

**Agenda  
Item  
VII.B.**

**State of Oregon**

**Board memo**

**Building Codes Division**

**June 3, 2008**

**To:** Board of Boiler Rules  
**From:** Celina Patterson, policy analyst  
**Subject:** International code standards

**Action requested:**

Consider the options for allowing Oregon installation of boilers and pressure vessels that are built to International Code Standards.

**History:**

At the March 4, 2008, board meeting there was discussion of how boilers and pressure vessels built to standards that are comparable to ASME standards, such as the Canadian CSA B51 standard, could be installed in Oregon. The board directed the division to research the issue.

**Discussion:**

There are two legal requirements that affect this discussion:

- Oregon's Boiler and Pressure Vessel Law only recognizes boilers and pressure vessels that meet ASME code standards. An ASME code stamp on a boiler or pressure vessel demonstrates that the unit was built to ASME standards.
- OAR 918-225-0450 requires that before a new boiler or pressure vessel is installed in Oregon, the manufacturer must file a "data report" with the National Board. Data reports provide manufacturer specifications about the boiler or pressure vessel and are referred to when performing inspections, repairs, or alterations.

*ASME standards and code stamps-*

Many boilers and pressure vessels, even those manufactured in other countries, bear ASME stamps indicating that they were built to ASME standards. However, some boilers and pressure vessels manufactured in other countries do not bear the ASME stamp because they were manufactured to other code standards.

One example of this is Canadian boilers and pressure vessels that are built to the Canadian National Standards (CSA), CSA B 51 standard. Other widely recognized international code standards are: German Institute of Standards (DIN), British Standards Institute (BSI), Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS), and Indian Standards (IRB). These standards may be just as rigorous as the ASME standards. However, under existing regulations boilers or pressure vessels may not be installed in Oregon because they do not bear an ASME code stamp.

*Data Reports-*

All boilers and pressure vessels with an ASME code stamp can file data reports with the National Board and get a National Board stamp. The National Board also allows boilers and pressure vessels built to CSA B51 standards without an ASME stamp to be registered and have a data report filed with the national board. Boilers and pressure vessels built to other international standards cannot currently file data reports with the National Board.

**Alternatives:**

*Option 1-*

Keep current regulations which only allow boilers and pressure vessels that bear ASME code stamps and have a data report filed with the National Board to be installed in Oregon.

*Option 2-*

Adopt a rule allowing Canadian vessels built to CSA B51 standards to be installed in Oregon, provided that the manufacturers file data reports with the National Board.

*Option 3-*

Adopt a rule allowing boilers and pressure vessels built to widely-recognized international standards to be installed in Oregon, the exact standards would be determined during rulemaking process. Adopting such a rule would also require that the rule requiring registration with the National Board be amended. OAR 918-225-0450 could be amended to allow manufacturer's data reports to be filed with the division, if the report cannot be filed with the National Board.

**Recommendation:**

Adopt a rule allowing boilers and pressure vessels built to widely-recognized international standards to be installed in Oregon; amend OAR 918-225-0450 to allow manufacturer's data reports to be filed with the division, if the report cannot be filed with the National Board.