



CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR PERSONNEL

DOCUMENT NO. CSWIP-QPW -25-14

Requirements for the Qualification of Welding Operators, Welders and Brazers (excluding requirements for compliance with the Pressure Equipment Regulations)

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Issued under the authority of the Governing Board for Certification
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Foreword

The Certification Scheme for Personnel (CSWIP) is a comprehensive scheme which provides for the examination and certification of individuals seeking to demonstrate their knowledge and/or competence in their field of operation. The scope of CSWIP includes Welding Inspectors, Welding Supervisors, Welding Instructors, Cathodic Protection Personnel, Bolting Technicians, Plant Inspectors, Plastics Welders, Drillstem Inspectors, Heat Treatment Operatives, Brazing Examiners, Underwater Inspection personnel, NDT personnel, Plant Inspectors, Welders, Welding Operators and Brazers.

CSWIP is managed by the Certification Management Board, which acts as the Governing Board for Certification, in keeping with the requirements of the industries served by the scheme. The Certification Management Board, in turn, appoints specialist Management Committees to oversee specific parts of the scheme. All CSWIP Boards and Committees comprise member representatives of relevant industrial and other interests.

TWI Certification Ltd understands the importance of impartiality in carrying out its certification activities, managing conflict of interest and ensuring the objectivity of all its certification activities, in accordance with BS EN ISO/IEC 17024.

Access to certification

Access to certification is not improperly restricted. The sole criteria for certification are given in the document (and any subsequent amendments) and no other criteria will be applied. Certification is not conditional on the candidate applying for other services or membership from TWI Certification Ltd, its parent, or any other groups or associations.

1 General

1.1 Scope

This document prescribes the requirements for the qualification of welders, welding operators, and brazers for manufacturers (**NOT** seeking to comply with the Pressure Equipment Regulations¹) with any other relevant standard or client specification which requires independent accredited third party approval. If compliance with the Pressure Equipment Regulations is required please contact TWI Certification Ltd or see the CSWIP website (www.cswip.com)

1.2 Responsibilities

TWI Certification Ltd acts as the Examining Body and the Certifying Body. It carries overall responsibility for ensuring that the requirements for qualification testing are satisfied and that appropriate qualification certificates are issued following successful qualification and job knowledge tests, when required by the Standard.

The particular requirements for qualification testing are given in the appropriate standard. It is the manufacturer's responsibility to select the standard. Examples are given in section 2. Qualification testing and the issue of certificates can only be carried out to recognised standard and it should be noted that the rules covering testing and validity of qualification certificates vary from standard to standard.

It is also the manufacturer's responsibility to ensure that the recognition and acceptance of qualification certificates is appropriate to their requirements. For example, some standards state that the Examiner or Examining Body must be acceptable to the contracting parties. Whilst TWI

¹ Including, but not limited to, the European Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) - PED-2014/68/EU, and the UK Pressure Equipment (Safety) Regulations

Certification Ltd makes every effort to ensure that its qualification certificates carry appropriate accreditation and that testing and certification activities are carried out in accordance with best practice, it cannot guarantee acceptance by any particular customer or client.

Testing activities may be subcontracted by TWI Certification Ltd to one of its approved Examining Bodies, see section 8. These Bodies act as the interface between TWI Certification Ltd and the manufacturer. TWI Certification Ltd rigorously controls the procedures and functions of Examining Bodies in the conduct of their work on behalf of TWI Certification Ltd.

Individuals engaged by Examining Bodies to carry out assessment work in connection with the requirements of this document must hold a current CSWIP Welding Examiners certificate and be approved by TWI Certification Ltd, in accordance with procedures operated by the Examining Body and approved by TWI Certification Ltd.

Testing of individual candidates or welding procedures is arranged between the manufacturer and TWI Certification Ltd or the Examining Body and the manufacturer. The Examining Body will check that any pre-test requirements applicable are fulfilled by the manufacturer or candidate(s). The Examining Body is responsible for setting examinations and tests, witnessing/verifying welding and/or testing as required by the selected standard and for informing TWI Certification Ltd of the test results.

If mechanical testing or NDT is needed in relation to a welder qualification or a welding procedure qualification test, the Examining Body or manufacturer if stated in the standard, must employ a test house with the appropriate scope of approval that is accredited to ISO 17025 by UKAS or an organisation that is a signatory to the Multilateral Agreement or Arrangement schemes administered by European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) or the International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC) or a second party supplier audit of the test laboratory by the CSWIP Welding Examiner can be conducted to ensure compliance with the relevant standards.

2 Standards

Qualification testing and certification is available in accordance with the typical current issues of the standards listed below:

2.1 Welders, Welding Operators and Brazers Testing

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| BS EN ISO 9606-1 | Qualification testing of Welders – Fusing Welding – Part 1: Steels |
| BS EN ISO 9606-2 | Qualification Testing of Welders – Fusion Welding – Part 2: Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys |
| AWS D1.1: | Structural Welding Code – Steel |
| AWS D3.6M: | Specification for Underwater Welding |
| ASME: | Boiler and Pressure Vessel code. Section IX. Welding and brazing qualifications |
| ISO 14732 | Welding personnel – Qualification testing of welding operators and weld setters for mechanised and automatic welding of metallic materials |
| ISO 25239-3 | Friction Stir Welding – Aluminium – Part 3: Qualification of Welding Operators |
| BS EN 13133 | Brazing – Brazer approval |
| BS EN 14276 | Pressure equipment for refrigerating systems and heat pumps |
| BS EN ISO 13585 | Brazing – Qualification test of brazers and brazing operators |

The above lists are not intended to be exhaustive and other appropriate standards may be used.

3 Qualification Testing

3.1 Welders, Welding Operators and Brazers

The CSWIP Examiner is responsible for ensuring that the requirements of the standard selected by the manufacturer are fulfilled. The standards are prescriptive and require no additional criteria.

4 Qualification certificates

Qualification certificates are issued in accordance with the standard being applied, see Section 2.

Certificates are issued to the sponsoring organisation, usually the manufacturer.

Duplicate certificates may be issued to the sponsoring organisation to replace any which are lost or destroyed. This will only be done after extensive enquiries by TWI Certification Ltd.

The period of validity of a qualification certificate and the conditions for renewal are governed by the selected standard.

Photocopies are unauthorised by CSWIP and should only be used for internal administrative purposes.

5 Complaints and Appeals

An aggrieved party, which considers itself to have reasonable grounds for questioning the competency of a CSWIP qualified person, may petition the Governing Board for non-renewal of the certificate. Such a petition must be accompanied by all relevant facts and if in the opinion of the Board, an adequate case has been presented, a full investigation of the circumstances under dispute will be initiated. If the petition is substantiated to the satisfaction of the Board, the certificate will not be renewed without further test.

Appeals against failure to certify or against non-renewal of the certificate may be made by the candidate or the manufacturer upon application in writing to the Governing Board but must be within six months of the date of examination.

6 Records

Examining Bodies and TWI Certification Ltd maintain records of examinations and tests. Full records are only held for a period of eight months from the date of the test, only outline details of the test and the results are maintained on file. Details shall be maintained electronically and can be made available on request to the employer.

7 Application for Testing and Fees

Manufacturers will be required to submit completed application forms to the Examining Body. These forms are issued by the Examining Body and all the required information must be on these forms. In the event of a false statement being discovered in the information provided by the manufacturer, any testing undertaken will be declared null and void. Approval certificates are automatically invalidated if there are any outstanding fees.

8 **Addresses**

For further general information about the approval schemes covered in this document contact:

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