

Reese's

PIECES

RTS specializes in providing condition assessments, mappings, and weld inspection services to the tower and pole industries



Welding Discontinuities & Defects

We all have experienced failing CWI reports after a tower or monopole modification project and have struggled with interpreting and understanding the results. In the May/June issue of the National Association of Tower Erectors (NATE) Tower Times magazine, Brian Reese authored a Planning Advisory Notice (PAN) article on the basics of welding discontinuities and defects. It is our hope that the article will assist you with interpreting your next CWI report.

Weld inspection is performed per AWS D1.1:2015 Structural Welding Code – Steel. Per Section 6.9 of the Code, the inspector is to visually inspect all of the welds and the welds shall be acceptable if the criteria of Table 6.1 are satisfied. Table 6.1 details discontinuity categories and inspection criteria and addresses the following discontinuity categories: cracks, weld/base metal fusion, craters, weld profiles, time of inspection, undersized welds, undercut, and porosity. The AWS further defines a defect as a discontinuity that by nature or accumulated effect renders a part unable to meet minimum applicable acceptance standards or specifications. Discontinuities are rejectable only if they exceed that allowed by the project specification. Almost all welding defects can be attributed to a welding process, technique, or welder that was out of control or not qualified. If welding is performed in accordance with codes, standards and specifications, including pre, during, and post inspections, the chances of a quality weld without discontinuities and defects are greatly increased. To see the complete article, go to *Tower Times* by clicking [here](#). □

NATE's New Campaign Video

On June 23rd, the National Association of Tower Erector's (NATE) Climber Connection campaign released a new educational video on gravity. Gravity must be respected at all times during tower work. Gravity is the reason that 100% tie-off for workers, tools, and equipment is essential and must be enforced. To view the Association's 2016 video, click [here](#). Respect gravity and stay safe while enjoying the heights this summer! □



ANSI/TIA-1019A Standard

The Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (TIRAP) Board Chairman Scott Kisting encourages members of the wireless infrastructure industry to watch a new online video released on June 21st that focuses on the ANSI/TIA 1019-A Standard for Installation, Alteration, and Maintenance of Antenna Supporting Structures and Antennas. The video was moderated by Dean McKenzie, Acting Director of Construction Safety for the Office of Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and included panelists James Ruedlinger and Mark Lauderbaugh of Crown Castle and Scott Kisting of Sabre/MUTI. See the entire video by clicking [here](#). The objective of the ANSI/TIA-1019A Standard is to provide construction guidelines for the telecommunications and broadcast industries. The scope of this Standard is to provide construction considerations and loading requirements for structures under construction related to antenna supporting structures and antennas. The Standard addresses the requirements for specialized equipment such as: gin poles, hoists and required temporary supports. It is the intent of the Standard to have Owners specify the Standard for projects and to have Contractors follow the Standard in their work to improve the safety on job sites. This Standard, and knowledge of it, will make the industry a safer place. □

