



New Zealand Non Destructive Testing Association Inc

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12th September 2008

John Wilson Via email to J Stark
Chairman
CBIP
C/- J Stark
2 Stellar Court
Paraparaumu

Dear John

The NZNDTA recently organised an open forum industry meeting in Auckland to discuss options for the future of NDT certification schemes in New Zealand.

The meeting was attended by all major NDT company senior management including Stork-Cooperheat, SGS, ATC, SQA, Ultrasound NZ, NZ Defence Force, Genesis Energy, Air NZ and SPI.

The meeting generated some robust discussion on the needs of the NDT industry and the desire for access to an internationally recognised NDT certification scheme.

The meeting was attended also by both the NZNDTA and NDT company CBIP representatives who were able to give some responses to questions raised by the group discussion.

There were several concerns raised over the governance practices of CBIP as well as the business management planning with regards to the situation over the non-renewal of the CBIP - AINDT service contract.

The general feeling of industry was that they felt CBIP were a "closed shop" and that the board had lost touch with representing the interests of CBIP members.

There was a concern about the CBIP web site not being up to date as well as not being very user friendly and some suggested that the members of the board or at least a more detailed board and TAC structure be published on the site.

There was also concern that an alternative plan to establish a replacement NDT scheme equivalent to that provided by AINDT had not been developed prior to the contract renewal negotiations which started back in December 2007.

Concerns were raised over the writing of the new NDT question bank when the CBIP representative indicated that CBIP was arranging a commercial agreement to write the NDT question bank without consultation with NZNDTA.

There were also concerns over the conduct of both AINDT and CBIP during the transition period of the contract expiry where some candidates have been left in limbo as to the position of their certificates. This was highlighted by one person who attended the meeting indicating that he was about to lose his job because both CBIP and AINDT were advising him that they could not assist and that it was the other parties concern.

After considerable open discussion the meeting attendees decided the following motions are put and that to give NZNDTA a mandate to act on behalf of the NDT industry in making representations to CBIP.

The following motions were unanimously passed by the meeting;

1. That CBIP should continue the November round of NDT exams but advise all candidates that the exams will not be ISO 9712 endorsed.
2. The NZNDTA explore the options for providing access to an ISO 9712 / IEC 17024 examination system from external providers in the future.

To further clarify the motions stated above the NZNDTA will offer support for the November round of exams but recognise that the desire of the NDT practitioners is to have certification that meets ISO 9712 and that we have no control over candidates applying to sit AINDT exams directly.

If you would, please advise if you are willing to communicate to candidates that the November NDT exams will not meet the requirements of ISO 9712.

The NZDTA will continue to research alternative options for the provision of an internationally recognised NDT certification scheme and will keep CBIP informed of the progress in this area. As per the MOU between CBIP and NZNDTA our desire is to support CBIP establish a NZ based ISO 9712 / IEC 17024 NDT scheme but we have to recognise the concerns of industry over the delay in getting such a system in place with CBIP.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Baggott

Chairman NZNDTA Inc

CC- CBIP Board members
