ASME ANDE-1–2026
(Revision of ANDE-1–2020)

ASME Nondestructive Examination and Quality Control Central Qualification and Certification Program

AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD



The American Society of Mechanical Engineers

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The American Society of Mechanical Engineers
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FOREWORD

In 2010, an ASME Project Team was formed with the intent to write a written practice type of document for the qualification and certification of nondestructive examination (NDE) personnel. The written practice document would have been used to support ASME qualification and certification efforts. After much discussion, it was determined that a Standard was more appropriate for accomplishing the goals of the ASME Project Team. The Project Team was dissolved in May 2012 and merged into a Standards Writing Committee. The Standards Writing Committee is now called the "ASME NDE (ANDE) Committee on Qualification and Certification of Nondestructive Examination Personnel and Quality Control Technicians" and, as used in this Standard, is referenced as the "ANDE Committee." The ANDE Committee (consensus Committee), with its supporting Subcommittees, has the responsibility to write, maintain, and approve this Standard.

This Standard has been written to provide the requirements for a central qualification and certification program conducted by a third-party certification organization (certification body) for NDE and quality control (QC) personnel and uses both performance-based and prescriptive requirements that serve as the program core for these activities.

This Standard has been written to meet the needs of many different industries such as the aerospace and defense industry, the automotive industry, the construction and building industry, and the energy industry. Each industry will form a specific industry sector (SIS) to address specific requirements. For example, the energy industry, which directly relates to many different SISs, such as power plants, fossil power, renewable energy, arctic engineering and offshore technology, nuclear power, and energy efficiency, includes many SIS activities that require NDE or QC to be performed by qualified and certified personnel. These SIS activities include manufacturing, fabrication, construction, installation, maintenance, preservice inspection, and inservice inspection. The use of performance-based requirements for qualification with a systematic approach to training (SAT) process in this Standard, along with the use of job task analyses (JTAs) for the qualification and certification of NDE and QC personnel, makes it unique and supports a goal of enhancing personnel capabilities to perform NDE and QC methods. These performance-based requirements are focused on training and performance demonstration of the skills needed for personnel to perform specific job functions throughout initial qualification and certification and then during certification periods.

It is expected that with the use of this Standard, NDE and QC inspection reliability and qualification performance will be improved and that a larger pool of personnel will become available to support any industry or SIS that either requires or chooses to use this Standard.

This edition of the Standard may be used beginning with the date of issuance shown on the copyright page. After such date of issuance, this edition becomes the requirement for compliance with this Standard.

ASME ANDE-1–2026 was approved as an American National Standard on January 21, 2026.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE USE OF THE ASME SINGLE CERTIFICATION MARK AND CODE AUTHORIZATION IN ADVERTISING

ASME has established procedures to authorize qualified organizations to perform various activities in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. It is the aim of the Society to provide recognition of organizations so authorized. An organization holding authorization to perform various activities in accordance with the requirements of the Code may state this capability in its advertising literature.

Organizations that are authorized to use the ASME Single Certification Mark for marking items or constructions that have been constructed and inspected in compliance with the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code are issued Certificates of Authorization. It is the aim of the Society to maintain the standing of the ASME Single Certification Mark for the benefit of the users, the enforcement jurisdictions, and the holders of the ASME Single Certification Mark who comply with all requirements.

Based on these objectives, the following policy has been established on the usage in advertising of facsimiles of the ASME Single Certification Mark, Certificates of Authorization, and reference to Code construction. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, or activity and there shall be no statements or implications that might so indicate. An organization holding the ASME Single Certification Mark and/or a Certificate of Authorization may state in advertising literature that items, constructions, or activities "are built (produced or performed) or activities conducted in accordance with the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code," or "meet the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code." An ASME corporate logo shall not be used by any organization other than ASME.

The ASME Single Certification Mark shall be used only for stamping and nameplates as specifically provided in the Code. However, facsimiles may be used for the purpose of fostering the use of such construction. Such usage may be by an association or a society, or by a holder of the ASME Single Certification Mark who may also use the facsimile in advertising to show that clearly specified items will carry the ASME Single Certification Mark.

ASME NDE (ANDE) COMMITTEE
Certification of Nondestructive Examination (NDE) Personnel and Quality Control (QC) Technicians

(The following is the roster of the committee at the time of approval of this Standard.)

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T. L. Clifford, *Vice Chair*
R. Syarbaini, *Secretary*

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T. Zavadil, ATG (Advanced Technology Group), s.r.o

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE ANDE COMMITTEE

General. ASME codes and standards are developed and maintained by committees with the intent to represent the consensus of concerned interests. Users of ASME codes and standards may correspond with the committees to propose revisions or cases, report errata, or request interpretations. Correspondence for this Standard should be sent to the staff secretary noted on the committee's web page, accessible at https://go.asme.org/ANDEcommittee.

Revisions and Errata. The committee processes revisions to this Standard on a periodic basis to incorporate changes that appear necessary or desirable as demonstrated by the experience gained from the application of the Standard. Approved revisions will be published in the next edition of the Standard.

In addition, the committee may post errata on the committee web page. Errata become effective on the date posted. Users can register on the committee web page to receive email notifications of posted errata.

This Standard is always open for comment, and the committee welcomes proposals for revisions. Such proposals should be as specific as possible, citing the paragraph number, the proposed wording, and a detailed description of the reasons for the proposal, including any pertinent background information and supporting documentation.

Cases

(a) The most common applications for cases are

(1) to permit early implementation of a revision based on an urgent need

(2) to provide alternative requirements

(3) to allow users to gain experience with alternative or potential additional requirements prior to incorporation directly into the Standard

(4) to permit the use of a new material or process

(b) Users are cautioned that not all jurisdictions or owners automatically accept cases. Cases are not to be considered as approving, recommending, certifying, or endorsing any proprietary or specific design, or as limiting in any way the freedom of manufacturers, constructors, or owners to choose any method of design or any form of construction that conforms to the Standard.

(c) A proposed case shall be written as a question and reply in the same format as existing cases. The proposal shall also include the following information:

(1) a statement of need and background information

(2) the urgency of the case (e.g., the case concerns a project that is underway or imminent)

(3) the Standard and the paragraph, figure, or table number

(4) the editions of the Standard to which the proposed case applies

(d) A case is effective for use when the public review process has been completed and it is approved by the cognizant supervisory board. Approved cases are posted on the committee web page.

Interpretations. Upon request, the committee will issue an interpretation of any requirement of this Standard. An interpretation can be issued only in response to a request submitted through the online Inquiry Submittal Form at https://go.asme.org/InterpretationRequest. Upon submitting the form, the inquirer will receive an automatic email confirming receipt.

ASME does not act as a consultant for specific engineering problems or for the general application or understanding of the Standard requirements. If, based on the information submitted, it is the opinion of the committee that the inquirer should seek assistance, the request will be returned with the recommendation that such assistance be obtained. Inquirers can track the status of their requests at https://go.asme.org/Interpretations.

ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of any interpretation when or if additional information that might affect an interpretation is available. Further, persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME committee or subcommittee. ASME does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

Interpretations are published in the ASME Interpretations Database at https://go.asme.org/Interpretations as they are issued.

Committee Meetings. The ANDE Standards Committee regularly holds meetings that are open to the public. Persons wishing to attend any meeting should contact the secretary of the committee. Information on future committee meetings can be found on the committee web page at https://go.asme.org/ANDEcommittee.

Part 1
General Requirements

SECTION 1-1 INTRODUCTION

1-1.1 Scope

(a) This Standard includes both performance-based and prescriptive requirements to be used for an ASME Nondestructive Examination (NDE) and Quality Control (QC) Central Qualification and Certification Program that applies to NDE personnel and QC inspection personnel.

(b) This Standard includes requirements for personnel education, training, experience, written examinations, and practical demonstrations. The requirements are based on a systematic approach to training (SAT) process that integrates the development of job task analyses (JTAs) and body of knowledge (BoK) requirements.

(c) This Standard is applied by a third-party certification organization, which is referred to within this Standard as a certification body (CB).

(d) This Standard classifies CB-certified individuals as Level I, Level II, or Level III.

(e) Part 1 addresses General Requirements, Part 2 addresses NDE, and Part 3 addresses QC.

(f) Mandatory Appendices I and II include requirements specific to the nuclear sector and the boiler and pressure vessel and piping (BPVP) industry sectors, respectively. Mandatory Appendix III includes requirements specific to the qualification and certification of nondestructive testing personnel to ISO 9712.

1-1.2 Applicability

This Standard is applicable to any industry or industry sector that performs industry sector activities such as manufacturing, fabrication, construction, installation, maintenance, preservice inspection (PSI), and inservice inspection (ISI) that require NDE or QC inspections to be performed by qualified and certified NDE and QC inspection personnel.

1-1.3 Use of This Standard

This Standard is required to be used when referenced by a user's code, standard, specification, procedure, or instruction, which the user has committed to meet or is required to meet. Optional use of this Standard is not prohibited, but when this Standard is used, all requirements are mandatory, including those in the applicable Mandatory Appendices, except where specific alternatives are provided in this Standard. Use of Nonmandatory Appendices is optional, but when used, all the requirements within a Nonmandatory Appendix become mandatory unless the Nonmandatory Appendix is specified for guidance only. See Nonmandatory Appendix A for guidance on maintenance of the Standard.

1-1.4 Involvement of Regulatory or Enforcement Authorities or Jurisdictions, or Authorized Inspection Agencies

When a referencing code or standard requires the involvement of regulatory or enforcement authorities or jurisdictions or an Authorized Inspection Agency (AIA), those authorities or agencies shall be provided the certified individual's written approval (see para. 1-7.3) to access any record of documentation, qualification, or certification activities performed to meet this Standard.

1-1.5 Applications, Certification Forms, Job Task Analyses, Related Body of Knowledge Requirements, and Qualification/Continuity Cards

When the following documents, methods, or requirements are referenced in this Standard, the latest versions approved by the applicable specific industry sector (SIS) committee shall apply:

(a) applications and related forms
(b) JTAs for NDE or QC methods or endorsements
(c) BoK for NDE or QC methods or endorsements
(d) qualification/continuity cards and instructions

1-1.6 Eye Examinations

(a) In addition to maintaining certification, candidates shall demonstrate satisfactory visual acuity to perform NDE or QC methods and techniques, as applicable. The eye examination shall be given on an annual basis (i.e., certified personnel shall receive and successfully pass vision acuity examinations at intervals not to exceed 1 yr, which expire on the last day of the month of the expiration date, in order to maintain certifications in an active status) in accordance with the following requirements: