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**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
UK NATIONAL AEROSPACE NDT BOARD (NANDTB/06/M2)
Wednesday 17th May 2006 at BAe Systems, Warton, Lancashire**

1. With the addition of four items to be considered under AOB, the agenda was agreed.
2. Attendance & apologies for absence
 - a. The following were in attendance: Messrs. J Hewitt, G Millar, J Thompson (Secretary), K Phillips, C Dootson, E McIlroy, G McCully, P Berkley, S Gane, M Barker (CAA, observer), J Markham (BAe, Observer).
 - b. Apologies for absence were recorded for Messrs. J Biddulph (Chairman) and I Chapman (CAA, observer).
3. Notes of the last meeting
 - a. The notes of the last meeting (distributed earlier) were accepted as a true record.
Action 09/06: Secretary to post confirmed minutes on NANDTB website.
 - b. All actions had been discharged. The Board requested that the Chairman report to the next meeting on his discussions with Mr. S Lavender.
Action 10/06: J Biddulph to report to the next meeting concerning the discussions that he had had with Mr. Lavender.
4. Membership ([current list](#))
 - a. The membership list was reviewed, and no changes were considered necessary.
 - b. The constitution was also reviewed to confirm that key appointments could be reconfirmed at the two year point.

Secretary's note: M Barker and E McIlroy joined the meeting at this point.
5. NANDTB documents – (to note document status on [NANDTB/01](#))

It was noted that the Board's constitutional docs (NANDTB/02, 03, 04 and 05) would fall due for review at the August 2006 meeting.

Action 11/06: Secretary to include an agenda item for review of NANDTB/02, 03, 04 and 05.
6. Airworthiness requirements - [CAIP 4-10](#)
 - a. A status report was presented by Mark Barker, CAA. Following discussion, the Board agreed that the present draft was generally headed in the right direction and expressed its support in principle for the document. It was agreed that member's comments, which may be on the detail of the draft, and/or comments of a more general nature, should be sent to Mr. Hewitt for concatenation and onward transmission to the CAA.
 - b. One question that was considered to be topical in the context of CAIP 4-10 was: to what extent should the board control EN 4179 qualification systems in part 21 organisations

and suppliers, and if it should, how?). It was proposed that the Board agree and publish policy on this issue.

Action 12/06: Secretary to draft policy statement on audit of internal qualification systems, including a compliance audit of written practices, circulate the draft to Chairman and Vice Chairman for agreement, and include an agenda item for next meeting.

Action 13/06: All Members' comments on CAIP 4-10 to be sent to John Hewitt by 24th May 2006 for transmission as Board comments to CAA by 31st May 2006.

7. Control of Outside Agencies

- a. The Secretary reported that no assessments had been undertaken, or applications received, since last meeting.
- b. The BINDT Accredited Outside Agency [Assessment Schedule](#) was reviewed. It was noted that the reassessment by J Thompson of Lavender International on 31st October 2006 would be witnessed by S Gane.

8. Control of PCN examinations

- a. Submissions on the review/approval of PCN examination papers had been received from Messrs. McIlroy, [Berkley](#), [Gane](#), [Phillips](#) and [Dootson](#). The Board recognized the valuable work that these individuals had contributed. All reviewers had found significant numbers of PCN specific questions that were more general by nature. The Secretary gave a short PowerPoint [Presentation](#) addressing the results of the review.
- b. There was considerable discussion on whether it is possible to develop a generic specific examination for part 145 organisations. It was generally agreed that it was. To this end, it was agreed to request specific questions related to common specifications from all accredited Outside Agencies for review by the Board. These would be used to harmonise the level and scope of PCN specific exams for part 145 organisations.

Action14/06: Secretary to contact BINDT Accredited Outside Agencies, requesting submission of specific examination questions related to common specifications for each NDT method.

Action 15/06: The Secretary to replace specific papers reviewed by members as and when time and resourced allowed, and to circulate new papers to the reviewers for comment.

Action 16/06: Secretary and members. It was agreed that the present PCN examination syllabuses, which are used to determine which questions are specific and which general, would be circulated for review and comment.

- c. It had been decided that one of the mechanisms of control of PCN examinations would include witnessed audits of PCN Aerospace AQB. Mr. Gane indicated that he may be available to witness the forthcoming audit of the South West School of NDT, which will be a two day event covering PCN AQB and BINDT Outside Agency criteria.

Action 17/06: Mr. Gane to confirm whether he will be available to witness the audit of SWS of NDT on 6th and 7th September 2006.

9. Liaison and contact with other NANDTB

- a. The Secretary had arranged with the German NDT Society that facilities for an EU NANDTB Forum would be provided at the 9th ECNDT conference centre in Berlin on Friday 29th September 2006 @ 14:00. An email announcing this had been circulated to Chairman and Secretaries of the various EU NANDTB, with a request for proposals for agenda items, and confirmation of attendance. The Secretary undertook to circulate the subject email for information to members. To date, only one response had been received (from New Zealand). The Secretary said that he intended waiting until the end of June before issuing a reminder.
- b. UK input to the above. **Action 08/06**, agreed at the last meeting, had established a WG comprised of JB, CD and JRT, with a remit to discuss the pros and cons of establishing some form of formal liaison group for EU NANDTB, and what might be developed for tabling prior to the first forum. It was agreed that this action is ongoing, but should now be given a higher priority.

10. Promotion and marketing

- a. Making UK NANDTB services available in countries without a Board. It was agreed that the services offered by the Board or the BINDT on behalf of the Board in the UK could equally be provided to organisations outside the UK.
- b. Publicity – an article had been requested for Stainless Steel World News (aerospace special edition).

Action 18/06: Secretary to update and send to Stainless Steel World News the press release from UK NANDTB formative period.

11. Any other business

- a. Level 3 PCN Main Method examination format ([see email](#)) to remain at 40 questions. PCN will need to develop papers meeting the criteria of the standard.

Action 19/06: Secretary to develop Level 3 PCN General Papers comprising 40 questions as required by EN 4179 : 2005.

- b. The draft 410 / 4179 was discussed. It was proposed that The Chairman press for clarification of the wording in para 7.1.2 “*Possession of a current ASNT, EN 473 or ISO 9712 NDT certificate at the appropriate level by the candidate may be satisfactory evidence that the general examination requirement is satisfied*”. The Board considered that the use of the underlined permissive term in the draft standard renders compliance un-auditable.
- c. Succession plans for key board positions. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary positions expire at end of the initial two year period of appointment (which ends in November 2006). It was therefore proposed that, At the 23rd August 2006 meeting, the Board discuss and agree succession arrangements. As a result of a question from the chairman of the present meeting, Mr. Thompson confirmed that he is content to continue in the role of secretary if asked. However, Mr. Williams was not certain at this point what his company’s plans for the future would be, and whether he would be in a position to serve for a further term. It was reported that the present chairman, Mr. Biddulph, would be willing to serve a further term as chairman. It was agreed that, should any of the current holders of these positions be unwilling or unable to stand again, they would advise the Secretary, who would advise the membership. Any members that wished to do so would be encouraged to offer themselves for vacant positions.
- d. Questions from Outside Agencies. G McCully tabled two questions originating from a BINDT Accredited Outside Agency and Authorised Qualifying Body, and the Board agreed responses:

Question: From the Bristol meeting didn’t Mark Barker say that when a PCN Aero cert was used within the Written Practice then the Board (or was it the CAA) would need to approve the Written Practice. How can they do that? Will they have a Level 3 taking responsibility for this?

Answer: If a pt 21 org elects to use 473, that comes under the control of the CAA; if a pt 145 organisation elects to use 473 certification within its 4179 WP as evidence of qualification, that comes under the control of the Board, which is currently establishing mechanisms for exerting control of internal training and qualification.

Question: Will the PCN Aero exams be available to the auditor?

Answer: PCN document CP19 refers

Action 20/06: Mr. McCully was asked to convey the agreed responses to the originator.

- e. Audit of internal training and qualification systems. The meeting agreed to discuss audit of internal (as opposed to external provided by an Outside Agency) training and qualification systems, including compliance of Written Practices with the standard, at the next meeting.

Action 21/06: Secretary to include “Audit of internal training and qualification systems” on the agenda for the 23 August 2006 meeting.

- f. Retention of radiographs (GM). The Chairman stated that this was not a topic within the Board's remit. Mr. Millar explained that the SBAC SIG, which he chairs, had been asked whether it was possible to harmonise the EASA part 145 and part 21 requirements on retention periods for records, which include radiographs. He sought the view of the CAA on this. Mr. Barker explained the CAA position.
12. Date and location of the ninth and tenth meetings of the UK NAndtB
- a. 23 August 2006 @ RR Aero Engines, Derby
 - b. 23 November 2006 @ Airbus UK, Filton