



Karsten Moholt of Norway gains IECEx Service Certification

Following in the footsteps of other facilities in Thailand, Malaysia and the Netherlands (see [e-tech March 2008](#)), Karsten Moholt AS recently became the first Norwegian repair and overhaul workshop to be granted IECEx certification in the Certified Service Facility Programme for Organizations providing Repair and Overhaul Service of Ex Equipment, in accordance with International Standard [IEC 60079-19](#).

[Karsten Moholt AS](#) is an electro-mechanical workshop based in Bergen, Norway. Founded at the end of World War II, the company has grown steadily and now counts about 100 employees. Not only is the company bigger but it has diversified its activities. Over the years, Karsten Moholt AS has developed a broad base of expertise and experience in the handling of rotating electric machinery through all phases of its life cycle. The company's activities cover all facets, from the repair of electric motors and generators, to service, condition monitoring and maintenance commissions for the oil and shipping industries, including offshore, onshore and underwater missions.

One indication of Karsten Moholt's global reach and prestige is its responsibility for the maintenance of the Kværner-managed launch rig "Sea Launch" for the United States' National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Asked what the advantages were of having the [IECEx](#) Certification, according to the new IECEx 03 programme, Managing Director Karsten Moholt Jr. replied: "We are accepted by all oil companies operating in Norway. We also do work outside Europe, and the certification helps us be better accepted by our customers. Our customers choose us when they have problems with Ex-certified equipment."

Moholt explained that they first heard of the new Service Facility certificate through the Electrical Apparatus Service Association ([EASA](#)), right when they were thinking of obtaining international certification for Ex repair, in replacement for the national authorization scheme withdrawn by the Norwegian government when adopting the European Union Directives for product safety. The certification process was a first, both for Karsten Moholt AS and for the certification body, [NEMKO](#) of Norway. Moholt said that NEMKO was very professional, offering excellent service and response time.

Moholt added that all their customers are extremely satisfied with the new certification. "They see us as the serious repair facility in Norway," he said.

The NEMKO Group offers testing, inspection and certification services concerning products, machinery, installations and systems worldwide.



Overhaul of an explosion motor – the IECEx Service Facility Certification gives Karsten Moholt a leading edge in the repair and overhaul sector.



Vibration analyses on motors, signalling any deviations, are an extremely reliable method when used for monitoring bearing damage or wear.

RELATED INFORMATION

IEC links

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System for certification to standards for equipment for explosive atmospheres

[IEC 60079-19:](#)

Explosive atmospheres - Part 19: Equipment repair, overhaul and reclamation

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