



Subject: Open Book Specific Examinations

Background:

EN4179:2009 instructs [7.1.3] specific examination for all levels shall be an open book examination covering the requirements and use of the specifications, codes, equipment, operating procedures and test techniques the candidate may use in the performance of his/her duties with the employer. A minimum of 8 questions shall be administered for the specific examination for Level 1 Limited. A minimum of 30 questions shall be administered for the specific examination at Levels 1, 2 and 3. Reference material such as specifications, tables, formulas etc. may be provided as determined by the Responsible Level 3 or Examiner. Questions utilizing such material shall require understanding of the information contained therein rather than merely finding its location.

The previous revision (EN4179:2005) instructed the specific examination be a closed book exam.

It is anticipated by the UK NANDTB that numerous specific examination questions or repositories of questions currently available are of the closed book type and changing over to open book type questions may represent a significant undertaking for organisations to complete immediately or in a timely manner.

Nadcap auditors will expect to see a specific examination that is 'open book' with questions that require understanding of information provided rather than merely finding its location. Where NDT examinations are under the control of the UK NANDTB as specified within the employers written practice and the Nadcap auditor therefore does not need to have oversight of NDT examinations, the UK NANDTB has a responsibility to ensure NDT examinations under its control remain compliant with the applicable standard.

Actions:

Specific examinations must be marked as 'open book' in accordance with EN 4179:2009

Signed for the Board

Jon Biddulph
Chairman of the NAndtB