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# ALERT
# Falsified Welder Credentials

ABSA was recently made aware of an individual performing pressure welding activities without a valid ABSA issued Grade B-Pressure Qualification issued in the person's name. Records indicate that this individual was initially hired as a pipefitter. Upon joining, the individual presented an Alberta Journeyman Welder Certificate and an ABSA Grade B-Pressure Certificate, which were used to qualify this individual for a performance test. Following the person's successful completion of the F3/F4 test, the individual performed a fillet weld in a pressure piping system. During the final review of the turnover package, concerns were raised regarding the authenticity of the individual's welding credentials.

Upon verification with Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) and ABSA, it was confirmed that the documents presented by the individual were fraudulent.

The overall concern of the *Safety Codes Act* is safety. Acting in a position for which an individual is not certified could endanger the safety of others.

It is an offence under Section 41(1) of the *Safety Codes Act* that an individual without a Certificate of Competency engage in any process or activity that requires the individual hold a Certificate of Competency to do so. Additionally, performing pressure welding without holding a valid ABSA issued Certificate of Competency is prohibited under Section 2(1) of the *Pressure Welders Regulation*.

This serves as a reminder that employers of welders should exercise due diligence when validating welding credentials for new employees. It is recommended that organizations who employ pressure welders verify individual's credentials using the Alberta Grade B Pressure Welders Directory.

The pressure equipment industry relies heavily on honest, safety conscious people acting with integrity in the interest of protecting public safety. This notice also serves as a reminder to all welders to exercise caution when posting credentials to social media, as such information may be used to create and distribute fraudulent certificates.

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