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1 Purpose

This inspection guide is used to provide guidelines for inspecting machined parts.

2 Scope

This guideline can be used for all machined parts and features, whether from bar stock, castings or forgings. It can also be used for machined features on parts made from sheet metal or extrusions.

3 Responsibilities

QC inspectors: Carry out detailed inspection of all features denoted on a drawing, inspectors must understand the proper uses and limitations of the equipment being considered throughout the inspection process.

Metrology: Provides inspection equipment that is calibrated and maintains calibration intervals.

IPT ME: Provides interpretation of design intent of drawing clarifies ambiguous drawing details and notes. IPT QE: Interprets customer quality requirements.

4 Equipment

Coordinate Measurement Machine Calipers Micrometers Surface plates Angle plates Height gages Dial indicators Gage blocks Gage pins

5 Discussion on inspection process

5.1 Use of Coordinate Measurements Machines (CMMs)

5.1.1 Appropriate uses of CMMs

Once a CMM program has been created for a given part, a CMM provides a fast inspection report with very little operator input after initial set up of Part Under Inspection (PUI).

CMMs will provide rapid calculation of True Position (TP) location of holes and other features relative to established datum's.

5.1.2 Limitations of CMMs

Typical CMM report does not easily match to drawing features. The programmer needs to provide a map so that multiple circular features, linear features, etc. can be correlated to specific features on a Dwg. It would better serve the quality community if CMM reports matched up to balloon callouts on balloon Dwgs.

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CMMs interpolate data (touches on a feature) according to internal algorithms to establish hole size, hole location, orientation of hole axis, datum planes, etc. CMMs tend to report to 4 decimal places. Because of this reporting to 4 places and the algorithms used to interpolate touch data, CMMs tend to provide an impression of precision that may exceed the accuracy of the measurement.

5.2 Use of Standard Inspection Methods (SIMs)

Many of the bomb racks, ejection systems and missile launcher rails MEC manufactures were designed in the 1940s, 1950s and late 1960s through the mid 1980s. Examples of these programs include MA-4B, MAU-12, MAU-50, BRU-32, LAU-7, LAU-127,128, 129. ASME Y14.5 Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing had not yet been widely adopted at the time of design. Also CMMs were not in widespread use and standard inspection tools and go/no go tooling were what the designers anticipated would be used for inspecting parts.

In the mid-1990s through the 2010s is when Y14.5 was widely adopted as the design standard for dimensioning. Programs of this vintage include F-22 and JSF (F-35). In fact, for these programs, Computer Aided Design (CAD) was in widespread use and many of the above programs do not have complete dimensional and tolerance information on the drawings, This information is contained in the CAD models of the parts themselves.

Standard Inspection Methods include calipers, height gages and surface blocks, gage pins, etc., basically everything that is conventional methods of inspection outside of CMM.

5.2.1 Appropriate uses of SIMs

SIMs conforms to the inspection methodology the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) had in mind when designing our older bomb racks and missile rails. Therefore, SIMs most accurately measure features in accordance with original design intent.

5.2.2 Limitations of SIMs

Using calipers, height gages and surface blocks, joe blocks, pin gages, etc to fully inspect a part will require multiple setups depending on the feature and orientation being inspected. This can increase inspection time compared to CMMs. It also requires a fair amount of operator skill and knowledge to properly use the equipment and interpret the results.

6 Inspection process

6.1 Using Coordinate Measurements Machines (CMMs)

6.1.1 CMM program available

When a part to be inspected has an MEC QC approved CMM program available, it is recommended to use a CMM for speed and efficiency.

6.1.2 When discrepancies are noted

If the CMM inspection process finds certain features to be Out Of Tolerance (OOT), the feature must be verified using SIMs. Use of SIMs is considered the gold standard and is the accepted value of the inspected dimension.

6.2 Using Standard Inspection Methods (SIMs)

6.2.1 No CMM program available

Use Standard inspection Methods when no CMM program is available for inspecting the parts.

6.2.2 Verification of CMM discrepancies

Use SIMs as noted in 1.2 above when there are features that are found to be OOT with the CMM.

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NOTE: CMM program needs to be re-validated to ensure the accuracy of the program.

7 Detailed inspection process using SIMs

7.1 Calipers

Use calipers to measure OD of bosses and simple linear dimensions where the jaws can fit across the feature being inspected.

7.2 Height gages and surface plates

Use height gages with dial indicators and surface plates where linear dimensions cannot be measured with calipers.

Height gages and surface plates can also be used to determine true position location of holes.

This equipment is also very suitable for determining flatness, parallelism, etc

7.3 Gage pins

Class ZZ minus pins shall be used for inspecting all holes that have 3 place dimensions. These are also called standard pins. Standard pins come in increments of .001 and have a tolerance of +.0000/-.0002. The acceptance criteria is if the maximum hole size minus pin goes in but the next size up does not, the hole meets Dwg requirements. For example, if a hole is called out as .188 +.002/-.000 then if a .190 minus pin goes into the hole but a .191 minus pin does not, the hole meets requirements. In an AS9102 inspection sheet, the hole size as measured would be listed as .190.

Class X minus pins shall only be used when inspecting holes that have 4 place dimensions. These are also known as Deltronic pins. They come in increments of .0001 and have a tolerance of +.00000/-.000040

7.4 Angle or Sine plates

Use angle plates in conjunction with surface plates and right angle blocks to inspect angular dimensions.

8 Drawing interpretation and ambiguity issues

Drawings are not always clear on their intention, are frequently double dimensioned, call out obsolete materials and processes. In these instances it the IPT ME and QE are the authorities as to how the dwg shall be interpreted and the feature inspected to meet the requirements of the dwg and our customers. QC inspectors should not hesitate to call in the IPT ME and QE to understand the requirements.

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