



ExMC/1049/CD  
August 2015

**INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION SYSTEM FOR  
CERTIFICATION TO STANDARDS RELATING TO EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN  
EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (IECEX SYSTEM)**

**Circulation: IECEx Management Committee (ExMC)**

**Title: Proposal from US – Minimum Equipment List per Standard Required  
for ExTLs**

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**INTRODUCTION**

In noting the work of ExMC WG2 and the draft updated edition of the IECEx Technical Capability Document (TCD) ExMC/1039/CD, the attached proposal from the USNC/IECEX considers the need for a definitive list of Test Equipment for an ExTL to possess and is presented for discussion and consideration during the 2015 ExMC Christchurch meeting.

Members are requested to consider the proposal ahead of the ExMC meeting.

***Chris Agius***  
***IECEX Secretariat***

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August 3, 2015

**VIA E-MAIL TRANSMISSION**

Mr. Chris Agius  
Secretary IECEx  
Level 33 Australia Square  
264 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Australia

**Subject:** USNC/IECEX Proposal for Christchurch ExMC Agenda – *Minimum Equipment List per Standard Required for ExTLs*

Dear Mr. Agius:

**Background:** At the Fortaleza ExMC meeting, ExMC Decision 2013/31E was assigned to ExMCWG 02, *Technical Capability Documents*, to include in each TCD more details on the “list of mandatory equipment” for each standard that an ExTL is required to maintain. At the 2014 ExMC meeting in The Hague, ExMCWG04, *Technical Reference Group for Assessment of ExCBs and ExTLs*, reported that they were developing a TCD template for capturing the list of mandatory equipment, and once agreed in WG4, it would be provided to ExMCWG02 so that they could complete their assignment.

**Question:** What is the timeline for finalizing the guidelines regarding the minimum test equipment required by an ExTL for all IEC Ex standards, and what is the plan to accomplish this timeline?

**Answer:** These guidelines are needed as soon as possible, with the most commonly used IEC Ex standards needed this year, and the rest no later than the 2016 Management meetings.

Given the lack of progress on this issue, a new plan may be needed. The USNC/IECEX would offer its assistance, along with other Member Bodies as well that share this concern, to support such a new plan. ExMC needs to address this and assure it progresses to resolution.

In the interest of expediting the process, as it seems that virtually any IECEx test can be outsourced, maybe such a position should just be taken by ExMC. Such a position would require that ISO 17025 is applied when subcontracting, and that OD 024 is applied when witnessing. Where the equipment standards are explicit about the order of certain tests, it is important that the laboratory performing the tests conduct all of the

tests in such a group. In addition, an OD may be needed to clearly define how to assess an ExCB/ExTL for testing that is subcontracted or witnessed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Joel Solis, Secretary  
USNC/IECEX