

Field Inspection of New Casing, Tubing, and Plain-end Drill Pipe

ANSI/API RECOMMENDED PRACTICE 5A5
SEVENTH EDITION, JUNE 2005

ERRATA, DECEMBER 2009

REAFFIRMED, JANUARY 2021

**ISO 15463:2003 (Identical), Petroleum and natural
gas industries—Field inspection of new casing,
tubing, and plain-end pipe**



This is a preview. [Click here to purchase the full publication.](#)

Special Notes

API publications necessarily address problems of a general nature. With respect to particular circumstances, local, state, and federal laws and regulations should be reviewed.

API is not undertaking to meet the duties of employers, manufacturers, or suppliers to warn and properly train and equip their employees, and others exposed, concerning health and safety risks and precautions, nor undertaking their obligations under local, state, or federal laws.

Information concerning safety and health risks and proper precautions with respect to particular materials and conditions should be obtained from the employer, the manufacturer or supplier of that material, or the material safety data sheet.

Nothing contained in any API publication is to be construed as granting any right, by implication or otherwise, for the manufacture, sale, or use of any method, apparatus, or product covered by letters patent. Neither should anything contained in the publication be construed as insuring anyone against liability for infringement of letters patent.

Generally, API standards are reviewed and revised, reaffirmed, or withdrawn at least every five years. Sometimes a one-time extension of up to two years will be added to this review cycle. This publication will no longer be in effect five years after its publication date as an operative API standard or, where an extension has been granted, upon republication. Status of the publication can be ascertained from the API Standards department telephone (202) 682-8000.

This document was produced under API standardization procedures that ensure appropriate notification and participation in the developmental process and is designated as an API standard. Questions concerning the interpretation of the content of this standard or comments and questions concerning the procedures under which this standard was developed should be directed in writing to the Director of the Standards department, American Petroleum Institute, 200 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20001. Requests for permission to reproduce or translate all or any part of the material published herein should be addressed to the Director, Business Services.

API standards are published to facilitate the broad availability of proven, sound engineering and operating practices. These standards are not intended to obviate the need for applying sound engineering judgment regarding when and where these standards should be utilized. The formulation and publication of API standards is not intended in any way to inhibit anyone from using any other practices.

Any manufacturer marking equipment or materials in conformance with the marking requirements of an API standard is solely responsible for complying with all the applicable requirements of that standard. API does not represent, warrant, or guarantee that such products do in fact conform to the applicable API standard.

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the publisher. Contact the Publisher, API Publishing Services, 200 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20001.

Copyright © 2005 American Petroleum Institute

[This is a preview. Click here to purchase the full publication.](#)

API Foreword

Standards referenced herein may be replaced by other international or national standards that can be shown to meet or exceed the requirements of the referenced standard

This American National Standard is under the jurisdiction of the API Subcommittee on Tubular Goods. This standard is a modified adoption of the English version of ISO 15463. ISO 15463 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 67, SC5.

In this American National Standard certain technical modifications have been made. These technical modification from the ISO Standard have not been incorporated directly into this API adopt-back version.

These modification have been noted with an arrow (➔) adjacent to the clause, table, figure, etc. that has been modified.

A complete list of modifications can be found in Annex D.

API publications may be used by anyone desiring to do so. Every effort has been made by the Institute to assure the accuracy and reliability of the data contained in them; however, the Institute makes no representation, warranty, or guarantee in connection with this publication and hereby expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility for loss or damage resulting from its use or for the violation of any federal, state, or municipal regulation with which this publication may conflict.

Suggested revisions are invited and should be submitted to API, Standards department, 200 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20001, standards@api.org.

Contents

| | Page |
|--|------|
| API Foreword | ii |
| Foreword | vi |
| Introduction | vii |
| 1 Scope | 1 |
| 2 Conformance | 1 |
| 2.1 Normative references | 1 |
| 2.2 Units of measurement | 1 |
| 2.3 Tables and figures | 2 |
| 3 Normative references | 2 |
| 4 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms | 2 |
| 4.1 Terms and definitions | 2 |
| 4.2 Symbols and abbreviated terms | 13 |
| 5 Application | 15 |
| 5.1 Basis for inspection | 15 |
| 5.2 Applicability of inspections | 15 |
| 5.3 Repeatability of results | 15 |
| 5.4 Consequences of variability | 15 |
| 6 Ordering information | 16 |
| 7 Quality assurance | 16 |
| 8 Qualification of inspection personnel | 17 |
| 8.1 General | 17 |
| 8.2 Written procedure | 17 |
| 8.3 Qualification of inspection personnel | 17 |
| 8.4 Training programs | 18 |
| 8.5 Examinations | 18 |
| 8.6 Experience | 18 |
| 8.7 Requalification | 18 |
| 8.8 Documentation | 18 |
| 8.9 NDT personnel certification | 19 |
| 9 General inspection procedures | 19 |
| 9.1 General | 19 |
| 9.2 Documents at job site | 19 |
| 9.3 Pre-inspection procedures | 19 |
| 9.4 Records and notification | 19 |
| 9.5 Post-inspection procedures | 20 |
| 9.6 Job site checklist | 21 |
| 9.7 Documentation | 21 |
| 10 Acceptance criteria, disposition and responsibility | 21 |
| 10.1 General | 21 |
| 10.2 Basis for acceptance | 21 |
| 10.3 Responsibility for Rejections | 21 |
| 11 Visual and dimensional inspection | 22 |
| 11.1 General | 22 |
| 11.2 Application | 22 |
| 11.3 Drift mandrels | 22 |
| 11.4 Precision callipers (micrometer, vernier calliper or dial calliper) | 22 |
| 11.5 Length and diameter-measuring devices (steel rules, steel length or diameter-measuring tapes, and other non-adjustable measuring devices) | 22 |

| | | |
|--------|---|----|
| 11.6 | Depth gauges | 22 |
| 11.7 | External surface illumination | 23 |
| 11.8 | Internal surface illumination | 23 |
| 11.9 | Full-length visual inspection (FLVI) of new OCTG..... | 24 |
| 11.10 | Outside diameter verification..... | 24 |
| 11.11 | Straightness..... | 24 |
| 11.12 | Drift testing | 25 |
| 11.13 | Visual thread inspection (VTI)..... | 26 |
| 12 | Hardness testing | 29 |
| 12.1 | General | 29 |
| 12.2 | Application | 29 |
| 12.3 | Equipment | 30 |
| 12.4 | Calibration..... | 30 |
| 12.5 | Standardization..... | 30 |
| 12.6 | Procedures..... | 31 |
| 13 | Magnetic particle inspection (MPI) | 31 |
| 13.1 | General | 31 |
| 13.2 | Application | 32 |
| 13.3 | Equipment and materials..... | 32 |
| 13.3.1 | Internal conductors | 32 |
| 13.4 | Magnetic particles | 33 |
| 13.5 | Illumination equipment and optical aids..... | 33 |
| 13.6 | General procedures..... | 34 |
| 13.7 | Calibration..... | 34 |
| 13.8 | Standardization..... | 35 |
| 13.9 | Periodic checks | 35 |
| 13.10 | End area inspection (SEA) | 36 |
| 13.11 | Inspection of unattached couplings (UCMPI)..... | 37 |
| 13.12 | Full-length magnetic particle inspection (FLMPI)..... | 38 |
| 14 | Electromagnetic inspection (EMI)..... | 38 |
| 14.1 | General | 38 |
| 14.2 | Equipment | 39 |
| 14.3 | Application | 39 |
| 14.4 | Calibration..... | 39 |
| 14.5 | Standardization..... | 40 |
| 14.6 | Equipment requirements and periodic checks | 42 |
| 14.7 | Inspection procedure | 42 |
| 15 | Residual magnetism and demagnetization | 42 |
| 15.1 | General | 42 |
| 15.2 | Application | 43 |
| 15.3 | Services | 43 |
| 16 | Gamma-ray wall thickness inspection | 44 |
| 16.1 | General | 44 |
| 16.2 | Application | 44 |
| 16.3 | Equipment | 44 |
| 16.4 | Calibration and standardization..... | 44 |
| 16.5 | Inspection procedure | 45 |
| 17 | Electromagnetic grade comparison | 45 |
| 17.1 | General | 45 |
| 17.2 | Application | 45 |
| 17.3 | Equipment..... | 45 |
| 17.4 | Calibration and Standardization | 45 |
| 17.5 | Inspection procedure | 46 |
| 18 | Ultrasonic inspection..... | 46 |
| 18.1 | General | 46 |
| 18.2 | Application | 47 |

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----|
| 18.3 | General procedures for calibration, standardization, and inspection | 47 |
| 18.4 | Inspection for longitudinal, transverse, and oblique imperfections | 48 |
| 18.5 | Standardization | 49 |
| 18.6 | Procedure for the detection of longitudinal, transverse, and oblique imperfections | 49 |
| 18.7 | Inspection of the body wall for wall thinning | 49 |
| 18.8 | Ultrasonic inspection of longitudinal welds | 50 |
| 18.9 | Manual ultrasonic thickness gauging | 52 |
| 18.10 | Manual ultrasonic shear-wave inspection | 54 |
| 19 | Evaluation of imperfections and deviations | 55 |
| 19.1 | General | 55 |
| 19.2 | Application | 55 |
| 19.3 | Equipment | 55 |
| 19.4 | Calibration and standardization procedures | 56 |
| 19.5 | Procedure for evaluating outside-surface-breaking pipe body imperfections | 56 |
| 19.6 | Procedure for evaluating inside-surface-breaking pipe body imperfections | 58 |
| 19.7 | Procedure for evaluating welds | 58 |
| 19.8 | Procedure for evaluating grinds | 59 |
| 19.9 | Procedure for evaluating large-area wall reduction | 59 |
| 19.10 | Procedure for evaluating imperfections in upsets | 60 |
| 19.11 | Procedure for evaluation of outside surface imperfections on couplings | 61 |
| 19.12 | Procedure for evaluation of visually-located thread imperfections | 61 |
| 19.13 | Procedure for triangle location and coupling makeup position | 64 |
| 19.14 | Procedure for evaluating straightness | 64 |
| 19.15 | Procedure for evaluating pipe diameter | 65 |
| 20 | Hydrostatic pressure testing | 65 |
| 20.1 | General | 65 |
| 20.2 | Application | 66 |
| 20.3 | Equipment, safety, and general procedures | 66 |
| 20.4 | Equipment calibration | 67 |
| 20.5 | Operating procedure | 67 |
| 21 | Marking | 68 |
| 21.1 | General | 68 |
| 21.2 | Authority | 69 |
| 21.3 | Guidelines | 69 |
| 21.4 | Marking of prime OCTG | 70 |
| 21.5 | Marking of no-drift OCTG | 70 |
| 21.6 | Marking of conditioned OCTG | 70 |
| 21.7 | Marking of conditionable OCTG (still to be conditioned) | 71 |
| 21.8 | Marking of non-conditionable OCTG (rejects) | 71 |
| 21.9 | Marking of OCTG not meeting ISO/API standards for hardness | 71 |
| 21.10 | Marking of prime couplings and connectors | 72 |
| 21.11 | Marking of conditioned couplings and connectors | 72 |
| 21.12 | Marking of conditionable couplings and connectors (still to be conditioned) | 72 |
| 21.13 | Marking of non-conditionable couplings and connectors (rejects) | 72 |
| Annex A | (normative) Tables in SI units | 74 |
| Annex B | (normative) Figures | 91 |
| Annex C | (normative) Tables in USC units | 96 |
| Annex D | (normative) Identification/explanation of changes | 112 |
| Annex E | (informative) Glossary of terms | 116 |
| Bibliography | | 119 |

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 15463 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 67, *Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Casing, tubing and drill pipe*.

Introduction

This International Standard is provided for field inspection and testing of OCTG; it is not intended to restrict the agency or owner from using personal judgement and supplementing the specified inspections with other techniques, extending existing techniques, or re-inspecting certain lengths of OCTG.

Users of this International Standard should be aware that further or differing requirements might be needed for individual applications. This International Standard is not intended to inhibit a vendor from offering, or the purchaser from accepting, alternative equipment or engineering solutions for the individual application. This may be particularly applicable where there is innovative or developing technology. Where an alternative is offered, the vendor should identify any variations from this International Standard and provide details.

Petroleum and natural gas industries — Field inspection of new casing, tubing and plain-end drill pipe

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies requirements and gives recommendations for field inspection and testing of oil country tubular goods (OCTG). This International Standard covers the practices and technology commonly used in field inspection; however, certain practices may also be suitable for mill inspections.

This International Standard covers the qualification of inspection personnel, a description of inspection methods and apparatus calibration and standardization procedures for various inspection methods. The evaluation of imperfections and marking of inspected OCTG are included.

This International Standard is applicable to field inspection of OCTG and is not applicable for use as a basis for acceptance or rejection (for which the relevant purchasing specification is applicable, see 5.4.2).

2 Conformance

2.1 Normative references

In the interests of worldwide application of this International Standard, ISO/TC 67 has decided, after detailed technical analysis, that certain of the normative documents listed in Clause 3 and prepared by ISO/TC 67 or other ISO Technical Committee are interchangeable in the context of the relevant requirement with the relevant document prepared by the American Petroleum Institute (API), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). These latter documents are cited in the running text following the ISO reference and preceded by “or”, for example “ISO XXXX or API YYYY”. Application of an alternative normative document cited in this manner may lead to technical results different from the use of the preceding ISO reference. However, both results are acceptable and these documents are thus considered interchangeable in practice.

NOTE ISO 11960 has been back-adopted by API as API Spec 5CT. Therefore, for the purposes of the provisions in this International Standard which cite ISO 11960, API Spec 5CT is equivalent to ISO 11960.

2.2 Units of measurement

In this International Standard, data are expressed in both the International system (SI) of units and the United States Customary (USC) system of units. For specific field inspection and testing, it is intended that only one unit system be used, without combining data expressed in the other system.

Inspection and testing performed using either of these unit systems shall be considered equivalent and totally interchangeable. Consequently, compliance with the requirements of the relevant Product Standard expressed in one of the unit systems provides compliance with the requirements expressed in the other system.

For data expressed in the SI, a comma is used as the decimal separator and a space as the thousands separator. For data expressed in the USC system, a dot (on the line) is used as the decimal separator and a space as the thousands separator.

In the text, data in SI units are followed by data in USC units in brackets.

2.3 Tables and figures

Separate tables for data expressed in SI units and USC units are given in Annex A and Annex C, respectively. For a specific order item, only one unit system shall be used.

In this International Standard, cross-references are made only to the tables in Annex A; if the USC units apply on an order, then any cross-references to tables in Annex A shall be taken to mean the equivalent table in Annex C.

Figures (data expressed in both SI and USC units) are contained in Annex B.

3 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 10405:2000, *Petroleum and natural gas industries — Care and use of casing and tubing*

ISO 11960:2001 (including Technical Corrigendum 1:2002), *Petroleum and natural gas industries — Steel pipes for use as casing or tubing for wells*

ISO 11961:1996, *Petroleum and natural gas industries — Steel pipes for use as drill pipe — Specification*

ISO 13678, *Petroleum and natural gas industries — Evaluation and testing of thread compounds for use with casing, tubing and line pipe*

API RP 5A3¹⁾, *Thread compounds for casing, tubing and line pipe*

API Spec 5B, *Threading, gauging and thread inspection of casing, tubing and line pipe threads*

API RP 5B1, *Threading, gauging and inspection of casing, tubing, and line pipe threads*

API RP 5C1:1999, *Care and use of casing and tubing*

API Spec 5D:2001, *Specification for drill pipe*

API Std 5T1, *Imperfection terminology*

4 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms

4.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

4.1.1

A-scan

data presentation utilizing a horizontal base line that indicates distance, or time, and a vertical deflection from the base line that indicates amplitude

4.1.2

AC-field

magnetic field induced by alternating current

1) American Petroleum Institute; 1220 L Street NW, Washington DC, 20005, USA