ExNBG meeting short report

The last meeting held on 16 and 17 November 2015.

A summary of the IECEx meetings held in Christchurch 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. The Chairman, Dr Thedens reported that according to the previous meeting IECEx Decision Sheet with relevance also for ExNB should be identified and transferred into Clarification Sheet. The complete list will be prepared for discussion in the next meeting.

It was reminded that several European Directives have been modified due to the New Legal Framework. The ATEX Directive is one of them. The new ATEX Directive 2014/34/EU replaced on April 2016 the previous ATEX Directive 94/9/EC. Due to the new Directives a re-notification of all Notified Bodies have been necessary.

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 regarding the need for manufacturers 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 are able to use the EC type examination certificate they have already for their product. However, if there is a change in the in the products or the State of the Art new examinations and tests is required as in the past. However, it is 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 is mandatory.

A new ATEX Guideline and a new harmonised standard list were also published.

It was also discussed the use of the new ISO 9001:2015. It was reminded that ISO 9001:2015 can be used in principle for the purpose of IEC/ISO 80079-34 using a reference paper of the old and the new ISO 9001. A Clarification Sheet based on the current draft of IEC/ISO 80079-34 to give clarification. In this draft identity between ATEX and IECEx should be granted.

The next ExNB meeting will be on 17 and 18 November 2016 in Brussels.

Thierry Houeix ExNBG Vice-Chairman