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English version

Approval testing of welders — Fusion welding — Part 2: Aluminium and aluminium alloys (includes amendment A1: 1997)

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(inclut l'amendement A1 : 1997)

Teil 2: Aluminium und Aluminiumlegierungen (enthält Änderung A1: 1996)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 1992-02-21. Amendment A1 was approved on 1996-12-11. CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CEN member.

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3.4 Welding procedure specification

(WPS)

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0 Introduction

This standard covers the principles to be observed in the approval testing of welder performance for the fusion welding of aluminium and its alloys. The term 'aluminium' stands for aluminium and weldable aluminium alloys.

The quality of work involved in welding depends on the skill of the welder to a high degree.

The ability of the welder to follow verbal or written instructions and testing of his skill are therefore important factors in ensuring the quality of the welded product.

Testing of skill to this standard depends on welding methods in which uniform rules and test conditions are complied with, and standard test pieces are used.

This standard applies to processes where the skill of the welder has a significant influence on weld quality.

This standard is intended to provide the basis for the mutual recognition by examining bodies for approval relating to welders' competence in the various fields of application. Tests shall be carried out in accordance with this standard unless more severe tests are specified by the relevant application standard when these shall be applied.

The same test weld may be used to approve a welding procedure and a welder provided that all the relevant requirements, e.g. test piece dimensions, are satisfied (see EN 288-4).

The welder's skill and job knowledge continue to be approved only if the welder is working with reasonable continuity on welding work within the extent of approval.

All new approvals are to be in accordance with this standard from the date of this issue.

However, this standard does not invalidate previous welders approvals made to former national standards or specifications, providing the intent of the technical requirements is satisfied and the previous approvals are relevant to the application and production work on which they are to be employed.

Also, where additional tests have to be carried out to make the approval technically equivalent it is only necessary to do the additional tests on a test piece which should be made in accordance with this standard. Consideration of previous approvals to former national standards or specifications should be at the time of the enquiry/contract stage and agreed between the contracting parties.

1 Scope

This standard specifies essential requirements, ranges of approval, test conditions, acceptance requirements and certification for the approval testing of welder performance for the welding of aluminium. The recommended format for the certificate of approval testing is given in annex A.

During the approval test the welder should be required to show adequate practical experience and job knowledge (test non mandatory) of the welding processes, materials and safety requirements for which he is to be approved; information on these aspects is given in annex C.

This standard is applicable when the welder's approval testing is required by the purchaser, by inspection authorities or by other organizations.

This standard applies to the approval testing of welders for the fusion welding of aluminium using a gas shield.

The welding processes referred to in this standard include those fusion welding processes which are designated as manual or partly mechanized welding. This standard does not cover fully mechanized and automatic welding processes (see **5.2**).

This standard covers approval testing of welders for work on semi-finished and finished products made from wrought, forged or cast material types listed in **5.4**.

The certificate of approval testing is issued under the sole responsibility of the examiner or examining body.

2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN 288-2	Specification and approval of welding procedures for metallic materials — Part 2: Welding procedure specification for arc welding
EN 288-4	Specification and approval of welding procedures for metallic materials— Part 4: Welding procedure tests for the arc welding of aluminium and its alloys
EN 571-1	Non-destructive testing — Penetrant inspection — Part 1: General principles for the examination
EN 910	Welded butt joints in metallic materials — Bend tests
EN 1320	Welded joints in metallic materials — Fracture tests
EN 1321	Destructive examination of welds — Macroscopic and microscopic examination of welds
prEN 1435	Non-destructive examination of welds — Radiographic examination of welded joints