

By e-mail

4 September 2019

Dear IFPA member,

Re: IFPA Audits

In conformance with IFPA's Code of Conduct and relevant SANS, IFPA's members shall conform to the following:

1. Welding operations shall be conducted in a controlled environment – factory, workshop or welding tent.
2. Welding machine files to be in place and machines maintained in line with the relevant part of SANS 1671 – inspection documents have been circulated to assist in this matter.
3. Equipment used to verify compliance of welding machines and ovens shall be calibrated – Vernier, OD tape, scale, pyrometer and pressure gauge.
4. Calibrated equipment shall only be issued to trained and competent staff.
5. Welder's credentials shall be available, welder's qualifications and destructive tests reports, on completed welds shall be included to demonstrate competency.
6. Welding processes shall conform to the relevant part of SANS 10268.
7. Works Orders/Job Cards shall include QC checks – visual inspection, workmanship and dimensions – a printed copy of weld defects (SANS 10268 – 10) shall be available in the workshop to assist with the inspections.
8. Fabrication shall conform to standard product drawings or client issued drawings that shall indicate tolerances.
9. Weld protocols shall be recorded for every weld – maybe on the back of the job card to minimise documentation.
10. Use of non-conforming/non-traceable pipe, fittings, sheeting, welding rods and fillers, generic welding tables, methylated spirits and welding machines not conforming to the relevant SANS 1671 is prohibited or any part of the relevant product standards and welding standards, e.g. SANS ISO 4427, SANS ISO 21138 and associated normative reference standards.
11. Stub holders shall be used when ending pipe to ensure accurate alignment.
12. Copies of the relevant standards and standard drawings shall be available for reference purposes.
13. Materials shall conform to the applicable SANS, e.g. SANS 4427, and COC and COA to be obtained and filed for all bought out materials – pipe, fittings, flanges, etc.
14. Fabricated items shall be marked in conformance with SANS 4427 Part 3: Table 8.
15. Derating of fittings in conformance with the applicable standard, e.g. SANS 4427 Part 3, shall be applied.
16. Conforming handling and storage of material and finished goods shall be implemented and maintained.
17. A "Non-conformance File" shall be implemented and maintained.
18. Members will be subject to announced and unannounced audits – that shall not be punitive but assist in reducing, or eliminating, nonconformances and achieving improvements.

Please note this is the current IFPA minimum audit requirements, the end user may have more stringent requirements that will take president. This document will be revised as necessary to conform to standard revisions, procedures and audit findings to ensure the longevity of our members businesses.

We trust this clarifies IFPA's intentions in this matter, if you have any questions, or we can be of any further assistance, please contact us. Many thanks.

Best Regards

Mike Smart (IFPA)