ASME OMa CODE–1999 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries December 1, 1997 through December 31, 1998

FOREWORD

This publication includes all of the written replies issued between the indicated dates by the Secretary, speaking for the ASME Committee on Operation and Maintenance, to inquiries concerning interpretations of technical aspects of ASME OM Code-1998, Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants.

These replies are taken verbatim from the original letters, except for a few typographical corrections and some minor editorial corrections made for the purpose of improved clarity.

These interpretations were prepared in accordance with the accredited ASME procedures. 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 this interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME Committee or Subcommittee. ASME does not "approve," "certify," "rate," or "endorse" any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

An interpretation applies to the edition or addenda stated in the interpretation itself, or, if none is stated, to the latest published edition and addenda at the time it is issued. Subsequent revisions to the rules may have superceded the reply.

For detailed instructions on the preparation of technical inquiries, refer to the Preparation of Technical Inquiries to the Committee on Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plant Components (p. vii of ASME OM Code-1998).

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Interpretation: 99-1

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987, Part 1, para. 1.4.1.2 or ASME OMa Code-1996, Appendix I, para. 1.4

Date Issued: March 18, 1998

File: OMI-98-01

Question: Is it the intent of OM-1987, Part, 1, para. 1.4.1.2 or OMa Code-1996, Appendix I, para. 1.4, that the test acceptance criteria must be determined by adjusting the Code specified tolerance limits [e.g., +3% of stamped setpoint (for 1987), ±3% (for 1996)] to account for instrument inaccuracies?

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 99-2

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 6, para. 4.4

Date Issued: March 18, 1998

File: OMI-98-02

Question: Is it the intent of OM-1987 through the 1988 Addenda, Part 6, para. 4.4 to require an inservice test at the previous reference values whenever new reference values will be established due to system modification other than pump replacement, repair, or maintenance?

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 99-3

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10 and equivalent subsequent editions and addenda

Date Issued: October 6, 1998

File: OMI-98-17

Question: Does OMa-1988, Part 10 prohibit an Owner from classifying a valve as having both a passive and active function?

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 99-4

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 6, para. 5.2(c)

Date Issued: October 6, 1998

File: OMI-97-11

Question: Is it the intent of OMa-1988, Part 6 that if it is not practical to vary system resistance, the test procedure method of para. 5.2(c) be used?

Reply: Yes.

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Interpretation: 99-5

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 4.1 and equivalent subsequent editions and addenda

Date Issued: October 8, 1998

File: OMI-98-09

Question: If it is not practicable, it is a requirement of OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 4.1 that local observation of stem movement be supplemented by other indications to verify obturator position?

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 99-6

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987 through ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10

Date Issued: October 21, 1998

File: OMI-98-07

Question: Is it a requirement of the Code that when a valve has a safety function, as determined by para. 1.1, to both the open and closed positions in accordance with para. 4.2.1, the valve's stroke time has to be measured in each direction?

Reply: Yes.

Interpretation: 99-7

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 3.4 and equivalent subsequent editions and addenda

Date Issued: November 17, 1998

File: OMI-98-06

Question: If post maintenance test values are not identical to the reference values, but the differences between the test values and the reference value are identified, analyzed, and the reference value is found to still be representative of valve performance, is it the requirement of the Code to determine a new reference value?

Reply: No.

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Interpretation: 99-8

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 4.1 and equivalent subsequent editions and addenda

Date Issued: December 23, 1998

File: OMI-98-11

Question: After demonstrating design-basis capability using direct stem measurement and establishing a correlation between Motor-Operated Valve (MOV) motor torque and direct stem parameters, is it permissible, under the requirements of OMN-1, para. 6.4, Determination of MOV Functional Margin, to demonstrate margin for an inservice test using MOV motor torque with appropriate application of static and dynamic actuator efficiency and stem factor, test measurement accuracy, the proper repeatability terms, and all other requirements of paras. 6.1 through 6.5, in lieu of measured stem torque or thrust?

Reply: Yes.

Interpretation: 99-9

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 4.1 and equivalent subsequent editions and addenda

Date Issued: December 23, 1998

File: OMI-98-20

Question: If it is practicable, is it a requirement of OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 4.1 that local observation of stem movement be supplemented by other indications to verify obturator position?

Reply: No.

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ASME OM CODE–1998 INTERPRETATIONS

Replies to Technical Inquiries September 1, 1995 through November 30, 1997

FOREWORD

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Interpretation: 98-1

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988 Through ASME OM-Code 1995: ISTD 1.8, Personnel Qualification; and Section XI, Division 1, 1989 Edition and Subsequent Edition and Addenda Through 1994

Date Issued: December 15, 1995

File: OMI-95-03

Question: Is it the requirement of the OM Code, Part 4, para. 1.5.4 (ISTD 1.8), Personnel Qualification, that the Owner's Administrative Procedure for qualifying personnel shall be prepared in accordance with SNT-TC-1A as outlined in IWA-2300?

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 98-2

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987, Part 1, Test Interval

Date Issued: November 15, 1996

File: OMI-95-08

Question: When ending the first 10 year OM-1 test interval and starting the new 10 year OM-1 test interval, does the 48 month requirement of ANSI/ASME OM-1 1981, Part 1, para. 1.3.4.1.2 [ASME/ANSI OM-1987 (Part 1), paras. 1.3.4.1(b); ASME OM Code-1990, Appendix I, para. I 1.3.5(b); ASME OMc Code-1994, Appendix I, para. I 1.3.5(a); and ASME OM Code-1995, para. I 1.3.5(a)] start over at the beginning of the new test interval for Class 2 and 3 relief valves, excluding PWR Main Steam Safety Valves.

Reply: No, the test interval applies to any 48 month period.

Interpretation: 98-3

Subject: Section XI, Article IWP-3000, Paras. IWP-3110 and IWP-3111; and ASME/ANSI OMb-1989, Part 6.

Date Issued: November 15, 1997

File: OMI-96-01

Question: Do paras. 4.3 and 4.4 of OMb-1989, Part 6, prohibit the establishment of reference values above the fixed alert range of Table 3a?

Reply: No, provided that acceptable operation is demonstrated and actions of para. 6.1 are taken.

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Interpretation: 98-4

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987, Part 4; ASME OM Code-1990, Subsection ISTD; ASME OM Code-1995, Subsection ISTD With ASME OMa Code-1996

Date Issued: September 12, 1997

File: OMI-97-09

Question: Does the OM Code, Subsection ISTD, apply to a gapped component support, examined per the requirements of Section XI, Articles IWF-2000 and IWF-3000. A gapped component support, is a catalog component which incorporates an adjustable gap to accommodate thermal growth, designed such as to limit the overall piping or equipment displacement through a positive, mechanical stop.

Reply: No.

Interpretation: 98-5

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987 With ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 10, Paras. 4.2.1.2, 4.2.1.3, and 4.2.4; Power-Operated Valves, Stroke Time Measurement

Date Issued: September 24, 1997

File: OMI-97-07

Question (1): Is it a requirement of OM-1987 with OMa-1988, Part 10, paras. 4.2.1.2, 4.2.1.3, and 4.2.1.4, that the stroke time of a power-operated valve be measured from the initiation of the actuating signal to the indication of the end of the operating stroke?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Is it a requirement of OM-1987 with OMa-1988, Part 10, paras. 4.2.1.2, 4.2.1.3, and 4.2.1.4, that the stroke time of a power-operated valve be measured from the initiation of the actuating signal to the end of the obturator movement?

Reply (2): No.

Question (3): For power operated valves whose full-stroke time is measured using remote position indicating lights controlled by limit switches which are positioned at less than full valve obturator travel, is it acceptable to comply with OM-1987 with OMa-1988, Part 10, para. 4.2.1.4, stroke-timing requirements by measuring the valve stroke time from initiation of the actuating signal to the indication of the end of the operating stroke in accordance with para. 4.2.1.3?

Reply (3): Yes.

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Interpretation: 98-6

Subject: ASME/ANSI OMa-1988, Part 6, Paras. 4.6.4(a) and 4.6.4(b), and ASME OM Code-1990, Subsection ISTB, Paras. 4.6.4(a) and 4.6.4(b)

Date Issued: October 9, 1997

File: OMI-97-02

Question (1): For a vertically oriented centrifugal pump, which the Owner has determined is not a vertical line shaft pump, do the requirements of para. 4.6.4(b) apply?

Reply (1): No.

Question (2): For a vertically oriented centrifugal pump, which the Owner has determined that the pump and driver do not form an integral unit, does para. 4.6.4(a) require an axial vibration measurement on the upper motor bearing housing?

Reply (2): No.

Interpretation: 98-7

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987, Part 1, Para. 8.1.3.1; Test Media

Date Issued: October 22, 1997

File: OMI-96-14

Question (1): Is it a requirement of OM-1987, Part 1, para. 8.1.3.1, Test Media, to require set point test of liquid service relief valves using only liquid (i.e., compressible fluids shall not be used to test liquid service valves)?

Reply (1): Yes.

Question (2): Is it permissible under the rules of OM-1987, Part 1, para. 8.1.3.1, Test Media, to meet the requirements of para. 8.3, Alternate Test Media, when alternate fluids, such as nitrogen, are used to perform set point test for liquid service relief valves.

Reply (2): Based on the response to Question (1), the second question is improper.

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Interpretation: 98-8

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1987, Part 1, Para. 3.3.1.1, Main Steam Pressure Relief Valves With Auxiliary Actuating Devices

Date Issued: October 22, 1997

File: OMI-97-05

Question (1): Is it a requirement of OM-1987, that a pilot operated relief valve with an auxiliary actuating device be tested as a unit in accordance with para. 3.3.1.1(c)?

Reply (1): No.

Question (2): Is it permissible under the rules of OM-1987, para. 3.3.1.1, to perform the set pressure determination on the pilot operator after the pilot operator is removed from the valve body.

Reply (2): Yes.

Interpretation: 98-9

Subject: ASME/ANSI OM-1 1981, Part 1 and Later Editions Through ASME/ANSI OMc-1990 and ASME OM Code-1990 and Later Editions and Addenda Through ASME OM Code-1995

Date Issued: November 4, 1997

File: OMI-94-10

Question (1): Are the requirements of ANSI/ASME OM, Part 1, para. 4.3 (ASME OM Code, Appendix I, para. I 4.3), Alternate Test Media, met if the cold differential test pressure as marked on the nameplate as provided by the manufacturer is used as an alternate test pressure as permitted by paras. 4.1.2.1 and 4.1.3.1 [paras. I 4.1.2(a) and I 4.3(a)] and provided no other qualification exists?

Reply (1): No.

Question (2): Are the requirements of ANSI/ASME OM, Part 1, para. 4.3 (ASME OM Code, Appendix I, para. I 4.3), Alternate Test Media, met if the documentation required by para. 4.3.2 (para. I 4.3.2) and the written procedure required by para. 4.3.3 (para. I 4.3.3) are prepared by the valve manufacturer and accepted/certified by the Owner?

Reply (2): Yes.

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