ASME B31.9

INTERPRETATIONS NO. 3

Replies to Technical Inquiries
October 21, 1992, Through January 10, 1997

This publication includes all written interpretations issued between the indicated dates by the B31 Committee in response to inquiries concerning interpretations of the Code. A contents is also included which lists subjects specific to the interpretations covered in the individual volume. **These interpretations are not a part of the Code or the Addenda.**

These interpretations are taken verbatim from the original letters, except for a few typographical and editorial corrections made for the purpose of improved clarity. In some instances, a review of the interpretation revealed a need for corrections of a technical nature. In these cases, a revised interpretation is presented bearing the original Interpretation Number with the suffix R and the original file number with an asterisk. In the event that an interpretation is corrected by Errata, the original interpretation number with the suffix E is used.

Following these revised interpretations, new interpretations and revisions to them issued during the indicated dates are assigned Interpretation Numbers in chronological order. Interpretations applying to more than one Code Section appear with the interpretations for each affected Section.

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An interpretation applies either to the Edition and Addenda in effect on the date of issuance of the interpretation or the Edition and Addenda stated in the interpretation. Subsequent revisions to the Code may supersede the interpretation.

Interpretations Nos. 1 and 2 were included with the update service to the 1988 Edition. The update service to the 1996 Edition begins with Interpretations No. 3. For the 1996 Edition, interpretations will be issued as necessary up to twice a year until the publication of the 1999 Edition.

For detailed instructions on preparation of technical inquiries to the B31 Committee, refer to Appendix D.

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B31.9

Subject	Interpretation	File No.
Use of A 120 Steel Pipe	9-1	1666
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Hydrotest Preparation	9-3	B31-86-033
Para. 900.1 Scope	9-4	B31-84-21A
Rules for In-Line Sensing Devices	9-5	B31-88-28F
Paras. 936.5 and 936.6	9-6	B31-92-01
Para. 900.1.2(c) and 900.1.2(e)	9-7	B31-92-58
Para. 936.4.1, Visual Examination	9-8	B31-96-033

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Interpretation: 9-6

Subject: Paras. 936.5 and 936.6

Date Issued: October 21, 1992

File: B31-92-01

Question: Paragraph 936.5 (B31.9-1988) states that visual examination is to be used to examine welds. If radiographic inspection or examination is required by the design specification, are the acceptance criteria as required by para. 936.6?

Reply: Yes, unless changed by the design documents.

Interpretation: 9-7

Subject: Paras. 900.1.2(c) and 900.1.2(e)

Date Issued: August 31, 1992

File: B31-92-58

Question: Is 16 in. diameter, schedule 80 (T_n = 0.844 in.) A106B steel pipe for underground chilled water service (design conditions: B31.9, 90 psig at 60°F, t_m = 0.048 in.), within the scope of B31.9 versus B31.1?

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 9-8

Subject: Para. 936.4.1, Visual Examination

Date Issued: January 10, 1997

File: B31-96-033

Question (1): Does *visual examination* include the use of lights and mirrors?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Does *visual examination* include the use of boroscopes?

Reply (2): No.

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ASME CODE FOR PRESSURE PIPING, B31

B31.1	Power Piping	1995
B31.2[1]	Fuel Gas Piping	1968
B31.3	Process Piping	1996
B31.4	Pipeline Transportation Systems for Liquid Hydrocarbons and Other Liquids	1992
B31.5	Refrigeration Piping	1992
B31.8	Gas Transmission and Distribution Piping Systems	1995
B31.9	Building Services Piping	1996
B31.11	Slurry Transportation Piping Systems	1989

B31G-1991 Manual for Determining the Remaining Strength of Corroded Pipelines: A Supplement to ASME B31 Code for Pressure Piping

NOTE:
(1) USAS B31.2-1968 was withdrawn as an American National Standard on February 18, 1988. ASME will continue to make available USAS B31.2-1968 as a historical document for a period of time.

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ASME/ANSI B31.9

INTERPRETATIONS NO. 2

Replies to Technical Inquiries
August 1, 1988, Through March 15, 1991

It has been agreed to publish interpretations issued by the B31 Committee concerning B31.9 as part of the update service to the Code. The interpretations have been assigned numbers in chronological order. Each interpretation applies either to the latest Edition or Addenda at the time of issuance of the interpretation or the Edition or Addenda stated in the reply. Subsequent revisions to the Code may have superseded the reply. **The interpretations are not part of the Code or the Addenda.**

These replies are taken verbatim from the original letters, except for a few typographical and editorial corrections made for the purpose of improved clarity. In some instances, a review of the interpretation revealed a need for corrections of a technical nature. In these cases, a revised reply bearing the original interpretation number with the suffix R is presented. In the case where an interpretation is corrected by Errata, the original interpretation number with the suffix E is used.

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Interpretation: 9-5

Subject: Rules for In-Line Sensing Devices

Date Issued: October 9, 1989

File: B31-88-28F

Question: Does ASME/ANSI B31.9 require that the pressure containing portion of an in-line sensing device be designed, fabricated, examined, and tested in accordance with the rules of B31.9?

Reply: Yes.

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ASME/ANSI B31.9

INTERPRETATIONS NO. 1

Replies to Technical Inquiries
October 26, 1983, Through July 31, 1988

It has been agreed to publish interpretations isssued by the B31 Committee concerning B31.9 as part of the update service to the Code. The interpretations have been assigned numbers in chronological order. Each interpretation applies to the latest Edition or Addenda at the time of issuance of the interpretation or the Edition or Addenda stated in the reply. Subsequent revisions to the Code may have superseded the reply. **The interpretations are not part of the Code or its Addenda.**

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ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of these interpretations when or if additional information is available which the inquirer believes might affect the interpretation. Further, persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME committee or subcommittee. As stated in the Statement of Policy in the Code documents, ASME does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

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The interpretations will be issued as part of the update service up to the publication of the 1993 Edition.

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Interpretation: 9-1

Subject: Use of A 120 Steel Pipe

Date Issued: October 26, 1983

File: 1666

Question: Can A 120 steel pipe be used, either welded or threaded, in conformance with the Code for nonboiler external piping (building service piping) in a hospital project, within the scope of ANSI/ASME B31.9?

Reply: Yes.

Interpretation: 9-2

Subject: Para. 900.1 Scope

Date Issued: February 21, 1984

File: 1607

Question: What ANSI/ASME B31 Code is the applicable Code for a steam line transferring steam from a power house to the interior of a tobacco plant?

Reply: ANSI/ASME B31.1 is applicable to all power and auxiliary service piping in the power plant.

The applicable Code for the transfer line and any distribution within the tobacco plant depends upon its purpose. If used to generate power, ANSI/ASME B31.1 applies. If used as building services, ANSI/ASME B31.9 applies. If used as part of a chemical process, ANSI/ASME B31.3 applies.

If the piping is clearly not within the scope of these or other B31 Codes, B31 Case 137 permits the user to select any B31 Code section determined to be generally applicable.

Interpretation: 9-3

Subject: Hydrotest Preparation

Date Issued: June 12, 1987

File: B31-86-033

Question: May all joints, including welds, used in piping systems covered by ANSI/ASME B31.1, ANSI/ASME B31.3, ANSI/ASME B31.4, ANSI/ASME B31.8, ANSI/ASME B31.9, and ANSI/ASME B31.11 be primed and painted prior to hydrotest?

Reply: Yes.

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Interpretation: 9-4

Subject: Para. 900.1 Scope

Date Issued: March 16, 1987

File: B31-84-21A

Question: What B31 Code Section is applicable to solar loop piping for commercial and residential building applications?

Reply: ANSI/ASME B31.9.

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