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Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC
Commission's Working Group "Pressure"

Guideline related to: Annex I section 3.1.3:.

Question: For pressure equipment in categories III and IV, can Non-Destructive Testing personnel holding qualifications other than those satisfying criteria of the harmonised standards (e.g. EN 473:2000 General principles for qualification and certification of NDT personnel) be approved by Recognised Third Party Organisations (RTPO) notified by a member state under Article 13 paragraph 1?

Answer: Yes.

NDT personnel certified under standards, other than the harmonised standards, may be approved by a RTPO provided it is satisfied that certification criteria equivalent to the harmonised standards have been met, and that the scope of certification is relevant to the testing of permanent joints in pressure equipment.

A RTPO may sub-contract part of its work, within the provisions of the New Approach guide, but shall keep the full responsibility and issue the approval. The approval of the personnel shall be done by a RTPO on an individual basis.

Note: Approval of an individual solely on the basis of a certificate issued by another body where no contractual arrangement exists with the RTPO does not fulfil the requirement of the Pressure Equipment Directive.

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