



PED/20 APPROVAL OF NDT PERSONNEL UNDER THE PRESSURE EQUIPMENT DIRECTIVE (2014/68/EU) ISSUE DATED 1ST JANUARY 2016

The United Kingdom Secretary of State has appointed the British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing as a Recognised Third-Party Organisation (RTPO) under regulation 20 of the European Pressure Equipment Regulations 1999 which implement the provisions of Directive [2014/68/EU](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning pressure equipment.

The scope of the appointment is for the approval of personnel to carry out non-destructive tests on permanent joints for pressure equipment in categories III and IV in accordance with section 3.1.3 of Schedule 2 to the Regulations.

There are three routes (A, B and C) to gaining 'approval' through BINDT, all of which satisfy the provisions of the Directive [2014/68/EU](#):

- A). The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing offers PCN qualification examinations through its network of Authorised Qualifying Bodies in the United Kingdom and in many locations throughout the world (details of examination availability are published in PCN document PSL/4). Success in these qualification examinations results in the award of PCN certification covering the testing of permanent joints (welds), which complies with EN ISO 9712 and fully satisfies Directive [2014/68/EU](#) and the applicable harmonized standards. No additional procedure is necessary to apply for separate approval
- B). The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing also offers approval of NDT personnel certificated by the certification bodies listed in PED/19 - Arrangements for the BINDT Approval of NDT personnel certificated by other Certification Bodies
- C). NDT personnel qualified through 'in-house' or 'second party' NDT personnel qualification systems for companies seeking to satisfy the provisions of the PED. This involves an on-site audit of relevant training and examinations conducted either by the employer or an external agency against the qualification requirements of EN ISO 9712, the witnessing of non-destructive tests carried out by the NDT personnel to be approved, and the issue of a statement of approval for specified personnel conducting particular non-destructive tests. **However, it is emphasized that this process does not result in the award of EN ISO 9712 certification.**

Further information may be obtained from the British Institute of NDT.

Tel: +44 (0)1604 893811; Fax: +44 (0)1604 893868. Email: pcn@bindt.org or visit

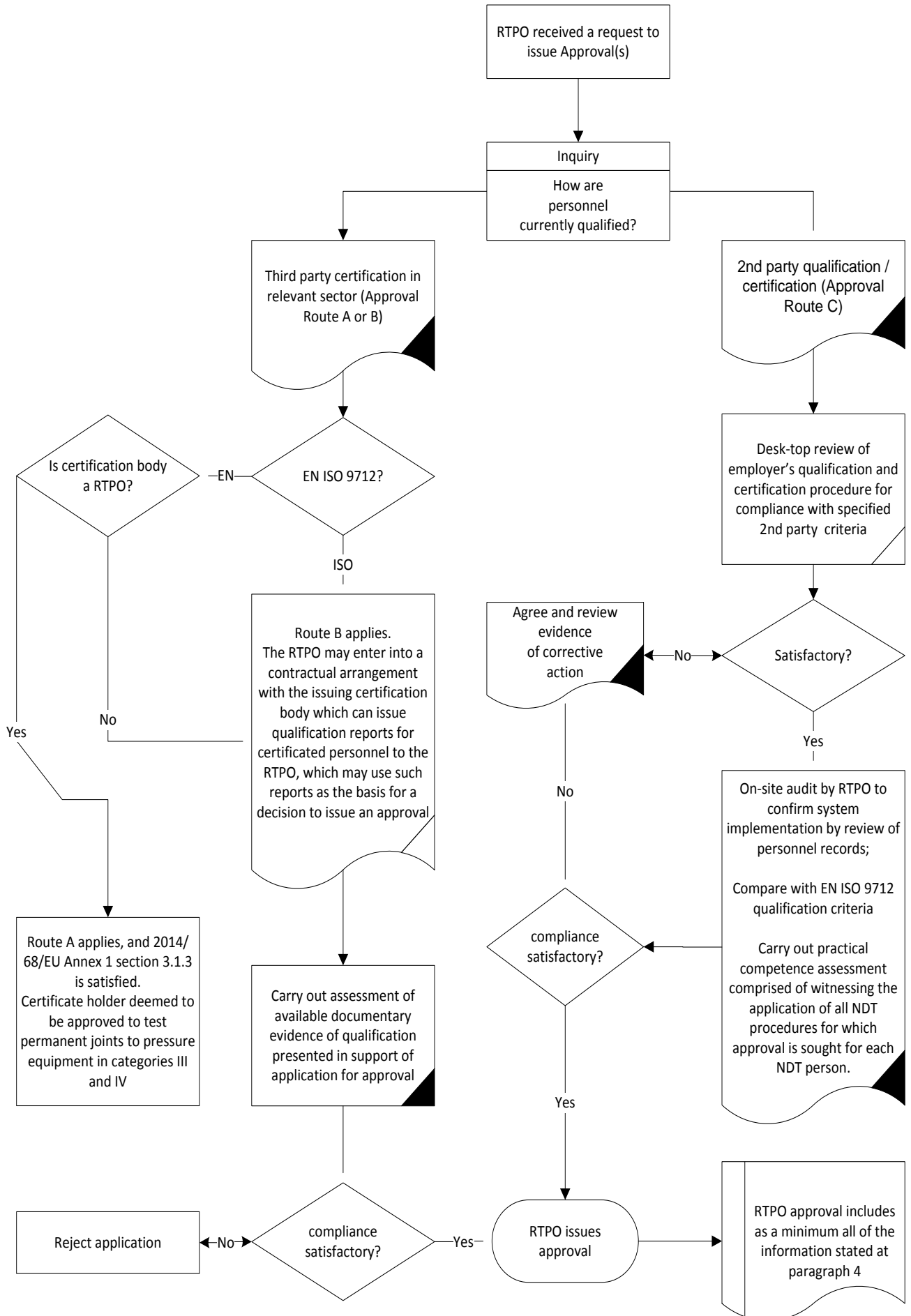
<http://www.bindt.org/Certification/pressure-equipment-directive/>



The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing is an accredited certification body offering personnel and quality management systems assessment and certification against criteria set out in international and European standards through the PCN Certification Scheme.



PROCESS FOR APPROVAL OF NDT PERSONNEL BY A RECOGNISED THIRD PARTY ORGANISATION



BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN PRESSURE EQUIPMENT DIRECTIVE (PED) 2014/68/EU

Introduction

The Pressure Equipment Directive – 97/23/EC^[3] – was formally adopted by the European Parliament and Council on 29 May 1997 and was published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, No L181, on 9 July (ISBN 011 916 0927). It came into force on 29 November 1999. The regulations were subject to minor amendment (SI 2003/1267) made 06 May 2002 and came into force on 30 May 2002. The purpose of the directive is to harmonise national laws regarding the design, manufacture and conformity assessment of pressure equipment and assemblies (vessels, storage containers, heat exchangers, shell and water tube boilers, industrial pipework, safety devices and pressure accessories), subject to an internal pressure greater than 0.5 bar above atmospheric. Equipment is categorised within four levels (I to IV) according to the degree of hazard: category III and IV equipment will require conformity assessment by 'notified bodies' and 'recognised third-party organisations'.

The old directive 97/23/EC will be replaced by the new directive 2014/68/EU. The change will implement alignment with the NLF (New Legislative Framework 765/2008 and 768/2008) which aims to streamline and simplify the rules for putting pressure equipment on the market in the face of increasing competition from fraudulently certified equipment.

Article 13 of 2014/68/EU was effective 1st June 2015, and now relates to fluid classification, i.e. CLP regulations 1272/2008. The new directive is required to be enacted into UK Law via a Statutory Instrument (SI) by the UK Government. Until this is completed the directive is not enforceable with the exception of Article 13 as this is already covered by the CLP Regulations 1278/2008, which has been enacted into UK Law via SI 2015 No. 399.

Equipment manufactured to harmonised ENs (e.g. EN13445: Unfired pressure vessels; EN 13480: Metallic industrial piping) developed in support of the directive will be presumed to comply with the essential safety requirements.

A 'New Approach'

With the PED, a single certification scheme replaces the former national systems and applies to any pressure equipment being placed on the European market - whatever the country of manufacture. It applies to new equipment and also to second hand equipment.

Manufacturers are responsible for ensuring compliance of equipment to the Essential Safety Requirements.

The manufacturer is under an obligation to analyse the hazards in order to identify those that apply to equipment on account of pressure.

In article 10 and annex III, the directive presents 13 procedures, called "modules". Some of these modules concern only product design, while others concern only manufacturing. Some apply to batch series and some to one-off production, and some require the manufacturer to operate a quality system. The manufacturer chooses the module(s) to be applied, according to the category in which the equipment is classified (I to VI).

The PED is one of the "New Approach" European directives intended to ease the circulation of products within Europe.



Design Considerations

Adequate strength, experimental design, safe handling and operation, means of examination, means of draining and venting, corrosion or other chemical attack, wear, assemblies, provisions for filling and discharge, protection against exceeding the allowable limits of pressure equipment, safety accessories, external fire.

Pressure equipment must be subjected to conformity assessment procedures before being placed on the market in order to ensure that they comply with the Essential Safety Requirements of the directive.

■ **Materials**

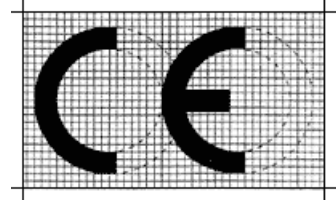
Appropriate properties, use in conformance with required specification, European harmonised standards, European approval for materials, particular appraisal of materials.

■ **Testing**

For pressure equipment, NDT of permanent joints must be carried out by suitably qualified personnel. For pressure equipment in categories III and IV, NDT personnel must be approved by a 'Third Party Organisation' recognized by a member state pursuant to Article [24](#).

■ CE Marking

Pressure equipment and assemblies subject to conformity assessment procedures must bear the CE mark. This provides an indication that the product complies with the requirements of all applicable directives. Equipment is categorised within four levels (I to VI) according to degree of hazard: category III and IV equipment will require conformity assessment by 'notified Bodies' and 'Recognised Third Party Organisations'.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following references are considered indispensable in the process of assessment and approval of NDT personnel under the [Directive 2014/68/EU](#):

CEN TR 15589: Non destructive testing – Code of practice for the approval of NDT personnel by recognised third party organisations under the provisions of [Directive 2014/68/EU](#)

EN ISO 9712:2012 Non-destructive testing – Qualification and certification of NDT personnel (*supersedes EN 473:2008*). *For relationship with EU Directive [2014/68/EU](#), see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this European standard.*

EN ISO/IEC 17024:2012 Conformity Assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons. *This standard has the status of 'Normative Reference' in EN ISO 9712:2012.*