

Guide to Individual Membership

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BINDT
THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF
NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING



The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing (BINDT) is the UK's professional body for individuals and organisations involved with NDT, condition monitoring and all other materials testing disciplines.

Membership of the British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing is open to anyone or any company working in or having an interest in NDT, condition monitoring, diagnostic engineering or materials and quality testing in general.

Individual members range from students embarking on engineering, physics, metallurgy or a wide range of other courses, practitioners in the hands-on world, managers and academics, to research scientists.

Company members – referred to as Corporate Members – come from an equally diverse range of industries: aerospace, power generation, oil & gas, petrochemical and universities, to name but a few – as well as the equipment manufacturers, providers of specialist services and consultancies. For further information on how to join as a company member, see the 'Guide to Corporate Membership'.

Individual membership

The grades of individual membership and entry requirements provide a structured and natural progression through the grades, from Affiliate or Associate to Member. The grade of Fellow is reserved for those who have had long experience of a high calibre and have achieved a position of high responsibility.

Individuals holding specific NDT qualifications, for example PCN or equivalents (see website), may be accepted into membership via the certification routes providing they meet the relevant training and experience requirements. They may progress to higher grades as they acquire higher levels of certification.

The Institute's Constitution defines two broad categories of membership – voting and non-voting (previously referred to as corporate and non-corporate). Members in the Affiliate grade are not eligible to vote at Institute meetings; members in all other grades do have a vote.

Members in the Associate, Member and Fellow grades, may use post-nominal letters; these are detailed in the sections that follow.

Tax relief

Institute subscriptions and Engineering Council registration fees normally qualify for full tax relief, which may be claimed by employed persons who pay UK income tax. Quote reference C1/Sub/958 on the relevant tax return.

Entry requirements for membership of BINDT

Grades and the entry requirements are summarised below. For convenience, the PCN certification system has been used, but equivalents under other systems may also be accepted (please refer to BINDT website at www.bindt.org/membership for further details).

Non-voting grades

Affiliate (incorporating former 'Student' grade)

Affiliate membership is open to any person who has a demonstrable interest in non-destructive testing, condition monitoring or any of the related technologies but who is ineligible for membership, or who, for whatever reason, does not wish to join, at one of the voting grades.

This includes:

- *bona fide* students of science, engineering, metallurgy or other NDT- related subjects;
- managers, trainees or assistants engaged in NDT, condition monitoring or related technologies; and
- NDT certificate holders, who will be referred to as BINDT Registered Practitioners.

Voting grades

Associate – AMInstNDT (incorporating former 'Practitioner' and 'Graduate' grades)

Entry is by one of two routes:

Certification Route requires:

- possession of a PCN Level 2 qualification, or equivalent; and
- a minimum of three years' combined approved professional development in NDT, condition monitoring or related technologies.

Recognised Qualifications Route requires:

- possession of one or more relevant academic qualifications, for example BTEC/SCOTVEC ordinary certificate or equivalent, in an approved subject; and
- a minimum of three years' combined approved professional development in NDT, condition monitoring or related technologies.

Member – MInstNDT

Entry is by one of three routes:

Certification Route requires:

- possession of a PCN Level 3 qualification, or equivalent; and
- a minimum of five years' combined approved professional development in NDT, condition monitoring or related technologies, with at least two years in position(s) of responsibility.

Recognised Qualifications Route requires:

- possession of one or more academic qualifications, for example BTEC/SCOTVEC higher certificate or equivalent, in an approved subject; and
- a minimum of five years' experience in NDT, condition monitoring or allied technologies, of which at least two years shall have been devoted to approved training, with at least two years in position(s) of responsibility.

Individual Assessment Route:

Applicants who do not have recognised qualifications to demonstrate the required knowledge and understanding may do so in other ways via the Individual Assessment Route, but must clearly demonstrate they have achieved the same level of knowledge and understanding as those with qualifications. These ways include:

- writing a technical report based on experience and knowledge;
- following an assessed work-based learning programme;
- taking an acceptable academic programme.

Fellow – FInstNDT

Entry is limited to candidates who have long experience of a high calibre and responsibility. No specific qualifications are laid down; each application is assessed on the overall merits of the candidate. Typically, candidates would be of at least five years' standing as a Member and have had at least ten years' high calibre experience and achieved a position of high responsibility.

Chartered Engineers of at least five years' standing and scientists of comparable status and seniority may also qualify. In addition, candidates would normally have made (or be making) a significant contribution to the NDT, condition monitoring or associated industry and/or the Institute.

NOTE: It is the candidate's responsibility to supply sufficient information to allow BINDT to arrive at a decision on the application. This may take the form of a written justification, which may be requested if not originally supplied.

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Professional registration

As a Licensed Member of the Engineering Council (EC), the Institute encourages members to register with the EC. The Institute can assess suitably qualified members for admission to the EC Register as Chartered Engineer (CEng), Incorporated Engineer (IEng) and Engineering Technician (EngTech).

Under its Royal Charter, the EC regulates the engineering profession in the UK and formally represents the interests of UK engineers abroad. All candidates for registration as Chartered Engineer, Incorporated Engineer or Engineering Technician must satisfy the competence standards set by the EC and be members of a Licensed Member Engineering Institution. Applicants must show that they have a satisfactory educational base, have undergone approved professional development and must demonstrate, at interview, their professional competence against specific criteria. These are described in the Engineering Council's UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC).

CEng, IEng and EngTech now follow either the 'Recognised Qualifications Route' or 'Individual Assessment Route'. All requirements and information about the UK-SPEC can be found on the Engineering Council (EC) website: www.engc.org.uk/ukspec/

Engineering Technician – EngTech

Registration Route:

- possession of one or more of the academic qualifications approved by the Engineering Council, for example BTEC/SCOTVEC Ordinary Certificate or equivalent in an approved subject; and
- a minimum of three years' combined approved professional development in NDT, condition monitoring or allied technologies.

Normally, BINDT membership at least at the Associate grade satisfies the above requirements.

Candidates, who are voting members of the Institute who hold at least a current PCN Level 2 qualification, may seek EngTech registration without interview.

Candidates without the preferred academic qualifications may be able to apply for an Individual Assessment Route appraisal. This separate procedure, administered by BINDT, involves an in-depth appraisal of the knowledge and experience acquired. Experienced, practising professional Engineering Technicians are often found to have gained the necessary knowledge and skills for their job through working closely with other skilled colleagues over a number of years.

Incorporated Engineer – IEng

Registration Route:

- possession of one or more of the academic qualifications approved by the Engineering Council, for example an accredited Bachelors or Honours Degree in engineering or technology, or equivalent qualifications in approved subjects, or acceptable combinations of PCN certification; and
- a minimum of five years' professional development in NDT, condition monitoring or allied technologies, with at least two years in position(s) of approved responsibility.

Normally, BINDT membership at the Member grade satisfies the above requirements.

Applicants who do not have recognised qualifications to demonstrate the required knowledge and understanding may do so in other ways via the Individual Assessment Route, but must clearly demonstrate they have achieved the same level of knowledge and understanding as those with qualifications. These ways include:

- assessment of submitted technical reports;
- evaluation of competence by matching against the UK-SPEC requirements;
- taking an acceptable academic programme.

Chartered Engineer – CEng

Registration Route:

- possession of one or more of the academic qualifications approved by the Engineering Council, for example an accredited integrated MEng Degree or equivalent qualifications in approved subjects (see UK-SPEC); and
- a minimum of five years' professional development in NDT, condition monitoring or allied technologies, with at least two years in position(s) of approved responsibility.

Normally, BINDT membership at the Member grade is a minimum requirement for CEng application.

Applicants who do not have recognised qualifications to demonstrate the required knowledge and understanding may do so in other ways via the Individual Assessment Route, but must clearly demonstrate they have achieved the same level of knowledge and understanding as those with qualifications. These ways include:

- assessment of submitted technical reports;
- evaluation of competence by matching against the UK-SPEC requirements;
- taking an acceptable academic programme.