



BOILER SAFETY INTERPRETATION/TECHNICAL LETTER
BSI09

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Authorized Inspection Agencies and Repair Companies

FROM: Fred P. Barton, Director/Chief Inspector
Boiler Safety Compliance Program

DATE: October 9, 1998

SUBJECT: National Board Interpretation 98-10

Recently questions have come up regarding welded repairs of tube sheets on Section I, Fire Tube Boilers. The National Board Inspection Code has ruled that new butt welded tube sheets joints in Section I boilers require non-destructive examinations. Specific examples are replacing part of a tube sheet or installing an inspection opening (to aid in replacing tubes). As RT is considered not possible when tubes are attached, UT is an acceptable alternative. Where UT is not practical, PT or MT of the first, intermediate and cover passes would be acceptable.

Enclosed is a copy of Interpretation 98-10. Please change your repair procedures to include NDE of any "longitudinal" butt joint on tube sheets of high pressure Section I Boilers.

Please advise if you have any questions.

Thank you.

/fpb

Enclosure: National Board Interpretation 98-10