• There are currently 138 interpretations posted online (www.api.org).

• Interpretations are reviewed by the TG to determine if changes to 6A are needed to clarify requirements.

• Fifteen (15) RFI’s have been answered and posted since the previous report of February 8, 2017.

• The following are selected highlights.
• Q: (1) Is a graphite seal considered to be a non-metallic seal?
  – A (1): Yes.
• Q: (2) Does it require a written material specification?
  – A (2): Yes.
• Q: (3) To what requirements?
  – A (3): To requirements of 5.2.1 & 5.2.3, except that specifying the generic base polymer is not required.
Q: API A, clause 10.17.1 states “This International Standard is not applicable to lock screws, alignment pins and retainer screws.” Does this mean lock down pin material does not impact the trim definition for the assembly??

– A (1): Yes. A relationship to lock screws is not defined for API material classes.

– NOTE: The partial pressure marked in association to the material class could be affected by the lock screw’s exposure.
Q: A weld-neck flange by itself is a loose connector. So after it is welded (to a body) is it considered to be an integral weld-neck flange?

A: No. There is no method of manufacturing a body with an integral flange that is stated or implied.
Q: Is there an approved list of acceptable alloys that satisfy the HH class?

A: No. There is no approved list. Alloys for material class HH must satisfy the following criteria as a minimum:

- API 6A, Section 3.1.31
- API 6A and manufacturer’s minimum mechanical properties,
- NACE MR0175 / ISO 15156 (Parts 1 and 3)

NOTE: The 6A definition for CRA (API 6A, Section 3.1.31) is more restrictive than the definition in NACE MR0175.
• Q: For PSL-2 surface NDE, “Should the intent of the document be” to examine all accessible surfaces & accessible sealing surfaces after heat treating & machining?
  – A: No. For PSL 2, the minimum surface NDE required by 7.4.2.2.8 only includes the accessible *wetted* surfaces and *sealing* surfaces.
Q: In pressure testing requirements of 7.4.9.4.5, “Hold the pressure for a period of three minutes” does “HOLD PRESSURE” mean that no pressure drop is acceptable during the hold period?

– A: This cannot be answered. A pressure drop criterion is not defined for the test. The acceptance criterion for a hydrostatic test is “no visible leakage”.
• **Q: Question:** Is it permissible for hydrostatic body test pressure to be isolated by means of a suitable seal fixture to the entry bores or on the faces of the end and outlet connections?
  
  – **A: No.** The intent of the body test is to verify the structural integrity of the entire pressure-containing envelope to the extent that is practical. The use of bore seals avoids testing the end connectors.
The American Petroleum Institute Guidelines For Requests For Interpretation

All requests for interpretation should:

- Identify a specific API Document (Specification, Standard, Recommended Practice, etc)
  (Note: API only provides interpretations on API normative requirements. API does not provide interpretations on informative language or on any requirements in a referenced document within the API document)
- Identify the Edition of the API Document
- Identify the Clause, Table, Figure or Annex that is the basis for the request for interpretation
- Be limited to a single subject or closely related subjects
- Be stated as briefly and precisely as possible (Note: background or justification may be provided)
If it is determined that the query is a valid request for an interpretation, you will be advised accordingly by email. In the event that the request does not meet the requisite criteria, you will be advised as well.

Due to the nature of interpretation requests and the time required for technical and legal review, API cannot guarantee a turnaround time for responding to these requests. *Due to required committee review responses to requests for interpretation can take up to 12 months.*

Please be sure to check the [API website for completed interpretations](http://www.api.org).

In some cases, similar questions have been previously submitted and the responses may be useful. Please [click here](http://www.api.org) when you are ready to submit your Request for Interpretation.
6A Interpretations – www.api.org
6A Interpretations – Q2-Q4 2017

Questions?