



## WELDING INSPECTOR 9-YEAR RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM INFORMATION

As an AWS Certified Welding Inspector or Senior Certified Welding Inspector, you must renew your certification every three years. On the ninth year cycle, you must recertify by examination, taking or having taken (during the current 9-year cycle) a supplemental inspection exam (endorsement), or by demonstrating 80 personal development hours (PDH).

### OPTION 1: 9-YEAR RECERTIFICATION BY EXAMINATION:

**CWI PART B PRACTICAL:** Candidates for 9-year recertification may take the two-hour Part B: Practical Exam. Candidates will be required to review the *Book of Specifications* developed solely for use on this portion of the exam and use an inspection kit (refer to the enclosed Publication Catalog for ordering a similar inspection kit). A copy of this book will be provided to you as a study guide, once you received an exam confirmation package.

The Part B: Practical Exam will evaluate you in the practical aspects of weld inspection and validate your skills are current. It is to your advantage to be familiar with fillet and butt weld gauges, micrometers and dial calipers. You should review a variety of weldments that show various levels of porosity, undercut, as well as interpretation of bend samples, groove welds, t-joints and the ability to calculate tensile strengths. The exam will cover the following subject areas: Procedures and Welder Qualification, Mechanical Test and Properties, Weld Inspection and Flaws and Nondestructive Tests.

The plastic sample welds you will inspect are examples found in the field that may or may not meet specification. Your responsibility is to determine if the samples meet the acceptance criteria in the *Book of Specifications*.

AWS offers a regional one-week preparatory course for the CWI examination that includes a Visual Inspection Workshop (VIW). You may register for the VIW to help you prepare for the CWI Part B Practical exam.

**SCWI – PART A AND B:** Senior inspectors may opt to retest on two part examination. The SCWI exam will consist of two open book examinations, each lasting two hours. Subject areas covered will be in accordance with AWS B5.1, *Specification for the Qualification of Welding Inspectors* section 7.2.

**CWI AND SCWI SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION EXAM (SIE, OR ENDORSEMENT):** Candidates for 9-year recertification may take one or more Supplemental Inspection Exams on approved standards or inspection programs. Currently approved exams cover several AWS standards (D1.1, D1.5, D15.1, etc.), ASME standards, API 1104, 20th Edition, and various AWS-certified inspection programs (Radiographic Interpreter and others).

### OPTION 2: 9-YEAR RECERTIFICATION BY EXEMPTION:

**CONTINUING EDUCATION:** This option is for those inspectors who have kept themselves up-to-date in the field of inspection by attending classes and seminars related to the field of welding inspection or the teaching of those subjects. A minimum of 80 PDH earned during the nine year certification period, 20 PDH earned in the last three-year period is required. A PDH is no less than 50 minutes of personal interaction between a learner and instructor. Contact implies two-way communication in order for the learner to receive feedback.

Following the Education and Experience Requirements of the QC-1, Section 5, the course content must be in one or more of the subject areas as defined. A maximum of 80 PDH are allowed for any one course and

no course may be repeated for credit within any three year period. Certificates of completion, diplomas or transcripts must be submitted with your application. Trainers who want to substitute teaching hours for student hours shall submit documentation of the hours of training performed and course curriculum.

Beyond the offerings listed in the QC-1, seminars and courses offered by training organizations and in-house programs may be accepted if they meet the requirements as stated in Section 16 in the QC-1. AWS nationally sponsored courses and seminars where promotional literature and Certificates of Completion indicate hours granted for CWI 9-year recertification are acceptable towards educational requirements.

**9-YEAR RECERTIFICATION COURSE:** The AWS 9-year recertification course may be for you. If your certification expires within one year of your Welding Inspectors (CWI or SCWI) certification and you haven't decided to recertify through examination, or haven't accumulated 80 PDH in the past nine years, it is an intensive six-day course that includes:

- A pre-seminar reading assignment for you to complete 30 days prior to the course which counts toward the 80-hour requirement.
- An informal skills assessment to guide your instructor in tailoring the course material to meet your needs.
- An interactive format that allows you to share with and learn from your peers, gaining synergy from the entire group's collective experience.
- The opportunity to discuss technical and administrative problems you've encountered while on the job with other experienced welding inspectors, and to benefit from their perspectives.
- A field trip to a local plant or testing laboratory for an insightful behind-the-scenes tour.
- Upon completion of the course, the AWS Education Department will send you a Certificate of Completion.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION EXAM (SIE, OR ENDORSEMENT):** Candidates for 9-year recertification may take one or more Supplemental Inspection Exams on approved standards or inspection programs any time during their 9-year cycle. Having taken one or more SIEs exempts recertification candidates from having to meet any additional examination, professional development hour requirements, or seminar requirements.

### **OPTION 3: 9-YEAR RECERTIFICATION SEEKING SCWI CERTIFICATION:**

*(Please complete the Welding Inspector exam application and one of the Welding Inspector 9-year recertification application)*

CWI applicants in their ninth year recertification cycle who wish to pursue and qualify for SCWI status will need to complete a 9-year recertification Application along with a Welding Inspector Exam application for SCWI examination. Your CWI can be recertified at the 9-year mark by the above two options. If you choose the 9-year Part B: Practical Exam, you may take the exam at the same site as the SCWI examination. If you qualify for recertification via the continuing education route, the supporting documents along with the completed Welding Inspector 9-year recertification Exempt application must be submitted at the same time as your Senior Welding Inspector Exam application. Note: you will only be required to pay for the SCWI examination.

If you choose to purchase an AWS Seminar and Exam Package that includes the cost of the seminar and certification exam, you are not automatically registered to take the test. AWS must receive your complete application and review your qualifications to make sure you are eligible to take the exam. Payments or purchase orders should accompany applications. Check the Certification Schedule for examination, course dates and application submission deadlines.

The standard application processing time is six weeks. Please be advised you will be notified six weeks AFTER your application has been submitted. Contacting the AWS Certification Department **BEFORE** the processing period will delay the application processing time and further hinder the receipt of your certification materials. We strongly urge applicants to please allow the four to six weeks processing time so that we may efficiently and accurately serve your certification needs.

If you have any questions, please call (800) 443-9353 at the extensions below:

- ❑ For questions regarding certification contact, the Certification Department, ext. 273
- ❑ For questions regarding seminar or study material, contact the Education Department, ext. 223, 224 or 229.