



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: Edge Blocks
Code Edition: D1.1:2000
Code Provision: Subsection 6.17.13 and 6.17.5
AWS Log: INQ-33

Inquiry:

- (1) Does the 1/16-inch (2 mm) maximum gap specified in paragraph 6.17.13 of D1.1-2000 refer to the physical distance between the weld edge and the edge block at the time of the radiographic set-up for exposure?
- (2) Does an image of the gap allowed by paragraph 6.17.13 D1.1-2000, in excess of 1/16 in. (2 mm) on the final radiograph, disqualify the radiograph when the excess is due to geometric enlargement?
- (3) Does the radiographic set-up, as delineated in paragraph 6.17.5 D1.1-2000 (i.e., “as near as practical”), allow for positioning the source off the center of the length being examined for the purpose of favoring the weld edge/edge block interface (granting that all other code specified parameters are met)?

Response:

- (1) Yes. See also C6.17.13
- (2) No
- (3) No. See also C6.17.5

AWS D1.1, Structural Welding Code—Steel, is prepared by the AWS Structural Welding Committee. Because the Code is written in the form of a specification, it cannot present background material or discuss the committee’s intent.

Since the publication of the first edition of the Code, the nature of inquiries directed to the American Welding Society and the Structural Welding Committee has indicated that there are some requirements in the Code that are either difficult to understand or not sufficiently specific, and other that appear to be overly conservative.

It should be recognized that the fundamental premise of the Code is to provide general stipulations applicable to any situation and to leave sufficient latitude for the exercise of engineering judgment. Another point to be recognized is that the Code represents the collective experience of the committee; and, while some provisions may seem overly conservative, they have been based on sound engineering practice.