



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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JUL 16 1980

Mr. Stephen D. Carmean
Quality Assurance Engineering
Newport News Industrial
Corporation
230 41st Street
Newport News, VA 23607

Dear Mr. Carmean:

SUBJECT: INSPECTION REPORTS BY LEVEL I PERSONNEL

In your letter of July 1, 1980, you ask the following question:

When working to a specification requiring qualification of inspection personnel in accordance with the 1973 edition of ANSI N45.2.6, is it permissible to employ Level I personnel for performing direct inspections using approved procedures, attesting to the accept/reject status and reporting of such inspection results?

You also provided the following example:

Could a Level I perform a simple dimensional inspection of a part or accept/reject weld joint fit-up and weld profile and write-up and sign an inspection report attesting to the inspection results?

We note that Mr. Michael V. Warren of your organization asked a very similar question in his letter to us of March 7, 1980. We responded on March 27, 1980. The discussion below amplifies our March 27, 1980, response.

Table 1 of ANSI N45.2.6-1973 clearly indicates that a Level I could perform inspections using approved procedures. However, the table also indicates that the minimum level for evaluating and reporting inspection and test results is Level II. NRC's endorsement of the standard, via Regulatory Guide 1.58 dated August 1973, took no exception to Table 1. Therefore, it is our position that the latter type activities should not be assigned to a Level I individual.

It should be further noted that certifications for the Level I, II, and III personnel should be made on the basis of demonstrated capability and satisfactory completion of proficiency testing as indicated in part 3.1 of the standard. The type or types of activity that an individual is certified to perform should, of course, be clearly given on the certificate of qualification. For example, an individual certified only to evaluate and report the results of simple dimensional inspections should not be permitted to evaluate and report the dimensional layout of a complex machined part.

In summary, we believe that proper implementation of ANSI N45.2.6-1973 assures, through controlled certification, that personnel are qualified to do the work assigned to them.

Sincerely,

Walter P. Haass
Walter P. Haass, Chief
Quality Assurance Branch
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