

NATIONAL AEROSPACE NDT BOARD FORUM

The first meeting of the NANDTB Forum was held on Friday 1st December 2006 at the EADS CRC 5, quai Marcel Dassault – 92150 Suresnes, Paris.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING (confirmed 2007-06-29)

- 1) 09h30 - Opening of the meeting
 - a) M. Y. BARBAUX - Head of Corporate Technical Capabilities, opened the meeting, welcoming delegates to Paris and to EADS.
- 2) Background to the meeting.
 - a) John THOMPSON, Secretary, summarized the background to this, the first meeting, recalling the discussions in Berlin at the 9th European conference on NDT, when representatives of the aerospace industries of approximately 20 countries agreed unanimously to the establishment of a forum under the umbrella of the European Federation for NDT (EFNDT) to discuss matters of common interest relating to the implementation of European Aviation Safety Agency regulation part 145. At that meeting, it had been agreed that the EFNDT would provide a secretariat (with John THOMPSON, Chairman of EFNDT WG1 on qualification, certification and accreditation, accepting the role of secretary), and that France would nominate a chairman for the forum. Mr. Thompson announced that the French National Aerospace NDT Board, COSAC, had nominated M. Patrick AUGÉ as the first chairman of the NANDTB. Mr. THOMPSON invited M. AUGÉ to take the chair.
 - b) M. AUGÉ thanked all 33 persons (representating 22 countries) for their attendance at the 1st Forum in Paris. He then made a presentation covering the aims and objectives of the forum,

Objectives of the forum:

- To harmonise the quality level of the NANDTB of each country in order to acquire an uniform minimum level (Goal: equivalence);
- To interpret applicable standards in the same way;
- To promote European NDT (to the rest of the world).

Essential relationships

The individual National Aerospace NDT Boards in membership of the Forum should be recognised as the sole certifier of NDT outside agencies (in the aeronautical context) by:

- Official services of its country.
- Primes of its country.

- Directors board of the aeronautical companies of its country.
- The organisation of accreditation of its country.

Then, he invited those present to state their name and affiliation.

- c) The individuals present at the meeting stated their names and affiliations. The signed attendance record sheet is circulated with these minutes.
- d) Apologies for absence were recorded for Messrs. Roman WOTTLE (Austria) and Danny CRAB (Luxembourg)

3) Agreement of the agenda. The draft agenda was agreed without modification.

- a) Presentations. Each National Board made a brief presentation covering national progress in the establishment of an aerospace NDT board and, where such a board had been established, described its constitution, methods of working, relations with EN473 National board, with local airworthiness authority, and with Aeronautical industry Groups, etc..
- b) It was agreed that the presentations of each country (in the form of PowerPoint or other media) were to be circulated with these minutes. Those countries that had not already provided media were requested to do so.
- c) M. AUGÉ noted that many methods of working and various levels of progress exist in Europe between each NANDTB. To converge to a state of harmonization will require considerable work and concessions from each member NANDTB.

Action 2006/01: all those members that had not provided presentation media at the forum to forward electronic files to the Secretary by 14th December 2006.

4) Status of the NANDTB Forum

- a) There was a lengthy discussion concerning membership and points to be agreed, such as numbers of representatives per member Board attending the Forum, whether representation and voting should be from a country or a board (taking into consideration the Scandinavian Aerospace NDT Board [SCANDTB] which was comprised of the industry representatives from Denmark, Norway and Sweden), and the duration of the mandate for the elected officers (chairman, vice chairman and secretary).
- b) It was agreed that the Forum members were the national Aerospace NDT Boards, and not the countries in attendance. In the event that a vote or ballot was conducted, there would be one vote cast for each *country* that was a member of a National Aerospace NDT Board (this was agreed specifically to address the Scandinavian situation).

Note: M. AUGÉ indicated to the members of Forum, concerning the Scandinavian situation, that the SCANDTB position would almost certainly be the same if a vote was necessary. In this case, it was evident that 3 identical voices will be attributed by the Scandinavian countries for only 1 NANDTB.

- c) It was emphasized that countries with no National NDT Board yet formed were welcome to attend the meetings of the Forum as non-voting observer members.

- d) The meeting then reviewed, clause by clause, the Forum's draft constitutional document, which had been distributed with the agenda for the present meeting. As a result of discussion concerning each clause the document was approved as NANDTBF/01 dated 1st December 2006.

Action 2006/02: Secretary to circulate approved NANDTBF/01 with the minutes, by 14th December 2006.

5) Appointment of a vice chairman

- a) The Secretary announced that only one nomination had been received for the office of vice chairman. Mr. Roberto del Torro (Italy) confirmed that it proposed Mr. Jon Biddulph (United Kingdom), and this was seconded by M. Joseph Bernardi (France). The secretary invited other nominations and, there being none, Mr. Biddulph was confirmed as Vice Chairman of the Forum.

- b) In order to provide for continuity, it was agreed that the period of appointment for the offices of chairman and vice chairman would be staggered. Mr. Biddulph's appointment was therefore agreed to be initially for one year.

- 6) Definition of an action plan, including methods of working, main objectives, qualification and certification process, planning and target dates. It was agreed that this would be drafted for consideration at the next meeting, and members were requested to provide proposals in writing to the Secretary.

Action 2006/03: all members, by 31st January 2007.

- 7) Topics for discussion at future meetings. It was agreed that the proposals offered during the build up to the formative meeting would be considered by members, who would comment in writing to the Secretary.

Action 2006/04: All members, by 31st January 2007.

- 8) Further to the proposal of Turkish delegation to welcome the next Forum, the date and location for next meeting was agreed as Friday 29th June 2007, Istanbul. It was noted that, in order for members to obtain entry visas, formal letters of invitation should be addressed to individual named representatives of member bodies.

Action 2006/05: Secretary and Turkish representatives to arrange for formal letters of invitation to individual named representatives of member bodies, by 1st April 2007.

The Forum had hoped that a representative of EASA would be present at its meetings, and expressed disappointment that this was not the case at this, the inaugural meeting. It was agreed that the Chairman should write to EASA requesting that their representative attend future meetings. **Action 2006/06:** Secretary/Chairman

- 9) The meeting was closed at 16h00.