



**Meeting Report: IIW Select Committee - Quality**  
**Held At: Graz, Austria**  
**Date: July 9, 2008**  
**Chair: Rainer Zwätz (Germany)**

1. The meeting opened at 08:32. Countries represented: US, Canada, Japan, Czech Rep., Germany, Sweden, Finland, South Africa, UK, Austria, Vietnam, India, Portugal, and Italy

The first half of the meeting was a joint meeting of SC-QUAL and IAB WGB6 – Certification Activities

In the absence of Mr. Zwätz, the meeting was chaired by Dr. Detlef Von Hofe.

2. Purpose of IAB WGB6

Mr. Sefano Morra, chair of WGB6, provided an overview of the purpose and work of the working group.

The group was set up March 2007 to deal with the transfer of EWG Personnel and Company certification schemes to IIW. For manufacturer certification scheme, only EWF scheme for quality has been taken over – not environmental or health & safety scheme.

#### Manufacturer Certification scheme

- base of scheme is ISO 3834
- IAB 337-07 provides guidance for a correct and effective interpretation of the requirements of ISO 3834
- IAB 228-07 provides further guidance for specific welded product and specific regional or international product standards with respect to ISO 3834
- IAB 339-07 provides rules for the ANBCC operating the IIW Manufacturer Certification scheme
- IAB 340-07 provides rules for the ANBCC assessment of manufacturers

#### Personnel Certification Scheme

- IAB 341-07 provides rules for ANB to manage certification of Personnel with Welding Co-ordination Responsibilities

An IIW Welding Inspector scheme is not yet addressed by the WG.

The EWF schemes are still operating, including those for environmental or health & safety.

The working group will meet in 2009 to work on updating the above documents with the target of finalizing these in January 2010.

3. Purpose of SC-Qual

Dr. Von Hofe provided an overview of the purpose and work of SC-Qual.

The work of SC-Qual was originally part of Commission V, but this work was moved to a new select committee, SC-Qual in 2001.

Most important function is to develop guidance documents to support the users of standards related to quality, including:

- develop tools to support companies applying ISO 3834
- review ISO 3834 and provide suggestions for change
- review requirements for personnel involved in application of ISO 3834

4. Cooperation / Possible Overlaps between WGB6 and SC-QUAL

Tim Jessop (TWI, UK) stated that, in their experience, the rules of ISO 3834 are well understood. However, what is not clear are the requirements of ISO 14731 "Welding coordination -- Tasks and responsibilities", a standard referenced by ISO 3834. A specific issue is to the difference between the 2 categories "Welding Coordinator" and "Responsible Welding Coordinators", as there does not seem to be a clear definition between the 2 positions.

Mr. Jessop felt that SC-QUAL should make a statement about the difference between these two positions, and make a recommendation to TC44 SC11 to clarify this.

Mr. Lindewald (Finland) felt that the national standards body is the correct organization to contact regarding this issue, not IIW.

Dr. Von Hofe agreed that SC-Qual review this issue.

5. Workshop on IAB WGB6 on ISO 3834

Mr. Morra noted that a workshop on ISO 3834 would be held on July 9, 2008 at 14:00. This is to promote the ISO 3834 standard and the ANBCC scheme as well as share experiences by ANBCC's currently implementing the scheme.

~~ Joint meeting ends at 10:14 ~~

6. Report of Preparation and Use of pWPS, WPQR and WPS

Due to the absence of Mr. Shackleton, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

7. Checklist for an audit according to ISO 3834-2

This document was intended for use internally by a company in preparation for an ANBCC audit to ISO 3834-2. Following review, it was agreed to publish this as an IIW document.

It was also agreed that a similar document should be created for -3 and -4.

8. Questionnaire – "Overview of Global used Quality Management Systems in the different fields of application for welding and allied processes"

This questionnaire was sent out, following the January 2008 meeting, to enable a catalogue of different requirements in different countries.

So far, the questionnaire was returned by Japan, Germany, US and Sweden. The Chair reminded countries to complete and return to Mr. Zwätz.

**Canadian Perspective:** *This catalogue would be useful for Canadian Industry. Canada needs to complete documents SC-Qual-108-08 and SC-Qual-109-08.*

9. Work Item: Achieving service life of welded aluminum, nickel or steel structures, made by fusion or beam welding processes

No response received from members of Commission XIII or XV regarding request for assistance. Many members had questions on the need for this document. Dr. Von Hofe will follow up with Mr. Zwätz.

10. Work item: Minimum requirements for persons who examine welding qualification tests

As this document was not distributed until just prior to the meeting, members were asked to give comments on this document prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Lindewald (Finland) noted that Finland had a system which was submitted to Mr. Zwätz as document SC-QUAL-68-06.

Mr. Lundin (Sweden) noted that it was agreed that the scope of this work be changed to “Best Practice” rather than “Minimum Requirements”.

11. Work item: Recommendation for the determination of the necessary Quality level according to EN ISO 5817 under the consideration of the actual type load, stresses, consequences and service requirements of a weld

Several delegates noted that there were many documents available to assist in this matter. At the end it is up to the owner to define which level is required. Canada and others expressed that there was not an obvious need for this type of document, as product specification and owners can make this decision.

Dr. Von Hofe wondered about products that are not covered by a product standard, forcing the manufacturer themselves to make the decision on the quality level.

It was agreed that until the members express a strong opinion to proceed, this work item will not continue.

12. Work item: Recommendations for the use of the series EN ISO 15607 to EN ISO 15614

Dr. Shackleton (UK) had agreed to provide an outline of this work; however, this has not yet been received. Dr. Shackleton was not at the meeting.

13. New Business

Mr. Jessop’s question from the joint meeting related to ISO 14731 was discussed. It was agreed to add this item to the agenda of the next meeting. Each member was asked to report back how the handle the issue of responsibility by welding coordinator.

14. Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned in January 2009 in Paris. Exact date TBD.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:29

J. Craig Martin  
July 9, 2008