

PD 5500:2009 Specification for unfired fusion welded pressure vessels

PD 5500 specifies requirements for the design, manufacture, inspection, testing and verification of compliance for unfired fusion welded pressure vessels manufactured from carbon, ferritic alloy and austenitic steels, aluminium, copper and nickel used in a wide range of process and energy industry applications.

The Published Document provides the basis for vessel design and manufacture for Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) compliance. It contains:

- relevant dimensional diagrams and formulae for material determination
- requirements for materials, design, manufacture, inspection, testing and verification
- annexes and enquiry cases that provide guidance on its use in domestic and international markets.

The term 'pressure vessel' as used in this specification includes branches up to the point of connection to the connecting piping by bolting, screwing or welding, and supports, brackets or other attachments directly welded to the pressure-containing shell.

PD 5500 is applicable to vessels subject to electrical heating or heated process streams. It, excludes, however, those that are subject to direct generated heat or flame impingement from a fired process.

The 2009 edition will include all the corrigendum and amendments made during the last three years to PD 5500:2006, resulting in a new, unmarked publication.

Key 2009 revisions:

- Revisions to material grouping designations in line with PD CR ISO 15608:2000
- Revisions to calculation of tubesheet ligament efficiency taking account of untubed area
- Improvements to alternative method for loads on nozzles in cylindrical and spherical shells
- Updating of references for new and revised European standards.

Enquiry cases have also been added, covering external loads on flanges, flexibility of the nozzle-vessel interface and guidance on alternative rules for nozzle reinforcement.

This is the start of new three-year cycle including updates and new enquiry cases. The three-year subscription to PD 5500 includes free regular updates as amendments are made to the specification.

Key features:

- Start of new 3 year cycle
- Specifies requirements for design, manufacture, inspection, testing and verification
- Provides basis for vessel design and manufacture for PED compliance
- Contains all amendments, annexes and enquiry cases made during last three years
- Supersedes PD 5500:2006 which is now withdrawn.

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INFODOC S.r.l.

41037 Mirandola (MO) – Via Agnini, 76 – Tel. 053-526-108 – Fax 053-526-021 – E-mail: infodoc@infodoc.it - Web: <http://www.infodoc.it>
Capitale Soc. Euro 51.480 i.v. – Iscri. Trib. Modena Reg. Soc. N. 20076 – C.C.I.A.A. 223234 – Codice Fiscale Partita IVA 01533500367