Secretariat

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION (IEC) SYSTEM FOR CERTIFICATION TO STANDARDS RELATING TO EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (IECEx SYSTEM)

Ex Management Committee, ExMC

TITLE: IECEx Scheme Report Card - 2008

INTRODUCTION

The Secretariat has prepared this document as an up date to IECEx Members on the following matters, since the 2007 IECEx Denver meetings:

- **Membership**
- **Statistics of issued IECEx Certificates of Conformity, ExTRs, QARs**
- **Promotional Activities**
- **Secretariat and General Technical Administration**

This document is issued for information to members and is listed on the IECEx 2008 ExMC meeting agenda for noting and any necessary discussion.

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IECEx Scheme Report Card - 2008

1. General Overview

Discussions and decisions from the 2007 series of IECEx Meetings in Denver set the tone and direction for further development, growth and expansion of the IECEx Scheme in terms of the following:

- New Member Countries Poland and Malaysia joining
- New ExCBs and ExTLs being added to the IECEx list of approved bodies
- Launch of the new IECEx Certified Service Facilities Program
- Completion of the upgrades to the IECEx On-Line Certificate of Conformity System
- A marked increase in the demand and issue of IECEx Certificates of Conformity, some 42% above 2007 figures
- Introduction of the IECEx Mark of Conformity
- Continued processing of Scope extensions from ExTLs and ExCBs
- Promotion at Regional and International forums
- Greater industry involvement, including users and regulators
- Others

2. Membership

IECEx Scheme Membership, as at 6 August 2008 stands at:

- **28** Countries, members of the IECEx Management Committee, ExMC, discussions progressing with **BR** indicating their intension to join and interest from **Turkey** and **Croatia**.

- Now operating **three** separate Certification Systems
  - IECEx Certified Equipment Program (Rules = IECEx 02)
  - IECEx Certified Service Facility Program (Rules = IECEx 03)
  - IECEx Conformity Mark Licensing System (Regulations = IECEx 04)

- **IECEx Certified Equipment Program**
  - 36 Approved ExCBs (+ Applicants)
  - 39 Approved ExTLs (+ Applicants)

- **IECEx Certified Service Facilities Program**
  - 7 Approved ExCBs (+ Applicants)

- **IECEx Conformity Mark License System**
  - 3 Approved License issuing ExCBs (+ Applicants)

3. Statistics – CoCs, QARs, ExTRs

At 12 August 2008 there were **6,478** Issued IECEx Reports and Certificates across both:

- The IECEx Certified Equipment Scheme, IECEx 02 (see Table 1)
- The IECEx Certified Service Facilities Scheme, IECEx 03. (see Table 2)

The figure "Total", in the table 1, shows the total number of combined CoCs (Certificates of Conformity), ExTRs (IECEx Test Reports) and QARs (IECQ Quality Audit Reports) issued under the IECEx Certified Equipment Scheme. In addition, the number of CoCs at the "DRAFT" status, i.e. awaiting completion of the certification process (jobs in hand) is also shown.

Graph 1 provides an overview trend of the number of Certificates and Reports issued since 2003, under the IECEx 02 Scheme (Certified Equipment Scheme), while Graph 2 provides a breakdown of the percentage weighting of CoCs compared to ExTRs and QARs.

Graph 3 below, shows the number of Certificates in the "Draft" status, since CoCs were introduced in 2003. The rising number of Draft CoCs is an indication that the overall number of applications for IECEx Certificates, received by ExCBs, continues to grow with no sign of leveling out at this stage, noting that at mid 2008 the total number of Draft CoCs for 2007 had already been passed. This is an indicator of the demand for IECEx Certification.

The conclusion drawn from these statistics is that the IECEx Scheme is still experiencing significant and sustained growth. The following factors are seen as facilitating this growth.

- The increasing involvement by industry in the management and operation of IECEx;
- The credibility of the IECEx System, compliance to IEC Standards, single assessment system for all ExCBs and ExTLs + surveillance;
- One set of operational procedures and reporting formats (i.e. the IECEx way of Ex Certification);
- The transparency of IECEx activities, provided by the IECEx website and On-Line CoC system;
- A greater level of industry understanding of the IECEx system by way of promoting IECEx by IECEx Officers and Members;
- A growing international awareness of the value of Structured International Conformity Assessment Systems such as IECEx;
- The value of Networking among all Ex experts including ExCBs and ExTLs and associated technical discussion forums provided by ExTAG;
- A dedicated technical Secretariat;
- Others

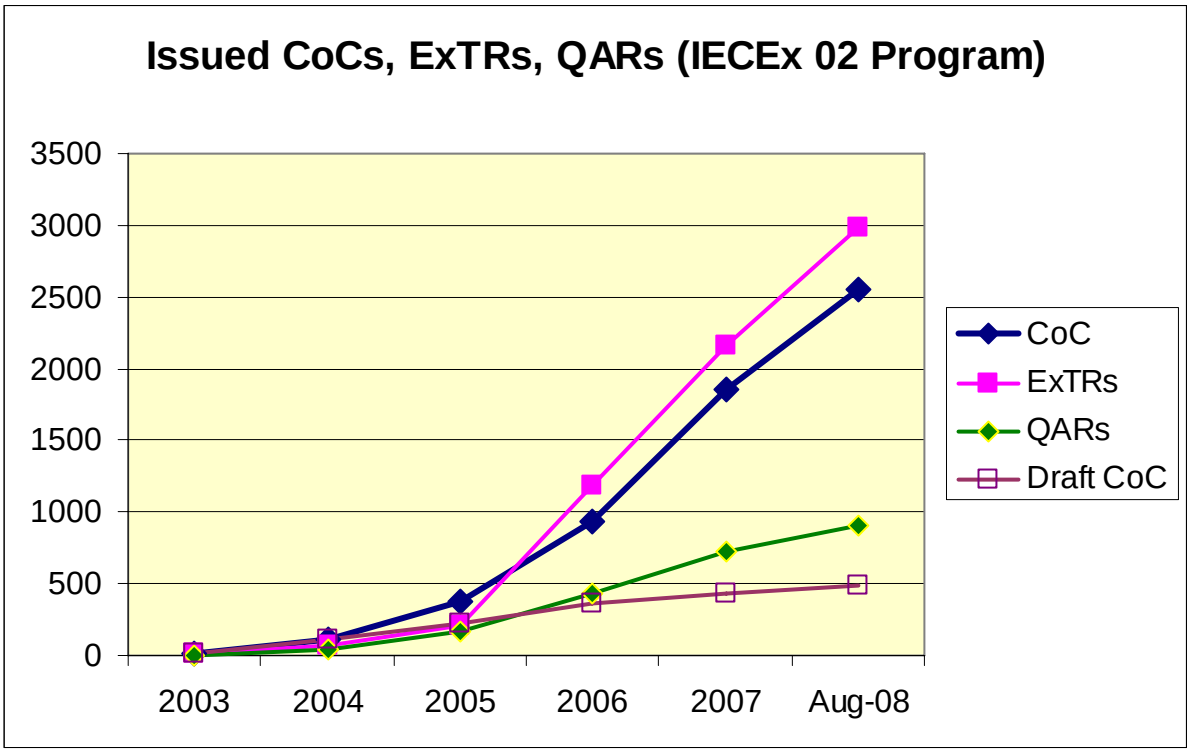
Table 1 – Year End Figures IECEx 02 Certified Equipment Program

Total number of IECEx Equipment CoCs issued					
Year	CoCs	ExTRs	QARs	Total	Draft
2003	12	10	1	23	10
2004	98	61	37	196	115
2005	260	144	134	538	225
2006	562	965	266	1793	360
2007	923	986	294	2203	431
@ Aug-08	700	823	174	1697	484
Totals	**2555**	**2989**	**906**	**6450**	**484**

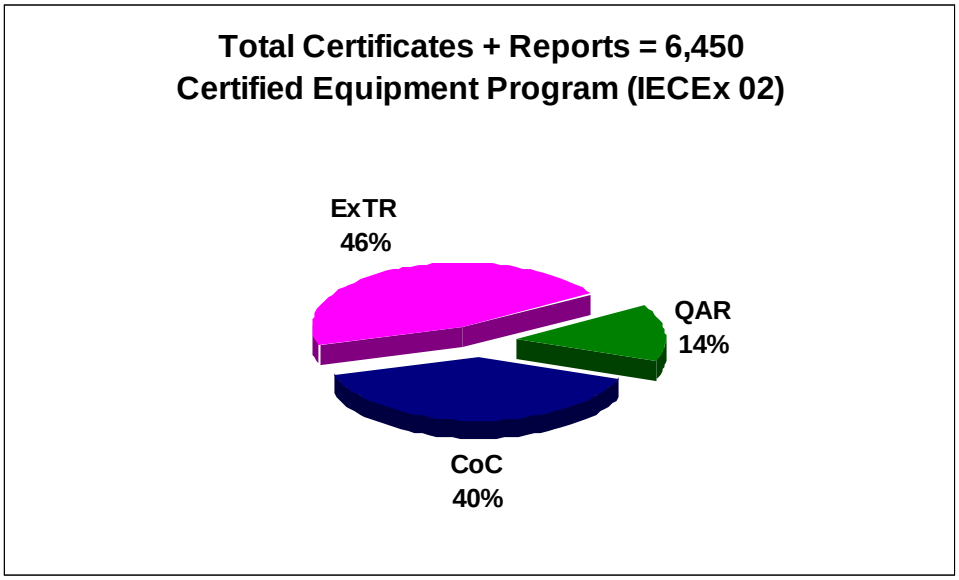
Table 2 – Year End Figures IECEx 03 Certified Service Facilities Program

Total number of Certified Services CoCs issued (commenced end 2007)				
Year	CoCs	FARs	Total	Drafts
31-Dec-07	3	3	6	
@ 12-Aug-08	9	7	16	3
Totals	**12**	**10**	**22**	**3**

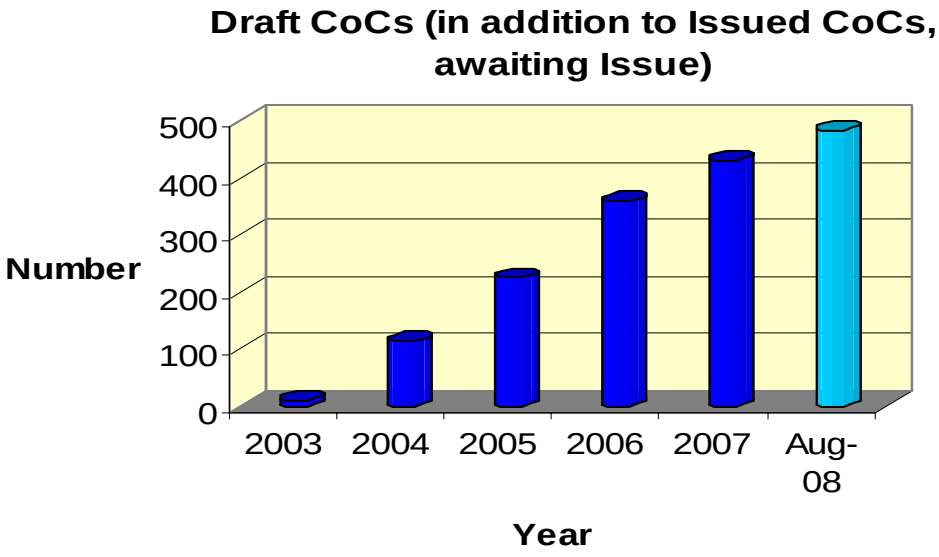
Graph 1 – IECEx 02 Program, including Draft CoCs



Graph 2 – IECEx CoCs, ExTRs, QARs Breakdown



Graph 3 – Comparison of CoCs in "Draft" Status at year end



4. IECEx Scheme Promotional Activities

As part of the IECEx promotion and marketing strategy, IECEx has been directly involved in various national, regional and international seminars and conferences such as:

- 2008 IECEx Industry Symposium – Denver, as part of the 2007 IECEx annual meetings

- IECEx Symposium – Norway, organized by NEK, Norwegian IECEx Member Body and supported by NEMKO and DNV, October 2007

- Presentations and attendance at UNECE meeting, Geneva, November 2007

- WTO Regional Workshop on Technical Barriers to Trade for Asia and Pacific Economies – Malaysia, November 2007

- IECEx 2008 Industry Symposium – Brunei Darussalam, combined sponsorship and organization by Shell Brunei, Institution of Engineering and Technology and Energy Division of the Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Development, January 2008

- International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conference, Australia March 2008, where IECEx was presented as a model Single International Certification System.

- PCIC EU 2008 Conference, Weimar Germany (June 2008) where various IECEx presentations were given, including
    - A practical Tutorial "Ticket to Global Markets" by KEMA and Bartec
    - Presentation on Practical Experience on Inspection and need for a IECEx Certified Persons Scheme, by Ex-Agency, Zagreb

- IECEx Industry Round Table Discussion – Singapore, July 2008 focus on Repair and Overhaul Certification and the new Certified Persons Program, under development

- Others planned for 2008, e.g. 2008 IECEx Paris Sep 08, UN ECE, Nov; BR Oct

The above are in addition to the various "local" presentations given by individual IECEx experts.

In addition and with the help of our worldwide IECEx experts, the Secretariat has committed to provide an article on IECEx for each monthly issue of the IEC Global Newsletter, e-Tech. Copies of these along with other news articles submitted are now posted and available on a dedicated news release page of the IECEx website http://www.iecex.com/news_releases.htm .

The IECEx Chairman, Officers and Secretariat are available to provide any additional information on these items or assistance with the preparation of any presentations that Members may be involved with.

5 Secretariat and General Technical Administration

5.1 Day to day duties of the Technical Secretariat can be broadly categorized as:

- Processing applications and managing assessments of new bodies seeking acceptance in the IECEx Scheme
- Processing the applications of Scope extensions and other changes, e.g. name changes of existing bodies along with their maintenance via surveillance and re-assessments
- Support to ExCBs in the day to day use of the Centralised On-Line CoC system
- Revision and up dating of IECEx Scheme rules and Operational Documents and forms
- IECEx Scheme development and Growth via new and expanded programs, e.g. IECEx 03 Services, IECEx 04 IECEx Mark of Conformity
- In conjunction with Chairman and Officers, IECEx Scheme regular reporting to CAB and participation in CAB Working Groups, now at 14
- Respond to general inquiries from industry
- Day to day management of Scheme finances, in conjunction with Treasurer

5.2 As an indicator of the Scheme development and growth, since the 2007 IECEx Denver meetings, the following additional statistics are provided:

(Period = 2007 Denver meetings to August 2008)

General items prepared and issued according to the day to day management and operation of the IECEx System are provided below with a comparison to the figures reported at the 2007 Denver meeting presented in ExMC/390/Inf'

ITEM	**2007 Figures** (ExMC/390/Inf)	**2008 Figures** Denver to Aug 08
Committee Documents Issued	62	104[1]
Operational Documents (new or Revised)	7	5
ExTAG Decision Sheets Issued	2	5
IECEx Guides (new or Revised)	0	4
IECEx Scheme Rules (New or Revised)	0	2
Others, eg News articles	7	15
CoC Statements to ExCBs (re CoC Fees)	50	60
Invoices Issued (total)	79	95
Total IECEx Items issued[2]	**207**	**290**

[1] Comprises ExMC = 66, ExTAG = 21, ExMarkCo = 17 (where ExMarkCo is a newly established Committee to manage the ExMark License System)

[2] Total excludes other items such as reports to CAB and participation in CAB and related Working Groups

5.3 IECEx Website and On-Line Certificate System Upgrades

Since the 2007 IECEx meetings a number of upgrades and improvements to the IECEx website system have been included such as:

- Expansion for the IECEx 03 – Certified Service Facilities Program
- Expansion to include the IECEx 04 – Conformity Mark Licensing System
- Upgrades to deal with issued CoCs where ExCBs change details, eg name, logo, address
- Provision for new ExMarkCo and associated document library
- Addition of IECEx Guides
- Introduction of Library of News Releases
- Others

5.4 E-mail Traffic, handled by Secretariat (excluding those dealt with by IECEx Chairman, Officers, WG Conveners, Members and Assessors):

The following level of e-mail traffic was handled by the IECEx Secretariat and does not include additional mails dealt with by the IECEX Chairman, Officers and Assessors. These figures are provided as a guide to IECEx Members of the levels of IECEx activity.

ITEM	**2007 Figures (ExMC/390/Inf)**	**2008 Figures** Denver to Aug 08
Total E-mail Traffic of the IECEx Secretariat	16,150	17,500

5.5 Management of IECEx ExCB/ExTL Assessments + Applications for Scope extensions.

ITEM	**2007 Figures (ExMC/390/Inf**	**2008 Figures** Denver to Aug 08
Site assessments, re-assessments + scope extensions	22	19
Scope extensions according to ExMC/251A/Q	32	32

6 Finances

Income and expenditure are according to the approved 2008 Budget, noting that for the first half of 2008, income from IECEx Certificate Fess were in line with Budget expectations and above the 2007 figures for that time.

No other specific issues concerning finance at this time. A full report will be given during the 2008 Paris ExMC meeting by the Treasurer and Secretary.

7 Concluding Remarks

IECEx continues to enjoy significant growth in both exposure and demand for its services. The instant and "On-Line" nature of the IECEx Certification system, with its electronic master controlled certificates coupled with the increased industry involvement in the Scheme's operation are seen as main drivers of this interest and demand for IECEx services, in line with the IECEx vision of:

"To be the Global Centre of Excellence in the Ex Field"

The growth and success of IECEx would not be at all possible without the valued involvement, direction and support of the IECEx Chairman and Officers along with the individual contributions of the growing family of IECEx Member experts, for which all at the Secretariat extend our sincere appreciation. We therefore look forward to a successful and fruitful 2008 series of IECEx meetings, in Paris and note with thanks the extensive preparatory work by our French hosts.

Chris Agius
IECEx Secretariat
August 2008