

Information Bulletin No. IB04-001

February 2, 2004

## Expiry of Code Case 2053

Code Case 2053 expired November 28, 2003. This has led to some concern in the pressure equipment manufacturing industry, particularly with respect to the use of SA-516-70 material that contains unknown amounts of titanium. This information bulletin is intended to provide some guidance on the use of such material in the construction of new pressure equipment. It must be noted that this information bulletin may not be used to supersede more restrictive chemical requirements specified by the purchaser or end user of the material.

The expiry of the Code Case does not necessarily mean manufacturers' stock material may not be used simply because it does not meet the more restrictive chemical composition requirements of the current Section II material specification.

Such material will be acceptable provided it meets the applicable ASTM specifications listed in Section II, Part A, Nonmandatory Appendix A "Acceptable ASTM Editions".

The fabricator is responsible to satisfy the Authorized Inspector that all material used in construction is acceptable.

### Example

A manufacturer has a quantity of SA-516-70 plate material in stock. The mill test report indicates it conforms to the 1998 Edition, 2000 Addenda. It does not indicate conformance to an ASTM specification. The mill test report does not indicate the amount of titanium in the plate. This plate does not conform to the latest ASME specification (2001 Edition, 2003 Addenda).

Subject to conformance with more restrictive chemical requirements that may be specified by the purchaser or end user, the plate may be accepted under the provisions of Nonmandatory Appendix A as explained below.

Review of relevant ASME specifications in the 1998 Edition, 2000 Addenda shows:

ASME Specification		ASTM Specification
SA-20	Identical to	A-20-96a
SA-516	Identical to	A-516-90

Review of Nonmandatory Appendix A in the 2001 Edition, 2003 Addenda shows:

ASME Specification	Latest Adopted ASTM Specification	Other Acceptable ASTM Editions
SA-20	01	88 through 01
SA-516	90	86 through 90

ASTM A-516-90 and A-20-96a are acceptable specifications because they are within the range of accepted corresponding ASTM Editions listed in Nonmandatory Appendix A. Since the plate conforms to an acceptable ASTM specification, it can be accepted for construction.

A notation should be made on the mill test report to the effect "this material conforms to ASTM specification A-516-90 and is acceptable in accordance with Nonmandatory Appendix A".

### **Background**

Code Case 2053 was originally approved to permit the use of "Material in Inventory" that met the requirements of a Section II material specification that was superseded. The Code Case permitted such material to be used in construction provided the conditions of the Code Case were met and the material met also the requirements of a current specification except for more restrictive chemical composition requirements. Code Case 2053 was used commonly to accept materials that contained unknown amounts of the original 6 "Unspecified Elements" listed in Table 1 of SA-20. Recently this Code Case has seen frequent use to accept material that contained unknown amounts of titanium, which was added to the table in 2002.

K. T. Lau, Ph.D., P.Eng.  
Chief Inspector and Administrator  
Pressure Equipment Safety  
Province of Alberta