

APPENDIX D—AUTHORIZED INSPECTOR CERTIFICATION

D.1 Examination

A written examination to certify an Authorized inspector within the scope of API Standard 653 shall be administered by a third party designated by API. The examination shall be based on the current API 653 Body of Knowledge as published by API.

D.2 Certification

D.2.1 An API 653 authorized inspector certificate will be issued when an applicant has successfully passed the API 653 certification examination, and satisfies the criteria for education and experience. His/her education and experience, when combined, shall be equal to at least one of the following:

- a. A bachelor of science degree in engineering or technology plus one year of experience in supervision or performance of inspection activities as described in API 653.
- b. A two-year degree or certificate in engineering or technology, plus two years of experience in the design, construction, repair, inspection, or operation of aboveground storage tanks, of which one year must be in supervision or performance of inspection activities as described in API 653.
- c. A high school diploma or equivalent, plus three years of experience in the design, construction, repair, inspection, or operation of aboveground storage tanks, of which one year must be in supervision or performance of inspection activities as described in API 653.
- d. A minimum of five years of experience in the design, construction, repair, inspection, or operation of aboveground storage tanks, of which one year must be in supervision or performance of inspection activities as described in API 653.

D.2.2 An API certificate for an authorized inspector is valid for three years from its date of issuance.

D.2.3 An API 653 authorized inspector certificate is valid in all jurisdictions and any other location that accepts or otherwise does not prohibit the use of API 653.

D.3 Certification Agency

The American Petroleum Institute shall be the certifying agency.

D.4 Retroactivity

The certification requirements of API 653 shall not be retroactive or interpreted as applying before 12 months after the date of publication of this edition or addendum of API 653. The recertification requirements of API 653, Section D.5 shall not be retroactive or interpreted as applying before three years after the date of publication of this edition or addendum of 653.

D.5 Recertification

D.5.1 Recertification is required three years from the date of issuance of the API 653 authorized inspector certificate. Recertification by written examination will be required for authorized inspectors who have not been actively engaged as authorized inspectors within the previous three years. Recertification exams will be in accordance with all of the provisions contained in API 653.

D.5.2 “Actively engaged” as an authorized inspector shall be defined as a minimum of 20 percent of time spent performing or supervising inspection activities as described in API 653 over the most recent three year certification period.

Note: Inspection activities common to other API inspection documents (NDE, record keeping, review of welding documents, etc.) may be considered here.