



BSI Standards Publication

**Non destructive testing —  
Code of practice for the  
approval of NDT personnel  
by recognised third party  
organisations under the  
provisions of Directive 97/23/  
EC**

**National foreword**

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN/TR 15589:2014. It supersedes PD CEN/TR 15589:2007 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee WEE/46, Non-destructive testing.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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TECHNICAL REPORT

**CEN/TR 15589**

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English Version

**Non destructive testing - Code of practice for the approval of  
NDT personnel by recognised third party organisations under the  
provisions of Directive 97/23/EC**

Essais non destructifs - Code de pratique pour l'approbation  
du personnel chargé des END par des entités tierces  
parties reconnues en application des dispositions de la  
Directive 97/23/CE

Zerstörungsfreie Prüfung - Verfahrensregeln für die  
Anerkennung von ZfP-Personal durch anerkannte dritte  
Organisationen nach den Vorgaben der Richtlinie 97/23/EU

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 9 December 2013. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 138.

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## **Foreword**

This document (CEN/TR 15589:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 138 "Non-destructive testing", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This document supersedes CEN/TR 15589:2007.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

According to Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC Article 13 section 1, it is essential that European Union Member States and EFTA countries notify the European Commission and the other Member States of the Third Party Organizations (RTPO) which they have recognized for the purposes of the tasks referred to in Annex 1, section 3.1.3, namely the 'Approval' of NDT personnel to test permanent joints of categories III and IV pressure Equipment and Pressure Assemblies [1].

The methodology for 'Approval' of NDT personnel is not specified in Directive 97/23/EC, and it was agreed by the European Conformity Assessment Bodies Forum (CABF) that guidance was required in order to ensure a consistent approach to the application of the Directive and the implementation of Working Group Pressure Guideline 6/13 (17th March 2004) by Recognized Third Party Organisations (RTPO) (see Annex C).

As a result, a Code of Practice (CoP) was developed from a draft proposed by The European Federation for NDT. This CoP was published as CABF TRG 0034 on 24th November 2004, with a recommendation that this document be submitted to CEN for possible development as a Technical Report (TR) or Specification (TS).

## **1 Scope**

This Technical Report provides a methodology for approval of NDT personnel under the provisions of Directive 97/23/EC, Annex 1, section 3.1.3.

The provisions of Guideline 6/13 are detailed herein to ensure a consistent approach and a high level of confidence in the approval of NDT personnel by RTPO's through widespread adoption of the criteria and approval processes detailed herein. A flow diagram illustrating this methodology is presented in Annex A.

## **2 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this Technical Report, the following terms and definitions apply.

### **2.1**

#### **Recognised Third Party Organization (RTPO)**

body recognised by a member state of the European Union or EFTA countries for the purposes of the tasks referred to in Directive 97/23/EC, Article 13 section 1, and in Annex 1, section 3.1.3, namely the 'approval' of NDT personnel to test permanent joints for pressure equipment in categories III and IV, and whose recognition has been notified to the European Commission or EFTA countries and the other Member States

### **2.2**

#### **approval of NDT Personnel**

procedure used to demonstrate the competence of an individual to carry out specific non-destructive tests of permanent joints for pressure equipment in categories III and IV (see Directive 97/23/EC Annex 1, section 3.1.3)

### **2.3**

#### **approval attestation**

documented statement issued by an RTPO that a specified individual is approved (see 2.2)

### **2.4**

#### **qualification**

demonstration of physical attributes, knowledge, skill, training and experience required to properly perform NDT tasks

[SOURCE: EN ISO 9712:2012]

### **2.5**

#### **certification**

procedure used by the certification body to confirm that the qualification requirements for a method, level and sector have been fulfilled, leading to the issuing of a certificate

[SOURCE: EN ISO 9712:2012]

### **2.6**

#### **relevant sector**

particular section of industry or technology where specialized NDT practices are used, requiring specific product-related knowledge, skill, equipment or training

Note 1 to entry A sector can be interpreted to mean a product (welded products, castings) or an industry (aerospace, inservice testing).

[SOURCE: EN ISO 9712:2012]