

## IN THIS ISSUE:

<i>New Design Survey Manager</i> .....	1
<i>ABSA Offices Still Closed</i> .....	1
<i>Code Update Seminar—Online Modules</i> .....	2
<i>2020 SOPEEC Meeting</i> .....	2
<i>IPEIA Membership in 2021</i> .....	2
<i>Inspections and Audits During Pandemic</i> .....	3
<i>ACPEEC Conference Cancelled</i> .....	3
<i>Documents Issued by ABSA</i> .....	4

## NEW DESIGN SURVEY MANAGER

On September 30, ABSA will say farewell to Mr. Po Fok as he retires from the position of Design Survey Manger. Mr. Fok started his career in pressure equipment safety in 1990 when he joined the Alberta Boilers Branch as a Design Survey Engineer, continuing in that position with ABSA when the organization was created in 1995. He became Lead Engineer in 2011, and then stepped into his role as Design Survey Manager in 2014.

Mr. Fok has been instrumental in guiding a major cultural change in the Design Survey Department. Under his leadership, the department made monumental improvements in the level of service provided to its stakeholders. ABSA wishes him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

ABSA is pleased to announce that going forward, Ljupco (“Lou”) Petrusovski has been appointed to the position of Design Survey Manager. Mr. Petrusovski started with ABSA in 2007 as a Design Survey Engineer, being promoted to Design Survey Supervisor in 2014. In recent years, he has played a key role in many of the improvements made to the department, including making a significant contribution to the initial development and implementation of ABSA’s new quality management system. Mr. Petrusovski’s appointment to this role places him in a strong position to continue with his contributions to the organization and more generally to pressure equipment safety in Alberta. ❖

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 is given to ABSA.

## 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Previous issues of The Pressure News may contain information which is outdated or no longer valid.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.

## ABSA OFFICES STILL CLOSED DUE TO PANDEMIC

Due to ongoing public health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, all ABSA offices are still closed to the general public, with only a limited complement of staff working on site at each location. ABSA personnel that are not required to be physically present to perform their duties are continuing to work from home in order to promote physical distancing and to reduce contact between employees. Staff members continue to be available via email or telephone, and can be contacted in the usual manner.

ABSA has been scheduling limited examination sittings at the Edmonton and Calgary offices for power engineering and other examination candidates. Additional regional examination sittings are being planned for Red Deer, Grande Prairie, and Fort McMurray in order to help reduce requirements for travel and physical contact between regions.

Announcements relating to modifications of ABSA programs and services will continue to be posted to the bright red highlighted information inset on the main page of our website at [www.absa.ca](http://www.absa.ca). ❖

## ALBERTA CODE UPDATE SEMINAR — ONLINE MODULES

ABSA is in the process of finalizing its plans for online delivery of educational content in lieu of an in-person 2020 Alberta Code Update Seminar this fall. As discussed in an article previously published in the June issue of The Pressure News, seminar sessions that were planned for in-person delivery in October have been cancelled due to concerns related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

ABSA is preparing a number of individual modules to provide for remote online learning in place of the regular in-person seminar. Learners will be able complete whichever modules are relevant to them at their own pace and on their own schedule, and will receive credit for the ones they complete. These online learning modules will be made available at no charge.

Due to the limited publication of updates to codes standards over the past year, only a small number of online modules are being planned at this time. Initial modules will include an overview of changes introduced in the 2020 edition of ASME B31.1 Power Piping, and a module entitled 'What's on the Horizon', discussing expected upcoming changes in the ASME code, and other important topics in the industry. These modules are expected to be released in October and November, with additional material to be considered based on feedback and requests received from participants.

Further information will become available in the coming weeks, and will be announced via email: if you are interested in participating, please consider subscribing to our 'Seminar News' email subscription service. You can subscribe on our [website](#), by navigating to the 'Subscriptions' page along the top, and then selecting 'Subscribe to Seminar News'. ❖

---

## 2020 SOPEEC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In mid-June of this year, the Standardization of Power Engineer Examinations Committee (SOPEEC) held their annual general meeting online, rather than meeting in Toronto as was previously planned. Some of the highlights of the meeting included:

- The '2B3' second-class power engineering examination was reported to have been successfully rolled out in January of 2020. Feedback was positive, with participating jurisdictions agreeing to move on with work to convert the '2B2' examination to multiple-choice format, targeting completion in 2021.
- The 'Introduction to Ammonia Refrigeration' examination has been made available to all jurisdictions. This examination comprises 100 multiple choice questions.
- There was further discussion about the interprovincial database being developed for power engineers, which will allow seamless transfer of information between Canadian power engineering jurisdictions.

The Interprovincial Power Engineering Curriculum Committee (IPECC) also held its annual meeting, discussing and making recommendations to SOPEEC with respect to its curriculums.

SOPEEC's next annual general meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in June of 2021. ❖

---

## BENEFITS OF IPEIA MEMBERSHIP IN 2020 / 2021

The International Pressure Equipment Integrity Association (IPEIA) is a not-for-profit organization established 25 years ago, dedicated to improving the level of safety in the pressure equipment industry, and to protecting the environment through the promotion of integrity management. Members of the association are pressure equipment integrity specialists that come from across North America, and include inspectors, engineers, manufacturers, academics, and students, having expertise in a wide variety of industries. One of IPEIA's more recent focuses has been to increase the involvement of young people in the pressure equipment industry, encouraging more experienced members to share their knowledge with the new generation.

The 2021 IPEIA Steering Committee has been carefully monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential effect on the conference and its membership. Due to the continued climate of uncertainty and the risks that the virus poses, along with feedback from industry, the decision has been made to postpone IPEIA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference to 2022.

In order to promote continued membership with the organization during the pandemic, IPEIA is excited to announce that they are expanding their year-round offerings to members to include benefits beyond conference attendance. Some of the events planned for the year will include online technical webinars, special guest speakers, 'Integrity Challenge Forum' updates, online regulator sessions, and continued access to past IPEIA conference presentations.

More information is available on IPEIA's website, at [www.ipeia.com](http://www.ipeia.com). ❖

## INSPECTIONS AND AUDITS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Many of the industry-related issues that have come up due to the COVID-19 pandemic are common to pressure equipment jurisdictions across North America, and are being dealt with directly by ASME and by the National Board. In order to facilitate remote inspection for new construction of pressure equipment, ASME has approved a code case, ASME QAI-1 Case 6, which sets out conditions under which Authorized Inspectors can undertake inspections without having to make a physical visit. The National Board has issued a corresponding inquiry response, RCI-19-02, which sets out similar provisions for inspections taking place within the scope of its NB-23 National Board Inspection Code. Along the same lines, ASME has approved a remote conformity assessment procedure, allowing auditors to conduct joint reviews remotely via video conference, rather than requiring them to visit a candidate organization to assess it in person.

The ASME code case and associated National Board announcement sets forth specific requirements that must be met for inspections that are undertaken remotely. Use of the case for a remote inspection must be specifically reviewed and accepted by the Authorized Inspector Supervisor, and is only permitted when an Authorized Inspector is prohibited from being physically present at the inspection for reasons related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Authorized Inspectors attend remotely by watching a live streamed video and communicating in real time with the manufacturer. There are minimum technical specifications given in the documents for the connection and the associated video quality, and audio and video quality are required to be checked at both the beginning and end of each inspection. Each inspection must be recorded by the manufacturer and kept so that it can be recalled upon request. Additional requirements and details can be found in the published case file, which is available on ASME's CS Tools [website](#), and can be found by searching Google for "ASME QAI-1 Code Case 6". The corresponding National Board publication is published on the National Board's [website](#), and can be found by searching Google for "National Board RCI-19-02". It should be noted that these documents limit remote inspections to cases where a site visit is prohibited due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and since there are no such prohibitions in place in Alberta, remote inspections are not available in Alberta by request at this time. If this changes in the future, further information will be provided to manufacturers by their Authorized Inspectors, with reasonable notice given ahead of any scheduled inspections.

ASME has similarly published a procedure allowing conformity assessment activities to take place remotely, outlining conditions and requirements by which ASME conformity assessment organizations can perform audits via remote video conference. This procedure has not been made public, but is being followed by ABSA's conformity assessment personnel to conduct remote audits, and provides for a practical but effective means of ensuring that an off-site audit can be conducted with an acceptable level of integrity, while avoiding the risks associated with travel and extraneous physical contact during the pandemic. Currently, all ASME joint reviews in Alberta are being conducted using this remote assessment procedure, since travel restrictions have been put in place by the federal and provincial governments. ASME conformity assessments are generally planned well in advance, and ABSA conformity assessment personnel are contacting candidate organizations well ahead of time in order to plan for remote auditing activities, and to share details related to the administrative and technical requirements that must be considered. Organizations interested in discussing remote conformity assessments can bring the topic up during their pre-ASME audit, or at any other time by contacting their Authorized Inspector Supervisor. ❖

---

## ACPEEC CONFERENCE CANCELLED

The Alberta Chief Power Engineers Education Conference (ACPEEC) Committee has been forced to take the unfortunate step of canceling this year's conference due to safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite canceling the conference this year, the committee and its sponsors are making a unique effort to deliver value by producing a technical publication for free distribution to past conference attendees. The publication will consist of technical papers expected to be of interest to chief power engineers and to the power engineering profession, and is expected to be distributed by email in November.

The ACPEEC Committee hopes to be able to gather again for an in-person conference in the fall of 2021, and has set a date for the conference, to be held in Edmonton, Alberta on October 26-27, 2021. ❖

## DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY ABSA

The following documents issued by ABSA are available at [www.absa.ca](http://www.absa.ca).

2020-06-01 – *IB20-016: Fitting Design Registration by an Organization Other than Manufacturer*, was issued to discuss how CSA B51 provisions can be used by organizations to take responsibility for the registration of fittings manufactured by others.

2020-06-08 – *AB-519: Pressure Piping Alternative Test Methods: Procedure Requirements, Edition 2, Revision 2*, was issued to update the definition of 'in-process examiner' and to update the contact email address provided for document feedback.

2020-08-19 – *AB-512: Owner-User Pressure Equipment Integrity Management Requirements, Edition 3, Revision 0*, was issued with clarifications and with formatting and editorial updates.

2020-08-19 – *AB-534: Harmonized Requirements for Historical Boilers, Edition 2, Revision 0*, was issued to update the name of Manitoba's jurisdictional organization, and with additional editorial revisions.

Other documents have been updated with editorial and other minor changes. ❖

---

## ABSA OFFICES

### **Edmonton (Head Office)**

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

### **Grande Prairie**

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

### **Fort McMurray**

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

### **Internet address**

<http://www.absa.ca>

### **Calgary**

#380, 6715 - 8 Street N.E.  
Calgary, Alberta T2E 7H7  
Tel (403) 291-7070  
Fax (403) 291-4545

### **Lethbridge**

Unit 19, 1274 - 3 Avenue South  
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 0J9  
Tel (403) 394-1011  
Fax (403) 329-0089

### **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