**AWS D17.1/D17.1M Interpretation**

**Subject:** Visual Weld Inspectors  
**Code Edition:** AWS D17.1/D17.1M:2010-AMD1  
**Code Provision:** Clause 7.1.2  
**AWS Log:** D17.1-10-I01

**Inquiry:**  
In AWS D17.1:2010 Clause 7.1.2 the requirements on visual weld inspector have been changed from the previous 2001 version and has not been defined clearly. What needs engineering authority approval, the inspection personnel, test requirements or training program? Also AWS B5.2 becomes mandatory in this paragraph while it is optional in the previous 2001 version. This will have a huge impact to Honeywell and its suppliers especially if engineering authority approval is required, which means Honeywell has to force its suppliers to be compliant and reapprove the visual inspector training program for all the welding suppliers.

**Response:**  
AWS D17.1/D17.1M:2010 requires certified personnel to perform visual weld inspections. There are two approaches available. One approach uses AWS QC1 certification. The other approach employs an Engineering Authority-approved certification program based upon three criteria: experience, training and testing. AWS B5.2 is to be used to develop these criteria, as approved by the Engineering Authority.

As specified in Clause 1.1 Scope of AWS D17.1/D17.1M:2010, the Engineering Authority has the option to take exception or make additions to any requirement within this specification.