**Dear Colleagues,**

I am proud to introduce the API Purchasing Guidelines Handbook, the first inclusive publication that contains purchasing guidelines from each applicable API Specification in the API Monogram Program. The API Monogram Program is based on 70 API equipment and service specifications, covering oilfield equipment, refinery equipment, aviation fuel handling and well perforator standards. Currently over 1,675 companies in 67 countries are licensed to use the API Monogram on their products, and over 2,300 licenses have been issued. Seventy percent of API Monogram Program licensees are based outside of the United States and range from small, entrepreneurial firms to large, multinational corporations. They are involved in making a variety of equipment, ranging from valves, casing and tubing, line pipe, drilling equipment, pumps, drilling fluids, and well cement, to blowout preventors, cranes and electric motors.

The API Purchasing Guidelines Handbook contains the purchasing suggestions and data sheets for the API product and service standards covered by the API Monogram Program. Moreover, they have been reformatted to look consistent and to ask that all-important question, “Does it have an API Monogram?” The API Monogram is the Licensee’s warranty to API and the buyer that the product meets the API product standard in every detail. What better way to ensure that your purchasing requirements meet the minimum requirements recommended by the API subcommittees that control the product specifications, than to follow the purchasing guidelines they have agreed to include in the standard?

The API Purchasing Guidelines Handbook is presented in a loose-leaf three-ring binder that facilitates use and updating of the guidelines. Although reformatted for ease of use by purchasers and suppliers, the information in each guideline is identical to the suggestions, recommendations, or data sheets shown in the referenced specification. Also, to ensure that the information is current and traceable, each guideline references the API specification number, edition and date from which it was obtained. API will update individual guidelines when there are revisions to the listed specifications. These updates will be available through the API website and can be downloaded and placed in the binders.

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We at the American Petroleum Institute understand that the exchange of accurate information between end users, purchasers, suppliers, and manufacturers in the procurement of equipment and services is critical to the best interests of the industry. We have developed this handbook to assist all parties in the exchange of pertinent information regarding products in the API Monogram Program.

With best regards,

John D. Modine
Director, Certification Programs
American Petroleum Institute
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