

Aerospace NDT Boards' Forum

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Status of this document

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ANDTBF/08 Organisation, Duties and Responsibilities of NANDTB's as Members of ANDTBF

1. Premises

EN4179 and NAS 410, in their current revisions, define a National Aerospace NDT Board (referred to hereafter as NANDTB) as an "independent national 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 examination services in accordance with this Standard".

According to European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) definition, the national Regulatory Agencies are termed the Competent Authority (CA) or National Aviation Authority (NAA). Both are referred to hereafter as the "Authority".

An "Authority" is established under EC Regulation 216/2008 in each of the European Union Member States and it is through the national implementation of this regulation that EASA recognizes the "Authority".

In order to satisfy the EN 4179 / NAS 410 requirement that the NANDTB is recognised by the national regulatory agency, the ANDTBF suggests that the "Authority" should be an observer member of the NANDTB.

2. Purpose

This document provides the description of the main rules implemented by each NANDTB to implement their duties and responsibilities and to manage the training and the qualification of NDT Personnel in accordance with the requirements of EN4179/NAS410.

3. References

EN 4179 as revised - Aerospace series – qualification and approval of NDT personnel

NAS 410 as revised - NAS Certification & Qualification of Nondestructive Test Personnel

EASA AMC 145.A.30 (f) - [NDT] Personnel requirements – Acceptable means of compliance

4. Status

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5. Rules, duties and responsibilities of NANDTBs

Every NANDTB, as a Member of the Forum for Aerospace Non Destructive Testing Boards (referred to hereafter as ANDTBF), shall adhere to the following:

- Be formally recognized in writing by the “Authority”;
- Issue a Statute or similar document with:
 - The constitution, terms of reference and methods of working of the Board;
 - The aims and objectives of the Board;
 - Rules of procedure for voting and agreeing resolutions;
 - The criteria to be met by member organisations;
 - The procedure for applying for membership and election of member organisations, together with rules regarding termination of membership;
 - The names and status of the organisations presently in membership of the Board (e.g. prime contractor, national NDT society, “Authority”, operator, maintenance organisation, etc.);
 - Duties, responsibilities and tenure of appointed officers (e.g. chairman, secretary, convener of working groups);
 - The method(s) by which the NANDTB controls qualification examinations administered by internal and external examination bodies;
 - Examination body criteria, including the audit and approval process;
 - Guidance to examination bodies under its control on the content of certificates of qualification (training and examinations);
 - Policy on recognition of examination body approvals, and NDT personnel certification or approvals issued under the control of other National Boards
- Define, organize, administer and manage activities in full accordance with EN4179/ NAS410;
- Disclose on a webpage information such as:
 - Written constitution and terms of reference of the Board;
 - Confirmation of recognition by the Authority;
 - A list of NANDTB Members (Company and relevant representatives);
 - A list of approved training and examination bodies (in the national and English language);
 - A list of procedures and specifications published by the Board, with information on how these may be obtained;
 - Minimum requirements for qualification certificates (in the national and English language).

Criteria to control administration of NDT exams at examination bodies

The audit of examination bodies may be performed by the NANDTB, or by the national NDT society if overseen by the NANDTB.

An approved auditor(s) satisfying the criteria of EN4179 / NAS410, shall be nominated to audit applicant examination bodies in line with the following procedure and criteria:

1. Review of quality documentation covering the examination of aerospace NDT personnel meeting the requirements of the approval criteria.
 - a. Examination bodies quality system documents and procedures
 - b. Availability of codes, standards and specifications as relevant, including if needed, the employers written practice.
2. For external bodies, contract review ensuring clients’ requirements are fully specified, recorded and understood by the examination body.
3. Appointment of appropriately qualified and experienced examination staff
4. Confidentiality, impartiality and security
5. Compilation of written specific and practical examinations appropriate to scope (relevant to products, NDT procedures and processes)
6. Examination marking and grading in accordance with EN4179 / NAS410

7. Issue of examination results and/or examination certificates
8. For external bodies, contract delivery (review of examinations provided against the contract)
9. In the event of a finding which has implications concerning safety or product integrity, the auditor shall immediately notify the NANDTB of the finding and corrective action to be taken.

6. Recognition of Approvals

External examination bodies under the control of a NANDTB may be recognised by formal approval of NANDTB's and/or organisations in other countries where the NANDTB complies with the minimum requirements of:

- EN4179/NAS410
- ANDTBF/08
- A member of the Aerospace NDT Board Forum.

7. Implementation

The requirements of this procedure must be fully compliant by all NANDTB's.