



Title

Standardization

Topic: Nozzle loads for vessels and equipment

INTERNAL STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENT

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document comprises the Frames standard approach for the topic mentioned on the front sheet. It reflects the standard to date as given by the latest revision and as validated by the relevant disciplines.

1.1 Document setup

The document comprises various chapters formalized as part of standardization management. These chapters are the result of interdisciplinary review, addition of and/or changing the document basic structure shall be avoided or discussed and agreed upon in an interdisciplinary meeting. Addition of sub chapters, as required, is free to the author.

The following topic related chapters are applicable for the document:

- Reason for standardization
- Standard approach

2 REASON FOR STANDARDIZATION

Nozzle loads are an integral factor in every Frames project, in the past, several non-standardized nozzle load tables were used without any control. In order to standardize these loads, this standard has been written.

The nozzle loads as specified in this standard have been selected so that there is a balanced equilibrium between applicable nozzle loads for pressure vessels/heat exchangers and allowable nozzle loads which may be induced by piping configuration. This method will ensure an optimized design for a complete system.

The nozzle loads as described in this document are to be used in case that no nozzle loads are specified in client specification or code/norm requirements, and none of the limitation as described in paragraph 3.3 apply.



3 STANDARD APPROACH

This standard is applicable for nozzle loads on pressure vessels, heat exchangers and similar equipment. In case of applying this standard to different kinds of equipment, the selection of nozzle loads shall always be re-considered with respect to code/norm and system requirements.

3.1 Implementation

Nozzle loads are to be considered for vessel/equipment design as well as for piping design. When no nozzle loads are available from client specification, the nozzle loads as specified in Appendix I and Appendix II in this standard will be issued to vessel/equipment vendors and to the pipe stress engineer as a design basis.

Pressure vessels and equipment

For the designer of a vessel/piece of equipment it is preferable to lower the nozzle loads as much as possible. High nozzle loads have a negative effect on the design of the nozzle, flange and reinforcement plates of the nozzle.

Piping

For the designer of piping/pipe stress engineer it is preferable to have high nozzle loads, for piping the nozzle loads mean the maximum loads which the piping can apply to a vessel/piece of equipment. Higher nozzle loads will result in less anchors/supports in piping design and will prevent the introducing of loops in the piping.

The nozzle loads as specified in appendix I and II of this standard should be considered at the base of the nozzle, not at the flange face. This location should be considered by the pipe stress engineer when considering the vessel to pipe connection.

3.2 Applicability

As mentioned before the nozzle loads as specified in this standard cannot always be applied, as an example, pumps and compressors are often constructed according to API norms. Most of these norms specify their own nozzle loads which are normally lower than the loads as specified in this standard.

Some common used codes with specified nozzle loads are API 610, API 674, API 676 and API 685. No nozzle loads are specified within API 675.

System requirements can always require higher nozzle loads as for which a standard piece of equipment is designed. In those cases that this arises, the nozzle loads should be discussed with the equipment supplier, in order to validate the design. In these cases, nozzle loads on specific nozzles shall be mutually agreed by engineers of all concerned parties (e.g. not pressure vessels design engineer and piping stress engineer). This shall be closely monitored by the mechanical engineer.



The engineer which is designing the system should always consider the applicability of the nozzle loads in this document with respect to the designed system.

3.3 Limitations

When working with nozzle loads, there are some limitations which have to be taken into account, these are described in the paragraphs below.

3.3.1 Load combinations

In the design calculations of both vessels, equipment and piping, the flange rating is often the limiting factor when it comes to nozzle loads. Nozzle loads can be 'translated' into an equivalent internal pressure. Hence, nozzle loads vertically increase the design pressure. Therefore higher nozzle loads can result in the requirement for flanges with a higher flange rating because of the additional stresses in the flange.

Referring to below equations, the condition in equation i should always be met, if this is not met, a higher flange rating should be considered for the design. The equivalent pressure can be calculated according to equations ii and iii. In the equations, F_e is a resultant external force which is acting on the flange and M_e is a resultant external moment which is acting on the flange. D_g is the mean gasket diameter.

$$i) \quad P_{rating} \geq P_{design} + P_{equivalent}$$

$$ii) \quad P_{equivalent,F} = \frac{4 * F_e}{\pi * D_g^2}$$

$$iii) \quad P_{equivalent,M} = \frac{16 * M_e}{\pi * D_g^3}$$

When the conditions in equation i are not met, you could change the flange rating which result in higher cost, or you could chose for one of the two below options:

- 1) Lower the nozzle loads, lowering the nozzle loads will have a positive effect on the additional stresses in the flange which could result in not changing the flange rating.
- 2) Perform detailed calculations: Applicable nozzle loads as specified in this standard are not required by any code or law, therefore can be changed. Detailed analysis of the nozzle/flange can result in maximum allowable nozzle loads, which can then be passed on to the pipe stress engineer. This engineer will have to redesign there piping system so that nozzle loads will not exceed those as per nozzle/flange calculation. These calculation can be performed by:
 - Finite element method
 - WRC-107/279 calculations
 - Calculation of equivalent pressure caused by the nozzle loads

3.3.2 Type of flange

The nozzle loads as specified in this standard are applicable for ANSI B16.5 flanges. In case of using different type of flanges, use of loads may not be suitable with consideration to flange strength and other factors.

For example: flanges according to EN 1092-1, external loads according to Annex E.3.1 should be considered.

