The Twenty Third Meeting of the ExTAG

held in webinar format on 31st August and 1st September 2021.

Decision List

This document, ExTAG/664/DL, contains the list of Decisions as recorded during the 2021 meeting of the ExTAG Technical Meeting held in webinar format on 31st August and 1st September 2021. The decisions were recorded by the IECEx Secretariat during the meeting and have been confirmed by the ExTAG Chair.

These Decisions should be read in conjunction with ExTAG(Remote/ExTAGChair)07 as the ExTAG Chair’s Report to ExMC 2021.

***Dr Frank Lienesch***

***ExTAG Chair***

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**ExTAG List of Decisions according to Meeting Agenda, ExTAG/650A/DA**

1. **Opening and Welcome**
	1. **Opening and Welcome,** *ExTAG Chairman, Dr Frank Lienesch*

 The meeting commenced at 12:00 midday UTC on Tuesday 31st August 2021.

1. **Approval of the Agenda**

**Decision 2021/01**

Members approved the Draft Agenda of the 23rd ExTAG Meeting as circulated as ExTAG/650A/DA with the addition of Items 7.1, 7.7 and 6.1 to include Green Papers as follows:

* ExTAG(2021Remote/WG01)03)
* ExTAG(2021Remote/WG14)04)
1. **Report of the 2020 ExTAG Remote Meeting**

***3.1*** **Report of the last meeting held remotely on 29th and 30th September 2020.**

**Decision 2021/02**

Members noted the Meeting Report and Decision List from the 2020 ExTAG Meeting circulated as ExTAG/647/R and ExTAG/631/DL

***3.2*****Report of the action items by the ExTAG Chairman on the 2020 ExTAG Meeting**

**Decision 2021/03**

Members endorsed the report from the ExTAG Chairman on the Action Items from the 2020 ExTAG Meeting as circulated as ExTAG/651/R.

**Decision 2021/04**

Members accepted a report from Dr Munro on progress with the assigned action regarding Decision Rule including a revision of IECEx OD 012.

### *4* IECEx Equipment Scheme - Overview

**Decision 2021/05**

Members accepted, with several questions, the report from the IECEx Secretariat on an overview of the IECEx Equipment Scheme activities since the 2020 meeting. Members also appreciated the IECEx animated video update.

***5* Technical Items for general discussion within ExTAG**

**5.1 Leakage Current Ratings**

**Decision 2021/06**

Members considered the PTB and NEPSI discussion papers

 on the topic of Leakage Current Ratings as circulated as ExTAG/633/Inf and ExTAG/633A/Inf and agreed that IEC TC31 be requested to consider the issues raised during this meeting of ExTAG. Dr Lienesch is tasked to take this matter to IEC TC 31 taking into account the issues raised during this meeting of ExTAG.

**5.2 Increasing Ambient Temperatures**

**Decision 2021/07**

Members considered the discussion paper on the topic of “Increasing Ambient Temperatures” prepared by Mr Justin Gavranich of Ex Testing and Certification AU, as circulated as ExTAG/652/Inf, and also noted the discussions already underway in IEC TC31. Members provided in principle support that this matter does need to be addressed and agreed to form an ad hoc group (to be led by Mr Gavranich and assisted by Mr Kelly) tasked to prepare recommendations for further consideration by ExTAG. Members of ExTAG are requested to contact Mr Gavranich by end of September 2021 to offer their assistance.

**5.3 Subcontracting of Tests**

**Decision 2021/08**

Members noted the discussion paper as circulated as ExTAG/662/Inf and then endorsed this paper as an IECEx reference point on this matter. Members also noted the opportunity for revisions of the TCD via ExMC WG2.

**6 Performance feedback from ExCBs and ExTLs (Restricted Participation)**

**6.1 Co-operation between IECEx Bodies**

No restricted session held, no discussion and no decision recorded.

**7**  **ExTAG Working Group Status - Review**

**7.1 ExTAG WG 01, Preparation and maintenance of ExTRs**

**Decision 2021/09**

Members accepted the report (tabled as Green Paper ExTAG(2021Remote/WG01)03 from ExTAG WG 01 prepared by the Convener, Mr Paul Kelly.

**Decision 2021/10**

Members indicated their full support for Mr Kelly’s proposal that Mr. Scott Kiddle take over the role as ExTAG WG01 Convener and appreciate Mr Kiddle agreeing to take on this role.

**Decision 2021/11**

The meeting recorded a special note of thanks to Mr Paul Kelly for the many years of dedicated service to the work of ExTAG WG01 in the development and maintenance of ExTR blanks.

**Decision 2021/12**

Mr Kiddle will work with the Secretariat to clarify the processes of inserting new ExTAG DS links in existing ExTR blanks and also of inserting any applicable ExTAG DS links into new ExTR blanks.

**7.2 ExTAG WG 03 Documentation and Drawing Requirements**

**Decision 2021/13**

Members accepted the report from ExTAG WG 03 Convener, Mr Ron Webb as circulated as ExTAG/654/R, noting the status of their work and the likely conclusion during Q1 of 2022.

**7.3** **ExTAG WG 04 Uncertainty of Measurement**

**Decision 2021/14**

Members accepted the report from ExTAG WG 04 Convener, Mr David Stubbings and agreed to recommend to the ExMC that the revision of IECEx OD 012 (as circulated as ExMC/1735/DV) proceed to publication.

The meeting also agreed that further changes can be proposed for a subsequent revision of IECEx OD 012. Mr Schuller to provide a proposal regarding Annex C.

**7.4** **ExTAG WG 06 Rules of procedures for Testing at Other Locations**

**Decision 2021/15**

Members noted the publication of IECEx OD 024 Edition 4.0 and a summary by the Convener of the key changes regarding the new online register. The meeting also noted feedback from the use of IECEx OD 024 and requested that the WG reconvene to clarify the definition of “third party test facilities”.

**7.5** **ExTAG WG 10 Proficiency Testing**

**Decision 2021/16**

Members accepted the report from ExTAG WG10 Convener, Mr. Tim Krause as circulated as ExTAG/655/R.

**Decision 2021/17**

In considering ExTAG/656/CD, members agreed to request ExTAG WG10 to consider the comments from this meeting in preparing a further revision of IECEx OD 202. Key areas of comment were the recognition of participation in other proficiency testing programs and to clarify requirements in the situation of sub-contracting of testing arrangements and also tests without an asterisk in the TCD.

**7.6** **ExTAG WG 12 Retention of Records**

**Decision 2021/18**

Members accepted a verbal report from the Convener, Mr Jasmin Omerovic and noted the publication of IECEx OD 207, Edition 2.0 with key changes being to Annex A.

Members and Assessors are invited to submit feedback from their use of IECEx OD 207.

* 1. **ExTAG WG 14 Certification of Ex Equipment Assemblies, IEC TS 60079-46**

**Decision 2021/19**

Members accepted a report from ExTAG WG 14 Convener, Mr Paul Kelly, (as tabled as Green Paper ExTAG(2021Remote/WG14)04) in which Mr Kelly outlined a number of issues for further ExTAG consideration regarding the application of IEC TS 60079-46.

Mr Coppler provided a response regarding concerns expressed by IEC TC31 AG55 as listed as ExTAG WG14’s issue #1.

ExTAG WG14 is to be reactivated and are requested to meet (possibly with the PT 60079-46) before the end of 2021 to discuss the issues listed for ExTAG further consideration and input to IEC TC 31 discussions. The IECEx Secretariat (assisted by Mr Coppler and Mr Kelly) is tasked to communicate the concerns of AG55 to IECEx ExCBs and to remind of the need to check for Specific Conditions of Use information included in certificates.

**Decision 2021/20**

The IECEx Secretariat is tasked to provide ExTAG members with a discussion paper regarding the work of IEC TC 31 AG55 on the topic of Specific Conditions of Use following the October 2021 IEC TC 31 meetings.

**7.8 ExTAG AdhocWG1** **Modular concept for electrical Ex Equipment**

**Decision 2021/21**

Members noted the publication of IECEx OD 034, Edition 3.0.

**8 ExTAG Decision Sheets – Current Status**

**8.1 Current Status**

***8.1.1 The importance of ExTAG Decision Sheets and their location***

No decision recorded

***8.1.2 Decision sheets and Draft DS dealt with since the 2020 ExTAG meeting***

**Decision 2021/22**

Members noted the list (as circulated as ExTAG/657/Inf) of ExTAG Decision Sheets and Draft DS dealt with via correspondence since the 2020 ExTAG meeting and endorsed the report.

**8.2** **Decision Sheets, now falling under the 5year review that require confirmation**

**8.2.1 Decision Sheets from 2015**

**Decision 2021/23**

Members noted the reconfirmation of a list (as circulated as ExTAG/649A/R) of ExTAG Decision Sheets falling under the five year review and agreed with all recommendations contained in the report

AND

Tasked the IECEx Secretariat to circulate the revised ExTAG DS 2015/014 (Annex A of the report) to members inviting input for a revision according to the IECEx OD 035 process

AND

Agreed to assign the review of ExTAG DS 2015/006 to the ExTAG Officers and the IECEx Secretariat and to report back to ExTAG.

***8.2.2* To re-confirm the following Decision Sheets, now falling under the**

**5 year review**

**Decision 2021/24**

Members reconfirmed DS 2016/002 and DS 2016/001.

**8. 3 Review of process for the preparation and approval of Decision Sheets.**

**Decision 2021/25**

Members considered a proposal (as circulated as ExTAG/658/CD) for the revision of IECEx OD 035 and agreed that further work is required by an ad hoc group (Convened by ExTAG Chair and assisted by Messrs Omerovic, Kelly, Kiddle and Coppler and the IECEx Secretariat) to clarify the criteria and process for maintaining and reviewing ExTAG Decision Sheets.

1. **ExTAG Proposed Decision Sheets in progress**

***9.1 Draft Decision Sheet* - Field modular approach for Ex Equipment**

**Decision 2021/26**

Members considered

* the draft Decision Sheet circulated as ExTAG/635A/CD and
* the associated Compilation of Comments on ExTAG/635/CD (refer ExTAG/648/CC)

and agreed that the draft Decision Sheet proceed to publication as circulated as ExTAG/635A/CD incorporating a change to the second item in the “Answer” section of draft to require reference (ID & version #) to ‘detailed instructions’ in the certificate.

**9.2 *Draft Decision Sheet -* IEC 60079-6 High Voltage Testing**

**Decision 2021/27**

Members considered the draft Decision Sheet circulated as ExTAG/663/CD and agreed that it proceed according to IECEx OD 035 procedures taking note of the points raised during this meeting such as noting that:

* a reference to an existing IECEx Operational Document may be a more appropriate approach, and
* there is a need for clarification of the “additional information” requirement, and
* there this is no need for a special assessment (that is subject to ExMC vote) associated with a scope extension

The meeting indicated in-principle-support for the approach provided in the existing draft but also noted the need to take account of any feedback from the IECEx OD 035 process.

**9.3Draft ExTAG Decision Sheet - Information relevant to particular protection Ex 60079-46 into the quality management system**

**Decision 2021/28**

Members considered the draft Decision Sheet circulated as ExTAG/661/CD and agreed that it

proceeds through the IECEx OD 035 process with ExTAG WG14 given the opportunity to comment.

**10** **New topics to be dealt with during the next ExTAG Meeting**

**Decision 2021/29**

The meeting supported Mr Maira’s proposal for a discussion on the acceptance of electronic files for drawings etc., and tasked Mr Maira to prepare a discussion paper (noting that ExTAG WG 03 for IECEx OD 017 needs to be consulted)

**11 Contact with other International and Regional Bodies – Status review**

Report by IECEx Executive Secretary was noted – no decision recorded.

**12 Matters for proposal to ExMC**

**Decision 2021/30**

The meeting requested that the ExTAG Chair advise the ExMC of ExTAG Decision 2021/07 and that additional stakeholder (other than ExTLs and ExCBs) involvement in the ad hoc group is invited.

**13**  **Other Business**

**Decision 2021/31**

Members noted the presentation from Mr Omerovic on the topic of IECEx QMS auditing and the suggestion that the relevant IECEx Rules and ODs be revised to make a clear reference to ISO/IEC 17021-1 and asked that the ExMC task ExMC WG01 and ExMC WG05 to consider this. It was noted that this matter is already being considered by the IECEx ExSFC and a proposal has been made to the ExMC for IECEx 03-\* revisions.

**14 Confirmation of next meeting, year and place**

**Decision 2021/32**

Members noted that QPS have withdrawn their offer to host the 2022 meetings.

As an alternative, members supported the possible use of a hybrid meeting approach if we have a host location and members are able to travel. Members also supported the preference for convening the ExTAG meeting in conjunction with the ExMC meeting.

**15 Close of Meeting** at 15:55 UTC on 1st September 2021