6.8.2.2. Positive material identification (PMI):

a) For non carbon steel welding consumables, one electrode or wire sample from each lot or package of weld rod should be positively identified when receiving the welding consumables. The remainder of the lot should be compared to the sample to verify that the markings of the wires/electrodes are correct.

Note: Some weld rods have the alloying elements contained in the flux, and do not meet the alloy specification until welded. PMI testing of weld metal (e.g., deposited weld metal or undiluted weld “buttons”) is an acceptable alternative to PMI testing of an electrode or wire sample provided it is conducted immediately prior to welding or during the welding process.