

# The 2011 Annual Report of the UK National Aerospace **NDT** Board

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## **PREAMBLE**

The United Kingdom National Aerospace NDT Board (The Board), which is an independent national aerospace body chartered by UK aerospace prime contractors and design authorities, and is recognised by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), satisfies the United Kingdom requirement for a National Aerospace NDT Board as defined in EN 4179 and EASA Part 145.

The Board seeks to:

- act as custodians for all matters related to employer based personnel training and certification standards in the aerospace sector;
- provide a system for recognition of organisations implementing such standards;
- provide a system for recognition of organisations seeking to provide training and/or qualification examinations meeting the requirements of such standards;
- provide a system for ensuring that company written practices conform with such standards;
- provide a system for assessing organisations for compliance with a company written practice designed to conform with such standards;
- provide a mechanism for interpretation, adjudication and arbitration in cases of dispute regarding the implementation of such standards;
- set standards for the introduction of new and emerging technologies not currently covered by such standards;
- seek recognition of it's schemes with other European National Aerospace NDT Boards, and with any other pertinent body in order to benefit the United Kingdom Aerospace industry and to minimise duplication and multiple audit where possible.

The Board also acts as the Aerospace Industry Advisory Board that formulates the policy framework within which the PCN Aerospace Personnel Certification Scheme is operated, maintains an overview of the implementation of its policies, sets up working groups and committees with terms of reference, and maintains an overview of the assessment and accreditation by BINDT of NDT personnel Qualifying Agencies.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The contributions of member organisations and their nominated representatives is essential to the credibility of the UK NANDTB, and The Board expresses gratitude to those organisations and individuals who contribute by their membership. The following is a list of the organisations in membership of The Board at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011:

- Agusta Westland (member) represented by Mr. Phil Berkley
- Airbus UK (member) represented by Messrs. Keith Phillips and Alun Williams
- BAE Systems (member) represented by Mr. Chris Dootson
- Bombardier (member) represented by Mr. Bobby Scott

- British Airways (member) represented by Mr. Clive Worrall
- British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing (member) represented by Mr. Peter Milligan, Director, BINDT Certification Services
- Civil Aviation Authority (observer) represented by Messrs. Ted Blacklay and Christopher Lawrence
- Honeywell (member) represented by Mr. Stanley Gane
- Messier-Bugatti-Dowty (member) represented by Messrs. Colin Thomas (EASA Part 145) and Chris Durrant (EASA Part 21 affairs)
- Part 145 approved organisations, Outside Agencies and SIG members (co-opted) represented by Mr. Graham McCully
- Rolls Royce (member) represented by Mr. Jon Biddulph
- UK Training & Examination Group for Non-Destructive Testing & Inspection Organisations (co-opted) represented by Messrs. Colin Thomas and Dave Griffin.
- MoD MAA (observer). Represented by Mr. John Purcell.
- Flybe (member) a design authority for Aerospace Structures, Engines and/or Components, admitted to membership at the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011 and represented by Mr. Robert Bright.

## **THE WORK OF THE BOARD IN THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2011**

### **Meetings and administration**

The Board:

- confirmed the appointment of the following office holders:
  - Jon Biddulph was reappointed UK NANDTB Chairman, with a two year term of office ending 2013-02-15,
  - Keith Phillips was reappointed UK NANDTB Vice Chairman, with a two year term of office ending 2013-02-15,
  - John Thompson was reappointed UK NANDTB Secretary, with a two year term of office ending 2013-02-15.
- placed on record it's thanks to Alex Lambie, the outgoing Secretary, for his support, and wished him well in his new position;
- held six meetings (confirmed minutes of which are uploaded to a public access area at [www.bindt.org/NANDTB](http://www.bindt.org/NANDTB)):
  - The 29<sup>th</sup> meeting was hosted by BINDT in Northampton
  - The 30<sup>th</sup> meeting was hosted by the CAA at London Gatwick Airport
  - The 31<sup>st</sup> meeting was hosted by Bombardier in Belfast
  - The 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting was hosted by Caparo Testing Systems in Reigate
  - The 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting was hosted by Minton Treharne & Davies in London
  - The 34<sup>th</sup> meeting was hosted by MessierBugatti-Dowty in Gloucester
- expresses gratitude to the above organisations for their generosity in providing meetings facilities;
- agreed that only confirmed minutes of meetings should be uploaded;
- considered and responded to questions submitted by interested parties concerning the area(s) of interest of the Board, and answers or interpretations were published as appropriate (a Q&A file is maintained on the Board's website).

## **Control of Training and qualification examinations**

The Board:

- continued to maintain control of training and examinations for NDT personnel working within the EASA Part 145 regulations through oversight of BINDT audits of such bodies, and reviewing/commenting upon audit procedure and reports which are presented to the Board as a matter of routine;
- received and approved applications for affiliation to the Board from the Slovenian and Latvian Civil Aviation Authorities, thus agreeing to the utilisation of BINDT accredited Authorised Qualifying Bodies (AQB's) or UK based accredited Outside Agencies;
- agreed to extend its control of training and examinations to overseas organisations that sought or held BINDT accreditation as Outside or Internal Agencies, or PCN authorised qualifying body status;
- agreed to recognise only those ATO with certificated QMS (to ISO 9001 or BINDT recognised equivalent. The board agreed that OA/IA must operate a quality management system, but that the system need not be certificated;
- mandated that all initial NDT method training under its control that was intended to meet PCN Aerospace and EN 4179 requirements shall be delivered by a BINDT Accredited Training Organisation;
- reviewed and authorised PCN aerospace general and specific examination papers.

## **Standards and NANDTB Publications**

The Board:

- participated in the review for revision of EN 4179 (Non-destructive testing – Qualification and approval of NDT personnel);
- undertook a review and revision of a number of existing NANDTB documents (which are published on the Board's website);
- defined the scope and content of certificates of training and examination issued by Internal and Outside Agencies;
- initiated a review and revision of the requirements to be met by Internal and Outside Agencies, and the procedure for assessment and BINDT accreditation of these bodies;
- published NANDTB/Advisory-005 on Reinstatement of certification after Termination of Employment;
- approved and authorised for use the 'Tumbling E' near vision test procedure and the revised PCN PSL/44A, together with a PowerPoint training guide (NANDTB/24) for vision testing, making the test charts and procedure available without charge at [http://www.bindt.org/NANDTB/NANDTB\\_Vision\\_Requirements.html](http://www.bindt.org/NANDTB/NANDTB_Vision_Requirements.html);
- monitored the maintenance of the website at [www.bindt.org/NANDTB](http://www.bindt.org/NANDTB) where papers are published in order to inform the industry on matters dealt with by the Board;
- approved the establishment of website visit and download counters for subsequent analysis.

## **Liaison**

A formal liaison was established between The National Aerospace NDT Board, the BINDT Aerospace group and the ADS NDT Special Interest Group, and it was agreed that this liaison group was to be known as the Joint Aerospace NDT Forum (JANDTF);

The Chairman attended two meetings of the European Forum for National Aerospace NDT Boards, representing the UK Board and reporting to the Board on the meetings attended.

**END**