ExTAG(Umhlanga/ExTAGChairman)06

**ExTAG Chairman’s Report to ExMC – September 2016**

This is a brief summary of the ExTAG Meetings that took place on 5 and 6 September 2016 at Umhlanga under the kind hospitality of SAFA.

Before the Assessors’ Training Workshop on Monday afternoon, we held the informal ExTAG training session comprising a workshop covering the following presentations:

1. Mr. Mark Amos, Secretariat covering IECEx System Update

This presentation provided an update of current and new web based tools to assist in the creation and maintenance of IECEx On-Line Certificates of Conformity

1. Mr. Ron Sinclair, MBE - SGS Baseefa

This presentation addressed the issue of Certification of Non-Electrical Equipment according to ISO/IEC 80079 series

1. Mr. Julien Gauthier, LCIE, ExTAG Secretary – Presented by Chris AGIUS

The presentation covered the expectations of actions to be undertaken by ExCBs when there is a need to Suspend or Cancel an IECEx Certificate of Conformity

1. Prof XU Jianping, NEPSI China, - presented by Prof XU

The presentation provided a Discussion Forum dedicated to application of IEC 60079-28 applicable to LED and other forms of lighting Equipment

1. Mr. Peter Thurnherr – thuba, CH

The presentation focused on “Use of IECEx Certificates of Conformity”

I remind that all presentations are available on the dedicated meeting website. Please also note that a summary of discussions held during the training workshop is also available on the website under reference ExTAG(Umhlanga/Training)07 published as a greenpaper.

It was a really successful training workshop. All the attendees appreciated the presentations and actively participated during discussions.

At our formal session on Tuesday, we began with a report from the secretariat on the growth of the schemes and of the developments and details about membership and statistics, website and promotional activities. The secretary advised that this will be covered in more detail in the 2016 IECEx Report Card (as circulated to ExMC Members as ExMC/1159/R) during ExMC.

We then had technical exchanges with the aim of ensuring a consistent approach by all ExCBs and ExTLs. We especially discussed the following topics :

* Application of IEC 60079-11 to modern electronic.

After extensive discussions it was agreed by the members that the FMEA (Failure Mode Effect Analysis) was not covered by the standard of IEC 60079-11 and shall not be used to assess IS equipment. It was agreed to prepare a Decision Sheet to ensure common application by all ExTLs and ExCBs.

* Impact of the new ISO 9001:2015.

Considering that the next edition of ISO/IEC 80079-34 will not be published in the near future, it was agreed, that in order to ensure compliance to current edition of ISO/IEC 80079-34 (which is ISO 9001:2008 based) of manufacturer quality system certified to ISO 9001:2015 a review by ExMC WG is recommended.

* Application of OD233 and selection of independent Verifiers.

It was discussed the inconsistency between the standard IEC 60079-33 and current OD233, especially regarding the selection of Verifiers and the assessment of competencies. It was agreed that this was an urgent issue and the members agreed to recommend to ExMC a review of the current OD, and a decision about the continuation of scope extension before clarification.

* Clarification about reference to manufacturer’s instructions in the Certificate of Conformity

After some discussions, it was determined that ExCBs may have different approach to deal with manufacturer’s instructions. It was also noted that current practices were slightly different to the requirements of IECEx Rules 02. It was agreed to recommend to ExMC to assign the task to ExMC WG 1, to consider if there is need to revise the current IECEx 02.

We then received reports on the status of activities in the ExTAG Working Groups:

* WG 01 looks after the preparation of ExTR formats.

Mr Thierry Houeix presented the report, on behalf of Mr. Paul Kelly, the convener, who was unable to attend the meeting. We reviewed the list of report formats that are under the responsibility of the group, noting that seven new documents, including a revision of the cover sheet, were published this year and one other under preparation. It was also noted that a revision of OD 010-1 is being prepared. The Chairman especially asked that thanks be given to Mr. Paul Kelly and other members of the working group for the continuing good work.

* WG 03 is responsible for OD 017 on documentation requirements.

The group received a report of Mr. Colin Cameron, on behalf of Mr Ron Webb, the convener, who was unable to attend. The meeting agreed to recommend to ExMC to proceed for publication of the draft revision of OD 017 (document ExTAG/408A/CD) and that the work of WG continue taking into account comments circulated in ExTAG/432/CC, especially for addition in the next edition non-electrical standards references. The Chairman especially asked that thanks be given to Mr. Ron Webb and other members of the working group for the continuing good work.

* WG 10 deals with Proficiency testing.

Before giving his report, Mr. Tim Krause advised the members that Dr. Klausmeyer, current convener of the WG, will be retiring next month. The meeting agreed on the nomination of Mr. Krause to be the new convener. The members asked that the thanks of ExTAG be given to Dr. Klausmeyer, not only for his work as convener of WG 10, but also as a former ExMC Chairman.

Then Mr. Tim Krause gave a Powerpoint presentation on the progress and results of the recent proficiency testing programs and especially the number of participating laboratories for each program.

After discussions, the members agreed, in principle, on the two next programs:

* Determination of explosion pressure (IEC 60079-1)
* Pressurization test (IEC 60079-2)

The meeting noted the report from Mr Munro regarding his recent assessment in accordance with ISO/IEC 17043 of PTB as the IECEx PT Provider and IECEx OD 202. Members then agreed to recommend to ExMC that PTB be formally appointed as the IECEx PT provider. The Chairman then thanked Mr. Tim Krause and other members of the working group for the continuing good work.

* WG12 is looking at policies related to retention of records.

The group received a report from the Convener, Mr. Jasmin Omerovic. He explained that a revised version of the document (ExTAG/418A/CD) taking into account comments received (ExTAG/428/CC) has been circulated for consideration. He asked that the document be forwarded to the ExMC for approval and publication. The members agreed. Mr. Omerovic then approved, at the suggestion of the Chairman, that the WG remain on standby pending results of the ExMC decision. The Chairman then thanked Mr. Jasmin Omerovic and other members of the working group for the continuing good work.

* Ms. Gordana Ostojic, convener of the Task Group on amalgamation of certain Decision Sheets gave a report and proposed that :

ExTAG DS 2014/001 remains unchanged

ExTAG/243D/CD be withdrawn

The Task Group be disbanded

 The members agreed with these proposals thanking Ms. Ostojic.

In noting that there are more than seventy DS currently available and that eleven were published since last Christchurch meetings, we then went through the review of many DS or proposals, with firstly the successful confirmation of existing DS falling under the 5 year review, with noting that DS2011/002 need a slight modification for removal of OD005-1 reference.

Then we reviewed document ExTAG/424/CD, the proposed revision of OD035 Ed. 2.0, for the preparation and approval of DS. The members agreed, that with slight changes, the document be forwarded to ExMC recommending publication.

Regarding the draft DS under consideration, they have all been discussed during the meeting. Many comments from the members were noted. The result is to confirm one, and forward two others to the originator for review to include comments before re-circulation, withdraw five proposed Decision Sheets (mainly because the members agreed they were not relevant to the ExTAG) and two other that require being referred to the relevant IEC maintenance team for clarification.

In the closed session, which took place in the second half of the morning, there was discussion relating to the co-operation between IECEx bodies. After discussions, it was agreed that an ExTAG Decision sheet should be prepared to deal with the process to be followed in case of disagreement between ExCBs regarding the content of an ExTR and that this DS should also include guidance about possible consequences on the existing certificate(s) issued.

It was also discussed the use of previous test data, Legacy Data. It was reminded that the current OD009 Annex A is dedicated to the use of previous test data and that it may be used only by the test laboratory who initially performed the test. The members agreed for the preparation of a decision sheet on this matter.

Finally, it has been reminded to ExCBs to ensure a good follow-up of QARs and their obligations when managing Certificates that have been “Suspended”. It was also agreed by the members that ExCBs should be in the position to assist with market enquiries regarding products that they have certified, as this is part of their obligations.

**The following points are specifically referred to ExMC at this time:**

1. ExTAG supports draft document ExTAG/424/CD (OD035 Ed. 2.0) for the preparation and approval of DS considering slight revisions agreed during the meeting, and agreed to recommend to the ExMC that the draft Operational Document proceed to publication.
2. ExTAG recommends to ExMC that OD 233 be reviewed and decide if new scope extension applications should be suspended until OD 233 has been reviewed, and, possibly amended to provide additional or different requirements.
3. ExTAG supports draft of the Operational Document in Retention of Records as circulated as ExTAG/418A/CD and associated compilation of comments (ExTAG/428A/CC) and agreed to recommend to the ExMC that the draft Operational Document proceed to publication.
4. ExTAG recommends to ExMC that PTB be formally appointed as the IECEx PT provider for next programs.
5. ExTAG recommends to ExMC that ExMC WG5 have a review to ensure coverage of IECEx system requirements for manufacturer quality systems certified according to ISO 9001:2015.
6. ExTAG recommends that ExMC proceed for publication of new edition of OD017 (ExTAG/408A/CD), also considering that the WG continue to work to reflect any standard changes or new publications.
7. ExTAG support the proposition of the Executive that missing three consecutive meetings should trigger an early re-assessment, and that this should be documented in OD 003-2.

List of documents relative to Decision Sheets under consideration

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| ExTAG DS 2014/001 | To remain unchanged. |
| ExTAG/243D/CD | To be withdrawn. |
| ExTAG/417/CD | To be withdrawn. |
| ExTAG/406/CD | Pending (waiting for output of TC31 WG22). |
| ExTAG/409/CD | Has been replaced by ExTAG(Umlhanga/Sec)05. |
| ExTAG(Umlhanga/Sec)05 | To be sent back to Ron Sinclair to take into account additional comments and review wording according to the standard.Also, includes ExTAG/373A/CD content.To be circulated. |
| ExTAG/419/CD | To be withdrawn. |
| ExTAG/420/CD | To be withdrawn.Subject to be forwarded to ExTAG WG3. |
| ExTAG/433/CD | Pending (waiting for output of IEC 60079-1 MT convener). |
| ExTAG/373A/CD  | Refer to ExTAG(Umlhanga/Sec)05 in this table. |
| ExTAG/341A/CD | To be withdrawn. |