# IECEX TRAINING CENTRES PROPOSAL

**By the US National Committee**

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# IECEx Training Centre Proposal

**PURPOSE:**

**To assist industry in the improvement of safety at Ex facilities, and to support and promote Regulatory requirements for safety in Ex installations.**

# Proposal – Two Primary Objectives:

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**-- To provide assurance that Ex education/training towards CoPC is from a Qualified Training Centre Program**

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-- To provide assurance that Ex education/training towards CoPC is from a Qualified Training Centre Program

**(2)  The program also provides Industry with IECEx Recognized Training for independent employee evaluations**
-- This provides assurance their employees have access to suitable Ex training and knowledge base of relevant information

# IECEx Training Centre Business Model

**WHY IS THIS NEEDED?**

(1)  For qualification of Ex Training Centres

(2)  To support ExPCC for Personal Competency Certifications

(3)  To increase awareness of the need for National Regulations for Ex training and competency

(4)  For additional recognition of IECEx as THE  Premier Authority for Ex Certifications, Training and Competency

# Basis for Training

(1) Based on IEC TC31 standards in whole or in part

(2) May be specified to align with the ExPCC
Units of Competency

(3) May be specified for specific equipment types

So, the Training Centre evaluation of courses content is based on the content of the specified standards (and particular versions thereof)

# Ex Training Targets

- Primarily targeted to individuals involved in the:
  - Design of Ex facilities
  - Installation, maintenance and/or repair of Ex equipment
  - Inspection of Ex facilities
- Training may be supplemented with specific product type information and/or regional/national practices – however these aspects are not intended for qualification under this proposal

# Ex Training Centre Program Attributes

- **Training Centres are Independent from CoPC in that there must be a separation of training from the evaluation of Competency. This means that the training may be used for different purposes; i.e. towards CoPC or by employers**

- **The program is Voluntary; however, training from IECEx qualified Training Centres provides better credibility toward CoPC candidate evaluations**

- **Independent assessment of the Training Centre required for curriculum, training personnel, and the quality system**

# Ex Training Centre Program Attributes (Page 2)

- The program is merit based, such that technical aspects do not need to be developed; assessments of curriculum are based on contents of the TC31 standards or parts of standards

- Training programs may be provided to align with the ExPCC Units of Competencies or to specific standards or parts of standards

# Basis for the Evaluation of Training Centres By ExCBs

(1) Audit the merits of the course structure relative to IEC TC31 standards

(2) Audit of Quality Management System – with preference to ISO-9001 certification

(3) Evaluation of the qualifications of at least one Ex Trainer on staff

(4) The Training Centre will also be audited for the correct content and relevance of skills assessment training, if provided

# Basis for the Continued Qualification of Training Centres By ExCBs

(1) Maintain qualification through the IECEx audit structure of 18/36 months

(2) Maintain relevance of courses to at least one of the two most recent issues of a relevant standard

(3) Maintain at least one Ex qualified Trainer on staff

(4) Subject to periodic review of training records for accuracy and for relevance to the specified standards and/or Units of Competency

# Further Development of the Proposal

The USNC has prepared rough drafts of documents for review by the ExPCC:

(1) Rules of procedure for the assessment of Ex Training Centres

(2) Procedures for IECEx acceptance of ExCBs providing Assessment service for the qualification of Ex Training Centres

(3) Procedures for the application from candidate IECEx Training Centres by an ExCB

(4) Procedures for the assessment of candidate IECEx Training Centres by an ExCB

(5) Quality System requirements for IECEx Training Centres

A list of Resource documents related to Ex Training has also been provided

# Considerations for Further Development

- **Terminology of the assessment/qualification of Training Centres**
  The evaluation by ExPCC should include Certification, accreditation, credentialing, endorsement, and recognition

- **Implement separation of training from the evaluation of competency as specified by ISO/IEC 17024**

- **Provide definition for completion of training to provide clear distinction from the Certificate of Personnel Competency**

- **Refine the minimum requirements for the assessment of course instructors for Ex Training Centres**

- **Refine the minimum requirements for Quality Systems for Ex Training Centres**