

*Pressure Vessel Inspection Frequency
Advisory Committee
Committee Minutes*

*Thursday, January 24, 2008
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

Members Present: Dennis Coplin
Thomas Short
Ed Pitzrick
Frank Wall

Members Absent: Linda Lindsten
Tom Lindberg
Mark Steinberg
Susan Steward
Rodger Vignery

Guests Present: Anthony Barsotti

Staff Present: Jim Denno, state inspection services manager
Mike Graham, chief boiler inspector
Celina Patterson, policy analyst
Kaylan McAllaster, boards coordinator
Shauna Parker, rules coordinator

1. Approval of the November 13, 2007 Pressure Vessel Inspection Frequency Committee meeting minutes.

The committee approved the [November 13, 2007](#) meeting minutes.

2. Consideration of appropriate inspection intervals for pressure vessels currently on a 2-year inspection cycle.

Jim Denno, statewide services manager provided history and background on the committee. Manager Denno explained the role of the committee is to review and evaluate the inspection programs and inspection frequencies, and to determine which vessels should remain on the shorter inspection cycle.

The committee reviewed the [draft rule](#) which defined vessels permitted to be on a four-year cycle, specifying that ammonia vessels require a two-year inspection cycle. Manager Denno explained that at the previous meeting, committee members had agreed with the rule as written and they recommended that the remaining committee members agree with the language in the rule.

The committee also reviewed a [list of vessel code types](#) and discussed the various vessels and abbreviations represented in the list.

The committee discussed the inspection criteria used for inspecting vessels. The committee also discussed the inspectors' discretion relating to the inspection of pressure vessels deemed more risky.

Ed Pitzrick discussed ammonia vessels and his experience with them in the field.

The committee discussed other criteria besides ammonia vessels which would raise flags and require more frequent inspections. In doing so, they discussed the cause of failures, corrosion, and stress cracking which result in increased risk to the vessel. They discussed how these issues correspond to the frequency of inspections.

Frank Wall asked if the group knew the difference in inspection frequency criteria between Oregon, Washington, and California for the vessels on the list.

The committee discussed potential redundancy in the lists when trying to define each vessel independently.

The committee also discussed the various definitions of the vessels, noting that there does not seem to be a uniform definition for many of the vessels which causes confusion in the industry.

Mike Graham, chief boiler inspector, explained that typically the inspector defines what a vessel is.

The committee recommended that perhaps the definition of a vessel should be how the manufacturer of the vessel describes it and classifies it.

The committee agreed that it is important that the vessels get inspected regularly even if the frequency of inspections are lengthened.

Mr. Pitzrick explained that the insurance industry has different criteria from the state mandated inspection frequencies and, therefore, some vessels are inspected annually by the insurance industry regardless of a broader state policy.

Through their deliberations, the committee determined which vessels should be on a two-year inspection frequency cycle.

Anthony Barostti relayed a suggestion by Rodger Vignery (absent) to broaden the rule language by suggesting additional language be included to provide guidance to inspectors when inspecting vessels which may pose safety concerns and allowing additional internal and external inspections.

Manager Denno explained that the division will draft rule language and communicate that back to the group by email for input. At that point, a determination will be made as to whether another meeting will need to be held.

3. Adjourn

The committee adjourned at 3:00 p.m.