



**SAFed Response to Member Queries following Publication of ISO/TC 44 Position Statement regarding COVID-19 and qualifications of joining personnel**

**9<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

SAFed note the statement below issued by ISO/TC 44 welding and allied processes on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The publication of this statement has resulted in a number of enquiries to our members from their clients. Queries posed are regarding the possibility of extending the period of validity of welder approvals.

The conditions as presented by the ISO/TC 44/SC11 statement are not able to be confirmed by the SAFed members issuing the qualification, rather the employer / organisation who can demonstrate that the 3 conditions are met, and acceptance of these by the contracting parties.

**ISO/TC 44/SC 11 Position statement regarding COVID-19 and qualifications of joining personnel  
19 May 2020**

WARNING: ISO/TC 44/SC 11 Qualification requirements for welding and allied processes personnel are reminded that this statement does not have the status of a standard and its implementation is purely voluntary. Further, it does not negate the requirements of certification bodies. The aim is to help industry where needed during the COVID-19 situation.

It is the opinion of ISO/TC 44/SC 11 that:

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the revalidation and confirmation of qualifications of joining personnel may be extended for an additional three months beyond that allowed by the ISO 9606 series and ISO 14732 under the following conditions:

- an employment interruption resulted in the requalification period having been exceeded
- the qualification was valid at the time of the employment interruption
- it has not been possible to revalidate and confirm qualifications due to unavailability of certification agencies/testing facilities

Implementation of this statement remains at the discretion of the member bodies of ISO and any relevant certification bodies.

This position statement will expire 2020-09-30.

<https://committee.iso.org/sites/tc44/home/news/content-left-area/news-and-updates/isotc-44sc-11-position-statement.html>