

Issued: 26 April 2021

Your options with BINDT/PCN Certification post-Brexit (for work under the EU Pressure Equipment Directive)

The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing (BINDT) is pleased to announce that it has agreed a robust certification process with an EU27 Recognised Third-Party Organisation for the certification of NDT personnel. This process is fully compliant with CEN/TR/15589 Route B requirements and allows BINDT/PCN to issue certification that is acceptable under the European Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) 2014/68/EU, Annex 1 § 3.1.3.

BINDT has received an appointment from WQ-iC Ltd, a Recognised Third-Party Organisation (RTPO) and Notified Body (NoBo No 2893) based in Dublin, Ireland. WQ-iC is a member of the Lloyd's Register Group of companies.

What we have done

- For current certification, a process has been agreed to review the technical documentation held by BINDT/PCN and issue an accredited certificate in accordance with the WQ-iC Scheme.
- Therefore, WQ-iC has reviewed the technical records in line with WQ-iC Scheme requirements.
- Your certification details will be posted to the WQ-iC website for official verification purposes (subject to Privacy Policy – see note below).

What you need to do now if you are affected

Update 26 April 2021:

We are pleased to announce that we have extended the time in which EXISTING valid certificates can be validated and approved with WQ-iC Ltd.

Note: this does not affect the 1 May implementation date for initial, revalidated and supplementary examinations/renewals.

Existing, valid certificates up to 30 June 2021

- In order for the certification to be validated, the holder simply has to complete a form on the WQ-iC website (as per press release previously issued) before the end of June 2021. **Failure to do so by 30 June 2021 will invalidate the approval.**
- There will be no charge for existing valid certificates up to 30 June 2021; BINDT has decided to cover the costs incurred in setting up this process.
- Once validated for EU PED, approval will continue until the certificate has expired.

If you want a supplementary certificate to allow continued working under the European Pressure Equipment Directive under the Scheme, then please take the following simple steps before 30 June 2021:

1. Please visit the online PCN certification verification page at www.bindt.org/pcn and, if you need to check any of your certification details before proceeding, use the search facility to see them. Then go back to the search page and click on the link to the WQ-iC website.
2. When on the WQ-iC website (<https://wqic-eu.com/ndt-operator-certs/>), search using your PCN certificate number.
3. Your details will come up as approved by WQ-iC Ltd and you can take a screen shot to demonstrate your PCN certificate has been accepted by WQ-iC. If required, you can contact WQ-iC directly, by emailing applications@wq-ic.eu, to request a copy. You will need to provide proof of address and identity.
4. Your approval is considered to be valid from 1 January 2021 and is valid until the normal expiry date of your current PCN certificate, subject to maintaining compliance with the WQ-iC Scheme.
5. In order for your certification to be validated, please go to the WQ-iC website and complete the form named 'BINDT-PCN – Individual Contract Agreement' in the 'Services' tab. Failure to do so by 30 June 2021 will invalidate your approval and it will be removed from the WQ-iC approved list.

In the circumstances, BINDT has decided to cover the costs incurred in setting up this process.

Please note:

In agreeing to this arrangement, you are confirming:

- that your personal information can be shared with WQ-iC Ltd.
- WQ-iC Ltd, as the RTPO, remains the owner of the certification as detailed in the Scheme.

Your other options

If, for whatever reason, you choose not to renew now, then your certification will still be valid for PER (PED in the UK) for UKCA marking work under the BINDT/PCN Scheme. Please note that the expedited process described above will not be available after 30 June 2021.

Please remember that your PCN certificate will still be valid in all cases for which you are qualified, except for work done under the European Pressure Equipment Directive.

As always, BINDT and PCN are committed to providing the best service we can to all of our clients and the NDT industry, operating and communicating with integrity at all times. We remain resolute in our drive to work collaboratively with businesses and organisations around the globe to promote the advancement of the science and practice of NDT and all associated disciplines

What will happen next time you renew your certificate?

Your approval will continue until you next renew your certificate, either by renewal or re-certification, at which time your PCN administration fee from BINDT will be increased to include the issuing of approval from WQ-iC Ltd.

Examinations and revalidated certificates from 1 May 2021

- As of 1 May 2021, all examinations and renewal applications for those sector/methods eligible for PED recognition (see table below) will include a charge of £45.00 plus VAT. This will be charged as an additional PCN PED administration fee.
- The AQB will implement this charge in addition to the PCN administration fee for relevant examinations (listed below).
- BINDT is forced to pass this charge on to candidates/PCN holders to cover the cost of compliance with the agreement and issuing PED certification. The cost of validating existing certificates (up to 30 June 2021) is being absorbed by BINDT; however, considerable

additional costs have been and are being incurred and reluctantly BINDT has no choice but to pass on some of these costs to certificate holders.

- PCN holders will receive automatic recognition to the Pressure Equipment Directive and be visible on the WQ-iC verification page. They will be issued with a certificate showing compliance with PED.
- Approval will continue until the certificate has expired.

Sectors	Methods
<p>2 Pre- and In-service 6 Welds</p>	<p>20 Eddy Current 21 Magnetic Particle Testing 22 Liquid Penetrant Testing 23 Visual Testing 24 Ultrasonic Testing 25 Radiography 27 TOFD 28 Phased Array 29 Computer Radiographic Testing 34 Radiographic Interpreter 35 Computer Radiographic Interpreter</p>

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