



Certification

- a. The Written Practice determines the criteria necessary to be certified to do the job.
- b.
 - i) Education

Certificates of GCSE/O Levels/NVQs to demonstrate required level of education as specified in the Written Practice.
 - ii) Training

Certificates from appropriate trainers showing the classroom hours successfully achieved and totalling the hours specified in the Written Practice.
It may be necessary for the Training Course to be accredited by the British Institute of NDT. In this case, the Certificate of Training will be endorsed with the BINDT crest.
 - iii) Work Experience

Certificates from Employers showing the number of months/hours employed on the NDT method of interest – totalling the hours specified in the Written Practice.
 - iv) Examinations

Vision Certificate – showing the Near and Colour Vision tests passed as specified in the Written Practice.
Often, however, the Vision Certificate from an optician is meaningless in respect of the Written Practice. The Certificate simply needs to show:

Aided/unaided
JI Near Vision
Colour Vision (24 Plate Ishihara)

General, Specific, Practical Exam – a certificate from an appropriate examiner, acceptable to the Employer as specified in the Written Practice – usually the Level 3 as defined in the Written Practice.
- c. If all these 'Certificates' are available to the Employer and all are valid and appropriately signed in accordance with the Employer's Written Practice, then the Employer may apply the 'authority to work' on the technician.
- d. Certification of all levels of NDT personnel is the responsibility of the Employer.
- e. This responsibility should be recognised within the Employer's Written Practice.
- f. The Employer will nominate a Certifying Agency – a responsible person properly designated within the Written Practice to sign certificates on behalf of the Employer.

Certification – the Right Words

All ASNT NDT Level 3s have passed an exam on SNT-TC-1A; all PCN Level 3s have passed an exam on the PCN General Requirements document. Why is it, then, that so many Employer-based Programme Certificates use words which are at least misleading and at worst a misuse of the system?

Here are some examples on a Certificate of examination:

- 'to the rules and requirements on SNT-TC-1A'. SNT-TC-1A is a recommended practice, not rules.
- Use of the title 'ASNT Level 2' in a Written Practice – this is incorrect use of 'ASNT'. It should be 'the Company NDT Level 2'.
- Examinations to a Written Practice which is not the Written Practice of the Employer, for example an exam which is to the Written Practice of the Examiner.
- An examiner issuing a Certificate of Examination when NO examination has taken place, for example when an examiner has reviewed documents in respect of continuing satisfactory performance. It is misleading to issue a Certificate of Examination if NO exam has taken place.

Authority to Work

- The Written Practice is in place.
- All 'Certification' is correct.
- The Employer's Certifying Agency applies the 'Authority to Work' on the technician.

Anything less is not meeting the requirements specified in the Standards or the Written Practice.

Conclusion

The Certificate of Examination is NOT the authority to work – this can only be applied by the Employer's Certifying Agency who is, in turn, the Employer's responsible person and named in the Written Practice.