

MULTILATERAL RECOGNITION OF CERTIFICATION



Background

At a meeting convened during the 6th European Conference on NDT held in Nice, France, during 1994, the representatives of member bodies of the then European Council for Non-Destructive Testing (ECNDT) – now the European Federation (EFNDT) – signed a declaration of intent to establish Multilateral Mutual Recognition of Certification within the membership of the ECNDT.

The work of developing a Multilateral Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) was entrusted to a Working Group on EU/EFTA matters. This group has subsequently been renamed the Working Group on Qualification and Certification, and has produced and implemented for the EFNDT a Multilateral Recognition Agreement for NDT personnel certification.

Objectives

The objectives of this Agreement are:

1. To promote harmonisation of the operations of the independent NDT personnel certification schemes nominated by the national NDT societies of European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries.
2. To facilitate recognition of qualifications and certification of NDT personnel in Europe and internationally in order to facilitate the free movement of plant, equipment and personnel and to avoid uneconomic re-inspection.

Who is eligible to participate?

The Agreement is open to NDT Personnel Qualification and Certification schemes which are:

- Nominated by national NDT Societies that have signed the agreement.
- Accredited by an EFNDT recognised accreditation agency or government department.

Each scheme which is party to and a signatory of this Agreement accepts that each party registered under the Agreement meets the requirements of European Standards and associated technical documents for which they hold current accreditation.

Procedure for registration

A scheme meeting the criteria which wishes to become registered under the Agreement submits to the EFNDT Working Group Secretariat:

1. A letter of nomination from the national NDT Society of the country in which the scheme is based.
2. A certificate of accreditation.
3. A schedule detailing the scope of its accreditation (e.g., EN 45013, EN 473, ISO 9712, EN 4179 etc.).

The acceptance of the new party is ratified by a simple majority of the participants in the Agreement at the next appropriate WG meeting or by postal ballot.

What are the obligations following registration?

Being signatory to the MRA involves discharging a number of obligations. Each party to the Agreement has agreed to:

- ❑ publish in its own national language(s) a notice advising of this Agreement and listing the participant certification schemes
- ❑ publish details of certification requirements which are additional to those of the European Standards
- ❑ commit itself to the pursuance of the objectives of the group
- ❑ assist the others in their effort to give a clear overview of the certification activities in its own country.

Who is bound to recognise registered certification?

The following national NDT Societies have *signed* the EFNDT Agreement on Multilateral Recognition of NDT Personnel Certification schemes and have thereby *agreed to recognise* certificates issued by the particular Certification Schemes registered by EFNDT in accordance with the Agreement

Country	National NDT Society
Austria	ÖGZfP
Australia	AINDT
Belgium	BANT
Belarus	BANK & TD
Bosnia Herzegovina	SNNT
Croatia	CrSNNT
Czech Republic	CNDT
Denmark	Danish Society for NDT
Finland	Finnish Society for NDT
France	COFREND
Germany	DGZfP
Great Britain	British Institute of NDT
Greece	HSNDT
Holland	KINT
Hungary	HONDT
Ireland	IIWIP
Israel	ISRANT
Italy	AIPnD
Norway	Norwegian NDT Society
Poland	Polish Society for NDT and Technical Diagnostics - SIMP
Romania	AroENd
Russia	Russian Society for NDT and Technical Diagnostics (RONKTD)
Spain	AEND
Sweden	Swedish NDT Society
Switzerland	SGZP
Ukraine	Ukrainian Society for NDT and Technical Diagnostics (USNDT)

Which certification bodies have registered?

The NDT Personnel Certification Schemes/Bodies which have been accepted by the EFNDT Qualification and Certification Working Group as complying with the criteria set out in the EFNDT Agreement on Multilateral Recognition of NDT Personnel Certification Schemes and thus are recognised by the signatories to the Agreement are listed in [Schedule 2](#) to the MRA.

Further information?

Further information is available from:

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