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DIRECTIVE

Standard Pneumatic Test Procedure Requirements for Pressure Piping Systems

As provided for under Section 30 of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation (PESR), the Administrator may accept pneumatic testing of pressure piping systems. Under the provisions of Sections 12 and 13 of the PESR, a standard pneumatic test^{note 1} of pressure piping systems may be conducted in accordance with the provisions of ABSA document AB-522 *Standard Pneumatic Test Procedure Requirements for Piping Systems*, (hereunder referred to as AB-522) Edition 2 Rev 0 Issued 2012-06-28. AB-522 provides detailed guidance as to the requirements that must be met for conducting a standard pneumatic test of a pressure piping system under a valid Certificate of Authorization Permit.

AB-522 also addresses requirements for leak testing of piping systems for compliance with Section 30 of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation. These include:

- All pressure piping systems shall be tested using the hydrostatic test method
- The Administrator may accept an alternative to the hydrostatic test
- Piping systems shall not be tested colder than its minimum design temperature
- Ductile-to-brittle transition temperature and possibility of brittle fracture must be considered.

AB-522 affects fabricators, pressure equipment owners, ABSA and other stakeholders. All involved with the pneumatic testing of piping systems must understand and follow the applicable requirements covered in AB-522. The quality management manual and supporting documentation of the organization in charge of the pneumatic test must be updated to include these requirements.

Organizations applying for the first time for certification of authorization permit, and organizations that currently hold a quality management system certificate of authorization permit that expires prior to January 2013 are required to update their quality management system to meet the current AB-522 requirements prior to initial certification or re-certification respectively.

Organizations that hold a quality management system certificate of authorization permit that expires after December 2012 are required to update their quality management system manual to conform to the AB-522 requirements at the earlier of:

- renewal date of the Certificate of Authorization Permit, or
- 30 June 2013.

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¹ See AB-522 for definition of "standard pneumatic test"