

ExNB	Co-ordination of Notified Bodies Equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres on Council Directive 94/9/EC (ATEX)	18th ExNB-Meeting 17/18 November 2014 Brussels
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ExNBG meeting short report

The last meeting was held on 17 and 18 November 2014.

A summary of the IECEx meetings held in The Hague was reported by Mr. Sinclair. It was confirmed the wish to continue to cooperate with IECEx.

Technically the ATEX scheme is close to IECEx 02 Scheme. To be in line between the Clarification Sheet of ExNB and the Decision Sheets of IECEx it was proposed an exchange of papers between ExNB and IECEx on the level of the secretaries at the stage of the final draft to allow comments from the other body. After discussion ExNB agreed to this and asked the Chairpersons and the Technical Secretariat to decide which documents to be exchanged. Mr. Gauthier volunteered as Secretary of IECEx-TAG to prepare a list of DS of IECEx relevant for ExNB.

It was reminded that several European Directives have been modified due to the New Legal Framework. The ATEX Directive is one of them. The directive 2014/34/EU is going to replace on April 2016 the current ATEX directive 94/9/EC. Due to the new Directives a re-notification of all Notified Bodies is necessary in dependence from the national implementation of the Directive. This can be done also before entering into force of the Directive. For certification according to the new Directives no new standards are necessary, this will be published soon as well as a new list of harmonised standards and relevant information about transition actions.

Regarding the technical requirements and the assessment procedures there is no change. The changes concern mainly the relation between member states and the way to notify Certification Body.

Regarding the manufacturer point of view, the major change will be the fact that manufacturers will have to declare the conformity to the new directive by writing an EU declaration of conformity. If there is no change on the product and no change regarding the State of the Art, they will be able to use the EC type examination certificate they have already for their product. However, if there is a change in the products or the State of the Art new examinations and tests will be required but it will not be possible to issue an addition or a new issue of the EC type examination. A new EU type examination certificate in accordance with the new ATEX Directive will be mandatory.

In addition, it is important to note that it will not be possible for a Notified Body to issue an EU type examination certificate in application of Directive 2014/34/EU before the 20 April 2016.

The next ExNB meeting will be on 16 and 17 November 2015 in Brussels.

Thierry Houeix
ExNBG Vice-Chairman