ASME Code Cases: What are they and how do I get one?

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The ASME Code Process for a Code Case: Non-traditional Manufacturing Methods/Materials
Scope of Presentation

• What is a Code Case?
• History of Code Cases
• Process for developing a Code Case
• Current Code Cases for non-traditional materials manufacturing methods
• In-process Code Cases for the same Code Case use
• Open Q&A on ASME materials
Background

- HSB Global Standards
  - Third-party inspection company for pressure equipment
    - ASME B&PV
    - Other International: PED, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, etc.
    - TPI
      - getinfo@hsbct.com

- Jay Cameron
  - BSME, MSMet
  - aerospace, oilfield, pressure equipment
  - ASME Committees
  - ASM, ASTM, NACE
What is a Code Case?

- What is a standard?
  - Set of technical definitions and guidelines

- What is a Code?
  - A standard adopted by a government
    - has the force of law
  - or a standard required by contract
What is a Code Case?

- What is a Code?
What is a Code Case?

- **Code Case:**
  - Exception or alternative to Code rules *[WHY]*
  - Non-mandatory
  - Available to all *[WHO]*
  - Very specific requirements
  - Vast majority are new materials
  - Usually at least documented on ASME Manufacturer’s Data Report
What is a Code Case?

- Advanced metal alloys: laboratory → industry
- Non-metallic materials
- Advanced materials manufacturing methods:
  - HIP’d powder metal parts
  - Sintered ceramic parts
  - “additive manufacturing” processes
What is a Code Case? (cont.)

- From page xxvi of the ASME B&PVC:

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CODE CASES

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code committees meet regularly to consider proposed additions and revisions to the Code and to formulate Cases to clarify the intent of existing requirements or provide, when the need is urgent, rules for materials or constructions not covered by existing Code rules. Those Cases that have been adopted will appear in the appropriate 2015 Code Cases book: “Boilers and Pressure Vessels” or “Nuclear Components.” Supplements will be sent or made available automatically to the purchasers of the Code Cases books up to the publication of the 2017 Code.
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What is a Code Case? (cont.)

- Published for ASME B&PVC
  - I, II, III, IV, V, VIII-1/2/3, IX, X, XI & XII
- Also published for Piping Codes
  - e.g., B31.1, B31.3, B31.12
- And for other ASME standards
  - e.g., B16.34
What is a Code Case? (cont.)
Example Code Cases

CASES OF ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE

Approval Date: December 18, 2012

Case 2192-8
Modified 9Cr-1Mo-V Cast Material
Section I

Inquiry: May modified 9Cr-1Mo-V castings with the chemical analysis shown in Table 1, the mechanical properties shown in Table 2, and otherwise conforming to applicable requirements in the following specifications, be used for Section I construction?
(a) Castings, SA-217
(b) Centrifugally Cast Pipe, SA-219

Approval Date: June 28, 2012

Case 2179-8

Approval Date: November 1, 2013

Case 2787
Multiple Marking of Certified Capacities for Pressure-Relief Valves
Section VIII, Division 1

Inquiry: Under what conditions may a Manufacturer or Assembler of a pressure-relief valve place more than one certified capacity on the pressure-relief valve or the nameplate?

Reply: It is the opinion of the Code Case that such a marking is not in accordance with the Code, and that the replacement of a single certified capacity by multiple certified capacities is not acceptable.

Case 2203-1
Omission of Lifting Device Requirements for Pressure Relief Valves on Air, Water Over 140°F, or Steam Service
Section VIII, Division 1

Inquiry: Is there any specific requirement for lifting devices for pressure relief valves in Section VIII, Division 1 that must be met?

Reply: Yes, the Code requires that lifting devices be furnished with the pressure relief valves. However, the document does not specify the exact requirements for the lifting devices.

Case 2751
Alternative Rules for Hemispherical Cylindrical Shell Having Integral Backing in Part of the Shell
Section VIII, Division 1

Inquiry: Under what conditions can a hemispherical cylindrical shell have integral backing in part of the shell?

Case 2397

Approval Date: June 28, 2012

CASES OF ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE

Case 2715

Inquiry: What are the requirements for welding details in Section VIII, Division 1?

Reply: Section VIII, Division 1 requires that welding details be specified in the design, and that the welder be qualified according to the applicable welding procedures.

CASES OF ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE

Approval Date: November 1, 2013

Case 2787

Inquiry: What are the requirements for the pressure-relief valves after completion of the testing on the first media?

Reply: Section VIII, Division 1 requires that pressure-relief valves be tested for each media, and that the pressure-relief valves be adjusted to the design pressure before the test.

CASES OF ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE

Approval Date: June 28, 2012

Case 2179-8

Inquiry: What are the requirements for the number and location of thermocouples placed on selected castings in each heat?

Reply: Section VIII, Division 1 requires that the number and location of thermocouples be specified in the design, and that the thermocouples be placed in accordance with the design specifications.
History of Code Cases

- Originally published as "Interpretation" cases — also called precedents in the legal field
- First published in 1916
- Published as "Case Interpretations" starting ~1956
- Published as "Code Cases" starting ~1974
Process for developing a Code Case

- Can take as little as 2 months (highly unlikely) to years – most typical is about a year
- ASME Committee process flowchart:
Process (cont.)

- **Difficulty:**
  - Can proceed on auto-pilot, rather easy
  - Can be quite involved
    - technically, administratively and politically

- **Actual work**
  - Done offline with electronic balloting
  - During in-person quarterly meetings called Code Weeks

- **Committees**
  - Some meet concurrently
  - May need to literally run from one meeting to another
  - Interested party / Consultant / Project Manager
Process (cont.)

- “Try before you buy”
  - New materials
  - New design rules
  - New welding technologies
  - New NDE technologies
  - Etc.

- Timing
  - Issued quarterly
  - Code book revision: 2-year schedule
  - Code Case revisions can be done quarterly

- Longevity:
  - Intended to be temporary
  - Processed for incorporation or annulment
  - More Code Cases are added than are incorporated
  - Currently >400 B&PVC & >250 Nuclear CCs
How do I get a new one?

From the Foreword:

The Committee meets regularly to consider revisions of the rules, new rules as dictated by technological development, Code Cases, and requests for interpretations. Only the Committee has the authority to provide official interpretations of this Code. Requests for revisions, new rules, Code Cases, or interpretations shall be addressed to the Secretary in writing and shall give full particulars in order to receive consideration and action (see Submittal of Technical Inquiries to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Standards Committees). Proposed revisions to the Code resulting from inquiries will be presented to the Committee for appropriate action. The action of the Committee becomes effective only after confirmation by ballot of the Committee and approval by ASME. Proposed revisions to the Code approved by the Committee are submitted to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and published at http://go.asme.org/BPVCPublicReview to invite comments from all interested persons. After public review and final approval by ASME, revisions are published at regular intervals in Editions of the Code.
How do I get a new one? (cont.)

- From page xxx of the ASME B&PVC:

**SUBMITTAL OF TECHNICAL INQUIRIES TO THE BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL STANDARDS COMMITTEES**

1 INTRODUCTION

(a) The following information provides guidance to Code users for submitting technical inquiries to the committees. See Guideline on the Approval of New Materials Under the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code in Section II, Parts C and D for additional requirements for requests involving adding new materials to the Code. Technical inquiries include requests for revisions or additions to the Code rules, requests for Code Cases, and requests for Code Interpretations, as described below.

(2) **Code Cases.** Code Cases represent alternatives or additions to existing Code rules. Code Cases are written as a question and reply, and are usually intended to be incorporated into the Code at a later date. When used, Code Cases prescribe mandatory requirements in the same sense as the text of the Code. However, users are cautioned that not all jurisdictions or owners automatically accept Code Cases. The most common applications for Code Cases are:

- (a) to permit early implementation of an approved Code revision based on an urgent need
- (b) to permit the use of a new material for Code construction
- (c) to gain experience with new materials or alternative rules prior to incorporation directly into the Code
How do I get a new one? (cont.)

- From page xxx of the ASME B&PVC:

# 2 INQUIRY FORMAT

Submittals to a committee shall include:

(a) Purpose. Specify one of the following:
   (1) revision of present Code rules
   (2) new or additional Code rules
   (3) Code Case
   (4) Code Interpretation

(b) Background. Provide the information needed for the committee’s understanding of the inquiry, being sure to include reference to the applicable Code Section, Division, edition, addenda (if applicable), paragraphs, figures, and tables. Preferably, provide a copy of the specific referenced portions of the Code.

(c) Presentations. The inquirer may desire or be asked to attend a meeting of the committee to make a formal presentation or to answer questions from the committee members with regard to the inquiry. Attendance at a committee meeting shall be at the expense of the inquirer. The inquirer’s attendance or lack of attendance at a meeting shall not be a basis for acceptance or rejection of the inquiry by the committee.
How do I get a new one? (cont.)

- From page xxxi of the ASME B&PVC:

4 CODE CASES

Requests for Code Cases shall provide a Statement of Need and Background Information similar to that defined in 3(b) and 3(c), respectively, for Code revisions or additions. The urgency of the Code Case (e.g., project underway or imminent, new procedure, etc.) must be defined and it must be confirmed that the request is in connection with equipment that will bear the Certification Mark, with the exception of Section XI applications. The proposed Code Case should identify the Code Section and Division, and be written as a Question and a Reply in the same format as existing Code Cases. Requests for Code Cases should also indicate the applicable Code editions and addenda (if applicable) to which the proposed Code Case applies.
How do I get a new one? (cont.)

- From Section II, Part D, Appendix 5:

**MANDATORY APPENDIX 5**

**GUIDELINES ON THE APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIALS UNDER THE ASME BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL CODE**

5-100 CODE POLICY

It is expected that requests for Code approval will normally be for materials for which there is a recognized national or international specification. It is the policy of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel (BPV) Committee on Materials to approve, for inclusion in the Code Sections, only materials covered by specifications that have been issued by standards-developing organizations such as, but not limited to, American Petroleum Institute (API), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), American Welding Society (AWS), Canadian Standards Association (CSA), European Committee for Standardization (CEN), Japan Industrial Standards (JIS), Standards Association of Australia (SAA), and China Standardization Committee (CSC).

Material specifications of other than national or international organizations, such as those of material producers/suppliers or equipment manufacturers, will not be considered for approval. The Committee will consider only official requests for specifications authorized by the originating standardization body and available in the English language and in U.S. Customary and/or SI/Metric units.

[WHO]
Current Code Cases for non-traditional materials manufacturing methods

- Polymer: Sections III, IV, VIII-1
Current Code Cases for non-traditional materials manufacturing methods

- Powder metal: Section I/B31.1 & Section III
  - Gr 91 (CC 2770): described by EPRI @ VMA 2014
  - 316L (CC N-834): ditto
In-process Code Cases for the same

- Powder metal
  - Section I:
    - ASTM A988-13 S30400/03, S31600/03, S31725, S31254, N08367
    - ASTM A989-13 K90941 (9), K31545 (21), K21590 (22)
    - ASTM B834-13 N06600, N08367, N06625, N06690, N07718
  - B16.5/34/47:
    - ASTM A989-xx K90901 (91)
  - VIII-3:
    - ASTM Axxx “SA-723” HSLA
In-process Code Cases (cont.)

- **Ceramic**
  - Section VIII-1: sintered SiC
- **Polymer**
  - VIII-1: cast acrylic
In-process Code Cases (cont.)

- Additive manufacturing
Code Case use

- Section VIII, Division 1

**MANDATORY APPENDIX 43**

**ESTABLISHING GOVERNING CODE EDITIONS AND CASES FOR PRESSURE VESSELS AND PARTS**

### 43-1 GENERAL

(a) After Code revisions are approved by ASME, they may be used beginning with the date of issuance shown on the Code. Except as noted in (b) below, revisions become mandatory 6 months after the date of issuance. Code Cases are permissible and may be used beginning with the date of approval by ASME. Only Code Cases that are specifically identified as being applicable to this Section may be used. At the time a Code Case is applied, only the latest revision may be used. Code Cases that have been incorporated into this Section or have been annulled shall not be used.

(b) Changes in the Code and Code Cases that have been published prior to completion of the pressure vessel or part may include details critical to the intended service conditions of the pressure vessel and therefore should be considered by the Manufacturer. Application of such changes shall be a matter of agreement between the Manufacturer and the user. Specific incorporated Code provisions from later editions that have been applied to construction shall be noted in the “Remarks” section of the Manufacturer’s Data Report.
Code Case use (cont.)

- Usually at least documented on ASME Manufacturer’s Data Report
Code Case use (cont.)

- Purchaser acceptance
- Jurisdictional acceptance
Where do I get them?

- Purchase “book”
- Subscribers to electronic Code books
- Online: cstools.asme.org
Open Q&A on ASME materials

Thank you

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