



INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

IEC SCHEME FOR CERTIFICATION TO STANDARDS FOR SAFETY OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT FOR EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (IECEx SCHEME)

Ex Management Committee, ExMC and for the information of ExTAG

Report of voting including compilation of comments received concerning document:

Title: ExMC/154/DV - *Rules of Procedure of the IEC Scheme for Certification to Standards for Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx Scheme), Publication IECEx 02.*

Introduction

This document is a report of the voting regarding document *ExMC/154/DV, Rules of Procedure of the IEC Scheme for Certification to Standards for Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx Scheme), Publication IECEx 02.*

This document also contains a compilation of comments received. The IECEx Secretary considered these comments with recommendations concerning their acceptance at this stage. The IECEx Officers and members of Working Group WG1, Revision of Scheme Rules, considered all comments along with the Secretary's recommendations,

A final decision has now been taken to proceed to publication with the new revised rules on the basis of YES response from all voting members. The comments identified with a highlight will be incorporated into the final published document with all remaining comments being referred to the IECEx October 2003 Budapest Meeting, for further consideration.

Concerning the change in terminology from IECEx Assessment And Test Report (ATR) to IECEx Test Report (ExTR), a note will be added to Clause 3.9 to inform the reader that these were previously known as ATRs and that existing blank ATR forms are to be replaced with ExTR forms. Current ATR blank forms may continue to be used as an interim measure.

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Results of vote on Rules of Procedure of the IEC Scheme for Certification to Standards for Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx Scheme), Publication IECEx 02.

Circulation Date: 2003 January

Closing Date: 2003/03/31
Reminder: 2003/04/02

Voting response from ExMC Members		
<u>Member</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Comments</u>
(AU) Australia	Y	See Annex A
(CA) Canada	Y	
(CH) Switzerland	Y	
(CN) China	Y	See Annex A
(DE) Germany	Y	See Annex A
(DK) Denmark	Y	
(FI) Finland	Y	
(FR) France	Y	
(GB) United Kingdom	Y	See Annex A
(HU) Hungary	NR	
(IT) Italy	Y	
(KR) Korea	Y	
(NL) Netherlands	Y	
(NO) Norway	Y	
(NZ) New Zealand	Y	
(RO) Romania	NR	
(RU) Russia	Y	See Annex A
(SE) Sweden	Y	See Annex A
(SI) Slovenia	Y	
(US) United States	Y	See Annex A
(YU) Serbia and Montenegro	Y	
(ZA) South Africa	Y	

Members Voting: 22	Members in favour: 20 Members against: 0
	Final Decision: Approved Status on:

Vote: Do the members of the ExMC Scheme agree on the acceptance of document ExMC/154/DV: Draft Rules of Procedure of the IEC Scheme for Certification to Standards for Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx Scheme), Publication IECEx 02?

Y = In favour N = Against NR = Not returned

Comments submitted have been considered by the IECEx Chairman, Officers and Members of WG1, *Revision of Scheme Rules*, with those considered not to alter the technical content being included in the published version and identified by shading while others are referred to the next ExMC meeting for consideration.



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2003 05

Comment number	National Committee	Clause/ Subclause	Paragraph Figure/ Table	Type of comment (General/ Technical/ Editorial)	COMMENTS	Proposed change	Secretariat Comments supported by IECEx Officer's and WG1 Members
1	AU			General	<p>While AU supports the immediate release of this document to enable certificates of conformity to be issued, AU intends to prepare a submission for the refinement of Doc IECEx02 for consideration during the October 2003 IECEx Meeting. AU's submission will focus on the following aspects:</p> <p>The only output of the scheme should be the Ex Certificate and the link between ExTLs and ExCBs should disappear to provide full flexibility.</p>		Comment Noted – For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
2	DE			General	<p>The procedures for the CoC and the QAR are linked in the document. The link between both leads to additional unnecessary administration and would slow down the certification process. The acceptance of the new certification scheme by manufacturers would be questionable. Hence, the quality assessment should be completely decoupled from the product assessment.</p> <p>In practice the described common procedure is the exception, because the QAR must only be issued once</p>	<p>The certification procedure for the CoC should be decoupled from the quality assessment. One way to ensure, that the CoC is only used after a valid QAR has been issued, could be a restriction in the CoC, that the CoC is only valid in combination with a valid QAR. The manufacturer has to provide the product with both, the CoC and a valid QAR. The latter can be provided e.g. by the manufacturers internet homepage.</p>	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting, noting the previous decision of WG1 and ExMC at the Seoul 2002 meetings Also noting that ISO/IEC Guide 65 requires such linkage



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					with the first CoC. The following applications for another CoC do not require a repeated QAR procedure, provided the validity of the QAR has not expired.		
3	DE	Introduction	Overview page 7	Technical	Change according to comment above in DE General comment	Replace diagram by new diagram (see annex B)	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting See IECEx Officers remark to comment No 2
4	DE		Flowchart overview IEC Ex Scheme	General	Flowchart must be corrected according the comments below in comment relating to Clause 3.6 (Flowchart Annex B of this doc)		Comment Noted – For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
5	GB		Flowchart overview IEC Ex Scheme	Technical	The figure on P7 requires modification. The box ' ExCB1 reviews and endorses QAR' does not apply to the middle path, only to the RH path, i.e. it applies to the case where an alternate ExCB prepares the QAR		Retain current wording as ExCB would be required to perform a review of their own prepared QAR as well as from another ExCB. However for discussion at 2003 ExMC meeting



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6	RU	Scope		Editorial	to write - flameproof enclosures "d" (IEC 60079-1) -powder filling "q" (IEC 60079-5)		Agreed
7	SE	Scope		General	The scheme applies for certification of electrical equipment complying with one or more IEC standards that defines the type of protection. Therefore, we do not understand why IEC 60079-19. Repair and Overhaul is included in the scope, according to the NOTE.		Use current wording as agreed during Seoul 2002 ExMC meeting. Also agreement from ExTAG meeting
8	CN	2		Editorial	ISO/IEC 17025:1990 should be ISO/IEC 17025:2000.		Agreed. To read 1999
9	RU	Normative références		Editorial	to write: -ISO/IEC 17025:1999		Agreed
10	RU	3		General	n 3. "Definitions" to put: 3.22 after 3. 10		Agreed
11	DE	3.6		General / editorial	Equipment is used in EU also for apparatus to avoid misunderstandings equipment should be used in the same way	Delete 3.6	Comment Noted – For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
12	CN	3.9		General	In the first line of the clause “an evaluation record” shall be deleted		Comment Noted – For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting

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13	SE	3.9 and 3.10		General	<p>We question the need for defining two kind of reports from ExTL (ExTR and Evaluation record) and to specify details regarding content and layout in the Rules of Procedure. We propose to replace “evaluation record” in 3.9 with “a documented record of the obtained test and assessment results” and to delete the definition of 3.10 Evaluation record. Details regarding layout and content of ExTR are handled by ExMC according to 8.2.3.</p> <p>We would prefer the term “IECEX Test Report” instead of “IECEX Ex Test Report”.</p>	We propose to replace “evaluation record” in 3.9 with “a documented record of the obtained test and assessment results” and to delete the definition of 3.10 Evaluation record	Agreed as this does not alter the technical aspect of information to be contained within an IECEx Test Report
14	CN	3.10		General	shall be amended as “The evaluation record is the basis of the ExTR and,		Agreed – see Remark for Comment No. 13
15	CN	5.1		Editorial	the 3 rd line, ..in other countries should be amended as “... in other non-participating countries.”.		Agreed
				Editorial	the 4 th line, “ A certificate ... the scheme” should be amended as “ An IECEx CoC may be obtained from any an ExCB”.		Agreed



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				Editorial	the end of 5 th line, ..the equipment... should be "...the equipment's..."		Agreed
				Editorial	in order to be unification, "IECEX CoC " should be used in following clauses, instead of " IECEx certificate of conformity", "certificate of conformity" and " the certificate".		Agreed in principle
16	DE			Technical	It should be ensured, that a CoC may be issued for a product with its variety of types. It shall be stated, that according to common practice, several temperature classes and protection measures are combined in one certificate.	Add under 5.1: The certificate may be issued for a product with its variety of types, including different process and electrical connections, different temperature classes, different types of protection, etc..	Agreed
17	CN	5.3		Editorial	the 2 nd line, ...assessors selected... should be amended as "...assessor appointed..."		Agreed
				Editorial	the 5 th line, "...ISO/IEC 17025 and Guide 65.." should be amended as "... ISO/IEC Guide 65 and ISO/IEC 17025.."		Agreed
18	SE	5.4		Editorial	Amend the sentence to read: "...permitted to issue <u>endorsed</u> ExTRs, QARs and IECEx Certificate of..."		Agreed



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19	CN	5.5			<p>the last two lines of the 1st paragraph, it should amend as "... issuing local and/or national certificate,to local and/or national certification.". In 8.2.4 and 10, same situations should be amended according to this change.</p> <p>at the beginning of the first sentence of the 2nd paragraph, following sentence shall be added: "Where relevant competence of the issuing body has been identified by the ExCB of the accepting country,"</p>		<p>Agreed</p> <p>Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting</p>
20	US	5.5	2	Editorial	Grammar error in paragraph.	Change to: Should the ExCB receiving an ExTR or QAR believe it to contain errors, <u>the receiving ExCB</u> shall contact the <u>issuing ExCB</u> before taking any action.	Agreed
21	CN	7.2 and 7.4		Editorial	before Member body..., it should add " candidate member body and " .		7.2 is ok, but WG1 objection regarding 7.4. 7.4 is applicable after the mb has been accepted under the scheme – therefore no longer being a



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							candidate. Therefore comment accepted for 7.2 only
22	CN	7.5		Editorial	if the country.. should be amended as “..if the member body of the country...”.		Agreed.
23	CN	7.6		Editorial /technical	<p>should be amended as following:</p> <p>In the event of a country's ceasing to be a participating country, the ExCBs in that country shall lose the right to issue new <u>IECEX CoCs, QARs and ExTRs</u>.</p> <p>ExTRs previously issued shall remain valid. <u>IECEX CoCs and QARs shall remain valid until the date of next following up assessment</u>.</p> <p>Within this period the manufacturer shall seek an alternative ExCB that accepts to maintain the validity of IECEx CoCs and QARs, otherwise the certificates and QARs shall be withdrawn.</p>		Agreed Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
24	DE	7.6		Technical	An issued certificate must remain valid, to ensure that apparatus in use can be used correct in formal aspects. The manufacturer of an apparatus normally has not the information were	In the event of a country's ceasing to be a participating country, the ExCBs in that country shall lose the right to issue new IECEx Certificates of Conformity	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting



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					the apparatus is used or if the manufacturer of an apparatus is no longer on the market there is no way to act	and ExTRs. IECEx Issued Certificates of Conformity shall remain valid for a period of 6 months following which they shall be withdrawn. ExTRs previously issued shall remain valid. QARs shall remain valid for a period of 6 months. Within this period the manufacturer shall seek an alternative ExCB that accepts to maintain the validity of the QARs	Noting that previous ExMC agreement that an IECEx CoC can only be issued when both ExTR and QAR are valid
25	DE	8.1.1		Technical	To ensure that all certificates of conformity issued in different countries are based on the same version of IEC standards it must be clearly stated that always the latest version shall be used. Remove "...and QAR," in first line Remove "... and that the manufacturer ... certified equipment."	An IECEx Certificate of Conformity is issued by an ExCB, on the basis of an ExTR and QAR , certifying that the type of Ex equipment identified on the Certificate conforms in all relevant respects with the latest versions of IEC standard(s) specified on the Certificate and that the manufacturer named on the Certificate manufactures the product under a quality system and associated quality plan(s) complying with the requirements of this Scheme, as a means of providing adequate confidence that the Ex equipment will be produced in conformity with the design of the	A valid point for discussion as to date we have seen varying views. Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting



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						certified equipment. For issuing a certificate of conformity latest 6 month after publishing of a new version of an IEC standard this new version must be taken as basis	
26	SE	8.2.1		Editorial	Amend the last sentence to read: "...for all standards used in the IECEx Scheme. <u>An allocated part of the front cover sheet of the ExTR or a separate sheet may be used by the ExCB for endorsing the ExTR.</u>	The ExTR shall contain a clear description of the Ex equipment, or change to already certified Ex equipment, the name and address of the applicant and the manufacturer and the edition of the IEC standard, and amendments, if any. It shall give, as far as necessary, for each clause of the relevant standard a brief reference to the requirements, and the results of tests and examinations. The ExTR shall also contain the information necessary for identification of the Ex equipment such as type designation, ratings, description and photographs	Agreed
27	US	8.2.2			The existing wording does not address the concept of changes to equipment which has already been certified and the need for a new ATR to be issued in support of the change	The ExTR shall contain a clear description of the Ex equipment, <u>or change to already certified Ex equipment</u> , the name and address of the applicant and the manufacturer and the edition of	Agree



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						the IEC standard, and amendments, if any. It shall give, as far as necessary, for each clause of the relevant standard a brief reference to the requirements, and the results of tests and examinations. The ExTR shall also contain the information necessary for identification of the Ex equipment such as type designation, ratings, description and photographs	
28	CN	8.2.4		Editorial	should amend as "... issuing local and/or national certificate ,to local and/or national certification."		Objection raised within WG1 Therefore Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting Use current wording
29	DE	8.2.4		Technical	See Comment 24	Remove "...IEC Ex QAR and ..." in 1 st line Remove "... QAR..." in 2 nd line	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
30	US	8.2.7 New			This subclause supports the concept in 9.9 regarding "Ensuring conformity". In 9.9 details are provided on suspension or withdrawal of IECEx CoC. The possibility of	<u>Ensuring Conformity</u> The manufacturer has the responsibility to ensure that all Ex equipment for which an IECEx Assessment and Test Report (ATR)	Agree but use the new term ExTR rather than ATR



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					suspension or withdrawal should also carry through to the IECEx ATR.	is issued is in conformity with the design of the certified equipment. Failure to do so, and any other misuse of the IECEx ATR could lead to suspension or withdrawal of the IECEx ATR by the ExCB.	
31	CN	8.3.1		Editorial	..(3 years).. should be amended as “ .., normally 3 years , ...”		Objection raised within WG1 Therefore Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting Use current wording
32	SE	8.3.2		Editorial	We propose to use the same wording (in principal), as in 8.2.3. The statement “ExMC shall prepare a document” is not suitable for Rules of procedure.		Objection raised within WG1 Therefore Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting Use current wording
33	DE	8.3.4		Technical	The QAR including the required periodically re-audits is required for the certificate and also for the ongoing production. This must be made clear in the standard	The Because QARs are transitory documents used in the preparation of IECEx Certificates of Conformity and basis for the ongoing production , they shall not be used in any form of advertising or sales promotion in a way that the information may be misinterpreted order that the information is not Misrepresented	Agreed

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34	DE	9.2		Editorial	According to the state of the art, it should be possible, that the documentation is provided by the applicant in electronic format.	Add the sentence: The documentation may be provided in paper form or electronic format. If electronic format is used, it shall be provided in a commonly used file format, e.g. PDF or TIFF on a commonly used storage medium, e.g. 3.5" disk, CD-Rom, DVD-Rom.	Agreed
35	DE	9.5		Technical	The QAR must be seen independent from a specific certificate for an apparatus. In the certification process only very specific quality activities if required must be checked	The ExCB shall assess the conformity of the manufacturer's quality system and associated Quality plan(s) relevant to the Ex equipment listed on the IECEx Certificate of Conformity with the requirements of the IECEx Scheme. In order to demonstrate how the quality system ensures that equipment is manufactured in conformity with the design of the certified equipment, the manufacturer shall if required provide the ExCB with a copy of a quality plan for the Ex equipment to be listed on the IECEx CoC. The manufacturer may provide evidence of the suitability of the quality system such as certification/registration to ISO 9001	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting



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						by a competent body. The ExCB shall take the evidence into account when deciding the extent of the assessment that it needs to conduct. The assessment shall include an "onsite assessment" at the manufacturer's premises to confirm implementation of the quality system and associated quality plan(s). The ExCB shall issue an IECEx QAR.	
36	DE	9.5		Editorial	See comment 34	Renumber clause 9.5 to clause 10. Renumber all following clauses accordingly (9.6->9.5, ..., 10 to 11,....)	Comment Noted – For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
37	DE	9.6		Technical	To be in line with the proposal for 9.5 in 9.6 also QAR must be deleted	Upon satisfactory completion of the work, the ExCB shall endorse the ExTR and QAR that together with an IECEx Certificate of Conformity shall be issued to the applicant, with a copy of each being retained by the ExCB. The manufacturer and the ExCB shall each retain a set of the documentation referred to in the certificate. The ExCB shall send a copy of the Certificate to the Secretary of the ExMC along with details of the ExTR and QAR.	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting



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38	DE	9.6		Technical	See Comment 36	Remove "...and QAR.." in 1 st line Remove last sentence " The ExCB shall send... and QAR"	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
39	CN	9.7		Technical	at the 8th line, adding “, normally once per year shall be suitable.” after ..quality plan(s).		Objection raised within WG1 Therefore Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting Use current wording
40	DE	9.7		Technical	The QAR must be seen independent from the certificate for an apparatus and the paragraph is therefore not required	Delete 9.7	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
41	DE	9.7		Technical	See Comment 39	Remove "...or arrange for another...behalf"	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
42	DE	9.7		Editorial	See Comment 39	Renumber clause 9.7 to clause 10.1 Renumber all following clauses accordingly	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
43	DE	9.8		Technical	To make clear that the process is only required if the explosion protection is involved the paragraph should be modified as given It is difficult to determine a “major change”. Amendments should always be	If the manufacturer wishes to make a change to the certified Ex equipment, <u>were the explosion protection is involved</u> , he shall apply to the ExCB which granted the IECEx Certificate of Conformity,	Agreed

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					possible with an existing certificate	describing the change and the measures adopted to ensure continuing conformity with the relevant standard(s). The ExCB shall arrange for such work as is necessary to be carried out to verify that the Ex equipment incorporating the change will still conform to the standard(s). The ExCB shall issue an addendum to the Certificate authorizing the change. The layout and content of the addendum shall be specified by the ExMC. The ExMC shall determine the extent of the change that can be accommodated using an addendum to the original Certificate. An ExCB may determine that a major change(s) requires a new Certificate to be issued	
44	DE	New 9.9		Technical	A procedure must be foreseen, allowing that a CoC for an Ex-product, which is produced or traded by another manufacturer in licence, may be transferred easily without re-assessment.	Add clause 9.9 Simplified certification procedure for products under licence agreement: A product "a", which is IEC Ex certified by manufacturer "A", can simply be certified by manufacturer "B" in his name as product "b". It may be produced by manufacturer "A" or "B". Both must provide an own QAR. Manufacturer B must submit following documents:	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting A very good point however, we must remember Guide 65 requirements



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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application form identifying the manufacturer "B" and the product "b" Agreement of manufacturer "A", that authorises manufacturer "B" to apply for an IEC Ex CoC for product "b" based on the Ex CoC of product "a". Statement of manufacturer "B", that product "b" is identical to product "a", except colour, label and packaging. Table identifying the correlation between versions of product "a" and product "b" (e.g. order codes) 	
45	US	9.11		Technical	The additional text is patterned after that used in the CB Scheme (refer to subclause 6.1.4 of IECEx 02).the amount to be decided by the ExMC. The surcharge is to be collected by the ACB handling the application, and remitted to the IECEx account.	Agreed
46	DE	9.12		Technical	See Comment 2	Remove last bullet "the manufacturers quality systemcertified equipment"	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
47	CN	10		Editorial	should amend as "... issuing local and/or national certificate , ...to local and/or national certification."		Objection raised within WG1 Therefore Comment Noted –For



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							discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting Use current wording
48	RU	10		Technical	In 10, " Use of Ex TRs and QARs for National Certification" compulsory" should be changed to "voluntary". (Acceptance procedure of Test Reports and Quality Assessment Reports of manufactures is according to the Russian legislation is not legitimate).		Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
49	CN	10.1			"Documentation" should be amended as " General ".		Agreed
50	CN	10.2			a) "National Certification" should be changed to " Documentation ". b) adding " and/or QAR " after ExTR.		Use current wording
51	DE	10.2	Last sentence	Technical	An IEC ExCB should only request a test sample of the Ex equipment, if justified doubts about the correctness of the ExTR are referred to the Board of Appeal in written format (see 10.5). Otherwise the ExTR would be completely degraded.	Delete in the 2 nd sentence: ...the ExCB may request a sample of the Ex equipment and copies of the Add: A test sample may only be requested if justified doubts about the correctness of the ExTR are referred to the board of appeal in written format (see 10.5)	Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting
52	DE	10.4		Technical	An Ex CB must not refuse an ExTR because of revised standards. Generally,	Delete the word "Invalid" in the header.	Objection raised within WG1 Therefore



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					<p>a former standard is not unsafe, but the state of the art has changed.</p> <p>Otherwise, an ExTR, which the applicant has paid for, would be worthless after some time and the acceptance of the whole system would be reduced.</p>	<p>Modify the first sentence by: The ExCB must recognize the ExTR even, when the standards are no longer valid in the country of the receiving ExCB. If necessary, the receiving ExCB may perform an assessment of the product according to the differences between the new and former standard, on which the ExTr was based upon.</p>	<p>Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting Use current wording</p>
53	CN	11.2.5			<p>adding “including whether the ExTR review is needed” after “..and recommendations,”.</p>		<p>Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting</p>
54	CN	11.2.12			<p>the first two lines should be amended as following: “As ...Member, where the ExTR review is recommended in the report of assessment, newly accepted and reassessed ExTL shall.....”.</p>		<p>Comment Noted –For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting</p> <p>Noting ExMC Seoul decision that all new Bodies are to have their first ExTR reviewed</p>
55	SE	12.2		Editorial	<p>Information, of which countries which accept IECEx Certificate of available to the public also. Conformity, shall be made readily</p>		<p>Comment Noted – For discussion at 2003 ExMC Budapest Meeting</p>



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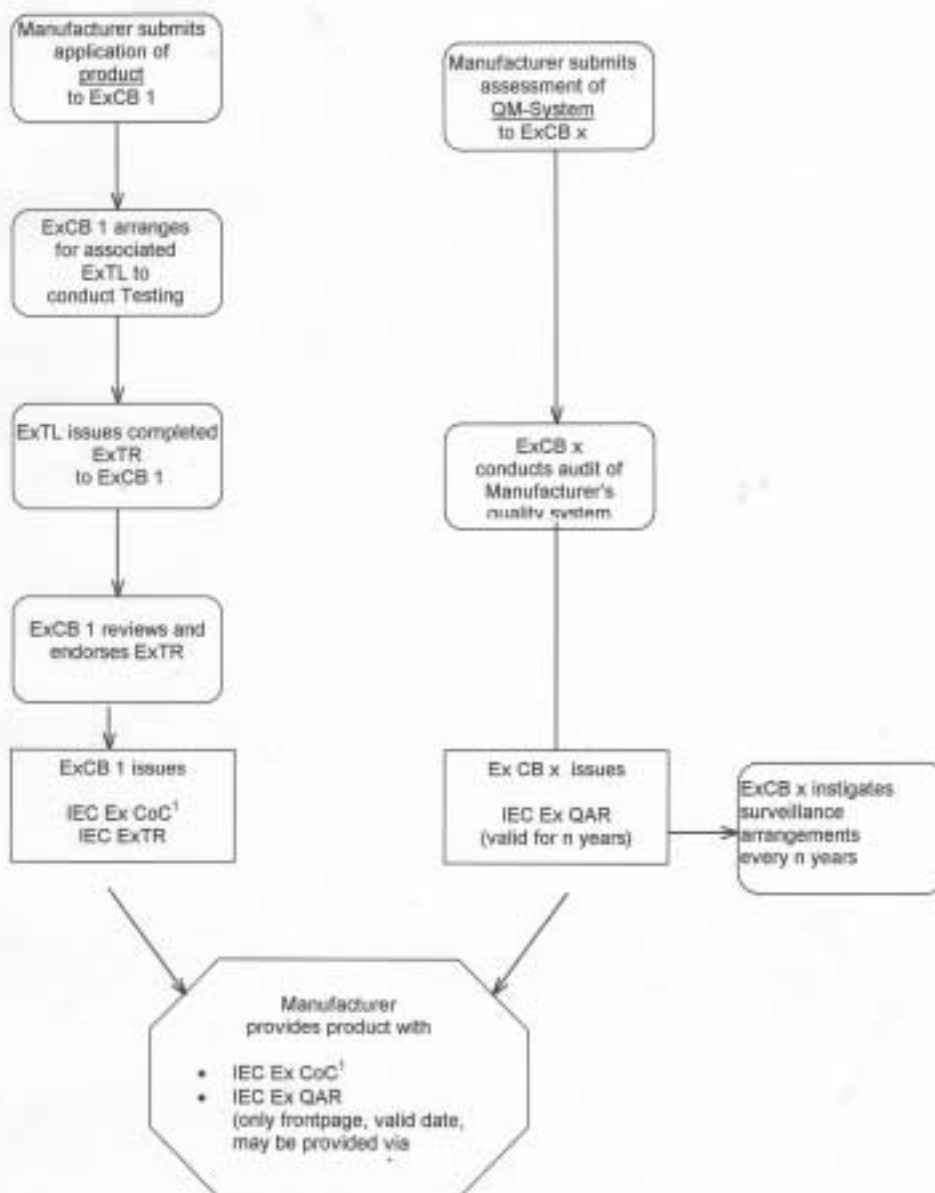
Comment number	National Committee	Clause/ Subclause	Paragraph Figure/ Table	Type of comment (General/ Technical/ Editorial)	COMMENTS	Proposed change	Secretariat Comments supported by IECEx Officer's and WG1 Members
							Noting that many countries that are not IECEx members are willing to accept IECEx CoC as well.
56	RU	Annex B		Technical	Application Form of Certification Body for the recognition as Ex MB should be added to Annex B		Agreed
57	RU	Annex D		Technical	Application Form of Test Laboratory for accreditation as Ex TL should be taken from Annex D to Annex C.		Agreed

Annex B

ExMC/159/RV
2003 04

German Proposal for simplification of IEC Ex certification scheme

Refers to ExMC/154/DV draft rev IEC Ex 02, January 2003



¹ only valid in combination with a valid QAR