

1.0 PURPOSE

This document establishes the Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA) Standard Application Procedure for Acceptance of Materials used as Welding and Cutting Curtains and Thermal Barriers in Underground Coal Mines.

2.0 SCOPE

This procedure applies to all applications for Acceptance of Materials used as Welding and Cutting Curtains and Thermal Barriers in Underground Coal Mines.

3.0 REFERENCES

- 3.1. This document is affected by Approval and Certification Center (A&CC) documents titled:
- a. Design and Performance Criteria for Acceptance of Materials Used as Welding and Cutting Curtains and Thermal Barriers (ACRI5003).
 - b. Standard Test Procedure for Acceptance of Materials Used as Welding and Cutting Curtains and Thermal Barriers in Underground Coal Mines (ASTP5009).
- 3.2. Copies of the documents are available upon request from the Approval and Certification Center, Information Processing Services Office (IPSO), Box 251, Industrial Park Road, Triadelphia, West Virginia 26059.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

- 4.1. Thermal Barrier - a material used to provide separation of coal or other combustible materials from equipment as defined in 30 CFR Part 75.1107-1 (a)(3) that specifically lists unattended enclosed motors, controls, transformers, rectifiers, and other similar noncombustible electrically powered equipment containing no flammable fluid.
- 4.2. Welding and Cutting Curtains - materials used as horizontal or vertical barriers designed to resist the passage of hot sparks or molten metal generated from welding and cutting operations.

5.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- 5.1. It is recommended that applicants contact the A&CC to discuss acceptance and testing requirements prior to submitting an application.
- 5.2. An application request must include a six-digit company assigned application number and the type or category for which acceptance is desired.
- 5.3. All pages of the application must be numbered and dated.
- 5.4. All specification lists, instructions for use, etc., must be numbered, dated, titled, and be stamped in bold letters "NOT TO BE CHANGED WITHOUT MSHA APPROVAL."
- 5.5. Material Safety Data Sheets and documents that specify the temperature limitations, product name, and material or fiber composition of the product must be provided with the application package.
- 5.6. All testing must be conducted by an independent third party subject to approval by MSHA. A copy of the Standard Test Procedure for Acceptance of Materials Used as Welding and Cutting Curtains and Thermal Barriers in Underground Coal Mines (ASTP5009) is available for guidance. MSHA reserves the right to witness the third-party testing and must be informed at least two (2) weeks in advance of testing. Test results must be submitted by the applicant to MSHA with each page being signed and dated by the person that performed the tests and an authorized company official who can obligate the company.
- 5.7. Application Costs
 - 5.7.1. The A&CC will provide the applicant with a written estimate of the total anticipated charges. The applicant must sign and return the estimate, either agreeing to the charges permitting processing to begin, or not agreeing to the charges, thereby canceling the application.
 - 5.7.2. Applicants may submit a preauthorization notice with their application. The preauthorization notice is a statement by the applicant authorizing MSHA to expend a stated amount of money (See Section 5.7.1) in processing the application. This preauthorization notice permits the

evaluation to begin, negating the written estimate that would have been provided to the applicant.

- 5.7.3. If the applicant chooses to cancel, fees will be charged for work performed up to the cancellation. If total charges are less than the estimated amount, the lesser amount will be charged.

5.8. Conditions of Acceptance

- 5.8.1. As part of the acceptance program, MSHA reserves the right to request a reasonable quantity of accepted materials used as welding and cutting curtains and thermal barriers from the acceptance holder for audit purposes at no cost to MSHA, no more frequently than once a year, except for cause.
- 5.8.2. Any materials used as welding and cutting curtains and thermal barriers covered under this acceptance program may be advertised as "accepted by MSHA," but such terms as "recommended," "sanctioned," "approved," or "certified" by MSHA are prohibited.
- 5.8.3. Any materials, developments, test results or other information designated as proprietary and confidential shall be regarded as such with the exception of manufacturer's name, address, telephone number, product name, and acceptance number.
- 5.8.4. MSHA-accepted materials used as welding and cutting curtains and thermal barriers shall be legibly and permanently marked with the assigned MSHA acceptance number. The marking must appear on at least one side and occur at intervals not exceeding ten (10) feet on welding and cutting curtains and on each package, container, etc., of thermal barriers. Fractional lengths of welding and cutting curtains cannot be distributed as accepted materials without the appearance of the assigned MSHA acceptance number on the product. The numbers and letters must be at least 7mm in height. If the nature of the material or method of processing makes such marking impractical, permanent paint or ink may be used to mark the edge with an MSHA-assigned color code.
- 5.8.5. MSHA-accepted materials used as welding and cutting curtains and thermal barriers shall be marketed only under the name and identification nomenclature that has been furnished to MSHA and identified as such in the acceptance documentation.

5.9. The applicant will be notified of any discrepancies that need to be corrected.

5.10. MSHA reserves the right to rescind for cause, any acceptance issued, and require its removal from use in underground mines.