

Guidelines

Welding Procedures and Welders Approval Testing

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The Safety Assessment Federation (SAFed) represents the interests of companies engaged in independent inspection and safety assessment of engineering and manufacturing plant, systems and machinery.

FOREWORD

This revision on WG01 has been prepared under the direction of SAFed Technical Committee No. 4 (TC4). It incorporates technical and editorial changes developed from experience gained in the use of the document since it was first published in 1998. WG01 Issue 03 supersedes WG01 Issue 02 which is now withdrawn.

SAFed member organisations should abide by the principles and practices referenced in WG01.

WG01 does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

1. Introduction

1.1. Weld Procedure Qualification

The primary purpose of Weld Procedure Qualification is to demonstrate that the joining process proposed for construction can produce joints having the required mechanical properties for the intended application. When qualifying welders, the emphasis is placed on the welder's ability manually to manipulate the electrode, welding torch or welding blow pipe, thereby producing a weld of acceptable quality.

1.2. Terminology and Definitions

The more commonly used terms associated with Weld Procedure and Welder Qualification Testing (definitions taken from PD ISO/TR 25901-1)

Preliminary Welding Procedure Specification (pWPS)

Document containing the required variables of the welding procedure which has to be qualified.

Welding Procedure Test

Welding and testing of a standardized test piece, as indicated in the preliminary welding procedure specification, to qualify a welding procedure.

Weld Procedure Qualification Record (WPQR)

Record compromising all necessary data needed for qualification of a preliminary welding procedure specification

Weld Procedure Specification (WPS)

Document that has been qualified and provides the required variables of the welding procedure to ensure repeatability during production welding

1.3. Commonly used Welding Standards in the United Kingdom

BS EN ISO 9606 Series. Qualification Testing of Welders

BS EN ISO 9606-1 - Steels

BS EN ISO 9606-2 - Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys

BS EN ISO 9606-3 - Copper and Copper Alloys

BS EN ISO 9606-4 - Nickel and Nickel Alloys

BS EN ISO 9606-5 - Titanium, Zirconium and Alloys

BS EN ISO 9606-6 - Nickel and Nickel Alloys

BS EN ISO 15614 Series. Specification and qualification of welding procedures for metallic materials.

BS EN ISO 15614-1 - Steels, Nickels and Nickel Alloys

BS EN ISO 15614-2 - Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys

BS EN ISO 15614-3 - Non Alloyed and Low Alloyed Cast Irons

BS EN ISO 15614-4 - Aluminium Castings

BS EN ISO 15614-5 - Titanium, Zirconium and Alloys

BS EN ISO 15614-6 - Copper and Copper Alloys

BS EN ISO 15614-7 - Overlay

BS EN ISO 15614-8 - Tube to Tube Plate Joints

BS EN ISO 14732

BS EN ISO 14732 - Welding Personnel, Qualification testing of welding operators and weld setters for mechanized and automatic welding of metallic materials

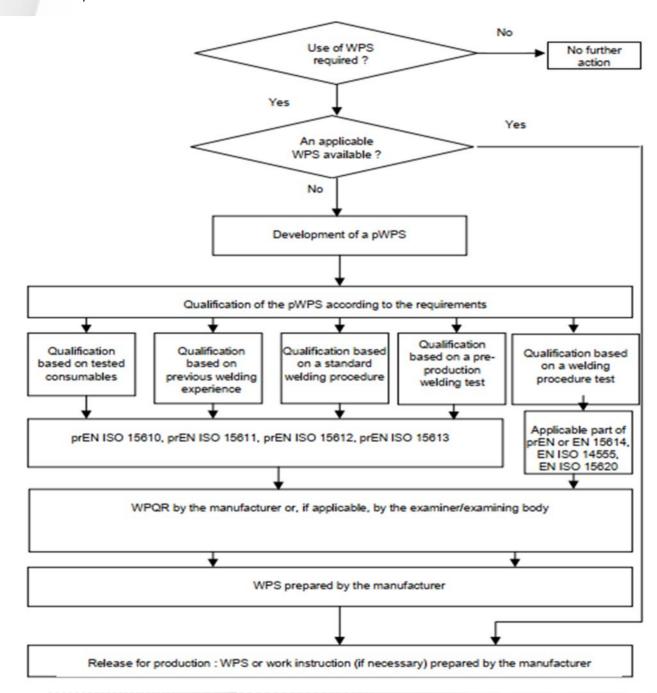
 BS 4872 Series. Specification for approval testing of welders when welding procedure approval is not required.

BS 4872-1 - Steels

BS 4872-2 - Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys

2. Obtaining Welding Certification

The following flow diagram shows the route for the development and qualifications of a WPS (taken from Annex C, EN ISO15607)



2.1. Initial Investigation - Contract Review

Ultimately a contract is an agreement between two parties. Each party is asking for and receiving something in exchange from the other party. If a problem were to arise, both parties can refer to the contract and pinpoint exactly what is expected of them.

The SAFed member organisation should seek access to the contract documentation to confirm what standards are involved. This will subsequently lead to being able to work with the manufacturer to determine the relevant ranges of approval, essential variables, and the selection of appropriate tests/test pieces.

In some cases, end user 'application standards' or National 'product standards' may also be applicable, and the manufacturer should work with the SAFed member organisation to ensure that these are adhered to.

2.2. Pre Visit Preparation

Prior to the SAFed member organisation arriving on site, it is advisable that the manufacturer completes the following steps:

- Preparation of a pWPS (see Para 1.2)
- Machining of Test Pieces (in accordance with pWPS)
- Procurement of all consumables
- Weld test trials this can be done as a part of pWPS development
- Welder Briefing Many manufacturers fail to see the importance in briefing the welder regarding his/her role
- Manufacturer Briefing The SAFed member organisation should make the manufacturer aware of their role during the visit.

The SAFed member organisation should pass on as much information and provide as much guidance as possible, based one experiences within the industry. Note – This does not extend to offering consultancy services.

2.3. Examining Bodies

An Organisation that has been appointed to verify compliance with the applicable standard.

It is the responsibility of the manufacturer to ensure that the Examining Body is acceptable to all contracting parties.

An examining Body which holds national accreditation and International notifications (approvals) is recommended as acceptability can vary between industry sectors.

Where authority to issue welding certification is not fully defined by legislation, the major UK Examining Bodies generally utilise notification under relevant European Union (EU) Directives as the criteria by which to assess potential Examining Bodies. This approach provides assurances of the Examining Body's quality system,

technical competence and adequacy of liability insurance. SAFed members adopt the above approach to assess the capability of members and other bodies to issue welding certification.

The United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) is the sole national accreditation body recognized by government to assess against internationally agreed standards. Organizations that provide welding certification and testing services should have such described in their schedules of accreditation.

3. Welding of Test Pieces

3.1. Compliance Verification

A SAFed member organisation should be contacted directly so that a suitable location, date and time can be arranged. The SAFed member/examining body is contracted by a manufacturer and appointed to verify compliance with the applicable standards. SAFed member organisations shall verify compliance by being present for the duration of the welding activity. The welding activity includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Weld preparations and joint type/Set up
- Tacking of joint
- Confirmation of Welding Position
- Confirmation of Material being welded
- Confirmation of Consumables
- Confirmation of Gas Flow Rates
- Application and monitoring of Pre Heat
- Welding Plant and Electrode Details (if relevant to process)
- Welder/Operator Identification
- Amperage, Voltage, Wire Feed, Travel Speed (recording thereof)
- Method of Back Gouging
- Interpass Temperature (from Start-Completion)
- Run Sequence (from Start-Completion)
- Post Weld Cleaning, Peening, Cooling (if applicable)
- Specific pWPS/WPS requirements.

Some of the above are applicable to WPQR/PQR and or Welder/Operator qualifications as relevant.

The examiner/examining body shall satisfy themselves that welding has been conducted in accordance with the relevant standard (see Para 2.1)

During welder qualification tests, the welder will be expected to show adequate practical experience and knowledge of the welding process, materials and safety requirements for which approval is being sought. The examiner/examining body may stop the test if the welding conditions are not correct or if it appears the welder does not have the skill to fulfil the requirements, e.g. where there are excessive and/or systematic repairs.

3.2. Job Knowledge Testing

Testing a welder's job knowledge is non-mandatory in BS EN 9606 (series), but it may be specifically required by some European countries.

Job knowledge testing can be performed by the SAFed member organisation and would be an additional activity carried out by the engineer surveyor. BS EN ISO 14732 has a mandatory requirement that job knowledge is tested.

4. Testing

On completion of welding, and in accordance with the applicable standard, the test pieces shall undergo non-destructive and/or destructive testing.

Suitable facilities are provided by laboratories accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) against the requirement of ISO/IEC 17025 - General

requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. The examiner / examining body shall ensure that the scope of accreditation covers the required tests.

It may be that a non 17025 accredited NDT / test facility is used, where this is the case the examiner / examining body shall ensure that such a facility is competent to perform the applicable testing. The examiner / examining body shall also identify during a contract review process with the client if a 17025 facility should be used to ensure contract compliance.

5. Certification

5.1. Description of Certification

When Certification is issued by the SAFed member organisation it will be in a standard format bearing the SAFed logo and watermark.

If manufacturers wish to use their own certificates, such certificates will be endorsed by a SAFed member company provided they are presented in a format that is both technically and factually correct (to the relevant Standard).

In all cases, certification will only be issued on satisfactory completion of the approval process and will only be valid when bearing the SAFed member company stamp and signature of a SAFed member organisation representative.

5.2. Validity and Renewal of Welder Qualification Certification

Welding Procedures, once approved, remain valid indefinitely and are thus valuable

documents, this is of course subject to them continuing to meet the requirements of the current version of the applicable standard)

For the most common Welder Approval Standard in the United Kingdom, BS EN ISO 9606-1, the revalidation of welder qualification remains valid for:

- 3 years; then a retest is required (Subclause 9.3a)
- 2 years; then two welds made during the last 6 months of the validity period shall be tested by radiographic or ultrasonic or destructive testing in accordance with Subclause 9.3b of the standard.
- Continual Validity; providing Subclause 9.2 and Subclause 9.3c are satisfied Note this option is not permitted for categories II, III and IV products relating to EU Directive 2014/68/EU (PED)

Is should be noted that revalidation of welder qualification is only possible if Subclause 9.2 has been adhered to. This Subclause is applicable to all parts specified above and requires the person responsible for welding activities/SAFed member organisation to confirm every 6 months that the welder has worked within the range of qualification.

6. SAFed Member Organisation Services

SAFed member companies are major providers of Welding Certification United Kingdom.

Considerable experience and expertise is available to make the whole process of obtaining Weld Procedure Qualifications and Welder/Operator Approvals easier for manufacturers. SAFed member companies can share experiences and knowledge relating, but not limited to:

- Product and Welding Standards
- Test methods, regimes and programmes
- Qualification process

The above not only ensures technical accuracy but reduces costs and maximises the future worth of the approvals gained.

SAFed member companies, via a nation-wide network of engineer surveyors, can deal with all aspects of welding approvals including:

- Examiner/Examining Body Services (Surveillance, Witnessing and Inspection)
- Weld Testing (Non-Destructive and Destructive)
- Issue of Certification

SAFed member organisations have considerable technical involvement in the drafting and issuing of British, European and International Welding Specifications/Standards, thus providing the ability to give advice on known or anticipated future developments.

SAFed has a technical committee infrastructure that assists uniform application of the relevant Standards and provides authoritative interpretations of key issues within the Standards to aid the fabrication industry.

Appendix I

Welding Procedure and Welder Qualification Certification

It is essential, for the validity of the certificates, that the details entered are accurate and complete. (Examples of correctly completed certificates are shown in the next section).

Welding certificates, correctly completed, potentially span many projects and can therefore have a long life: they are valuable documents and their accuracy is of the utmost importance.

Welding Procedure and Welder Qualification Certification takes the form of one, or a combination of, the following:

El - Welding Procedure Qualification Record (WPQR)

This is a record compromising all necessary data needed for the qualification of a preliminary welding procedure specification.

E2 - Record of Weld Test

This details the actual welding parameters recorded during the welding of the WPQR test coupon. A continuation sheet E2c is available.

E3 - Test Results

This document is used to record the results of the relevancy Non-Destructive and Destructive Testing. It is mandatory to issue this with any WPQR, failure to do shall result in the WPQR being invalid. For Welder Qualification Certification, it is not necessary to issue such a document as a summary table showing acceptability is included on the Welder Qualification Test Certificate (E4).

Application Standards or End User Requirements may dictate the need for additional information to be included within a WPQR package such as, but not limited to:

- Photomacrographs
- Individual Technique NDT reports
- Material Certification
- Consumable Certification
- PWHT Graphs/Reports

E4 - Welder Qualification Test Certificate

Ref EN ISO 9606 (series) this single certificate will include details of the welder who is gaining qualification, the pWPS/WPS followed during the test, test piece Details, range of qualification gained, test results, route of chosen revalidation, and SAFed member organisation signatures and stamps.

Certificates E1 - E4 supplied by SAFed have translation details on the reverse for use if necessary.

NB: - SAFed was once a member of CEOC, which is now Known as the TIC Council – you may see these certificates with or without a CEOC Logo.





WELDING PROCEDURE APPROVAL TEST CERTIFICATE

Page 1 of 3

3 Manufacturer's Welding Procedure Inspecting Authority ZCMP/120580
4 Reference No. PQR 001 Reference No. SS42528876/300

5 Manufacturer: A FABRICATOR
6 Address: 1 WELDING STREET
JOINHAM

7 Code / Testing Standard BSEN ISO 15614-1 A2 2012

8 Date of Welding: 31/05/2012

9 RANGE OF QUALIFICATION

 10 Welding Process:
 MANUAL TIG (141)wm & MMA (111)

 11 Joint Type:
 BUTT WELDS(1) & FILLET WELDS(2)

12 Parent Metal Groups Sub Groups: 5.1 - 5.1, 5.1 - 1, 5.1 - 2

13 Parent Metal Thickness (mm): 3 - 22.14mm

Weld Metal Thickness (mm): 141: 3 - 6mm, 111: 3 - 16.14mm

Throat Thickness (mm): NOT RESTRICTED
Single run / Multi run: MULTI RUN ONLY

14 Pipe Outside Diameter (mm): >=30.15mm

15 Filler Metal Type / Designation: 141: ISO 21952-A W CrMo1Si, 111: ISO 3580-A ECrMo1 B

Filler Material Make: 141: NOT RESTRICTED, 111: METRODE CHROMET 1 (3)

Filler Material Size: WITHIN HEAT INPUT RESTRICTIONS

16 Designation of Gas / Flux: ISO 14175 I1 / BASIC COATED

Designation of Backing Gas: N/A

17 Type of Welding Current / Polarity: DC-VE / DC+VE

Mode of Metal Transfer: N/A

Heat Input: ±25% OF RECORDED VALUES (4)

18 Welding Position(s): ALL EXCEPT VERTICAL DOWN

19 Preheat Temperature: 120°C MINIMUM, INTERPASS: 250°C MAXIMUM

Post-Heating: NONE

20 Post Weld Heat Treatment: 650°C SOAK TEMPERATURE
21 OTHER INFORMATION SEE BSEN ISO 15614-1 A2 2012

(1) 141: ss,nb,mb,bs,ng,gg, 111: ss,mb,bs,gg

(2) SEE CLAUSE 8.4.3a

(3) RESTRICTED FOR IMPACT TESTED APPLICATIONS

(4) FOR NON IMPACT TESTED APPLICATIONS -25% RECORDED VALUES MAX

22 Certified that test welds were prepared, welded and tested satisfactorily in accordance with the requirements of the code / testing standard indicated above.

23 Location: Date of Issue: Name and Signature
BIRMINGHAM 14/06/2012 A ENGINEER
24 Inspecting Authority
(CEOC Member Organization

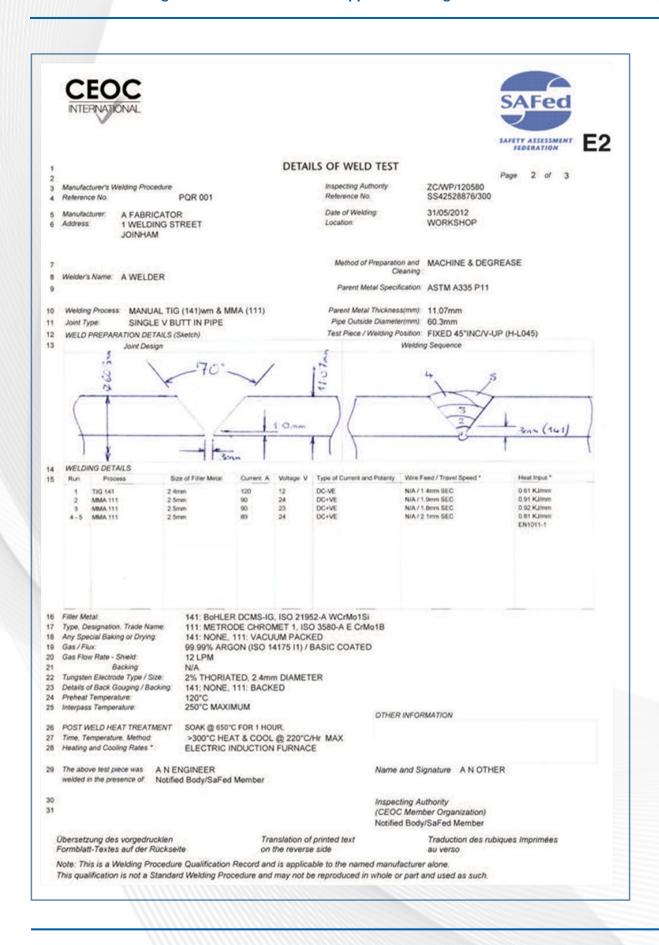
Notified Body/ SaFed

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xtes auf der Rückseite on the reverse side au ve

Note: This is a Welding Procedure Qualification Record and is applicable to the named manufacturer alone.

This qualification is not a Standard Welding Procedure and may not be reproduced in whole or part and used as such.







DETAILS OF WELD TEST (continuation sheet)



Run	Process	Size of filler (mm)	Current	Voltage V	Type of current / polarity	Wire feed speed	Travel speed (mm/sec)	Heat inpu (kj/mm)
1	141	2.4	95	-11	DC Elec Neg	N/R	0.54	1.16
2	141	2.4	152	12.5	DC Elec Neg	N/R	0.83	1.37
3	111	3.2	97	23	DC Elec Pos	N/R	2.76	0.65
4	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	2.80	0.58
5	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.39	0.48
6	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.40	0.48
7	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.39	0.48
8	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	4.23	0.39
9	(II)	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	4.23	0.39
10	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	4.11	0.40
11	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3,63	0.45
12	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.89	0.42
13	111	3.2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.78	0.43
14	111	3,2	93	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.10	0.53
15	111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.48	0.45
16	111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.75	0.41
17	3111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.48	0.45
18	111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.72	0.42
19	111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.66	0.42
20	111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	3.45	0.45
21	111	3.2	88	22	DC Elec Pos	N/R	2.87	0.54

