

Common Terms



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API - American Petroleum Institute- API is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited standards developing organization, operating with approved standards development procedures and undergoing regular audits of its processes.

API FLD - Full length Drift- A precisely measured dimensional cylinder is passed through the pipe ID to locate obstructions and/or assure compliance with appropriate specifications.

ASNT - Abbreviation for American Society for Non-destructive Testing.

Aquacure - Chemical treatment used to neutralize and reverse the ravages that may be caused by salt water contamination.

Brush and Spray - Process where by tubes are brushed with metal brushes to remove external rust and deteriorated mill varnish, then sprayed with an environmentally friendly mill type varnish to renew the appearance of the tubes and protect the steel from deterioration.

Clean and Redope - Protectors are pulled; thread compound is cleaned from both the tube threads and protectors, and then redoped with a customer approved pipe storage compound to ensure moisture does not damage threads over an extended period of time.

Collaring Pipe - The loading of tubulars with collars loaded all in one direction to promote efficiency at the well site. (Customer request)

Dry SEA - On approximately 18" of tube end area not covered by electronic or ultrasonic machinery, a magnetic particle inspection using particles in dry form, is used to locate transverse and longitudinal defects.

EMI - Electromagnetic Inspection - inspection that consists of the following services:

Longilog - Searches for longitudinal defects the length of the pipe.

Translog - Searches for transverse defects the length of the pipe.

Wallalog - A gamma ray source and detector rapidly rotate around the pipe and instantly detect variations in walls such as erroneous weights, eccentricity and other wall reductions.

Gradalog - A single differential eddy current coil surrounds the tube being processed, the signal to be compared with the signal from a second matched differential eddy current coil surrounding a known grade tube. A change in grade, hardness or mass causes a phase shift in the first coil, which is observed, visually on a digital readout meter.

ERW Pipe - Pipe having one longitudinal seam formed by electric resistance welding.

FLUT/FBUT - Full length Ultrasonic/Full Body Ultrasonic — A non-destructive method of inspecting material using high frequency sound waves. This term refers to inspection coverage of the entire surface area of the OCTG within the limitations of the inspection equipment used.

Hydrostatic Testing - Filling a length of OCTG with water, under pressure, and testing its ability to hold a certain pressure without leaking or rupturing.

Improved Visual Thread Inspection - Same as a Visual Thread Inspection, and also includes a thread profile check and a coupling length and makeup check.

Internal/External Defect Repair - An evaluation process whereby known defects are ground out of the tube wall while maintaining a greater than 87.5% remaining wall thickness.

Liquid Penetrant Inspection - In the event that the material to be inspected is not ferromagnetic and an ultrasonic end area inspection is inappropriate; the use of dye penetrant inspection may be employed. A fluorescent dye will be applied and the inspection will proceed under ultraviolet light. Anomalies found through this inspection will be probed and removed if their depth is insufficient for the rejection of the material.

Magnetic Particles - Finely divided ferromagnetic material capable of being individually magnetized and attracted to distortions in a magnetic field.

Magnetic Particle Inspection - The use of induced longitudinal and transverse magnetic fields that creates distortions around discontinuities on the surface and slightly below the surface and is detectable by evenly applying magnetic particles either dry or suspended in a liquid over the entire surface.

NORM - an acronym for naturally occurring radioactive materials found throughout nature.

OCTG - Acronym for Oil Country Tubular goods.

Oversize Drift - A tighter tolerance precisely measured dimensional cylinder is passed through the pipe ID to locate obstructions and/or to assure compliance with appropriate specifications.

Oblique Angles - Any defect orientation angled between 1° and 89° of the longitudinal axis of the pipe. Commonly asked for when tubulars are destined for critical applications.

PD and Ovality Inspection - Pitch, diameter, and Ovality are performed using a MRP gauge to insure proper thread makeup.

Phased Array Ultrasonics - A Phased Array probe is comprised of many small ultrasonic elements, each of which can be pulsed individually. By varying the timing; for instance by pulsing the elements one by one in sequence along a row, a pattern of interference is set up that result in a beam at a set angle. In other words, the beam can be steered electronically. The beam is swept like a search-light through the tissue or object being examined, and the data from multiple beams are put together to make a visual image showing a slice through the object.

Rig Prep - Thread protectors are removed, storage compound is cleaned off of both thread protectors and pipe threads; finally a customer chosen running compound is applied to the pipe threads, protectors are replaced and pipe is then ready for running into the well.

Rig Return Program - This program consists of a visual thread inspection, visual condition check of the tube, API drift and clean and redope with customer approved thread compound returning the material to a reusable, creditable or sellable condition.

Salt-Water Contamination Check - Process where a chemical is applied to tubes to see if metal has been exposed to salt water contamination.

SEA\ Special End Area - A magnetic particle inspection used to locate transverse and longitudinal defects on the inside and outside surfaces for approximately 18" of the tube end area not covered by electronics or ultrasonic inspection. This can also be performed on product that has exposed threads, couplings, upsets and integral connections.

Seamless Pipe - A wrought steel tubular product made without a welded seam. Manufactured by hot working steel, or if necessary, by subsequently cold finishing the hot worked tubular product to produce the desired shape, dimensions, and properties.

Water Blasting - High-pressure water is sprayed to remove scale, mud, or flaking mill varnish to insure a clean inspection or adhesion of new mill varnish.

Wet SEA - On approximately 18" of tube end area not covered by electronics or ultrasonics, ferromagnetic particles are suspended in a liquid bath, and are used to locate transverse and longitudinal defects.

Thread Gauge - API approved gauges are used to check lead, height, taper, and run-out (buttress only). Measurements of pitch, diameter, and ovality is performed using a MRP* gauge. A visual inspection is also provided which includes measurement of thread profile, thread length and coupling make-up.

Ultrasonic End Area - Performed on material that is either non-ferromagnetic or where the customer is concerned about imperfections that are not readily discernible with other inspection methods. The entire surface area is scanned, for ten inches from the end of plain end pipe or from the last thread on threaded pipe, using the appropriate shear wave transducer coupled to an ultrasonic instrument. Imperfections found are further probed to evaluate their severity. If the imperfection is not severe enough to cause rejection of the tube, and is removable, it is then removed and the area contoured.

Ultrasonic Weld Line Inspection - An ultrasonic inspection of the weld and the heat effected zone of ERW material.

Visual Thread Inspection - Protectors are pulled, threads are cleaned and visually checked for thread damage or pitting, threads are then redoped with a customer approved thread compound and protectors replaced.

Visual Condition Check - Tubes are walked, rolled, and visually scanned for tong marks or any other visually obvious damage. This service does not include a visual thread inspection.

Wall Thickness Measurement - Ultrasonic wall thickness gauge is used to measure wall thickness on tube body.