

CP26 ISSUE 1 REV C

PROCEDURE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF PCN EXAMINATIONS IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

1. Introduction

- 1.1. PCN examinations should, wherever possible, be *internationalised* in order to promote the uptake of PCN certification outside of the United Kingdom. To this end, PCN examinations may be conducted in languages other than English provided sufficient controls are implemented to preserve the integrity and technical level of the examination system.
- 1.2. PCN examinations may be conducted in a foreign language only on the written authority of the PCN Scheme Manager after a documented review and when satisfied that the arrangements proposed by the BINDT Authorised Qualifying Body concerned are satisfactory.

2. Scope

- 2.1. This procedure is intended for use by BINDT Authorised Qualifying Bodies conducting PCN level 1 and level 2 examinations in languages other than English for candidates having insufficient command of the English language to attempt the examination in that language, and who are ordinarily resident outside of the United Kingdom.
- 2.2. PCN level 3 examinations shall be conducted only in the English language except with the express consent of the Certification Management Committee.

3. Definitions

An Examination Translator is a person acceptable to BINDT (the certification body) and to the relevant BINDT Authorised Qualifying Body co-ordinator, and who satisfies the following requirements:

- Demonstrates to a PCN examiner the ability to understand sufficient technical terminology, associated with the material to be translated, to ensure accurate technical translation.
- Demonstrates to the satisfaction of the examiner a competence to accurately translate from English into the language concerned and vice versa.
- Gives a signed undertaking to respect the confidentiality of PCN examination material.

4. Examination eligibility

4.1. Training

4.1.1. Examination candidates shall have completed a BINDT validated course of training covering the published examination syllabus, and which is of sufficient duration to satisfy the criteria detailed in the current edition of the PCN general requirements for certification of NDT personnel.

The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing is an accredited certification body offering personnel and quality management systems assessment and certification against criteria set out in international and European standards through the PCN Certification Scheme.

4.2. Experience

4.2.1. Where [EN ISO 9712:2012](#) certification is not generally available in the country in which the candidate is normally resident, BINDT will accept that supervision during the prescribed period of experience may be provided by persons certified for a minimum of three years as competent in the application of the relevant NDT method by a scheme acceptable to BINDT.

4.2.2. This provision shall apply in the country concerned for a period of 12 calendar months from the availability of PCN examinations in the country concerned.

4.2.3. The position shall be reviewed at the end of this period, and may be extended if considered necessary.

4.3. Vision requirements

4.3.1. The requirements for acuity of near distance vision and for colour perception shall be implemented in full.

5. Application for examination

5.1. The PSL/57 application for examination shall be translated into the native language of the candidate concerned.

5.2. The candidate and, where applicable, his employer, shall complete the application in the native language.

5.3. The BINDT Authorised Qualifying Body shall arrange for translation into English of the information entered on the application form in order to satisfy themselves and BINDT of the eligibility of the candidate.

6. Conduct of examinations

6.1. PCN written examination papers shall be translated into the native language of the candidate, and both the original and the translation shall bear the same unique identification code to enable the correlation of the original paper with the translation.

6.2. PCN practical examination instructions (to candidates) shall be translated into the native language of the candidate from the original English version. Both shall be available to the candidate and the examiner. Both the original and the translation shall bear the same unique identification code to enable the correlation of the original with the translation.

6.3. The candidate NDT report sheets and the NDT instruction writing paper shall allow space for translation into English of the candidate's narrative answer.

6.4. Where applicable, a code system may be devised to enable the candidate to report the defects identified in practical examination parts.

7. Examination marking

The marking of examination papers, and examiners comments, shall be by the PCN examiner (who shall use the services of the examination translator where necessary) in the English language.

8. Records

Original examination records, in both languages, shall be retained by the BINDT Authorised Qualifying Body in the same file.