



The World Organisation for NDT

Volume 7 Issue No 10

June 2008

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Time to let go

One standard, one test – accepted everywhere ... this was the World Standards Day Message delivered jointly by the Presidents of the three leading organisations that develop and disseminate standards and recommendations for the global market, Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), seven years ago. The message stated:

“Standards and tests go hand in hand and are key to the development of the global market. Standards give specifications or requirements for products, services, systems, processes and materials. Tests then verify that these standards can be met reliably over time. Once these standards are accepted broadly at an international level, they can further foster the development of a global market for the goods or services – a market built on consistent quality and consumer confidence.

“Standards are a technical language that businesses the world over use to create goods, services and systems. Since businesses everywhere understand it, the goods and services they produce based on this language should have the same quality wherever they are made. Standards may come about to achieve a variety of objectives such as ensuring safety and performance, but their basic and essential nature is that by establishing certain parameters, they provide a common technological foundation for producing goods, services and systems anywhere.”

As Chairman of ICNDT I have taken this message to heart, especially the statement “Once these standards are accepted broadly at an international level, they can further foster the development of a global market for the goods or services – a market built on consistent quality and consumer confidence.” The continuous question I ask myself, as well as many of my colleagues, is “Why haven’t we in the NDT industry been able to obtain one acceptable international standard to reflect on the Presidents’ message above?”. “What do we need to do to make this happen in our industry?”

Although I cannot answer this question completely, my international travel as the ICNDT representative has provided me with many opportunities to observe, discuss and reflect on the reason that we do not have one harmonised NDT Certification Standard. If I were to summarise and provide a one word answer it would be “stakeholders”. Stakeholders are defined as “a person or group with a direct interest, involvement, or investment in something, for example the employees, stockholders, and customers of a business concern”.

The stakeholders I am referring to are those who have had a tremendous involvement in designing a standard that to all intents and purposes meets all the requirements for their specific needs, therefore becoming overly protective and inflexible and rightfully so considering their investment. However, this ownership and possessiveness have stalled the message provided by our international Presidents. As members of the International Committee for Non-Destructive Testing, we must rise above safeguarding national and regional standards and promote “One Standard, One Test – Accepted Everywhere”.

The vital requirements in the numerous standards available for qualification and certification of non-destructive testing personnel are similar. It is time for the stakeholders to let go of the trivial differences and work together to accomplish our needs for one universal standard.

Douglas J Marshall



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Shanghai World Conference postponed until October

The 17th World Conference on Non-Destructive Testing (17th WCNDT), previously scheduled to take place 27-30 August 2008 in Shanghai, China, has been forced to re-schedule to 25-28 October, due to catastrophic events surrounding the recent earthquake in Sichuan Province.

Dr Rong S Geng, President of the 17th WCNDT, has issued an urgent message to conference delegates, exhibitors and all interested parties, expressing his sincere apologies and further details of the decision. The full text of Dr Geng’s announcement appears on Page 3 of this issue.

Following the earthquake in Sichuan, which has caused severe disruption to transport, telecommunication and infrastructure in not just the area around the epicentre but much wider afield, the Chinese government directed that all international conferences and major events within a certain time period of the Olympic Games should be re-scheduled to other suitable dates. The mandate would have made the process of acquiring visas within that time frame extremely difficult. Hence, the organising committee had no alternative but to put back the 17th WCNDT until October.

The revised schedule for ICNDT meetings is as follows:

- Thursday, 23 October, ICNDT Executive Committee and PGP Committee meetings, 8.00 am – 5.00 pm
- Friday, 24 October, ICNDT General Assembly, 8.00 am – 5.00 pm
- Monday, 27 October, ICNDT General Assembly, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm
- Tuesday, 28 October, Closing of Conference, 3.00 pm
- Tuesday, 28 October, Closing of Exhibition, 4.00 pm

Turn to page 3 for Dr Geng’s message and further details.



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Future ICNDT Committee Meetings

**17th WCNDT
Shanghai, China**

**Executive Committee,
PGP Committee,
ICNDT General Assembly
October 2008**

**10th ECNDT
Moscow, Russia**

**Executive Committee,
PGP Committee,
ICNDT General Assembly,
June 2010**

***The next ICNDT Journal will be published in September 2008
Material should be sent to the Publisher at the above address by 31 July 2008***

G rard Hennaut 1950 – 2008

G rard Hennaut graduated in 1975 as a Mechanical Engineer, and was subsequently recognised as a European Welding Engineer. He began his career by working with RTD Rotterdam in the field of radiographic testing, before joining Vin otte near Brussels in 1976. This turned out to be the real start of a long story of passion and discovery about non-destructive testing. The first eight years of his career were devoted to multiple applications of UT, RT, MT and PT in inspections of boilers and pressure vessels in power stations, oil plants and other industrial installations. As a project engineer for in-service inspections of nuclear power plant components, he contributed valuably during those years in the development of the UT of austenitic steel welds with transducers specifically designed by Vin otte.

In the eighties, G rard was appointed as the head of the NDT department, and coordinated the NDT activity of the whole Vin otte group. He acted also as a consultant for industry, interpreting regulations – his knowledge of the ASME Code was impressive – establishing inspection programmes, writing procedures and specifications.

In 1992, he went through the ASNT Level III examinations for UT, RT, MT and PT in the USA, and led then the Vin otte team that went successfully through the US PDI



G rard Hennaut

(Performance Demonstration Initiative) exercise for primary piping weld examination. In 1996, he joined the Belgian Authorized Inspection Agency to monitor in-service inspection and repair/replacement activities in the domestic nuclear power plants; he was particularly involved in qualification processes, procedure validation and site intervention follow-up. In 1998, he passed BANT (Belgian Association for Nondestructive Testing) Level III examinations in UT, RT, MT and PT.

He was a key member of BANT, as an administrator and, for several years, as the chairman of the Certification Committee.

He was also an active member of the IBN (Belgian Institute for Normalization) in various working groups dealing with welding, NDT and NDT certification. At the IIW (International Institute of Welding), he was chairman of the working group on "Austenitics" and was very actively involved in the drafting of both issues of the "Handbook on the ultrasonic examination of austenitic and dissimilar welds".

He was a Belgian representative to the EFNDT (European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing) and became a very active member of its Board and Treasurer in 2005.

Early this year, a merciless illness carried him off in few weeks. We will forever keep G rard in our memory as a warm-hearted person and a highly-skilled colleague. And we will miss a friend.

Dominique Moussebois

Mike Farley, President of EFNDT, adds: "We enjoyed working with G rard on the EFNDT Board and the Certification Executive Committee. He was very professional and good-humoured. He represented the interests of the smaller countries in Europe very effectively and will be sorely missed".

Urgent message from the secretariat of the 17th WCNDT and from ChSNDT

To all delegates and exhibitors of the 17th WCNDT, and to whom it may concern

Dear Sir/Madam

With the consent of ICNDT, we are very sorry to announce that the 17th WCNDT, which was originally scheduled for 27 – 30 August 2008, has been postponed until 25 – 28 October 2008, (24 October for registration).

Although the organising committee of the 17th WCNDT and ChSNDT have spared no effort over the past few years in preparing the 17th WCNDT and have got to the point where they were almost ready for the opening of the conference, unfortunately they have been informed and instructed, by the concerned authority of the Chinese government that, due to the unexpected disastrous earthquake which occurred in Si Chuan province, which has caused and shall cause huge problems in transportation, communications and hotel reservations in China for some time to come, the 17th WCNDT must be postponed to some other date due to its being conjunct too closely to the 29th Olympic Games taking place in Beijing in August. In fact, it has been stipulated that any international conference and large-scale activities in China shall be possibly stopped during that period and be shifted to other suitable dates, according to the authority. Although the 17th WCNDT secretariat has made every effort to deal with the situation, there is no alternative but to comply with the mandate. As our participants may face high risk in not getting required visas if the conference is to be held 27 to 30 August because of strict visa control, there is no alternative but to reschedule the 17th WCNDT.

We fully understand that the change of the conference schedule will definitely cause great inconvenience for all attendees and exhibitors, and for all people who have already arranged their itinerary for attending the 17th WCNDT. We sincerely apologise for that.

In order to reduce possible losses to the minimum extent, the secretariat of the 17th WCNDT has made the following decisions:

- any previously submitted and accepted papers shall remain in effect, as long as the authors or author wish(es) to; new papers for the conference are also welcome provided submitted before 30 June 2008;
- people who have paid the registration fees need not register again and will be informed by the secretariat in due time before the conference; those who wish to cancel the registration please contact the secretariat to claim back their registration fees in full;
- the exhibition location, booth number and size shall be kept unchanged as originally assigned; any exhibitor who wishes to withdraw shall get his/her refund back in full provided the exhibitor informs the secretariat of the 17th WCNDT not later than 30 June 2008;
- all the information already submitted by any delegate for invitation letter shall be kept well by the secretariat, but the duration date in China shall be informed. A new invitation letter shall be sent to delegates in less than two months time or no later than 31 July 2008. The information for this is: 1. A copy of your passport; 2. Full name of the delegate; 3. Sex; 4. Date of birth; 5. Passport number; 6. Country; 7. Visiting date from – to; 8. Position in your company; 9. Your company name and address; 10. Fax and telephone numbers; 11. E-mail;
- anyone who has already made an hotel reservation for the 17th WCNDT should contact Mr Zhou Xiao Ping of 17th WCNDT secretariat, e-mail zhouxp@shanghaiitcoo.com, or zhouxp@cmes.org, and he will help you to contact the relevant hotel and to make cancellation or re-reservation if so desired.

The schedule for the exhibition is as follows:

Set-up: 24 Oct, 8.00 pm – 25 Oct 2008

Opening hours: 26 Oct 2008 – 09.00-16.30

27 Oct 2008 – 09.00-16.30

28 Oct 2008 – 09.00-16.30

Dismantling: 28 Oct 2008 – 16.30

Once again, we sincerely apologise for our decision of rescheduling the 17th WCNDT.

Your support and understanding is highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours

Dr Rong S Geng, President of 17th WCNDT

On behalf of the organisation committee of the 17th WCNDT and ChSNDT



Shanghai International Convention Center



Shanghai Grand Theatre



Shanghai Exhibition Center

Registration for participants is now open. All fees are in US \$ and the registration fee includes access to the entire conference programme, access to the exhibition, coffee, welcome dinner, abstracts booklet and proceedings CD-ROM and travel on the Huangpu River. The accompanying person fee includes participation in the opening ceremony, welcome dinner and travel on the Huangpu River.

Participant	US \$750	Student	US \$380	Accompanying person	US \$180
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AFRICA

Sudanese Society for NDT (SSNDT)

Since the dawn of this century the number of NDT professionals in Sudan has not been more than a handful and the institutions taking care of it were Sudan Atomic Energy Commission, Sudan Airways and a few academic centres.

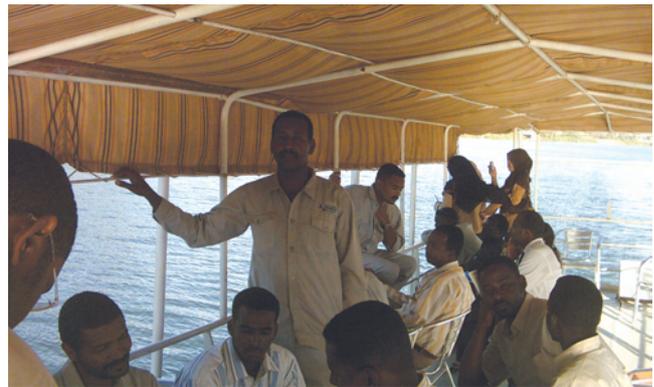
With the rapid development of the oil sector in Sudan, engineers sensed the importance of the technology and many of them took advantage of the opportunity it provides. This situation led to an increase in the number of professionals, and this necessitated the organisation of them in a national society. This initiative came from the NDT unit, SAEC, AFRA country coordinator. The general constitution meeting was held in April 2006 under the kind support of SAEC DG. The society was registered as a National Nongovernmental Organisation.

Since constitution, the SSNDT has played a big role in the spread of NDT culture through various means, such as seminars, newsletters and so on.

One of the considerable achievements of the society was the formation in March 2007 of the National Committee for Standardisation and Certification of NDT Personnel.

List of SSNDT activities:

- ❑ Public seminar entitled 'NDT concept – applications – international standards', Sudan University of Science and Technology – May 2006
- ❑ First Safety Week, Sudan Atomic Energy Commission – August 2006
- ❑ Public seminar 'NDT Society in Malaysia', 'Failure analysis' – Engineer's home – August 2006
- ❑ ICNDT membership – September 2006
- ❑ Member's Nile tour – February 2007



- ❑ Public seminar
- ❑ SSNDT Today newsletter – October 2006
- ❑ Representation on the Sudan Technical Committee for NDT Personnel Qualification and Certification with two SSNDT members
- ❑ Industrial radiography training course – October 2007
- ❑ Participation in 'Engineering exhibition', Sudan University of Science and Technology – December 2007
- ❑ Scientific lecture 'Infrared thermography', February 2008
- ❑ Participation on 5th ACNDT
- ❑ Participation in major industrial community activities

Reference: Eng Hamid Suliman Hamid "Inspection practice and application of NDT methods in Sudan petroleum industry", 5th ACNDT, Tunisia-Hammamet, March 2008.

18th World Conference for Non-Destructive Testing

18 – 20 April 2012

DURBAN – REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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ASIA-PACIFIC

Qualification and Certification of NDT personnel in Japan

This article briefly introduces qualification and certification of NDT personnel in Japan. Figure 1 summarises the history of its scheme.

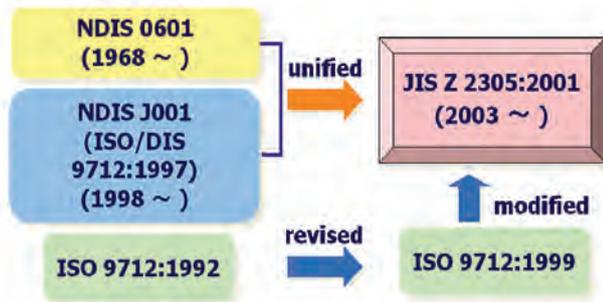


Figure 1. History of the qualification and certification scheme of JSNDI

The Japanese Society for Non-Destructive Inspection (JSNDI) started qualification and certification of NDT personnel in 1969 as a third party certification according to NDIS 0601 established in 1968. At that time, six NDT methods, namely RT, UT, MT, PT, ET and SM (Strain Measurement) were already prescribed. After several revisions, a major revision of NDIS 0601 was made in 1988. One of the major concerns in this revision was international harmonisation from the viewpoint of classification in each NDT method. The certification scheme according to NDIS 0601-88 had been executed since 1989. The present version of NDIS 0601 was published in 2000.

On the other hand, ISO 9712 was established in 1992. JSNDI considered international harmonisation again and translated ISO/DIS 9712:1997 to establish NDIS J001 in 1998 on the basis of the first revision (ISO/DIS) proposed in 1997. For the purpose of promoting international harmonisation further, JSNDI made a draft of voluntary national standard by uniting NDIS 0601 and NDIS J001. NDIS J001 was executed until the autumn of 2002 since JIS Z 2305 'Non-destructive testing – qualification and certification of Personnel' was established in 2001. JIS Z 2305:2001 is a modified (MOD) version of ISO 9712:1999.

The certification scheme according to JIS Z 2305:2001 started in the spring of 2003. Two previous certification schemes according to NDIS 0601 and NDIS J001 were terminated at the same time. The certification according to NDIS J001 is considered to be equivalent to that according to JIS Z 2305:2001, while an additional examination is required for transition from NDIS 0601 certification to JIS Z 2305:2001 certification. Since the term of validity of certification according to NDIS 0601 is six years, the transition examination will be terminated in the spring of 2010.



Figure 2. Sites for written examinations

The Certification Division of JSNDI operates a Certification Body, a Qualification Body and Examination Centres for JIS Z 2305 in Japan. The certification according to JIS Z 2305 is now adopted most widely in Japan in the related government ministries, local governments, technical societies and associations, and various industries.

The present status of the examinations and certification of JIS Z 2305 are as follows:

- Levels: Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3
- NDT methods: RT, UT, MT, PT, ET and SM (Strain Measurement)
- Number of applicants for initial, recertification and transition examinations per year: 29,306 for 2007 (see Figure 3)
- Number of valid certificates: 68,468 at the end of 2007 (see Figure 4)
- Frequency of examination: twice a year
- Sites for written examinations: about 12 (see Figure 2)
- Site for practical examinations: about 6

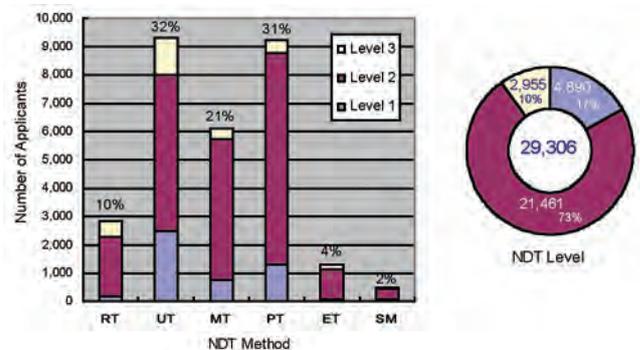


Figure 3. Number of applicants by NDT method and level for 2007

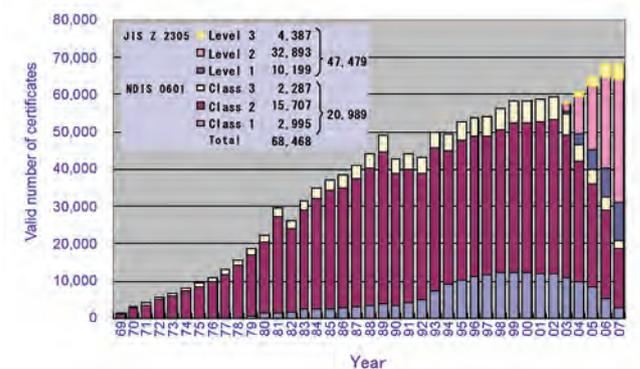


Figure 4. Number and valid certificates by year (NDIS 0601 and JIS Z 2305)

NOTE

- NDIS: Standard of the Japanese Society for Non-Destructive Inspection
- JIS: Japanese Industrial Standard
- NDIS 0601: 'Rule for Qualification and Certification of Non-Destructive Testing Personnel' The original version of NDIS 0601 started in 1968.
- NDIS J001 (ISO/DIS 9712:1997, IDT): 'Non-Destructive testing – Qualification and Certification of Personnel'

13th Asia-Pacific Conference on Non-Destructive Testing
8-13 November 2009 – Yokohama, Japan

E-mail: apcndt2009@jsndi.or.jp; website: http://www.apcndt2009.com

Development of an NDT Personnel Certification System in the Republic of Belarus

S A Popoudina – Executive Director of the Belarusian Association on Nondestructive Testing and Technical Diagnostics (BANDT)

Beginning with an initiative by the Belarusian Association on Nondestructive Testing and Technical Diagnostics (BANDT) in 1992, a new trend of activities in the field of non-destructive testing started to develop, namely NDT personnel certification. As part of the process, European standard EN 473:1992 was adopted as a governmental standard, training centres for different NDT methods were established, and a Certification body of NDT personnel 'Profcertico' was created under BANDT guidance and accredited by German Accreditation body TGA and by the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Certification of the Republic of Belarus.

The EFNDT multilateral agreement on the recognition of NDT personnel certification systems/schemes (MRA), with its objective to promote harmonisation of independent certification systems of NDT personnel, contributed to the formation and development of NDT personnel in Belarus.

BANDT joined MRA in 1997 and this Agreement, signed by 27 national NDT societies of European countries, became the basis for recognition in Europe of certificates issued by the Certification body 'Profcertico'. In December 2007 in Belarus about 5000 NDT specialists were certified in different sectors – energy, petrochemistry, transport, mechanical engineering, building industry.

Integration of the Republic of Belarus to the world economy called for modification of the legislative base in the field of technical regulation and standardisation, conformity assessment on the principles of the European Union practice and first of all on the basis of Directives of the New and the Global Approach.

The Law 'On conformity assessment with the requirements of technical normative legal acts in the sphere of technical regulation and standardisation' was adopted in Belarus on 5 January 2004. In compliance with this law, professional competence of specialists, including NDT personnel, is the object of the conformity assessment and certification of personnel is the form of the conformity assessment.

Normative basis for NDT personnel certification is composed of two fundamental technical normative legal acts:

- ❑ Technical code of good practice TCP 5.1.06-2004 'National conformity approval system of the Republic of Belarus. Procedural order of certification of personnel competence. Basic concepts' was adopted on January 1, 2005;
- ❑ Governmental standard STB EN 473:2005 'Non-destructive testing. Qualification and certification of NDT personnel. General principles' was adopted on 1 August 2005 and the standard GOST 30489-97 'General criteria for certification bodies operating certification of personnel' was repealed.

TCP 5.1.06-2004 specifies general requirements to the order of certification of the personnel professional competence, defines procedures of application for certification and decision-making on the application, of certification examinations execution, order of prolongation, issuing, suspension and cancellation of certificates.

Today, draft technical Regulation 'Safety of pressure equipment' harmonised with the European Directive is a work-in-progress. The Directive specifies requirements both to the NDT methods and to the qualification of NDT personnel. Qualification of NDT personnel who carry out pressure vessels testing has to be confirmed by an independent third party.

In view of this Regulation adoption and the intention of Belarus enterprises to have access to external markets, tasks arise for training and confirmation of the competence of specialists who

carry out work on quality control of potentially hazardous objects to the compliance of EC Directives and establishment of necessary infrastructures to support implementation of these requirements.

Directive 97/23/EC, Article 13 of Annex 4 specifies certification of NDT personnel only in a notified body of the European Union, but Article 12 entitles the notified body to involve for the training and assessment of NDT personnel knowledge a third party that meets the requirements of international standard EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003 'Conformity assessment: General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons'. Taking into account this point, the Certification body of NDT personnel 'Profcertico' took advantage of the opportunity to become an examination centre of a notified body of the European Union.

A notified body of the European Union – Scientific Research Institute of Welding (Bratislava, Slovakia) – carried out an audit of the Certification body 'Profcertico' and stated that it is "ready and capable to carry out NDT personnel certification in compliance with the requirements of the Directive 97/23/EC paragraph 3.1.3" as follows:

- ❑ Certification body meets minimum criteria that have to be fulfilled when authorised bodies mentioned in Article 12 and recognised third organisations referred to in Article 13 (Annex to Directive 97/23/EC) are assigned and meets the requirements of ISO/IEC 17024;
- ❑ Catalogues of examination questions for all NDT methods include additional questions on European standards provided in Directive 97/23/EC;
- ❑ Examination specimens of Certification body meet the provisions of EN 473:2000 Annex B;
- ❑ Examiners of Certification body had additional training on the knowledge of EC Directives.

Development and adoption in Belarus of technical regulation and governmental standard STB EN 473-2005 have identified problems associated with:

- ❑ widening of certification schemes for different NDT methods provided by the technical Regulation;
- ❑ establishing procedures for training centres recognition by the Certification body of NDT personnel and inspection control of their activities;
- ❑ promotion in adoption of European standards in NDT included in technical Regulation;
- ❑ organisation of additional training for NDT personnel on European standards;
- ❑ adoption of international standard EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003 as a governmental standard in the Republic of Belarus.

At present, international standard EN 45013, which was in force as governmental standard GOST 30488-97, is repealed and EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003 is valid and covers the requirements to the bodies which realise certification of personnel, to the development and application of certification schemes.

A rules committee on certification schemes for NDT personnel certification was established within BANDT to implement these tasks. As the certification scheme includes specified requirements for certification related to specific categories of individuals, their business activities shall be covered by the same standards and rules and the same procedures. The main functions of the Rules committee are:

- ❑ development of certification schemes for different NDT methods in specific sectors;

- organisation and implementation of works for review and validation of certification schemes.

This Committee was established on a voluntary basis and is composed of Level III specialists in different NDT methods.

One of the mandatory requirements for NDT personnel certification in compliance with EN 473:2000 and Directive 97/23/EC is the availability of training that covers study and application of European norms in NDT that are included in examination questions of Certification body 'Profcertico'. Training of NDT personnel for knowledge of European norms is until now conducted by training centres involved by Certification body 'Profcertico' on approved programmes. Training on VT and UT are already carried out in compliance with such programmes.

Today, 16 European norms are introduced in the Republic of Belarus as governmental standards and this work is progressing. Thus, conditions for the conformity assessment of NDT personnel in compliance with Directive 97/23/EC are created in the Republic of Belarus and, after adoption of the technical Regulation 'Safety of pressure equipment', conformity assessment will be realised also in compliance with this.

It would be expedient to pursue within the framework of intergovernmental programme of works in the field of NDT preparation and adoption of international standards EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003 and EN 473:2000 as intergovernmental standards and to review and harmonise rules on intergovernmental standardisation PMG 21-97 'Non-destructive testing: sectors for the purpose of NDT personnel certification' in compliance with Annex A EN 473:2000, where within one sector unique classes of products are anticipated.

Adoption of these technical normative legal acts as intergovernmental standards would become the basis for certification bodies and certification schemes recognition at an international level.

Czech Republic's 38th International Conference and Exhibition

The 38th International Conference and 'DEFEKTOSKOPIE' Exhibition will be held from 4-6 November 2008 in Brno, Czech Republic.

Organised by the Czech Society for NDT, the conference is aimed at all topics of non-destructive testing and evaluation of materials and structures in all areas of technical activities.

It is an opportunity for all people interested in the research and development as well as in practice, standardisation and application of NDT/NDE methods to meet together. All interested persons are invited to participate at the conference, and to contribute by papers in both oral and poster sections. Manufacturers and suppliers of NDT instruments, software, literature, and service providers are invited to present their products and innovations in the wide user connection.

Conference topics:

- Acoustic emission
- Magnetic and inductive methods
- Radiography
- Surface and optical methods

TURK NDT – the Turkish Society for Non-Destructive Testing

TURK NDT – the Turkish Society for Non-Destructive Testing – formed in April 2007, has become a full member of the European Federation of NDT.

A membership certificate was presented to President Mustafa Yilmaz by EFNDT President, Mike Farley, during a break from the 2007 International NDT Conference in Istanbul organised by the Chamber of Metallurgical Engineers.

Mike Farley, addressing the conference, congratulated the officers of the new Society and urged everyone present to give their support and aim to achieve an influential position in EFNDT and ICNDT through their actions.



From right to left: Dr C Hakan Gur, TURK NDT, Vice-President (International Affairs), Mr Mustafa Yilmaz, TURK NDT, President, Dr Mike Farley, EFNDT, President and two other representatives of TURK NDT

- Tomography
- Ultrasonic methods
- Leak detection
- NDT corrosion damage monitoring
- NDT in material and structure testing
- Industrial standards and innovations
- Functional and operational testing, reliability and safety assurance
- Education, standardisation, certification and accreditation
- Other NDT applications

Papers should be submitted by 31 July 2008. The official languages of the Conference will be English, Czech and Slovak.

The event will take place at the Hotel Santon, located in beautiful countryside adjacent to the Brno Dam, only 20 minutes from the centre of Brno, the second largest city in the Czech Republic.

For further information, contact Assoc Prof Pavel Mazal, ČNDT, VUT FSI, Technická 2, 616 69 Brno, Czech Republic. E-mail: cndt@cndt.cz; website: www.cndt.cz

NDT 2008

Conference and Exhibition

16-18 September 2008 – Shrigley Hall Hotel, Cheshire, UK

The 47th Annual British Conference on Non-Destructive Testing will take place in autumn 2008 in the striking 19th century mansion, Shrigley Hall Hotel, Cheshire, UK

Exhibition reservations and requests for further information should be sent to:

Karen Cambridge, The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing, 1 Spencer Parade, Northampton NN1 5AA, UK.
Tel: +44 (0)1604 630124; Fax: +44 (0)1604 231489; E-mail: karen.cambridge@bindt.org

Portuguese accreditation body gains Associate Membership of EFNDT

RELACRE, the association of accreditation laboratories in Portugal and accredited certification body for NDT personnel, has been accepted as an Associate Member of the European Federation for NDT (EFNDT).

The President of RELACRE, Jose Duarte, was presented with an Associate Membership Certificate by Mike Farley, President of EFNDT during a one-day workshop entitled 'Non-destructive testing – innovation and quality' in Lisbon on 3 April 2008. Approximately 75 representatives of the NDT community in Portugal – industry, research, services, training and certification – were present.

The objectives of the workshop:

- ❑ to inform the debate on training and certification of NDT technicians in Portugal and to introduce RELACRE to EFNDT and
- ❑ to present new techniques and perspectives on developments in industry

were fulfilled by a programme of nine papers:

- ❑ Mike Farley presented the work of EFNDT and showed how Portugal could gain access to the services the Federation provides to its members. He indicated how RELACRE could develop an NDT Society and gain full membership of EFNDT.
- ❑ Pedro Barros demonstrated the impressive array of modern NDT technologies being developed and in use in ISQ, including digital radiography, phased arrays, and long range UT.
- ❑ Telmo Santos (DEM/IST) described his work on eddy current inspection for stir friction welds in aluminium.
- ❑ There was an impressive overview of a wide range of modern NDT technologies for power plant service offered by Alstom Power, presented by Fernando Silverio. It demonstrated how modern technologies have been taken to the application stage in a global company which has continued to invest in R&D, for example by membership of the UK Research Centre for NDE (RCNDE).
- ❑ Jaime Santos and Mario Santos (DEEC/FCTUC) gave an introduction to ultrasonic techniques and information on selected applications.
- ❑ Mario Vaz (Laboratory of Optical and Mechanical Experiments INEGI in the University of Porto) described new techniques



President of EFNDT, Mike Farley (left) congratulates Jose Duarte, President of RELACRE, Portugal, on becoming an Associate Member of EFNDT

for optical inspection of composite materials and polymers, particularly for aerospace components.

- ❑ RELACRE has set up training courses at Levels 1, 2 and 3 in methods, described in the workshop by Ana Maria Duarte and Luis Negras.
- ❑ Claudia Almeida described how RELACRE provides accredited personnel certification to EN473 and ISO9712 at three levels in four methods. To better meet the requirements for NDT approval for PED (RELACRE is an RTPO) the organisation is now providing specific welding sector certification.
- ❑ Finally, there was an interesting paper on Developments in Industry and the implications for NDT. MARTIFER – a Portuguese engineering construction company – has gained a strong order book for wind turbines and therefore an interest in automated UT to examine more than 100 km of welds in turbine towers.

Speakers' PowerPoint presentations, mostly in Portuguese, will be posted on the RELACRE website, www.relacre.pt in due course. Contacts in RELACRE are Jose Duarte (President), Armando Lima (Director) and Claudia Almeida (Certification).

NDT and Diagnostics for

EFNDT 1TH SAFETY ECNDT

Moscow 2010, June 7 - 11




PAN-AMERICA

The ASNT NDT Career Video 'Choose NDT' available

How did you find yourself in the non-destructive testing field? Was it happenstance, an unplanned set of circumstances, or did you choose a career in NDT? NDT has been called the "accidental profession" and for much of the current workforce this has been the case. A good bit has been said and written in the last several years about the pending retirement of workers from the Baby Boomer generation. Non-destructive testing is not exempt from this concern of having adequate workers to replace this generation. One step the Society has taken is to produce a career video, which will plant seeds with young people about considering a career in NDT. The new video introduces them to non-destructive testing, its significance to public safety and the variety of career paths available to those who choose NDT.

Geared for a young teen audience, the video is an entertaining tongue in cheek look at what non-destructive testing may have been perceived as in the twentieth century versus what an NDT career can be in the new century.

The video can be seen and downloaded from the link on the ASNT website. The Society encourages everyone with the opportunity to speak to young people about the NDT profession to show the video. In a few weeks there will also be a companion brochure that can be given to audiences after seeing the video. It will be available in print and as a PDF. Check the ASNT website for details.

The eight-and-one-half minute production, *Choose NDT*, is available from the web or on DVD. In addition to distributing *Choose NDT* to a variety of internet sites, including Google and YouTube, DVDs are being mailed to schools with NDT programmes, technical educators, guidance counsellors and ASNT section leaders.

Contact ASNT's Marketing and Membership Department with requests for copies or questions about the video.

ASNT Member survey identifies NDT industry challenges and food for thought

In January of this year, ASNT conducted a member survey to ascertain, in a general sense, the satisfaction of its membership with existing programmes, products and services. A secondary but significant use of the data is recognising those things that reflect not only the membership but the industry at large. It can be said that while taking the pulse of the membership, ASNT was also getting an important read on the perceived challenges faced by the industry today and in the foreseeable future.

The web-based survey was open for participation from 11 January 2008 through 14 February 2008. An e-mail inviting members to take the survey was sent on 11 January. It went to the 7940 members for whom the Society had e-mail addresses. This was 82% of the 9661 individual members at that point in time. In addition, the invitation with a link to the survey was posted to ASNT's homepage. The 21-question survey assessed member satisfaction with ASNT events, publications, and member benefits. The final result was 2043 total responses to the survey which was 21% of the total membership. This is a strong response rate.

Two questions which should be of interest to all NDT professionals were the open-ended ones which asked "What are the biggest challenges facing you today as an NDT professional?" and "What new challenges are you expecting as an NDT

professional?". To the first question there were 1302 responses and to the second 1090. With significant repetition, responses voiced concerns regarding sustaining the NDT workforce, keeping up with advances in technology, management's support for and recognition of NDT programme significance, navigating complex certification and qualification requirements, adequate training resources, and economic uncertainty.

Specifically to the question, "What are the biggest challenges facing you today as an NDT professional?", listed according to the volume for each (highest to lowest), ASNT members' responses could be grouped into the following categories and subsets of interest:

- Workforce issues
 - Inexperienced workforce
 - Recruiting
 - Lack of technically proficient workers
 - Pay
 - Retaining qualified individuals
- Technology related
 - Application of new technologies in-service
 - Adequate information regarding emerging and new technology
 - Time required to understand new technology
- Management and internal business environment
 - Budget to support programmes and equipment
 - Undervalued
 - Perceived as expense burden by organisation
- Certification and Qualification
 - Acquiring points for recertification
 - Dealing with programme complexities
 - Passing ASNT exams
 - Relevant exams
- User industry-specific issues
- Training related
 - Accessible training facilities
 - Cost and time for training
 - Quality of programmes
- Economic concerns
 - Offshore outsourcing
 - Supply chain changes
 - Customer expectations
 - Funding for research and development
- Public and industry awareness of non-destructive testing's significance to public safety

To the question: "What new challenges are you expecting as an NDT professional?" the categories and subsets were the same. The shift was in totals for each category. One could conjecture from this that while people do not anticipate current challenges being resolved they do suggest a change in what will be of most concern. With the subsets the same, the categories in order of volume were:

- Technology related
- Workforce issues
- Certification and Qualification
- Management and internal business environment
- Training related
- User industry specific issues
- Economic concerns
- Public and industry awareness of non-destructive testing's significance to public safety

Want to read more about the survey's results? For those interested in a comprehensive review of the survey, visit the ASNT website at www.asnt.org and see the July issue of ASNT's monthly journal *Materials Evaluation*.

17th Annual Research Symposium held in Anaheim, California, USA

Held in sunny southern California 31 March – 4 April, ASNT's 17th Annual Research Symposium & Spring Conference was host to 374 attendees. The four-day event opened with Monday evening's welcome reception sponsored by the 32 exhibiting companies. Tuesday's sessions began with the keynote address, an Overview of Military Space Missions and Need for NDE presented by Dr Gary F Hawkins, Principal Director, Space Materials Laboratory, The Aerospace Corporation. Hawkins' talk covered how the United States military utilises resources in space. He discussed the extreme cost of launch vehicles and the high level of reliability in each space system. Hawkins detailed how non-destructive evaluation plays a crucial role in assuring the success of space missions.



The audience at the keynote address

The talk was a terrific way to start the seventy paper presentations of sessions which ranged from the state of calibration to structural health monitoring and NDE reliability, to pipeline NDE and digital X-ray.



Shant Kenderian presenting a plaque to the keynote address presenter Gary Hawkins, PhD



Presentation in recognition of Research Program Committee Chair Shant Kenderian and Research Council Chair Lisa Brasche

ASNT and AINDT sign an Agreement of Cooperation

At the ASNT Fall Conference in November 2007 in Las Vegas, the American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT) and the Australian Institute of Non-Destructive Testing (AINDT) formalised an historic Agreement for Professional Cooperation between the two societies. Officiating at this ceremony were Tony Sonneveld, AINDT, Marvin W Trimm, Chairman of ASNT's Board, and Victor L Hernandez, the President of ASNT. Wayne Holliday, Executive Officer of ASNT played an instrumental role in the drafting of the agreement, which proved a highlight in the proceedings of the conference.



L to R Marvin Trimm – Chairman of the Board of ASNT, Tony Sonneveld (AINDT) and Victor L Hernandez, current President of ASNT

Agreements of this kind, by their very nature, reinforce the spirit of cooperation between the respective organisations and signal greater interaction over a broad spectrum of issues, including the promotion of the art, science and technology of non-destructive testing. Such an association will strengthen greatly the ties between ASNT and AINDT and cement existing relationships in terms of future mutual recognition for NDT personnel and qualification and certification programmes. Tony, particularly, was delighted at the outcome of the cooperation agreement and this enthusiasm was shared by the executive of ASNT.

Society accepting abstracts for 2008 Fall Conference & Quality Testing Show

There is still opportunity to submit abstracts for consideration for the ASNT Fall Conference & Quality Testing Show 2008. The 2008 conference, Great Expectations in NDT, is scheduled for 10-14 November in Charleston, South Carolina, USA. Desired topics include health monitoring, infrastructure, laser methods, phased array, radiation safety, homeland security, composites and modelling and simulation. Submission information and requirements are provided on the ASNT website www.asnt.org. From the homepage click on the 'Meetings and Events' link and select the Fall Conference.



News from the Brazilian Society for NDE (ABENDE)

ABENDE more and more present in South America

The Association of Engineers of Bolivia (SIB) promoted a series of presentations and meetings in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the largest oil park in Bolivia, from 12 to 14 February. ABENDE was represented by the senior engineer Luiz Mauro Alves who presented speeches on conventional NDT, new technologies and personnel certification. The purpose was to inform and raise awareness in the local community of engineers, technicians, teachers and students on non-destructive testing and personnel certification. Host institutions were: The Bolivian Chamber of Hydrocarbons (CBH), The Bolivian Institute of Standardization and Quality (IBNORCA), Petrobras, INEGAS/Petrobras, Military School of Engineers (EMI), Private University of Santa Cruz (UPSA), Association of Engineers of Bolivia (SIB) and SERVIPETROL. A total of 154 participants attended the event.

Bolivian Chamber of Hydrocarbons – CBH – and ABENDE to sign cooperation agreement

The Bolivian Chamber of Hydrocarbons – CBH – will implement training activities on NDT in Bolivia with ABENDE's support. This is the first step to implement a Bolivian system on personnel certification, similar to SNQC/END that will be developed by IBNORCA, the technical standardisation body in Bolivia. Activities will start with a market survey to identify the real needs in terms of staff demand. The goal is to implement personnel certification in several segments of the industry, as well as to offer training courses and qualification tests throughout Bolivia. This subject was discussed on 17 March when the CBH Strategy Manager, Engineer Yussef Akly visited ABENDE.

Steelworks sector

Ultrasound

With the efforts of the ABENDE Steelworks Committee and based on the ISO 11484 Standard – Steel tubes for pressure purposes – Qualification and certification of non-destructive testing (NDT) personnel – a workgroup (GT) on Ultrasound (US) for automated and semi-automated systems in the steelworks sector has been created, aiming at improving the quality and competitiveness of the sector. The initial activity of the GT is to create a database of questions for professional qualification and certification, meeting the needs of several companies that have automatic and semi-automatic equipment for seam and seamless tubes, ingots, plates, among others.

ABENDE invests

ABENDE is dedicated to spread NDT techniques throughout all areas of the industry. Presently, the association is concentrating in the steelworks sector, which is adapting the personnel qualification and certification system to meet the needs of the segment. In practice, ABENDE's Steelworks Committee recently approved the documents NA 005 (Personnel Qualification and Certification in NDT for Automatic Systems) and DC 020 (Level 3 Personnel Recognition and Certification in Automatic Equipment). "Companies have already realised the need for change and are contacting ABENDE's Steelworks Committee for information and participation in this process," explains Edson Eufrásio, coordinator of the Sectorial Steelworks Committee. Considered by experts to be strong and in full expansion, the Steelworks Sector needs support to its inspection and quality activities. "Companies in this area are investing heavily in new equipment and technology and the great majority have technology compatible with high developed countries," Eufrásio adds. "Several NDT methods and techniques," continues Eufrásio, "are used in the industrial park. People involved in these inspections

have good knowledge of manufacturing processes and defectology associated with NDT provides more guarantees in testing performance. Companies need to qualify and certificate these professionals and to do so we must focus on practical exams, reflecting their routine and the challenges faced in their daily work," he highlights.

ABENDE prepares new certifications

Rope access

The Rope Access Work Group is gathering with the objective of discussing the details on qualification for this segment, continuing the personnel qualification and certification process according to the NBR 15475 standard – Rope Access – Personnel Qualification and Certification.

Rescuer

The Special Studies Commission of ABNT (Brazilian Association of Technical Standards) on Qualification and Certification of Rope Access in High and Confined Space Rescue has recently met to start the elaboration of the standard carrying the same title of the Commission. Meetings were held on 3 and 4 March with ABENDE participation represented by the Manager of the Certification Department, Erick Lage.

New documents of the Sectorial Standardization Programme (PNS)

ABENDE's Standardization Department publishes the new documents of the Sectorial Standardization Programme (PNS), which is annual, approved by the Brazilian Association of Technical Standards (ABNT) and elaborated by the Standardization Body of ABENDE – ONS-58. Its objective is to define the list of Brazilian Standards (NBR) to be elaborated, to meet the sector's need, by study commissions, in this case for the NDT and Inspection market. Documents are available at the website http://www.abende.org.br/norm_pns.php

List of standards on NDT at ABENDE's website

In order to keep the NDT community updated and informed, ABENDE makes available on its website the list of standards approved in Brazil on non-destructive testing methods with its description and year of publication. To make the search easier, standards are separated by method. To see the list, visit: www.abende.org.br/norm_homologadas

3° ENDutos – Call for technical papers

The 3rd Seminar of NDT on ducts is receiving abstracts for technical papers, which should be sent in electronic format, via the website. The event will show technological inspections directly applied to ducts and ducting. It is expected to have 150 participants. The event will be held on 21 and 22 October in the city of Rio de Janeiro. For more information: <http://www.abende.org.br/3endutos>, eventos@abende.com.br or tel: +55 11 5586-3172/3197.

ABENDE fosters participation in the NDT World Conference

ABENDE invites the Brazilian NDT community to participate in the next world conference on NDT that will be held from 25 to 28 October 2008 in Shanghai, China. To facilitate Brazilians' participation in the event, ABENDE has prepared a travel package with different air ticket and hotel options. ABENDE's Institutional Communication Department has also some proposals to help the formation of a Brazilian companies' island in the technical exhibition that is held simultaneously with the Conference. For more information about ABENDE's proposal, send an e-mail to eliane@abende.org.br

CALENDAR OF NDT EVENTS

Month	Date	Venue	Event	Contact
July 2008	15-18	Edinburgh Scotland	The Fifth International Conference on Condition Monitoring and Machinery Failure Prevention Technologies	daniel.grove@bindt.org www.cm2008-mfpt2008.org
	20-25	Chicago USA	35th Annual Review of Progress in Quantitative Nondestructive Evaluation (QNDE)	qnde3@cnde.iastate.edu
	28	Chicago USA	ASME Pressure Vessels & Piping (PVP)/CREEP 08 Conference	Carl.Jaske@dnv.com
September 2008	8-12	California USA	NDE/NDT for Highways and Bridges: Structural Materials Technology (SMT) 2008	conferences@asnt.org www.asnt.org/events/events.htm
	9-11	Tomsk Russia	9th International Exhibition on Non-Destructive Testing and Devices 'Defectoscopy 2008'	www.ndtworld.com
	16-18	Cheshire UK	NDT 2008 Conference and Exhibition	karen.cambridge@bindt.org
October 2008	6-9	Denver Colorado, USA	International Conference on Prognostics and Health Management 2008	www.phmconf.org
	14-16	Munich Germany	MAINTAIN: International Trade Fair for Industrial Maintenance	info@maintain-europe.com www.maintain-europe.com
	25-28	Shanghai China	17th World Conference on NDT	chsndt@public2.sta.net.cn chsndt2008@163.com www.17wcndt.com
November 2008	4-6	Brno Czech Republic	38th International Conference and NDT Exhibition, DEFEKTOSKOPIE 2008	cndt@cndt.cz www.cndt.cz
	10-14	Charleston USA	ASNT Fall Conference and Quality Testing Show	conferences@asnt.org www.asnt.org
December 2008	9-12	Kyoto Japan	19th International Acoustic Emission Symposium	acd@jsndi.or.jp
September 2009	14-19	Essen Germany	3rd Quality Testing International Exhibition 2009	info@messe-essen.de www.messe-essen.de
November 2009	8-13	Yokohama Japan	13th Asia-Pacific Conference on Non-Destructive Testing 2009	apcndt2009@jsndi.or.jp www.apcndt2009.com
June 2010	7-11	Moscow Russia	10th European Conference on NDT	spektr@co.ru www.rsnttd.ru
April 2012	18-20	Durban South Africa	18th World Conference on NDT	saint@acenet.co.za www.saint.org.za