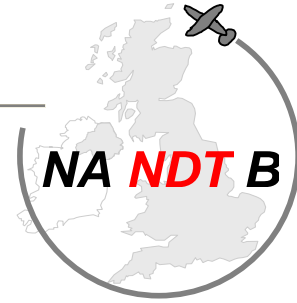


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## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE UK NATIONAL AEROSPACE NDT BOARD

Meeting Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2007

Location: Airbus UK, Filton

**NANDTB/07/M4**

1. The agenda was confirmed with four items for discussion under any other business.
2. Attendance
  - a. The meeting was attended by: Jon Biddulph (Chairman), Phil Berkley, Mark Barker (CAA), John Hewitt, Graham McCully, Chris Dootson, Roger Hogarth, Stanley Gane, Colin Thomas and John Thompson (Secretary).
  - b. Apologies for absence were recorded for: Ian Chapman (CAA), Eric McIlroy, Bobby Scott and Bob Murrell.
3. Notes of the last meeting
  - a. The notes of the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting with one amendment proposed by the Chairman. **Action 2007/23: Secretary** to upload to the website as confirmed minutes.
  - b. The meeting addressed the following matters arising from the last meeting:
    - i. **Action 2007/15** (UK TEG to agree common format for training and examination certificates and associated datasheets). Colin Thomas reported that this action had not been brought to a conclusion because of the difficulty of getting agreement amongst the 20+ training organisations. Following discussion it was agreed that training and examining bodies should issue certificates (suitable for framing) and datasheets (formal quality documents) containing essential information. The Board did not wish to impose the data to be recorded, but asks the UK TEG to reach consensus in order that the Board could approve the final specification at its next meeting. **Action 2007/15: Colin Thomas** to consult with UK TEG members to reach a consensus on common certificate format and essential data to be recorded by 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008.
    - ii. **Action 2007/16** (PowerPoint file on Level 2 Limited certification). Graham McCully had updated the file as per the assignment. The Board discussed this at considerable length and, recognising the difficulties posed in terms of setting questionable precedents, decided to 'park' this interpretation and guidance item for the present. Action discharged and topic closed.
    - iii. **Action 2007/18** (review NANDTB/14 and PowerPoint presentation on the same subject). The Chairman led a short discussion on this topic and it was agreed to delete the present NANDTB/14 document and to assign that designation to the PowerPoint presentation.

**Action 2007/23: Chairman and Secretary** (respectively) to confirm the content of the PPP file and to upload to the Board's web space as an approved document.

4. External regulations, standards or specifications

a. GR23

- i. The CAA had received comments only from the Chairman on the previously distributed [August 07 version](#) of the UK Generic Requirements for qualification of NDT personnel.
- ii. In answer to a question why does the GR23 continue to reference EN 473 certification, Mr. Barker indicated that the CAA continued to recognise this qualification as satisfactory in production (where the regulation failed to reference any qualification standard) and maintenance (with the proviso that it was used within an EN 4179 procedure which included an assessment by the nominated L3 of its suitability for the organisation [GR23 clause 2.2]). On the question of whether any job-specific examinations deemed by the Nominated L3 to be necessary during the aforementioned assessment, it was agreed that such examinations would be controlled by the NANDTB through the BINDT assessment and accreditation of the employer as a qualifying agency [see GR23 clause 2.1].

b. NAS 410 / EN 4179

- i. The Chairman presented a Power Point [Update](#) from the NAS/EN WG tasked with revising NAS 410 / EN 4179. The draft had been submitted to ASD for progression, but it was not known what the process entailed from this point. The presentation file was approved for upload to the Board's web pages.

**Action 2007/25: Chairman and Secretary** (respectively) to check file prior to uploading to the Board's web space, and Secretary to make enquiries (through ACE 61 and/or ASD) regarding further progression of the draft standard.

5. Control of Qualifying Agencies

- a. There had been one PCN Aerospace [AQB](#) Audit conducted since the last meeting and the Secretary presented a report and recommendations to the Board. The Board accepted the recommendations of the Assessor with a number of provisos, which are recorded below in summary:
  - i. The Assessor is to serve formal written notice that, if the corrective action in respect of DR 4 of 7, which was due for completion by 17<sup>th</sup> October 2007, and which was now overdue, was not completed within 14 days of the formal notification, the AQB's authorisation could be revoked.
  - ii. In the event that the corrective action in DR 4 of 7 showed that the unreported defects were readily detected as shown on the present specimen master report, the PCN Scheme would suspend the certificate concerned pending a demonstration of competence of the holder.
  - iii. Furthermore, in the event that the corrective action in DR 4 of 7 showed that the unreported defects were readily detected and continued to be as shown on the present specimen master report, the AQB would be required to review all aerospace candidate practical reports going back two years to ascertain whether similar marking and grading errors had occurred. This review was to be completed prior to the overall corrective action completion date, and the assessor was to report with urgency to the Chairman of the Board if similar errors had occurred.

**Action 2007/26: Secretary** to communicate the above to the AQB concerned

6. The Board was presented with a brief [Report](#) from 15/16<sup>th</sup> November 2007 European Aerospace NDT Board Forum in Rome. The minutes of the meeting were presently in draft form and will shortly be uploaded to [www.efndt.org](http://www.efndt.org) where they would be available for unrestricted viewing and downloading.

7. Nadcap (this item was discussed in the presence of Mr. Phil Ford, who joined the meeting at 12:15).
  - a. PF confirmed that the Nadcap Task Group had agreed to accept a current PCN/AERO level 2 and level 3 certificate in lieu of the general theory examination required by EN4179, and Nadcap auditors had been instructed through the issue of an auditor advisory memorandum in October 2007 that this was the case. PF pointed out that this had been agreed in spite of the fact that it went against AIA requirements.
  - b. Further to the above, Nadcap auditors will henceforth request evidence that qualification examinations were under the control of the applicable national aerospace NDT board via specific reference within the employers written practice. If this can be confirmed, they will not require sight of the examination papers or reports (general, specific or practical).
  - c. It has also been deemed essential by the Nadcap Task Group that an Outside Agency level 3 or Examiner used by an employer to support NDT personnel training, qualification and certification must be certified under EN 4179 by the *Level 3's actual employer* (whether that be the company itself or an outside agency contracted to provide L3 services).
  - d. The Board thanked Mr. Ford for his time and trouble in attending the present meeting. Mr. Ford responded with an assurance that he would be available to attend again in future if requested.
8. Any other business
  - a. The Board's preliminary Annual Report covering the 12 months to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 (draft dated 2007-11-14) was approved subject to the addition of any recording of events from the present meeting.
  - b. The meeting discussed the qualifications being used for personnel engaged in Barkhausen Inspections. A training syllabus was already in use at SWS of NDT, and the Board requested that this be obtained for discussion at the next meeting.

**Action 2007/27: CT** to provide example Barkhausen syllabus
  - c. Control of PCN/Aero examinations
    - i. The meeting agreed in principle to compile PCN aerospace papers from the existing database of questions. It was agreed that the Secretary would table a procedure at the next meeting which was based upon the discussion at the present meeting.

**Action 2007/28: Secretary** to draft procedure for discussion and approval at next meeting
  - d. Time allowed in PCN L2 aero exams
    - i. The Board was presented with an email from a candidate who expressed a view that the time allowed in PCN aerospace examinations was insufficient. Upon request, the Board was advised that there had been no similar complaints. The Meeting discussed this at length and concluded that the PCN examinations were designed to be challenging and that no change was recommended at present.
9. Date and location of the next meeting(s) of the UK NAndtB
  - a. Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008, Bombardier, Belfast
  - b. Thursday 22 May 2008, SWS of NDT, Cardiff
  - c. Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008, BINDT, Northampton
  - d. Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008, Airbus UK, Filton/Broughton

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## Action Summary

Ref	Action	Assignment	Action by / Status
15	To convene UK TEG WG to agree common format and forward output to the Secretary for circulation to the Board prior to the next meeting.	Colin Thomas	submission received from CT 2008-01-22
23	Upload confirmed minutes	Secretary	Completed
24	Confirm the content of the NANDTB/14 PP file and to upload to the Board's web space as an approved document.	Chairman and Secretary (respectively)	Completed
25	Check NAS 410 / EN 4179 update PP file prior to uploading to the Board's web space, and Secretary to make enquiries (through ACE 61 and/or ASD) regarding further progression of the draft standard.	Chairman and Secretary (respectively)	Carried forward (Chairman to contact ASD)
26	Communicate the Board's decision regarding corrective actions to the AQB concerned	Secretary	Completed
27	Provide example Barkhausen syllabus and format guidance, uploading to web after conferring with Chairman	Colin Thomas and the Secretary	Completed
28	draft procedure on PCN examination compilation for discussion and approval at next meeting	Secretary	Completed