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English Version

**Non-destructive testing - Interpretation of EN ISO/IEC 17024 for
NDT personnel certification application**

Essais non destructifs - Interprétation de l'EN ISO/CEI
17024 pour l'application de la certification du personnel
END

Zerstörungsfreie Prüfung - Interpretation von EN ISO/IEC
17024 für ZfP-Personalertifizierungsanwendungen

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Contents

Page

Foreword.....	3
Introduction	4
1 Scope	5
2 Normative references	5
3 Terms and definitions	5
4 Requirements for certification bodies	5
4.1 Certification body	5
4.2 Organizational structure	6
4.3 Development and maintenance of a certification scheme	9
4.4 Management system	10
4.5 Subcontracting.....	11
4.6 Records.....	11
4.7 Confidentiality	11
4.8 Security	11
5 Requirements for persons employed or contracted by a certification body	12
5.1 General.....	12
5.2 Requirements for examiners	12
6 Certification process	12
6.1 Application	12
6.2 Evaluation.....	13
6.3 Decision on certification	13
6.4 Surveillance	13
6.5 Recertification	13
6.6 Use of certificates and logos/marks	13
Annex A (informative) Development and maintenance of a certification scheme for persons.....	15
Annex B (informative) Model for engagement of the personnel involved in the certification process of NDT personnel according to EN 473 or ISO 9712	16
Bibliography	17

Foreword

This document (CEN/TR 16332:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 138 “Non-destructive testing”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

In this document the words “EN 473” are used to designate EN 473 itself or 3rd party international standards or national sector specific 3rd party NDT-standards/schemes in line with EN 473. The present document, which incorporates much of the general guidance from IAF Guide 24, was prepared by a Task Group of CEN/TC 138 to provide guidance to accreditation bodies assessing personnel certification bodies for compliance with EN ISO/IEC 17024 whilst implementing EN 473.

Introduction

Accreditation in Europe is voluntary, but assessment and approval by government appointed agencies, which may also be accreditation bodies, may become mandatory in regulatory sectors such as Pressure Equipment (Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC).

In Europe, personnel requiring to hold independent (3rd party) certification of competence to carry out non-destructive testing (NDT) are qualified and certificated in accordance with the provisions of EN 473. EN 473 becomes the normative document referred to in IAF Guide 24:2003, clause 4.2.27 "The certification body is allowed to explain its findings and/or clarify the requirements of the normative documents ...".

It is intended that this technical report be used in place of IAF Guide 24, since the latter is general by nature and, in places, could conflict with the normative criteria of EN 473, which is specific to the qualification and certification of personnel for non-destructive testing.

1 Scope

This European Standard is a CEN Technical Report (CEN/TR) on the application of EN ISO/IEC 17024 specifically for the implementation of EN 473.

The guidance provided is in sequence with the criteria of EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003, and makes direct reference to EN 473 where no guidance is considered necessary because EN 473 provides the necessary detail.

It is important to note that the guidance provided herein is specifically for certification bodies implementing EN 473, and not for employers implementing EN 4179:2009 which includes, in Clause 2, a normative reference to EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 473:2008, *Non-destructive testing — Qualification and certification of NDT personnel — General principles*

EN ISO/IEC 17024:2003, *Conformity assessment — General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons (ISO/IEC 17024:2003)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following term and definition applies

3.1

accreditation

procedure by which an authoritative body gives formal recognition that a body is competent to carry out certification according to EN 473

4 Requirements for certification bodies

4.1 Certification body

Due to the general character of the requirements in EN ISO/IEC 17024 and the specificities of the NDT personnel certification scheme in EN 473, differing interpretation of requirements may occur, resulting in conflicts between the accreditation and the certification body. It is recommended that such conflicts be dealt with under the general principles of appeal mechanisms, i.e. ruled by an arbitration body composed of a representative of both parties and an independent organization agreed by both parties.