GENERAL INFORMATION
Visit the Department of Safety and Professional Services website.
http://dps.wi.gov

After entering the website above, go to the Division Programs page. Obtain Program details in (3) easy steps:
1. Click, Red hat “Industry Services”
2. Scroll Down to “All Division Programs”
3. Click “Welding Program” then “Publications”

Then obtain the following:
- Administrative Code: Chapter SPS 305
- Resources: “Welding Brochure”
- Contacts: Commercial Bldg Inspector map
- Join email group for automatic code updates

GENERAL ASSISTANCE
*Application, examination or renewals
Contact Credentials ... 608-261-8500

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS
DSPS – Division of Industry Services
141 NW Barstow St, 4th Floor
Waukesha WI 53188
Email Structural Welding at:
DSPSSBBoilerTech@wisconsin.gov

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WELDING PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

STRUCTURAL WELDING

The intent of this brochure is to provide direction and general welding information including basic code references to owners, engineers and local inspectors in the building industry.

Wisconsin's building code requires any structural welding in buildings to be completed by a qualified welder. Every structural welder must be properly registered and carry a valid welder registration card issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services. These cards must be made available upon request.

To obtain the Safety and Professional Services welder registration, an individual or contractor must first consult with a WI certified weld test conductor. After consultation, a weld test conductor may assist with welding details, setup test coupons, arrange weld testing and upon satisfactory test results, provide special documentation for DSPS submittal. Renewal of a welder registration requires periodic re-test by a weld test conductor in each welding process every four years.

APPLICABLE CODE SECTIONS

COMMERCIAL BUILDING CODE – SPS-362

SPS 362.2204 Welded connections. This is a department informational note to be used under IBC section 2204.1: Note: The rules pertaining to registration of welders are specified in ch. SPS 305.

AMUSEMENT RIDE CODE – SPS 334

SPS 334.39 Welding. Welding of structural members and other critical parts of amusement rides shall comply with chs. SPS 361 to 366. Note: Pursuant to s. SPS 305.34 (1) and (4), no person may perform structural welding on amusement rides unless the person holds a welder registration issued by the department.

CREDENTIAL CODE - SPS 305

WELDING STANDARDS ADOPTED

SPS 305.004 Adopts the following standards:
1. AWS D1.1-2010 Steel
2. AWS D1.2-2008 Aluminum
3. AWS D1.3-2008 Sheet Steel
4. AWS D1.6-2007 Stainless

STRUCTURAL WELDER RULES

SPS 305.34 Welder Registration Requirements

*Structural welders shall be qualified in accordance with any adopted standard above.

*Individuals shall carry Credential and “Evidence of Completion of Welding Tests” cards on person, make cards available immediately upon request and mark welds as required per SPS 305.34(4)

*Other documents welder might provide:
1. Welding Procedure Specification- WPS
2. Procedure Qualification Record- PQR
3. Welder Performance Qualification-WPQ
4. Welder Continuity Record

*Procedure to obtain welder registration:
1. Get a welder registration application
2. Consult with a WI weld test conductor
3. Perform weldment of test coupon
4. After satisfactory test, obtain results w/ conductor signature on application forms
5. Return application with applicable form & fee

Note: A list of WI certified weld test conductors is provided on the back of the welder’s registration form & available on our website

*Welder registrations require an initial $15 application fee and $35 registration fee with re-test for renewal every 4 years.

WELD TEST CONDUCTOR RULES

SPS 305.35 Weld test conductor requirements

*Process to become a weld test conductor: An individual shall pass a written WI exam before conducting structural weld tests.
1. Written examination - $20 fee
2. Application $15 + certification fee $80
3. Renewal every 4 years

*Duties may include welding consultation, visual inspection, performance of weld bend / tensile tests, or completion of testing by radiography

*Maintain welder records for at least 5 years

*Provide proper documents to welders to obtain welder registration upon satisfactory test results

WHO DOES STRUCTURAL INSPECTIONS?

*Any authorized representative who holds a valid credential issued by Department of Safety and Professional Services per Chapter SPS 305 and given the responsibility to enforce structural welding requirements in commercial buildings.

*An inspector may be employed by the state, county, municipal or a state contracted authority. The individual could be a local building, boiler, elevator or other public safety official.

WELDING DEFINITIONS

*Registered Welder – person who holds a valid credential issued by the department under ch SPS 305.34 as a structural welder

*Weld Test Conductor – person who holds a valid credential issued by the department under ch SPS 305.35 as a weld test conductor given authority to test structural welders

*Materials – AWS standard approved
1. Base Metals – metal welded, brazed or cut
2. Filler Metals – metal to be added to a weld

*Type of Welds
1. Fillet Weld
2. Groove Weld

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[Diagram of weld types]