

**Certification Services Division
1 Spencer Parade, Northampton
NN1 5AA, United Kingdom**

Tel: +44(0) 1604-259-056.
Fax: +44(0) 1604-231-489.
E-mail: pcn@bindt.org



PSL/69 – PRE-CERTIFICATION TRAINING - GENERAL INFORMATION

General responsibilities of training establishments

All training establishments should be familiar with the requirements of the current edition of PCN Generic Requirements for Qualification of NDT personnel seeking to be candidates in PCN examinations.

A certificate of satisfactory completion of training shall be issued which includes a statement on course duration, industry or product sector, and NDT method and level of certification for which the course was structured, and whether the trainee achieved a satisfactory standard in the end of course assessment.

Practically based sandwich training courses - acceptance of training and experience meeting the PCN requirements for examination eligibility

Where a training course concentrates on practical solutions to frequently occurring testing problems with a high supervised practical content, 50% of the course duration may count towards the required industrial experience. If the course is multi-disciplinary, this has the added effect of further reducing the duration of post training experience required before examination. In order for a PCN examination to be conducted upon completion of training, the training must have been given during a “sandwich” type course which involves training with interspersed experience.

For example, in the case of a practically based course covering MT level 2, PT level 2 and UT level 1 over a period of six months, the experience necessary for certification to each of the above is reduced by half, each of which may be further reduced by 33% provided experience is being gained simultaneously in three NDT methods. Therefore, in this instance, the qualification examination may be attempted on or shortly after completion of training so long as three months of relevant industrial experience has been gained on a sandwich basis during the training course. Such experience must be documented and be verifiable by PCN, otherwise, the necessary experience must be acquired POST TRAINING.

It will be necessary for providers of such training to specifically state, on the certificate of completion of training, the total amount of practical experience (in hours) gained in each NDT method during the training (a course curriculum may suffice provided this gives a break down of practical/theoretical course content). This will substantiate the practical nature of the training provided. The trainee will be responsible for recording actual industrial experience, under certificated supervision, gained outside of the training environment during the sandwich course.

Failed 5 year recertification - further training

A candidate failing a five year renewal examination, who will thereafter be considered an initial candidate for that sector/method, is to be encouraged to undertake further training prior to attempting the initial examination.

Extension of certification to another sector

Where the candidate holds an existing PCN certificate and wishes to gain further certification for the same NDT method in another sector, e.g., a certificate is held for UT(welds) and the holder wishes to seek certification for UT(wrought products), the test centre will require evidence that sector specific training in the specific theory of the application of the ultrasonic method to wrought products and, where applicable, product technology theory, has been gained at an approved training centre. PCN requires that the additional sector specific training was at least 25% of the required duration of the appropriate training hours listed in PCN/GEN for the NDT method.



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.

