

AWS B5.2:2018
An American National Standard

**Specification for the
Training,
Qualification,
and Company
Certification of
Welding Inspector
Specialists and
Welding Inspector
Assistants**



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An American National Standard

Approved by the
American National Standards Institute
May 11, 2017

Specification for the
Training, Qualification, and Company
Certification of Welding Inspector
Specialists and Welding Inspector
Assistants

2nd Edition

Supersedes AWS B5.2:2001

Prepared by the
AWS Personnel & Facility Qualification Committee

Under the Direction of the
AWS Standards Council

Approved by the
AWS Board of Directors

Abstract

This specification defines the requirements and program for an employer (company) to train, qualify, and company certify Welding Inspector Specialists and Welding Inspector Assistants to contract or industry-specific inspector standards. The program is developed as a written practice and controlled by an employer. The qualification requires documentation of experience, training, and satisfactory completion of an examination. The examination tests knowledge of welding processes, welding procedures, welder qualification, destructive testing, nondestructive testing, terms, definitions, symbols, reports, records, safety, and responsibility as specifically applied by the contract or industry standards applicable to the employer.



ISBN: 978-0-87171-925-6
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This standard is subject to revision at any time by the AWS Qualification and Certification Committee. It must be reviewed every five years, and if not revised, it must be either reaffirmed or withdrawn. Comments (recommendations, additions, or deletions) and any pertinent data that may be of use in improving this standard are requested and should be addressed to AWS Headquarters. Such comments will receive careful consideration by the AWS Qualification and Certification Committee and the author of the comments will be informed of the Committee's response to the comments. Guests are invited to attend all meetings of the AWS QCIS Subcommittee on Welding Inspector Specialists to express their comments verbally. Procedures for appeal of an adverse decision concerning all such comments are provided in the Rules of Operation of the Qualification and Certification Committee. A copy of these Rules can be obtained from the American Welding Society, 8669 NW 36 St, # 130, Miami, FL 33166.

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Foreword

This foreword is not part of this standard but is included for informational purposes only.

This is the second edition of AWS B5.2. The first edition was published in 2001. Revisions in this edition were made to Clauses 1 (Scope), 7 (Written Practice), 8 (Physical Requirements), 9 (Training), 10 (Examination Requirements), and 11 (Certification). The title of the standard has been revised to better reflect its scope. The changes are widespread enough that clear markup of the changes is difficult. The first edition of AWS B5.2 superseded QC2-93, *Recommended Practice for the Training, Qualification, and Certification, of Welding Inspector Specialist and Welding Inspector Assistant*.

AWS B5.2 provides the framework for an in-house certification program and written practice for welding inspectors. To differentiate it from the central certification program of AWS supported by the AWS B5.1 and QC1 standards, B5.2 uses the nomenclature welding inspector 'specialist'.

This specification for the qualification of welding inspector specialists and welding inspector assistants was developed to provide a qualification basis which defines minimum requirements for a welding inspector specialist to demonstrate competence through a combination of education, experience, and examination.

Comments and suggestions for the improvement of this standard are welcome. They should be sent to the Secretary, AWS Qualification and Certification Committee, American Welding Society, 8669 N.W. 36 Street, Miami, FL 33166.

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Specification for the Training, Qualification, and Company Certification of Welding Inspector Specialists and Welding Inspector Assistants

1. Scope

1.1 This specification establishes the minimum requirements for an employer's (company's) internal written practice for the training, qualification, and that company's certification of *Welding Inspector Specialists* and *Welding Inspector Assistants*. The employer is responsible for the testing, examination and qualification of their inspectors.

1.2 This specification is to aid employers in identifying the basic factors in qualifying personnel performing welding inspection for a specific company or project.

1.3 In developing the written practice (see Clause 7), the employer shall review the detailed recommendations presented herein and incorporate them into the practice, as applicable.

1.4 Examination and certification by the American Welding Society (AWS) shall not be a requirement for the Welding Inspector Specialist nor is there reciprocity between a Welding Inspector Specialist or Welding Inspector Assistant and AWS Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) or Certified Associate Welding Inspector (CAWI) in accordance with AWS QC1, *Specification for AWS Certification of Welding Inspectors*.

1.5 Safety and health issues and concerns are beyond the scope of this standard and therefore are not addressed herein.

Safety and health information is available from the following sources:

American Welding Society:

- (1) ANSI Z49.1, *Safety in Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes*
- (2) AWS Safety and Health Fact Sheets
- (3) Other safety and health information on the AWS website

Material or Equipment Manufacturers:

- (1) Safety Data Sheets supplied by materials manufacturers
- (2) Operating Manuals supplied by equipment manufacturers
- (3) Applicable Regulatory Agencies

Work performed in accordance with this standard may involve the use of materials that have been deemed hazardous, and may involve operations or equipment that may cause injury or death. This standard does not purport to address all safety and health risks that may be encountered. The user of this standard should establish an appropriate safety program to address such risks as well as to meet applicable regulatory requirements. ANSI Z49.1 should be considered when developing the safety program.