



### **Interpretation of**

AWS A5.5/A5.5M:2006 and subsequent revisions  
AWS A5.18/A5.18:2005 and subsequent revisions  
AWS A5.20/A5.20M:2005 and subsequent revisions  
AWS A5.28/A5.28M:2005 and subsequent revisions  
AWS A5.29/A5.29M:2005 and subsequent revisions

**Subject:** Filler metal impact testing at a temperature lower than specified

**AWS Log:** A5.5-A5.18-A5.20-A5.28-A5.29-I02

**Inquiry:** For the filler metal specification listed above, is it the intent of the committee that filler metal classification testing to demonstrate conformance to a specified minimum acceptable level for impact testing, i.e., minimum energy at specified temperature, can be met by testing and meeting the requirement at any lower temperature?

**Response:** Yes, however the actual temperature used for testing shall be listed on the documentation when issued.

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AWS standards are prepared by AWS technical committees. Because many AWS standards are written in the form of codes or specification, they cannot present background material or discuss the committee's intent.

The nature of inquiries directed to the American Welding Society and their technical committees have indicated that there are some requirements in AWS standards that are either difficult to understand or not sufficiently specific.

It should be recognized that the fundamental premise of AWS standards are to provide general stipulations applicable to any situation and to leave sufficient latitude for the exercise of engineering judgment. Another point to be recognized is that AWS standards represent the collective experience of AWS technical committees; and, while some provisions may seem overly conservative, they have been based on sound engineering practice.