



PURSUING A NEW CSA STANDARD ON SMALL SOLID BIOMASS COMBUSTORS



WOOD PELLET
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Dr. Harry “Dutch” Dresser
Project Leader
Wood Pellet Association of Canada

WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT THIS?

- Canada has no manufacturers of small commercial biomass boilers.
- Canadian distributors can't import European boilers without significant modifications and increased costs.
- Canada needs to be able to import boilers as built so they are readily available and at a 30% lower cost.

NWT: PIONEERS IN PELLET CENTRAL HEATING



ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Only 10%
Domestic
Use

WOOD PELLETS

Capacity / production in Canada
over past decade (tonnes)



WHAT ARE STANDARDS?

- Specification requirements intended to ensure the general quality and safety of products sold in the marketplace.
- Created by technical experts and approved by consensus among various impacted groups of interested parties.
- Adopted in provincial and national law.
- By provincial and national regulation, boiler products must conform to relevant standards before being marketed and installed.

WHAT STANDARDS ADDRESS BOILERS IN CANADA?

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) standards.
- Section IV Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.

WHAT STANDARDS ADDRESS SMALL SOLID BIOMASS BOILERS IN 27 COUNTRIES IN EU?

- EN standards.
- *EN 303-5: Heating boilers for solid fuels, manually or automatically stoked, nominal heat output of up to 500 kW – Terminology, requirements, testing and marketing.*

WHY DO EXISTING BOILER STANDARDS SEVERELY LIMIT CANADIAN ACCESS TO PREVAILING BOILER TECHNOLOGY?

ASME Section IV

- 4.10.1.2 Manufacturers in countries other than Canada that manufacture and export boilers and pressure vessels to Canada shall ensure that all boilers and pressure vessels are stamped with the appropriate ASME Code product certification mark and registered with the National Board.

HOW DID WPAC BEGIN TO ADDRESS THIS CHALLENGE?

- Joining CSA B51 Technical sub-committee.
- Exploring the terms of the Canadian-European Trade Agreement (CETA).
- Discovering others with a similar interest.

HOW DID WPAC FORMALIZE EFFORTS TO PROVIDE IMPROVED SOLID BIOMASS CENTRAL HEATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS?

- Approaching CETA Regulatory Cooperation Forum Stakeholders' Debrief.
- Approaching the Provincial-Territorial Advisory Committee (PTAC) of Standards Council of Canada (SCC).
- Partnering with several regulators and with Jim Boyden, Economic Development Ministry.
- Submitting a white paper to the SCC arguing for a new National Standard focusing expressly on small solid biomass combustors, the same devices addressed in EN 303-5.
- White paper is accepted, needs to be recognized by SCC.
Choosing a Standards Development Organization to facilitate the adoption of EN 303-5 as a National Canadian Standard.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

A CSA committee of ~30 members with a working group of 16 members is reviewing and editing content of EN 303-5 and preparing deviations to ensure standard meets Canadian standards protocols.

- On completion, the CSA B365 TC will vote on the standard.
- Once passed by vote, SCC an EN will review the standard.
- The standard will be presented for public review and comment.
- On approval by all parties, document will become a National Standard.

IN SUMMARY

- This Standard will not abridge the current ASME standards for boilers and pressure vessels but will provide a specific set of standards for this low-temperature, low-pressure water heating small solid biomass combustors.
- With the National Standard in place, Canadians will have access to the remarkable technology for pellet burning that is currently available in Europe, and Canadian manufacturers will be able to produce competing products for the world market using the same standard.



Thank you for your interest and attention

Dutch Dresser

