

ANDTB/03 ISSUE 2 DATED 2007-11-16

INTRODUCTION

Action 2006/03 from the December 2006 Paris EF NANDTB meeting required the 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 second (Istanbul) meeting, and members were requested to provide proposals in writing to the Secretary by 31st January 2007.

This paper summarises the proposals received by the Secretary, circulated to the Forum, and agreed at the 2nd meeting of the Forum in Istanbul on 29th June 2007, which were discussed at the 3rd meeting in Rome (November 2007) and in some cases accepted as completed, or modified in the light of work done to date.

METHOD OF WORKING

From the EF NANDTB constitution clause 3.6: "The ANDTBF is empowered to set up working groups and committees, establish their terms of reference and set out the procedures whereby they report to the ANDTBF". It is proposed that, for each of the agreed action plan items, the Forum:

1. determines the objective(s) and timescales for achievement,
2. assigns responsibility to an individual convener who is empowered to set up a working group of experts (from within or from outside of the Forum) on the subject area, and
3. reviews the report and recommendation(s) of the working group presented by the convener at an ordinary meeting.

MAIN OBJECTIVES (agreed at 29th June 2007 meeting in Istanbul)

EASA Regulations

Objectives:

- o Establish EASA's intentions and timescales for review and update of EASA AMC 145 (which refers to EN 4179 : 2000).
- o Request that EASA harmonise or combine EASA Regulations parts 21 and 145.
- o Offer to assist with or contribute to the work involved

Convener: None appointed.

Action: Mr. Wyles to discuss in EASA and respond.

Target date: 1st November 2007

Updating report submitted to 3rd meeting on 15th November 2007:

Mr. Ian Wyles had tendered apologies for absence but had submitted a brief report explaining that the minutes from the 1st and 2nd ANDTBF meetings have been circulated internally within the Agency, together with the notes that he had made about specific EASA related issues. He stated that the subject of a review of the regulations crosses three Directorates within EASA which had resulted in a delay in formally responding to the Forum. However, he gave an assurance that the Agency recognises the importance of its relationship with ANDTBF and that it undertakes to participate in future meetings and assist with or contribute to the work involved.

Nadcap

Objectives:

- Review Nadcap activities and establish any crossover with NANDTB activities
- Establish lines of communication with Nadcap (whilst preserving the autonomy of Boards at the national level)

Convener: Jean Pierre Pollien (Switzerland)

Target date: 1st November 2007

Updating report submitted to 3rd meeting on 15th November 2007:

It was agreed that lines of communication already exist with the national aerospace NDT boards since manufacturing primes which 'charter' the national boards also attend the NANDT Board forum. This action was therefore considered unnecessary, and would be deleted at the next revision.

Harmonisation of operations of Forum members

Objectives:

- Draft ANDTBF policy document proposing harmonisation of the operations of the national Boards.
- Propose Outside Agency audit criteria.
- Recommend policy on recognition of approvals issued under the control of other national Boards.

Convener: Roman Wottle (Austria)

Target date: 1st November 2007

Updating report submitted to 3rd meeting on 15th November 2007:

There was extensive discussion during and following this presentation and the Secretary was tasked with summing up the discussion and producing an amended policy document embodying the points agreed in discussion. This would be confirmed with the convener before distribution to the wider membership for comment by a deadline that would enable comments received to be considered by the WG and a revised final draft to be submitted for the approval of the next Forum meeting.

Interpretation of standards for qualification/certification of NDT personnel

Objectives:

- Provide a mechanism for interpretation of applicable qualification standards, e.g. EN 4179 and EN 473, for the aerospace sector.
- Make recommendations concerning experience – reductions in duration (EN 4179 Table 2 Note a). Survey each board concerning their understanding of this note.
- Make recommendations concerning practical examination content (initial and recertification)

Convener: Jean Pierre Pollien (Switzerland)

Target date: 1st November 2007.

Updating report submitted to 3rd meeting on 15th November 2007:

Tables comparing the criteria of the EN 473 and EN 4179 standards had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The work was ongoing, and final proposals for

interpretation of the standards concerned would be available for discussion and approval at the next Forum meeting.

Conferences

Objectives:

- Offer to manage a half day aerospace NDT personnel qualification / certification session within the next European Conference on NDT
- Stage a one day ANDTBF workshop during 2008, open to any interested party. Topics to include
 - Guidance to employers of NDT personnel
 - Audit and control of qualification examinations (conducted by employers and outside agencies)
 - Acceptable alternatives to EN 4179 approval
 - Interpretation of regulations and AMC 21 and 145
 - Interpretation of standards (4179 and 473)

Convener: John Thompson (united Kingdom)

Updating report submitted to 3rd meeting on 15th November 2007:

The Forum agreed to a one day ANDTBF workshop being organised during 2008 or 2009, open to attendance by any interested delegates, to be held in conjunction with a regular meeting of the Forum. The workshop would take the form of four or five presentations on topical issues, showing how the Forum is addressing these and demonstrating that the Forum is effective in representing the concerns of its individual member bodies.

The Forum also agreed to offer to manage a half day aerospace session at the next European conference on NDT in Moscow during 2010.
