



Heads Up

Issue: 18

Date: September 21, 2007

Re: Maintaining Welder Continuity at UA Local Union Test Facilities

The 2007 Edition of ASME Code Section IX, which deals with Welding and Brazing Qualifications, included a significant change in the requirements for maintaining a welder's qualifications. This change becomes mandatory on January 1, 2008

Currently the UA Welder Certification Program has an option for updating the continuity of a UA welder at an Authorized Testing Facility. As a minimum the continuity demonstrations must be supervised by an ATR.

Under the latest changes to the rules of ASME Section IX the above mentioned continuity update at an Authorized Testing Facility must also be supervised by a contractor representative, in addition to the ATR. This simply means that continuity updates will be conducted in a similar manner as initial welder testing events, in that, at least one contractor representative is present.

To address this change the WCP Quality System Manual will be revised to modify the requirements involving the use of at least one contractor representative during updates of welders' continuities. The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report form will also be revised to properly document the contractor's involvement. With this in mind it's important to note that the use of older outdated copies of forms be discontinued. Only the most current forms provided on the UA WCP web-site are to be used, the use of superseded forms will place a welder's qualifications in jeopardy.

UA test facilities are to begin complying with the new requirements effective the date of this Heads-Up.