



The Polish scheme JCO UDT-CERT for certification of NDT personnel



General

From the very beginning the Polish specialists (Prof. Zdzisław Pawłowski first of all) participated very actively in the international harmonisation of the training– qualification – and certification of persons dealing with industrial non-destructive testing (NDT).

Already in 1984, a bilateral recognition of certification level 1 and 2 for operators in ultrasonic testing (UT) has been signed with German Society for Non-destructive Testing – DGZfP. Similar agreement was prepared with Austrian Society for Non-destructive Testing.

In 1990 – 97 the Polish Society for NDT (PTBN) developed a PTBN-CERT system.

Thanks to PHARE 97 project implemented in Polish industry through the Polish Office of Technical Inspection –UDT, and under the leadership of our old partners from DGZfP, the new National NDT Certification Scheme conform to EN 473: 2000 has been developed. Six regional training & examination centres have been audited in 2000, evaluated and selected by the European Experts, and additionally equipped. The main goals of the project have been successfully achieved in 2000. National certification body has been organised, 53 certificates level 3 and more than 120 level 2 have been issued by the German Certification Body DPZ, and in parallel by the new Polish Certification Body UDT-CERT.

Certification body UDT-CERT has been accredited in 2002 against EN 45013 / EN 473 standards and in 2005 against PN-EN ISO/IEC 17024.

Since 1 may 2004 Poland is a Member State of the European Community and the certification body UDT-CERT has been notified as a Recognised Third Part Organisation – RTPO. In 2003 our certification body has been recommended by the Polish Society for NDT – SIMP and approved by the European Federation for NDT – EFNDT as a “*Registered Body*”.

Until now more than 1000 persons have been certified in NDT and more than 1500 certificates have been issued. Certification body UDT-CERT occupies about 50% of indoor market in certification of NDT operators in Poland.

General organisation chart of the Polish certification body UDT-CERT is presented below.

Scope of certification

Certification process is managed conform to PN-EN 473 and PN-EN ISO/IEC 17024 standards. The IAF/EA Guidance, (and equivalent of the Polish Centre for Accreditation – PCA) on the Application of ISO/IEC 17024 are respected. Quality system is mainly based on ISO 9001 requirements.

On request, the evaluation-examination process and grading are conducted and reciprocal certificates are issued according to ISO 9712 standard.

Aerospace sector standard PN-EN 4179 is applied but on request only for NDT operators and their employers from aviation industry and maintenance services.

Standard procedure covers following categories of certification:

Magnetic particle (MP), penetrant testing (PT), radiography (RT), ultrasonic (UT) and visual testing (VT), all these methods in 3 levels of qualification and in combined, industrial sector



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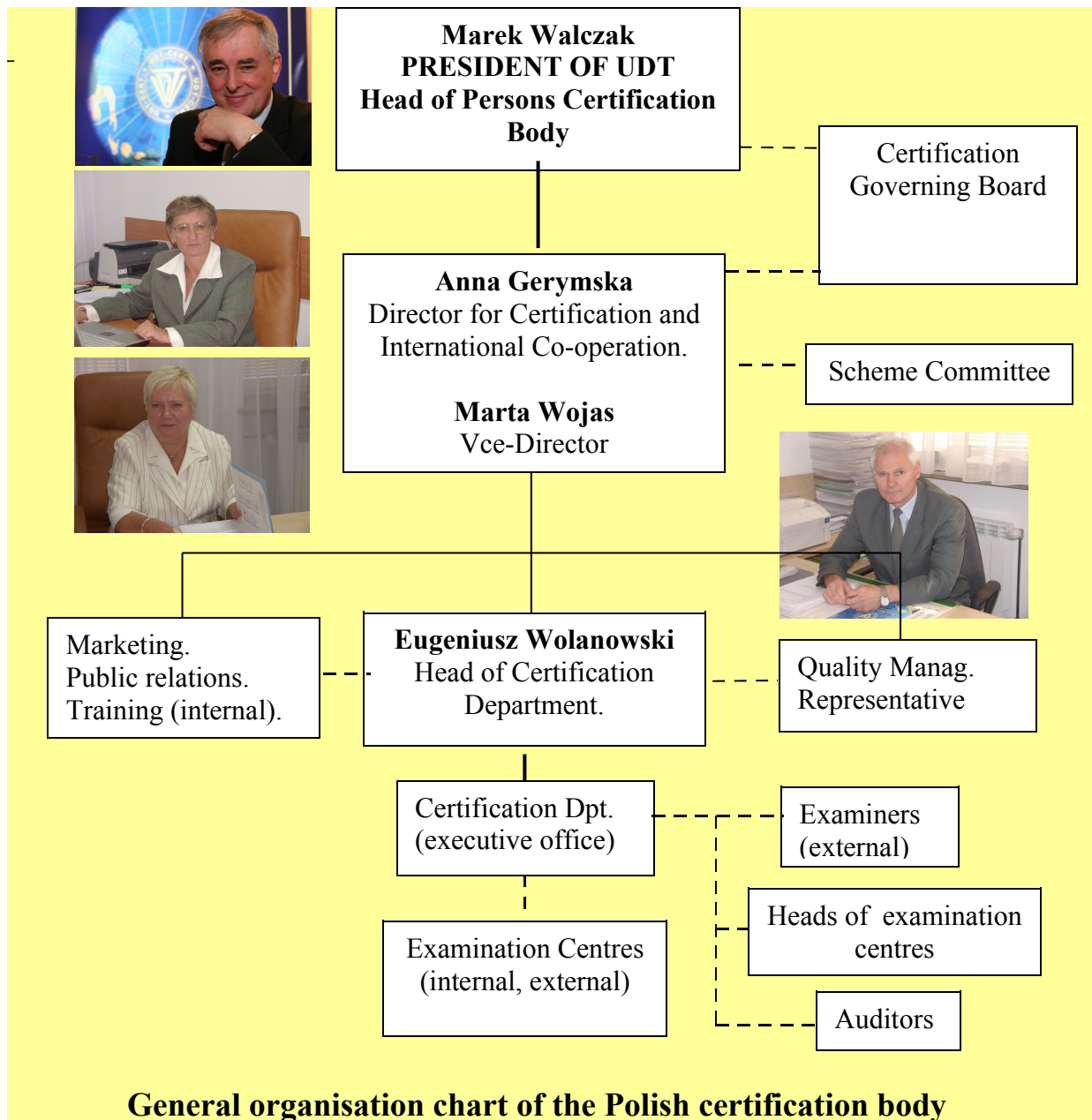


“Metal manufacturing” (sector number – 6) plus “Pre and in-service testing of equipment, plant and structure” (sector number – 7), covering five product sectors: casting (1), forging (2), welded products (3), tube & pipes (4) and wrought products (5).

Certification in the areas of limited applications are offered in two categories :

- evaluation of radiographs (RTI) in sectors : casting (1), welded products (3) and in combined industrial sectors (6,7) as defined above,
- ultrasonic thickness measurements (UTT), levels 1 and 2, industrial sectors (6,7).

Certification level 1, 2 and 3 is also offered in Magnetic Testing of Steel Ropes, performed during fabrication and maintenance (sectors (6,7)).



General organisation chart of the Polish certification body



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UDT-CERT for NDT personnel

Currently there are 9 approved examination centres managed during examination by the Certification Body UDT-CERT, and operated using NDT equipment and premises of the training centres offering standard training courses approved and surveyed by the UDT-CERT. These centres assure proper management of NDT equipment (periodic verification, calibration etc.) and facilities.

Documentation

Certification scheme

General Certification Scheme, called “PERS/NDT.CERT”, describes general requirements related to NDT personnel based on PN-EN 473 standards. Provisions are made for ISO 9712 and PN-EN 4119 (aerospace sector) too.

Eight Detailed Certification Schemes described particular requirements and contains examination syllabuses for the following certification categories:

1. UTT – ultrasonic thickness measurements (levels 1,2, sectors (6,7))
2. MTR – Magnetic testing of steel ropes (levels 1,2,3, sectors (6,7))
3. RTI – Evaluation of radiographs (one level only, sectors 1, 3 and (6,7))
4. PT – Penetrant testing (levels 1,2,3, sectors (6,7))
5. MT - Magnetic particle testing (levels 1,2,3, sectors (6,7))
6. RT – Radiographic testing (levels 1,2,3, sectors (6,7))
7. UT – Ultrasonic testing (levels 1,2,3, sectors (6,7))
8. VT – Visual testing (levels 1,2,3, sectors (6,7))





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Quality management system of the Personnel Certification Body UDT-CERT is based on ISO 9001 approach but fulfils all particular requirements of PN-EN ISO/IEC 17024 standard and related IAF/EA Guidelines as well.

Pressure Equipment Directive no. 97/23/EC (PED)

UDT is notified body No 1433 and recognised third-party organisation (RTPO) for the purpose of the tasks referred to PED, Annex 1, section 3.1.2 and 3.1.3. UDT-CERT is authorised by the Polish Authorities to evaluate competence of NDT personnel and to approve the NDT operator for testing of pressure equipment components classified to safety category 3 or 4 (PED).

Integral part of each training course recognised by the Certification Body UDT-CERT, are the lectures on PED requirements.

In the framework of the qualification examinations managed by the UDT-CERT, a facultative examination in the area of the PED requirements and related, product oriented European standards is administrated. In this way certification in the area regulated by PED is offered for the candidates seeking such a certification. Conforming to opinion of the European Forum of RTPO organisations, the operators certified in regulated area, profit of very simple procedure to be approved for testing pressure equipment submitted to PED regulation.

Well that RTPO European Forum requires qualification of NDT operators in welded product only (sector 3), the certification offered by the UDT-CERT in combined sectors (6,7) covering welded products, casting, forging, tubes and wrought products is very advantageous for NDT operators because welded joints between all these products frequently occur in pressure equipment and assemblies.

Contacts

ALL INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE USING FOLLOWING CONTACTS:

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