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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

MINISTÈRE DE LA TRANSITION ÉCOLOGIQUE ET SOLIDAIRE

Direction générale de l'Aviation civile

Paris, le 19 juin 2019

Direction de la Sécurité de l'aviation civile

Direction technique Navigabilité et Opérations

Pôle Méthodes, Qualité et Compétences

Référence : 19-037 /DSAC/NO/MQC

Dear Madam,

We inform EASA that DGAC has recognized the organisation AFENDA- FrANDTB as *National Aerospace NDT Board* for France.

Please find attached the letter ref: 19-067/DSAC/NO that documents that DGAC decision.

We provide you with a courtesy translation of that letter hereafter.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by mail franck.sainton@aviation-civile.gouv.fr, or by phone at +33 1 58 09 35 01.

Best regards,

Franck SAINTON

Aircraft continuing airworthiness
supervision program Manager

European Union Aviation Safety Agency
Attention Ms Eugenia DIAZ-ALCAZAR
Postfach 10 12 53
D-50452 Cologne, Germany

Dear Sir,

You have asked DGAC to recognize AFENDA - FrANDTB as a national board for the qualification of personnel who perform or control non-destructive testing (NDT) in the frame of the continuing airworthiness of aircraft and / or aircraft components ("The National Aerospace NDT Board") under the EN 4179 standard.

The elements associated to the conditions of this recognition are hereinafter presented:

1) European regulation dealing with the continuing airworthiness of aircraft and their components requires that non-destructive testing must be carried out or controlled by qualified personnel according to a recognized standard.

This is particularly the case of the articles M.A.606 (f) and 145.A.30 (f) of the Commission regulation (EU) No 1321/2014 of 26 November 2014, as amended, on the continuing airworthiness of aircraft and aeronautical products, parts and appliances, and on the approval of organisations and personnel involved in these tasks which deal with the maintenance organisation personnel requirements.

2) The European standard EN 4179 is a recognized standard fulfilling the requirements referred to point 1 above and is also proposed as such within the acceptable means of compliance for the application of the requirements of the articles M.A.606 and 145.A.30.

3) This standard EN 4179 establishes the minimum qualification and certification requirements for personnel involved in the performance or control of non-destructive test and refers to a recognized national board for the qualification of persons performing or controlling non-destructive testing ("National Aerospace NDT Board"), in particular as follows:

"3.19: An independent aerospace organization representing a nation's aerospace industry that is chartered by the participating prime contractors and recognized by the nation's regulatory agencies to provide or support NDT qualification and/or examination services in accordance with 4.4.2 of this standard".

Section 4.4.2 defines the NANDTB requirements as follows:

"The organization has a constitution, a deciding entity, and governed according to administrative and working procedures. The voting members in the deciding entity are NDT Level 3 personnel and are from participating prime contractors or type certificate holders as a minimum. Other members may be co-opted as voting or non-voting members as necessary to support the NANDTB. Regulatory agencies for civilian and/or defense have the right to be included as observer members [...]"

4) French organizations, in particular those holding a type certificate for an aeronautical product, have defined within the statutes of the organization AFENDA - FrANDTB its main mission as being the management of the certification of the agents involved in the non destructive testing within aeronautical and space domain.

(5) The Directorate of Safety in Civil Aviation (DSAC) and OSAC, an organization empowered by DSAC for surveillance missions in the field of aviation safety, both representing the competent National Authority, attended as observers the audit of AFENDA - FrANDTB performed by a third party organization (NADCAP) and which took place on May 13, 2019 in the premises of AFENDA - FrANDTB.

DSAC has received the audit report from NADCAP which considers that AFENDA - FrANDTB complies with the requirements of EN 4179: 2017.

In view of these elements of fact and law, AFENDA - FrANDTB, the French organization in charge of managing the certification of personnel involved in non-destructive testing according to EN 4179 fully meets the criteria contained in paragraphs 3.19 and 4.4.2 presented above.

AFENDA - FrANDTB is therefore considered by the French competent Authority as the recognized French board for the qualification of personnel performing or controlling non-destructive testing on aircraft and / or aircraft components or to provide assistance for this purpose and / or provide examination services ("The National Aerospace NDT Board").

6) The National Competent Authority keeps its right to participate in any future audit of NADCAP or other accreditation body, or to carry out its own audits of AFENDA - FrANDTB, and thus verify the continuity of compliance of AFENDA - FrANDTB requirements in the context of European regulations dealing with the continuing airworthiness of aeronautical products, parts and appliances.

Best regards