

EXCITING NEW WEB SITE

As you may have heard, ABSA's Web site has been undergoing an exciting transformation! The upgraded Web site will be launched shortly, and we are hoping you find it to be the usable, dynamic and powerful tool that we endeavored to create.

When we first began the process of upgrading the site, we had a wish-list of functions that we hoped it would be able to fulfill. Now, after seven months of hard work and lots of valuable input from our stakeholders and the people here at ABSA, we are ready to present a user-friendly site that more than meets everyone's expectations.

One of the features we are particularly excited about is the new search engine, which is now an extremely efficient tool for accessing many types of information. You can enter up to ten key words or phrases. The search result page will provide much more information on the retrieved documents, such as an executive summary and their level of relevance to your search. This will assist greatly in helping you, the user, to determine which documents you would like to open.

We have also included a list of commonly used acronyms, commonly used key words and phrases, and detailed information on how to get the most out of your searches.

Another major change is to the webpage layout. The new homepage layout features a fixed header, footer, and roll-out menu. These will remain accessible at all times, and contain links to much of the basic information about ABSA. The roll-out menu has sub-menus that allow the user to

easily see what documents are available and access them with one click.

With the transformation, we also included many features which



contribute toward the site's overall usability, such as a "breadcrumb trail" which tracks your navigation path, subscription service to electronic news, and printer-friendly function for printing the opened documents.

In addition to accessing information through the header, footer, and roll-out menu, specific information on the site has been grouped into 9 main user groups, which are all accessible from the home page. A visitor to the site can simply choose the group that best describes the user and access all the information that is applicable to that grouping without having to filter through extraneous information.

Come and visit us on www.absa.ca. We are excited with the latest development and we are certain you will be too. And when you do visit us, your feedback, suggestions, and comments would be welcomed to help us further refine ABSA's new web site, improve customer service, and promote pressure equipment safety in Alberta. Please feel free to email webmaster@absa.ca, or use the electronic feedback form on the web site to provide us with your suggestions. ❖



Season's Greetings

*Best Wishes for Peace and Joy this Holiday Season
and New Year of Health, Happiness and Prosperity*

REVISED 2ND CLASS SYLLABUS

On January 01, 2005, a revised Second Class syllabus for Power Engineering examinations will become effective

This revised Second Class syllabus will bring about a major change in the layout of the examinations. This change is so substantial that examination papers already successfully completed can not be integrated into the revised Standardized Second Class program.

To assist in this transition, the examinations for both the old and revised syllabi will be available concurrently for 5 (five) years. This will give examination candidates, who have already successfully completed at least one examination paper under the old Second Class Syllabus, ample time to finish up their examinations and earn their certificate.

There will be a transition period from January 01, 2005 to June 30, 2005. During this transition period, candidates will have the option of starting examinations under either the old syllabus or revised syllabus. By June 30, 2005, all applicants who have not successfully completed at least one examination paper under the old syllabus will have to write their examinations under the revised syllabus format.

Please visit the SOPEEC site at www.sopeec.org and our ABSA site at www.absa.ca where more information will be posted as it becomes available.

If you have any comments, concerns, or questions please contact Tom Leming, leming@absa.ca, or by phone at (780)433-0281 ext.320. ❖

NOTIFICATION PRINTING ERRORS FOR 2004 EDITION OF THE ASME CODE

Please note that an Information Bulletin No. IB04-007 has been issued in regard to the printing errors for 2004 Edition of the ASME Code. The identified errors are as follows:

- the correct minimum postweld heat treatment normal holding temperature for Section VIII Div. 1 P-No. 1 and P-No.10B materials is **1,100 °F (593 °C)**.
- the correct minimum postweld heat treatment normal holding temperature for Section VIII Div. 2 P-No. 4 materials is **1,200 °F (650 °C)**.

Please visit our web site www.absa.ca for further details. ❖

ABSA NEWS & INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT

ABSA is committed to communicate effectively and efficiently with our customers and the pressure equipment industry to promote pressure equipment safety. We are pleased to present our new service, ABSA News & Info by E-mail. It is very easy to sign up for this new service. Visit www.absa.ca, and locate the link "ABSA E-Info" on the home page. By following this link, you can provide us with your email information and request the specific news category you wish to receive. The new subscription service will provide you with the option of requesting any or all the following types of information:

- **The Pressure News** – our quarterly newsletter concerning Pressure Equipment and safety issues
- **Information Bulletin** – Alerts, Directives, Variances, Interpretations, Warnings, Exemptions, etc.
- **Technical Information** – changes in Acts, Regulations, and Codes, news about Design registration, Inspection, New Construction, Integrity Management Program, etc.
- **Certification Information** – power engineer, pressure welder, welding examiner, and in-service inspector certification information

Once you have signed up for ABSA News & Info by E-mail, you will receive an email, containing a link, when there is new information. On clicking the link, you will be connected to the new information on our Web site.

This new subscription service will allow ABSA to get pressure equipment safety information out to stakeholders and clients right away instead of weeks after the fact. It also enables ABSA to provide news other than what is contained in our newsletter, The Pressure News, to the worldwide audience.

The Pressure News will no longer be provided in hard copy format after June 30, 2005. Please sign up before then to receive notification. ❖

CHECK THE VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY

If a certificate of competency is not renewed before its expiry date, the certificate is no longer valid and the certificate holder cannot legally continue to undertake any activity for which a Certificate of Competency is required. The Power Engineers Regulation places responsibility on the holder of a certificate to apply for renewal of his/her certificate of competency before the expiry date. The Safety Codes Act also dictates that no person shall employ, or authorize, a person to work without the certificate required by the Regulation.

Both the certificate holder and the owner have responsibilities to ensure that an activity is only performed by a holder of a valid certificate of competency when the certificate is required by the Regulation. The Alberta Certified Power Engineers Online Directory, at www.absa.ca, allows owners and individuals to verify if a certificate of competency is valid and also to confirm the expiry date. The website also provides information for renewal of expired certificates. ❖

THE PART UHX REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGN AND METAL TEMPERATURES

For heat exchangers designed in accordance with Part UHX, designers submitting designs for registration will be obliged to provide more information as design data on the drawings. ABSA will require the design temperatures and specific operating metal temperatures to be presented on the drawings together with the other basic design conditions.

Part UHX of the ASME B&PV Code, Section VIII, Div. 1 added additional complexity into the design and consequently to the review process for heat exchangers. It requires that each heat exchanger design include the specific operating conditions for which a heat exchanger has been evaluated. The Part UHX calculation methodology requires design temperatures (i.e. maximum permissible temperature for the chamber) to be specified, and,

depending on the heat exchanger configuration, it may require specific operating metal temperatures (i.e. channel metal temperature at the tubesheet - T_c ; mean shell metal temperature along the shell length - $T_{s,m}$ etc.) to be also specified. Designers will need to be knowledgeable on the operating metal temperatures of the various components of the heat exchanger because Part UHX does not tell them how to determine the design metal temperatures. This fact adds more responsibility on the designers to carefully analyse the design and metal temperatures before those temperatures are presented on the drawing as design data.

Designers should be aware that the Code-required pressures and temperatures marked on the heat exchanger relate to the basic design

conditions, i.e. channel or shell design temperatures. The metal temperatures may restrict the heat exchanger design to those specific operating conditions. In that case, Para. UHX-19.2.2 requires these heat exchangers to be marked with a specific caution.

Part UHX provides worked examples of various configurations which demonstrate the metal temperatures that are required for those configurations (i.e. UHX-20.2.2).

As a reminder, the values of thermal expansion coefficient, Moduli of Elasticity, and Poisson's ratio are provided in the ASME B&PV Code, Section II, Part D tables. Design calculations have to include those values in order to meet the Code requirements for tubesheet designs (see note on Para. UHX-11.3). ❖

National Pressure Equipment Conference

The Ninth Annual National Pressure Equipment Conference (NPEC) will be held at the Banff Centre February 9-11, 2005. The theme of the upcoming Conference is "Equipment Assessment". Please visit the NPEC website, <http://www.npec.ca/> for more information.

The Pressure Equipment Conference is hosted by the Energy Department at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT), co-sponsored by ABSA, the pressure equipment safety authority and supported by the Upstream Chief Inspectors Association (UCIA) and the Alberta Refinery and Petrochemical Inspectors Association (ARPIA) among others. The goal of the conferences is to promote technical improvement toward excellence in design, safe operation, and inspection of pressure equipment.

ABSA will be offering a two-day Pressure Equipment Safety Legislation Seminar on February 7 & 8 as part of the pre-conference training. Please visit www.absa.ca for more information and to register for the seminar.

Also, ABSA has scheduled the In-Service Inspector Certification examination for the morning of February 9, in conjunction with the NPEC. To write the examination, a candidate must apply to ABSA for certification and must meet the prerequisites. The ABSA website, <http://www.absa.ca>, defines the requirements and provides the application form for certification as an in-service inspector.

JOIN US at the conference, hear the presentations, and meet your colleagues. For the Conference speaker schedule, registration information and trade booth application form please refer to the NPEC website (www.npec.ca). ❖

Verification of In-Service Inspectors Certification

ABSA has received a number of inquiries about posting of in-service inspector certification. An Alberta Certified In-Service Inspectors Online Directory will soon be available on our Web site at www.absa.ca.

Information Bulletin IB02-002 requires that persons who certify in-service boilers and pressure vessels must hold an In-Service Inspectors Certificate of Competency issued by ABSA. The two types of In-Service Inspector certificates are:

- In-Service Pressure Vessel Inspector Certificate of Competency (IPV)
- In-Service Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspector Certificate of Competency (IBPV)

In-Service Inspector certificates are issued for a maximum of 5 years. To remain valid, the certificate must be renewed prior to the expiry date.

The directory shows the names of all Alberta in-service inspectors with valid

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HYDROPNEUMATIC TANK

In defining vessels that come under the Safety Codes Act and its regulations, there is one group of vessels that warrant some discussion. These vessels are those which have air and water in them. These vessels are commonly known as hydropneumatic tanks. The Design, Construction and Installation of Boilers and Pressure Vessels Regulations defines a hydropneumatic tank as a vessel which contains both liquid and air and which operates at a pressure exceeding 103 kPa.

If the air pressure applied to the tank is higher than 103kPa, then this tank falls under the requirements of the Safety Codes Act and its Regulations. Depending on its size, the tank would need to have its

design registered as a fitting or as a vessel.

Under Part 1 subsection 2(2)(b) of The Design, Construction and Installation of Boilers and Pressure Vessels Regulations, when a hydropneumatic tank is larger than 0.3m³, a certificate of inspection is required. Further to this, if the tank is larger than 0.5m³, this vessel is under annual registration system and the owner must provide inspection records for this vessel.

In conclusion, if you have vessels that contain water; have air as a cushion for the water; and the pressure is above 103kPa, then these vessels are subject to the Safety Codes Act and the vessels have to be registered with ABSA. ❖

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certificates, along with their file numbers, type of certificates and certificate expiry dates. Employers or individual in-service inspector will be

able to access the information. Employers will be able to check that inspections of their plants are verified by the in-service inspectors with the appropriate certification. ❖

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ABSA OFFICES

Edmonton - Head Office
#200, 4208 - 97th Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5Z9
Tel (780) 437-9100
Fax (780) 437-7787

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

Fort McMurray
#204, 9913 Biggs Avenue
Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 1S2
Tel (780) 714-3067
Fax (780) 714-2380

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

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

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

St. Paul
Please note that our St. Paul office has been closed. All services will be provided through the Edmonton Office.

Internet address
<http://www.absa.ca>

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#200, 4208-97 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T6E 5Z9

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