

**ASME CODE ON NUCLEAR AIR AND GAS TREATMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FIELD TESTING PROCEDURES**

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the ASME CONAGT Subcommittee on Field Testing is to develop and maintain Standards and Codes designated for the inspection and testing of nuclear air treatment systems (NATS) and gas processing systems (GPS). The Subcommittee conducts its activities in accordance with the latest revision of "Operating Procedures and Practices for Nuclear Codes and Standards Developing Committees" issued by ASME. In addition, the Subcommittee is guided by the "Supplementary Operating Procedures" issued by CONAGT.

Included in the Subcommittee's scope of work are the following items:

- a) To Review All Aspects of Common Code and Standard Sections that Apply Uniquely to the Field Testing Subcommittee's Scope by interfacing with peripheral subcommittees.
- b) Preparation of Procedures for Field Testing NATS AND GPS.
- c) Preparation of Appendices as Required (Mandatory and Non-Mandatory).
- d) Identifying Functional Requirements for Required Test Instrumentation.
- e) Identifying Minimum Field Data Requirements for Reporting Field Testing Activities.
- f) Preparation of Procedures for the Qualification of Personnel for Field Testing NATS and GPS.

Excluded from the subcommittee's scope of work are:

- a) Factory Testing as defined in the ASME/CONAGT AG-1 Code.
- b) Approving or disapproving any specific instrument or test system by description or omission. Only Instrument Functional Requirements Shall Be Valid.

SUBCOMMITTEE PROJECTS

Code AG-1, Section TA

The Subcommittee had the success of having Section TA published as an addition to the 1997 edition of the AG-1 Code in December of last year. Although this is an accomplishment in the making for over a decade, the subcommittee will be submitting changes to the published format. There appears to have been a slight mix-up in the formatting, as it wasn't printed quite like the Subcommittee requested. The changes should create a more user-friendly document.

In-Service Testing Document (ASME N511-XX)

The in-service testing document, presently referred to as ASME N511-XX, will complement the AG-1 Section TA. The Standard has undergone some adjusting as a result of its first round through the CONAGT Main Committee balloting process. The Subcommittee is expecting to resubmit a revision prior to the last quarter of this year.

There is the possibility that the scope of AG-1 may be increased to allow this subject matter incorporated into its body, as once originally intended. It is also a possibility that the document may be added as an appendix to AG-1. The issue is to decide if all testing (acceptance and in-service) should be at one point of reference.

SESSION 3-6

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

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ASME N510

ASME N510-1989 was reaffirmed in March 1995, and continues to be used worldwide as a primary testing document for testing NATS. Now that AG-1's Section TA is published and the in-service testing document soon to be, one may see the future edition of N510 start to become boiled down and reference the more premier testing documents.

Procedure for Qualification of Personnel for Field Testing NATS and GPS.

The Subcommittee does have plans to submit guidelines for qualification of personnel who perform field testing activities. Personnel training and qualification and the documentation of these abilities are subjects currently receiving high profile attention in the nuclear industry. The procedure or guideline will not inform the user as to the major abilities, but rather how to document these abilities.

Inquiries

As a reminder to the NACTC participants, the Subcommittee on Field Testing Procedures does have the responsibility to provide feedback to inquiries received through the technical inquiry process that address the Committee's respective documents. Technical inquiries are answerable by "intent interpretation" per the Nuclear Codes and Standards Management and Operations Manual (commonly referred to as mom), Section 10.2. Intent interpretations are permitted only to clarify conflicting or ambiguous requirements or to resolve incorrect wording.

Epilogue

It is the intent of the Subcommittee on Field Testing Procedures to provide the user with a complete and useful document. Additionally, the Subcommittee welcomes feedback from the user pertaining to the applicability of these documents to review for possible incorporation. Comments are always appreciated, as it is the most useful way to succeed at improving the document. We can not serve the user better if we are unaware of what they are aggrieved.

May your testing always be an enjoyable experience.

Mark E. Pest
Chairman, Subcommittee on Field Testing Procedures.