



## AWS D14.3 Interpretation

**Subject:** Tower Cranes  
**Code Edition:** D14.3/D14.3M:2005  
**Code Provision:** Subclause 1.1.1  
**AWS Log:** D14.3-05-I01

**Inquiry:** Would it be appropriate to use standard AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005 for tower cranes although they are not self-propelled, as they are similar to mobile cranes and drag lines?

**Response:** Yes

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AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005, Specification for Welding Earthmoving, Construction, and Agricultural Equipment, is prepared by the AWS Machinery and Equipment Committee. Because AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005 is written in the form of a specification, it cannot present background material or discuss the committee's intent.

Since the publication of the first edition of AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005, the nature of inquiries directed to the American Welding Society and the Machinery and Equipment Committee has indicated that there are some requirements in AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005 that are either difficult to understand or not sufficiently specific, and other that appear to be overly conservative.

It should be recognized that the fundamental premise of AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005 is to provide general stipulations applicable to any situation and to leave sufficient latitude for the exercise of engineering judgment. Another point to be recognized is that AWS D14.3/D14.3M:2005 represents the collective experience of the committee; and, while some provisions may seem overly conservative, they have been based on sound engineering practice.