



British engineer Ron Sinclair received an MBE for "Services to Certification and Standards"

Ron Sinclair, Managing Director of the private certification body Baseefa Ltd., was awarded an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in the UK's (United Kingdom's) 2011 New Year's Honours List for his services to Certification and Standards.

Sinclair, one of the UK's most widely-respected certification engineers, serves on many national and international IECEx, and ATEX committees. He was instrumental in setting up Baseefa Ltd. in 2001. IECEx is the IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres. ATEX refers to the EU (European Union) directives for equipment for use in explosive atmosphere.

MBE

IECEX ExTAG Chairman and Baseefa leader honoured

"I was gobsmacked when I received the letter from the [UK] Cabinet Office," Sinclair admitted. "I see the honour as recognition for all the work we did in rescuing the service from the threat of closure in 2001, and the way that since then, we have seen it grow into a world leader in its field.

Following the [UK] HSE (Health and Safety Executive) announcement of the closure of its EECS (Electrical Equipment Certification Service) and the enforced retirement or redundancy of all the technical staff, Sinclair led the new management team and the formation of Baseefa in the private sector.

"The decision to carry on with the business was done with the wholehearted support of our customers, who insisted that we should keep it going," he said. "But our type of business is nothing without the depth of knowledge and the application of the people in it, and the support of the staff and of my wife to the venture was tremendous. I would say that leading the formation of Baseefa and seeing it grow into the internationally respected company that it is today has been my greatest achievement."

Founder of one of the leading Ex certification companies in the world, in under 10 years Ron Sinclair has grown Baseefa into a true

success story. The modern headquarters are fully equipped to offer training and a full range of services to manufacturers and users of hazardous equipment. Today, Baseefa's reputation extends well beyond the British frontiers. The international credibility Baseefa has gained in the past decade has resulted in their IECEx reports now being immediately acceptable by UL, FM or CSA as the basis for obtaining local certification for use in North America. Since it was established, Baseefa has always been among the first of the Ex certification bodies to obtain accreditation and be granted the right to deliver all types of IECEx certification, whether for Ex equipment, repair and overhaul facilities, or personnel competencies.

Sinclair's many international responsibilities include chairmanship of ExTAG, the IECEx Test and Assessment Group, and chairmanship of the committee responsible for the UK's input to both European and International Standards for electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres. He is also chairman of the CENELEC, European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization, TC 31: Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres, and is responsible for representing electrical standardization interests on ATEX's Standing Committee.

About the MBE



Created by the late King George V, the chivalrous Order of the British Empire is the United Kingdom's highest system of

honour. In addition to the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire), there are four other distinguished classes: the GBE (Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire); KBE (Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire); CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire); and OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire).

Past recipients include celebrities such as The Beatles (1965). The vast majority of those honoured however are 'ordinary' people who, in their own way, have made a difference to the lives of others around them. These special individuals include nurses and teachers, industrialists and economists, sportsmen and artists who have made a contribution to British society;

people such as Lance and Lucy Appleby who, with their calico-bound unpasteurised Cheshire cheese, revived British tradition and were awarded MBE's for their *services to Cheesemaking in Shropshire* in 2001, and Anthony Denis Kennan, Chairman, Multiple Sclerosis Society, who was awarded an OBE in 2011 for his services to *Health care*. There are teachers like Marie Erwood who have inspired generations of pupils; volunteers such as Joyce Andrews for *voluntary service to Wimbledon and Merton Swimming Club*; eco-champions such as swarm-collecting beekeeper Anne Buckingham; local community workers like sub-postmistress Kathleen White from the Claverley post office in Wolverhampton, visionaries and pioneers, all of whom have left their mark on British society.