



AWS D1.1 Interpretation

Subject: Runoff Tab Welds
Code Edition: D1.1-90
Code Provision: Subsections 3.12.1, 3.12.2
AWS Log: ID1-90-011-01/04

Inquiry:

- (1) Does the Code require welds to be terminated on runoff tabs or extensions in a sound manner?
- (2) Should the Engineer require removal of runoff tabs or extensions where erection loads may result in cracking?

Response:

- (1) No, insofar as weld tabs are concerned (see 3.12.1). AWS D1.1 is silent on “runoff extensions” in the sense of full cross-section material extending beyond the design length.
- (2) Subsection 3.12.2 is clear and speaks for itself.

AWS D1.1, Structural Welding Code—Steel, is prepared by the AWS Structural Welding Committee. Because the Code 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 the Code, the nature of inquiries directed to the American Welding Society and the Structural Welding Committee has indicated that there are some requirements in the Code 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 the Code 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 the Code represents the collective experience of the committee; and, while some provisions may seem overly conservative, they have been based on sound engineering practice.