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NCPWB Technical Committee Annual Meeting Addresses Consideration of JPQT vs. NSTD Forms

Cost-effectiveness and ease of management are at the heart of the revised process.

The NCPWB and the [United Association](#) (UA) have updated the process by which welder tests will be evaluated in an effort to maintain the cost-effectiveness and ease of management envisioned at the inception of the UA/NCPWB Joint Welder Certification Program. The matter was addressed during the NCPWB Technical Committee Annual Meeting, which took place April 20–21 in Tampa, FL.

The number of UA welder tests has increased substantially since the inception of the UA/NCPWB joint welder certification program. This has resulted in an increase in the number of Joint Performance Qualification Test (JPQT) forms. Many of these JPQTs have been developed at the request of clients to test welders on the production weld for a specific project. These tests are not necessarily the most cost-effective, and the skills tested often are covered by existing NSTD forms.

Moving forward, the NCPWB and the UA will evaluate newly developed UA welder tests to determine whether a new JPQT must be developed, or whether existing NSTD forms are adequate.

To learn more about the Joint Welder Certification Program and the other activities of the NCPWB, please contact [Dariush "Nick" Nikpourfard](#).