

National Board/NBIC Liaison Report Spring 2007

Refer to changes in key NB and Jurisdictions membership changes reported by Phil Smith. There are now four people who are jointly involved with API and are participating in the National Board: Steve Bacon (ConocoPhillips), Randy Wacker (duPont), Rick Nichols (Roddey Engineering; model codes), and Jim Riley (Chevron). Recent NBIC meeting in February at Tucson, Arizona: next inspection committee work in July, 2007 at NB in Columbus, Ohio. The following revisions to the NBIC have been approved by the NBIC Committee to be incorporated in the NBIC 2006 Addendum.

- The NBIC recognizes API Standards such as 510, 570 and 579. Additional wording has been added to the NBIC Introduction to address administrative requirements for jurisdictional acceptance/monitoring of API quality inspection programs adopted by many jurisdictions. References to 510, 520, 572, 576, and 577 being included in Inspection part.
- Added text to include guidelines for inspection of insulated vessels.
- Added text to identify specific inspection guidelines for various types of fire-tube boilers.
- Revised definition of Authorized Inspection Agency to include **NB-360** AIA for New Construction, **NB-369** AIA for In-Service Inspection, **NB-371** Owner-User Inspection Agencies and **NB-390** Federal Inspection Agencies.
- Part RB-9000 has been re-written to include basic controls and guidelines that should be understood when applying Fitness for Service Assessments (FFSA) and adjusting inspection frequencies. A new section to add criteria for Risk Based Assessments (RBA) is in the process of approval. In the future, Inspection Planning guidelines will be added based on the work of ASME Post Construction Committee for Inspection Planning.
- The NBIC is concentrating efforts on providing understanding and appropriate quality controls needed for implementing FFSA, RBA and Inspection planning programs, all falling under the umbrella of Asset Management. The technical guidance and information provided by other standards, such as API 579 and 580 will be referenced by the NBIC for performing FFSA, RBA and Inspection Planning methods.
- Part RD-1000 has been completely re-written to minimize duplication and clarify the requirements for PWHT alternative welding methods. ASME Section IX is now referenced for qualification of temper-bead welding procedures with restrictions for qualification ranges as specified in Table 1 of the NBIC.
- NBIC Subcommittee and Task Groups are presently reviewing approved ASME Post Construction Repair and Testing methods to possibly incorporate these methods by reference as a separate Appendix into the NBIC.

- The 2007 Edition of the NBIC to be published in December, 2007, will be subdivided into five separate volumes to allow for expansion of information within key categories of post construction activities. These categories would include Codes/standards, Installation, Inspection, Repairs/alterations and Operation/maintenance activities. The restructuring is designed to allow expansion in the areas of installation, inspection, repairs, maintenance and operation.

The committee structure has changed to incorporate subcommittees that will assume responsibility for expanding and improving information within each part. Ad Hoc groups can be initiated for any specific need and disband when work is completed. NBIC Main Committee reviews final ANSI consensus process changes.