AWS QC7-93

Standard for AWS Certified Welders

American Welding Society

Keywords — AWS certified welders, welders, welder certification, welder qualification

Standard for AWS Certified Welders

Prepared by
AWS Qualification and Certification Committee

Under the Direction of
AWS Education and Certification Council

Approved by
AWS Board of Directors

Abstract

This standard describes a program administrated by the American Welding Society (AWS) for the certification of welders. The AWS Certified Welder Program provides a means for the transference of welder qualifications from employer to employer without retesting. The standard defines the minimum requirements for welder participation in the program and the methods to be used by employers for adopting the program.

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International Standard Book Number: 0-87171-412-4

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Foreword

(This Foreword is not a part of the AWS QC7-93, *Standard for AWS Certified Welders*, but is included only for information.)

The American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welder Program is established to identify all elements necessary to implement a National Registry of Certified Welders. Four key elements are identified:

(1) Welder Performance Qualification Standards criteria
(2) Welding Procedure Specifications
(3) Accredited Performance Qualification Test Facilities
(4) AWS welder certification requirements

The purpose of this standard for AWS Certified Welders is to document the ability of welders to deposit sound welds and to impose controls on the documentation and maintenance of certification.

This standard contains the criteria for the AWS Certified Welder Program and the AWS National Registry of Welders. Public listing or disclosure is at the option of the individual welder. This standard will, in many cases, allow the transfer of welder qualification from employer to employer. This potential transfer of welder qualification may affect financial savings to the welding industry.

The 1993 revisions to the standard are a major change in format of the document. Some sections of the previous issue of AWS QC7-93 have been relocated int he Supplements rather than the standard. Some technical content changes were made and are marked with double bars in the margin.

Comments and suggestions for the improvement of this standard are welcome. They should be sent to the Secretary, Qualification and Certification Committee, American Welding Society, 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, P.O. Box 351040, Miami, Florida 33135.

Official interpretations of any of the technical requirements of this standard may be obtained by sending a request, in writing, to the Director of Qualification and Certification Department, American Welding Society. A formal reply will be issued after it has been reviewed by the appropriate personnel following established procedures.

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QC-WF4A Application for AWS Welder Certification

Standard for AWS Certified Welders

1. Scope

1.1 Program. The rules for the American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welder Program and the requirements for maintenance of certification are provided in this standard. This standard requires the use of accredited test facilities for qualification testing.

1.2 Exclusion. This standard does not prevent a manufacturer, fabricator, or contractor from continuing to qualify welders according to other standards. Employers may impose requirements in addition to this standard, as deemed necessary.

1.3 Limitation. Certification under the American Welding Society Certified Welder Program shall be limited to those welding performance variables provided in the applicable supplements to this standard.

1.4 Safety Precautions. This document is not intended to address safety and health matters regarding the training of certified welders. This document only covers the rules of certification.

2. Definitions

Terms used in this standard are defined in ANSI/AWS A3.0-89, *Standard Welding Terms and Definitions*, and as follows:

Acceptance Criteria. Specified limits placed on characteristics of an item, process, or service as defined in codes, standards, or other contract requirement documents.

Applicant. An individual who makes application for AWS certification.

Certification. The act of determining, verifying and attesting in writing to the qualification of personnel in accordance with specified requirements.

Inspection. Examination or measurement to verify whether an item or activity conforms to specified requirements.

Inspector. A person who performs an inspection function to verify conformance to specific requirements.

NDE Level I, II, III. Individuals qualified and certified by their employer to function as NDT Technicians within the limits as outlined in the Recommended Practice SNT-TC-1A[1] and company written practice.

Q&C Committee. The Qualification and Certification Committee of the American Welding Society. (Address correspondence to: Qualification and Certification Department, AWS, 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida 33126.)

Q&C Department. The AWS Qualification and Certification Department, American Welding Society, 550 N.W. LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida 33126. Telephone 305-443-9353.

Qualification. Verification by testing of the characteristics or abilities gained through training or experience or both that enable an individual to perform certain functions.

Qualification Standard. Any standard that provides rules for welding procedure and performance qualification.

Terminology Guidelines. As used in this standard, the word *should* indicates a recommendation; the word *shall* indicates a mandatory requirement. The word *may* indicates a choice.

1. Copies of SNT-TC-1A may be obtained from the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, 1711 Arlingate Lane Caller #28518, Columbus, Ohio, 43228, (800) 222-2768.