Power Engineering. In addition to promoting greater efficiency of manpower utilization in industry, this will greatly enhance the certificate holder's ability to relocate or transfer to other jurisdictions throughout Canada as the certifications would be recognized as equivalent.

The proposed new 4th Class Certificate of Competency will be a combination of the existing 4th Class and Building Operator A Certifications, and the proposed new 5th Class will be a combination of the existing Fireman Class and Building Operator B Certifications. The proposal allows the continuation of holders of existing certifications to function in future in accordance with present legislation. At the same time, these certificate holders will also have the option to upgrade to the new certificates.

In an effort to provide further clarification regarding the proposed changes, and to address other related issues and topics, the Alberta Boilers Safety Association will be scheduling information sessions during the spring of 1997. It is anticipated that the information sessions will be held

during the evening from approximately 1800 to 2100hrs at various locations throughout Alberta. The target group for attendees at the information sessions will be Building Operators A and B, Fireman and 4th Class certificate holders, those individuals currently enrolled in courses/programs leading towards these certifications, and plant owners/representatives employing individuals holding these certifications

Information session locations are scheduled as follows:

Edmonton

29 April 97, Coast Terrace Inn

Grande Prairie

1 May 97, Golden Inn

Calgary

13 May 97, Port O'Call Inn

Medicine Hat

14 May 97, Medicine Hat Lodge

If you are planning to attend one of these sessions, please fax or mail in your name and the location you will be attending.

STATE OF IOWA

We have been informed that the Iowa Statute and Administrative Rules for Boilers and Unfired Pressure Vessels have been changed. In particular, pressure vessels built to CSA and other national codes and inspected by a National Board Commissioned inspector and registered with the National Board, are acceptable for installation in Iowa as of July 1, 1996. For further information, contact the Division of Labor Services of the State of Iowa.

**DOCUMENTATION
REQUIREMENTS
FOR PARTS USED IN
REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS**

Replacement pressure parts for existing vessels and boilers that are formed and/or assembled but on which no welding has been done, such as heat exchanger bundles, may be supplied as basic "material".

Parts supplied as "material" shall be marked with the parts manufacturer name or Logo and identification to ensure traceability to material test

OWNERSHIP CHANGES

You are reminded of your responsibility for reporting boiler and pressure vessel ownership changes. See Vol. 1, Issue 1, January 1996.

reports and other applicable documentation.

The manufacturer of the part shall provide an Alberta Data Report or other suitable document to certify compliance with the applicable ASME Code. Parts supplied as "material" shall not be inspected or certified by an ABSA inspector unless this is required by the owner. In that case, all requirements noted below shall apply.

When welded pressure retaining parts are supplied by other than the organization who will complete the work in the field, the parts manufacturer shall furnish the appropriate ASME/CSA (Alberta) Data Report to the repair organization who completes the work. These data reports shall be certified by the manufacturer and an Authorized Inspector (ABSA Inspector) and parts shall be marked as indicated in the applicable ASME Code (UG118, PG106, AS120PG) apart from the Code Stamp when a CSA (Alberta) Data Report is used.

When the shop work is performed by the organization who will complete the field work, a single Repair/Alteration Report form may be used to document both shop and field activities. A partial data report may be used if required by the customer. Completion of work at the shop shall be documented on the travel sheet and signed by the Quality Control Inspector and the Authorized Inspector. The shop shall forward a copy of the shop travel sheet to the field site to enable the ABSA Inspector or Owner/User Inspector to verify that the required Code Inspections have been done. The parts must be suitably identified to ensure traceability to the documentation.

When some of the material from the existing vessel is used, a Repair/Alteration Report certified by the shop and an ABSA inspector shall be supplied and the part shall, as a minimum, be marked with the name of the repair organization and an identification number.

GRADE 'C' PRESSURE WELDER'S CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY

Organizations involved with fabrication, alteration, or repair of pressure equipment may not be totally familiar with this particular grade of pressure welder. It therefore would seem timely, with ever increasing pressure welding activity throughout the province, to review and explain this certificate of competency.

This is a temporary pressure welder certification (12 months maximum) which may be issued by ABSA. Employers or prospective employers are required to make application to ABSA on a candidate's behalf and the candidate must meet the requirements of the Pressure Welders' Regulations. The candidate will also have to pass an appropriate performance test before being permitted to engage in the type of pressure welding in respect to the test conducted.

There are three provisions available to employers as detailed in the Pressure Welders' Regulations for allowing candidates (welders) to obtain this certification and they must be addressed before an application would be reviewed for acceptance by ABSA:-

1) The employer certifies in writing that the services of a Grade 'B' Pressure Welder cannot be obtained. Also the candidate must have been engaged in welding for 36 months and hold a pressure welder's qualification issued by a jurisdiction outside Alberta.

OR

2) An employer may make application for a candidate who is in his second year or subsequent year as an Alberta apprentice welder.

OR

3) The employer certifies in writing that welding is of an urgent nature (E.g. repairs of a specialized nature conducted by a manufacturer from outside Alberta). The candidate who would be coming to Alberta will have the experience and qualification of a Grade 'B' Pressure Welder. It must be noted that a certificate of competency issued under this condition will not exceed five working days.

Please contact your local ABSA office for further clarifications required on the Grade 'C' Pressure Welder Certificate of Competency .

(Continued from page 2)

- ♦ All leak-sealing devices must either be registered fittings or the design of the job-specific device must be submitted to ABSA's Design Survey Section as part of the proposed repair procedure. Even though registered, the fittings must not be used without the ABSA Inspector's agreement to the temporary repair.
- ♦ The manufacture of leak-sealing devices must be performed by a company having a verified quality control program suitable to such manufacturing.
- ♦ The **removal date** of the temporary device **must be specified** by the plant owner.

CORRECTION to Vol. 1 Issue 6, Nov 1996 NB & API 1997 Exam Dates

National Board Commission

Edmonton

Mar 5 & 6 Sep 3 & 4
Jun 4 & 5 Dec 3 & 4

API 510 and API 570

Edmonton

Jun 4 Dec 3

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