

Edmund (Ed) Baniak, PhD

Senior Standards Associate, Upstream & Pipeline Standards

Standards 1220 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005-4070

USA

Telephone 202-682-8135
Fax 202.962-4797
Email baniake@api.org

www.api.org

January 14, 2010 TI Red: 6A-2010-2

Larry Phipps Qualcon, Inc. 100 West Court Square Livingston, TN, USA

E-mail: ldphipps@qualcon.com

Request for Interpretation API Spec 6A

## Background Information:

This is in response to your email dated 12-10-2009 concerning a query on API 6A related to Valve Removal (VR) Plug Preparations and VR Plugs, and referring to API 6A Clause 10.6.3.3, 10.22.3 and Annex L.

Requests for interpretation are as follows:

Question 1a: Is it permissible to apply the API Monogram to Tubing Heads or Casing Heads with VR Plug Preparations threaded in a manner other than specified in Annex L? Response 1a: NO

Question 1b: Referring to Annex L – L.2, is it permissible to use a stub acme thread in higher pressure rated equipment, i.e., 15,000 psi working pressure equipment and still apply the API Monogram? Response 1b: See Response 1c

Question 1c: Could you comment on any pressure limitations on the thread profiles identified in Annex L? Response 1c: The HPVR plug with a stub acme thread is rated for a maximum working pressure of 20,000 psi. The VR plug with a tapered vee thread is rated for a maximum working pressure of 10,000 psi. The VR prep can be used in casing/tubing heads rated for 2000, 3000, 5000 or 10,000 psi. The HPVR prep can be used in casing/tubing heads rated for 15,000 or 20,000 psi.

Question 2a: Is it permissible to apply the API Monogram to VR Plugs threaded in a manner other than specified in Annex L?
Response 2a: NO

Question 2b: Referring to Annex L – L.2, is it permissible to use a stub acme thread in higher pressure rated equipment, i.e., 15,000 psi working pressure equipment and still apply the API Monogram? Response 2b: See Response 1c

Question 2c: Could you comment on any pressure limitations on the thread profiles identified in Annex L? Response 2c: See Response 1c.

Sincerely,

Edmund Baniak