

Title:	3-plate lap spacing in relation to annular plate		Agenda Item # 650-2079
Date:	5/15/2025		
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Purpose:	To clarify spacing requirements		
Source:	API 650 14 th Edition		
Revision:	1 in Blue		
Impact:	Minimal		
Rationale:	The entire section of 5.1.5.4.2 is giving directions, definitions, requirements of 3-plate laps and spacing. The current wording of the second half of the first sentence, “and from joints between annular plates and bottom” can be interpreted to mean that there is a 12” spacing requirement between a 2-plate lap of an annular plate and a 3-plate lap of the bottom.		
Current document:	API 650-----		
API 650	See section 5.1.5.4.2, & Fig. 5.3d		
Proposed document:	Add into API 650-----		
API 650	5.1.5.4.2 Three-plate laps in tank bottoms shall be at least 300mm (12in.) from each other, and between annular plates and the bottom, as measured along the seam. A three-plate lap shall be at least 300mm (12in.) from the tank shell, as measured radially. or along the seam. from the tank shell, and from joints between annular plates and the bottom.—A three-plate lap is created where three plates come together, and all plates are joined to one another by lap welds. A location where a pair of bottom plates are lap-welded to each other and are lapped onto an annular plate constitutes a three-plate lap, but lapping a single plate onto a butt-welded annular plate splice does not constitute a three-plate lap weld since the two annular plates are not joined together by a lap weld. These lap joint connections to the butt-weld annular plate, and shell are illustrated in Figure 5.3.d, and Figure 5.3.e.		

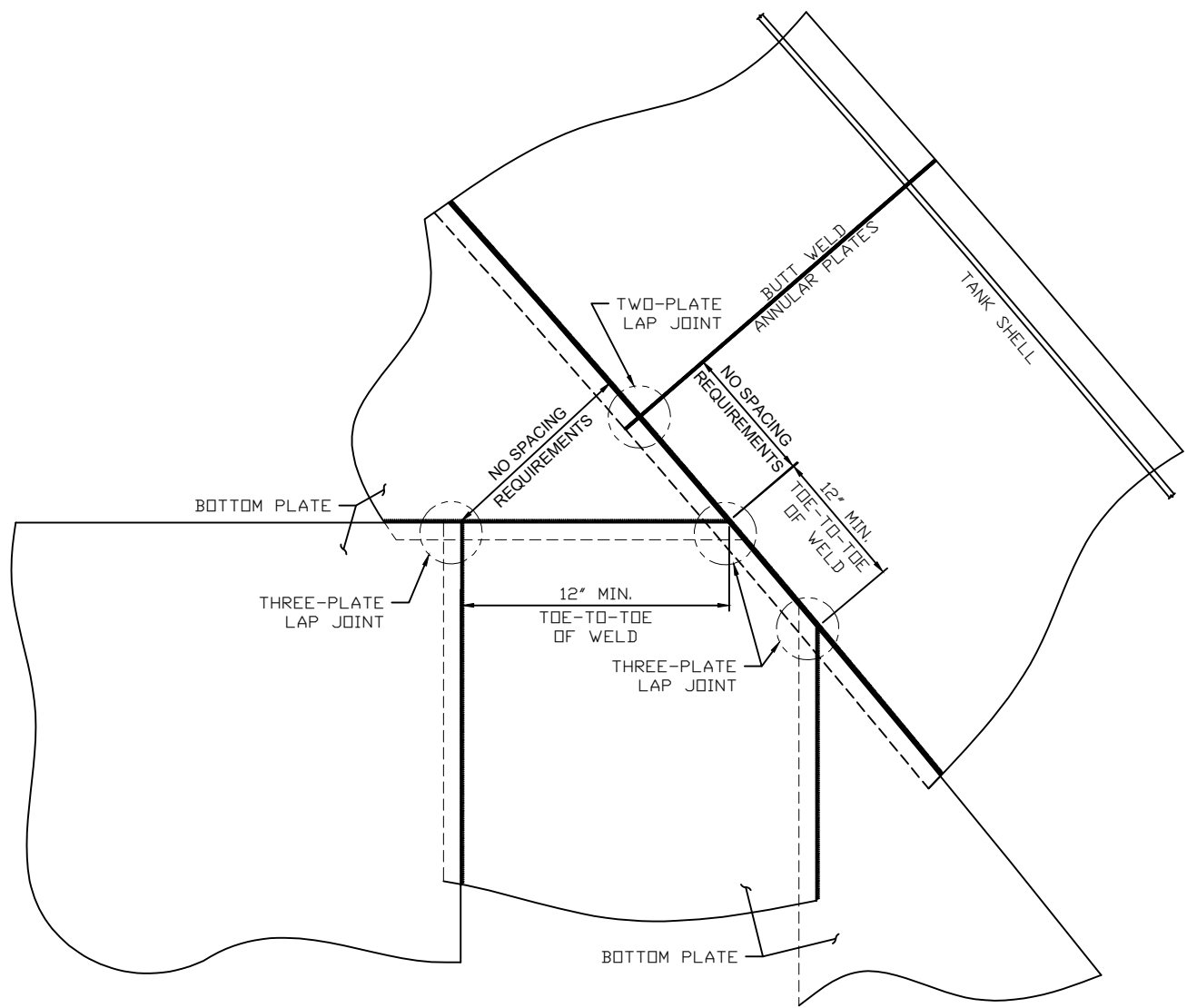


Figure 5.3d
Spacing of Three-Plate Welds at Annular Plates

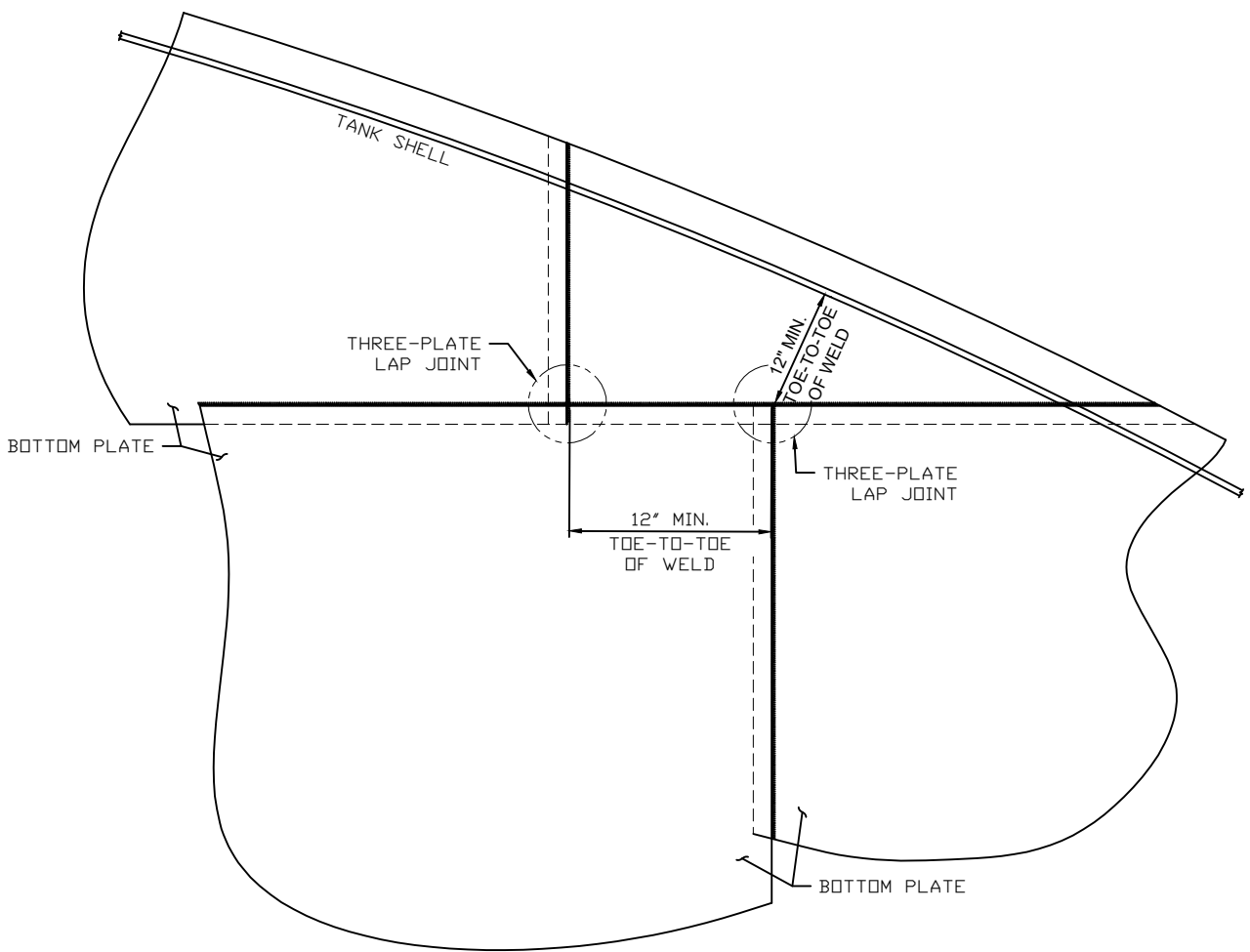


Figure 5.3e
Spacing of Three-Plate Welds at Tank Shell

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