

NAS 410

ADOPTION NOTICE

NAS 410, "NAS Certification and Qualification of Nondestructive Test Personnel," dated May 1996, was adopted on 31 December 1997 for use by the Department of Defense (DoD). Proposed changes by DoD activities must be submitted to the DoD Adopting Activity: AFRL/MLS-OL, AF Nondestructive Inspection (NDI) Program Office, 485 Quentin Roosevelt Rd, Ste 7, Kelly AFB TX 78241-6426. DoD activities may obtain copies of this standard from the Standardization Document Order Desk, 700 Robbins Avenue, Building 4D, Philadelphia PA 19111-5094. The private sector and other Government agencies may purchase copies from the Aerospace Industries Association of America, Inc., 1250 I Street NW, Suite 1100, Washington DC 20005-3924.

NAS 410 should be used instead of MIL-STD-410, which was canceled on 31 December 1997.

Custodians:

Army -MR
Navy - AS
Air Force - 11

Adopting Activity
Air Force - 11

(Project NDTI-0255)

Review Activity:

Army - AR

AMSC N/A

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CUSTODIAN	NATIONAL AEROSPACE NON-DESTRUCTIVE TEST PROJECT GROUP	THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION
PROCUREMENT SPECIFICATION	TITLE	CLASSIFICATION
NONE	NAS CERTIFICATION & QUALIFICATION OF NONDESTRUCTIVE TEST PERSONNEL	STANDARD PRACTICE
		NAS 410 SHEET 1 OF 13

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1. SCOPE

1.1 PURPOSE. This standard establishes the minimum requirements for the qualification and certification of personnel involved in the application of nondestructive testing (NDT), nondestructive inspection (NDI), or nondestructive evaluation (NDE) personnel. For this document NDI, NDT and NDE will be referred to as NDT. These requirements include training, experience and examination.

1.2 APPLICABILITY. This standard applies to personnel using NDT methods to accept materials, products, subsystems, components or systems. It also applies to those individuals directly responsible for the technical adequacy of the NDT methods used as well as those providing the technical training for NDT personnel. This standard is not intended to apply to individuals with administrative authority only over the above identified personnel or the research personnel developing technology for use by qualified and certified NDT personnel.

1.2.1 COMMON METHODS. This standard contains detailed requirements for the applicable training, experience, and examination for the following methods:

Liquid penetrant	(PT)
Magnetic particle	(MT)
Eddy current	(ET)
Ultrasonic	(UT)
Radiography	(RT)

1.2.2 OTHER METHODS. This standard may apply to other NDT methods such as acoustic emission, neutron radiography, leak testing, thermography, holography, computed tomography, or any other NDT method that can be used to determine the acceptability or suitability for intended service of a material, part, component, subsystem, or system without impairment of the intended function. The requirement for personnel training, experience, and examination for these other methods shall be as established by the Cognizant NDT Organization. Guidelines established for the methods listed in 1.2.1 may be used.

1.3 LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION. The levels of qualification established by this standard are:

Trainee	Instructor
Level I	Auditor
Level II	
Level III	

1.4 LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION. The levels requiring certification in accordance with this standard are:

- Level I
- Level II
- Level III



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2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 NON-GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS. The following documents form a part of this document to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise specified, the issues of the documents which are DoD adopted are those listed in the issue of the DODISS cited in the solicitation. Unless otherwise specified, the issues of documents not listed in the DODISS are the issues of the documents cited in the solicitation.

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING

ASNT Recommended Practice No. SNT-TC-1A - Personnel Qualification and Certification in Nondestructive Testing

(Applications for copies should be addressed to the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, 1711 Arlingate Plaza, Columbus OH 43228-0518)

2.2 ORDER OF PRECEDENCE. In the event of a conflict between the text of this document and the references cited herein, the text of this document takes precedence. Nothing in this document, however, supersedes applicable laws and regulations unless a specific exemption has been obtained.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 AUDITOR. An individual qualified to review NDT systems and procedures for compliance to requirements.

3.2 CERTIFICATION. A written statement by an employer that an individual has met the applicable requirements of this standard.

3.3 CERTIFIER. A designated representative of the employer with the responsibility and authority to document that an individual meets the applicable requirements of this standard.

3.4 CLOSED BOOK EXAMINATIONS. An examination administered without access to reference material except that provided with or in the examination. Reference material such as specifications, tables, formulas, etc. may be provided as determined by the responsible Level III. Questions utilizing such material shall require understanding of the information contained therein rather than mere location.

3.5 COGNIZANT NDT ORGANIZATION. Organization responsible for administering qualification and certification of NDT personnel.

3.6 DOCUMENTED. The condition of being in written form.

3.7 EMPLOYER. A government, prime contractor, subcontractor or outside agency employing individuals performing NDT.

3.8 EVALUATION. The determination of the significance of indications.

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3.9 EXAMINATION. A formal, controlled, documented interrogation conducted in accordance with a procedure.

3.10 EXPERIENCE. Actual performance or observation conducted in the work environment resulting in the acquisition of knowledge and skill. This does not include classroom or laboratory training but does include on-the-job training.

3.11 GENERAL EXAMINATION. A written examination addressing the basic principles of the applicable NDT method.

3.12 INDICATION. The observation, or evidence of an observation, occurring during a nondestructive inspection or test.

3.13 INSTRUCTOR. An individual qualified and designated, in accordance with this standard, to provide classroom or laboratory training for NDT personnel.

3.14 INTERPRETATION. The determination of whether indications are relevant or non-relevant.

3.15 METHOD. One of the disciplines of nondestructive inspection or testing (e.g. radiography) within which different techniques exist.

3.16 ON-THE-JOB TRAINING. Training in the work environment in learning instrumentation set up, equipment operation, recognition of indications, and interpretation under the technical guidance of a designated Level II or Level III individual.

3.17 OUTSIDE AGENCY. An independent body under contract for NDT services which may include the training and examination of personnel to the requirements of this standard. Consultants and self employed individuals are included in this definition.

3.18 PRACTICAL EXAMINATION. The examination used to demonstrate an individual's ability in conducting the NDT methods that will be performed for the employer. Questions and answers need not be written, but observations and results must be documented.

3.19 PRIME CONTRACTOR. A contractor having overall responsibility for design, control, and delivery of a system, component, or product.

3.20 PROCEDURE. A detailed, written instruction for conducting NDT or certifying personnel.

3.21 QUALIFICATION. The skill, training, knowledge and experience required for personnel to properly perform to a particular Level.



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3.22 SPECIFIC EXAMINATION. The written examination to determine an individual's understanding of procedures, codes, standards and specifications for a given method used by the employer.

3.23 TECHNIQUE. A category within a method, for example: ultrasonic immersion testing or fluorescent penetrant inspection.

3.24 TEST SAMPLES. Parts or images containing known defects and used in the practical examination to demonstrate the candidate's proficiency in using a particular method. Test samples can refer to images of actual hardware, e.g. radiographs.

3.25 TRAINING. An organized and documented program of activities designed to impart the knowledge and skills necessary to be qualified to this standard. This program may be a mix of classroom, laboratory, programmed self-teaching and on-the-job training as approved by the appropriate Level III.

4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE. Cognizant NDT organization shall develop and maintain a procedure for the qualifications and certification of their NDT personnel. This procedure shall be in accordance with the requirements of this standard. The procedure shall be available for review by the customer(s). The procedure as a minimum shall include:

4.1.1 LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION. This shall include identification of the levels of qualification covered by the procedure. The cognizant NDT organization may add any additional levels that are appropriate; however, in no manner can the organization eliminate or reduce minimum requirements of this standard in its qualification and certification procedure.

4.1.2 PERSONNEL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. This shall include the identification of the duties and responsibilities for the different levels of qualification.

4.1.3 TRAINING PROGRAM. This shall include outlines or references of the instruction provided by the organization as well as sources of outside training utilized by the organization.

4.1.4 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS. This shall include the techniques, as applicable, within the method and the minimum amount of time for each technique.

4.1.5 EXAMINATION PRACTICES. This shall include the designation of the individuals or organizations that will perform the examinations as well as the number of questions and the specific types of physical tests to be used.

4.1.6 RECORDS AND DOCUMENTATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES. This shall include the description of the details to be recorded for each certified individual and identification of the individuals responsible for developing, administering, and maintaining the employer's certification program.

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4.1.7 RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. This shall include the employer's requirements for recertification of personnel. It shall also include the conditions and requirements for the revocation and reinstatement of certification.

4.2 PERSONNEL. Personnel using NDT methods to accept materials, products, subsystems, components or systems shall be certified to the requirements of this standard. Personnel responsible for the technical adequacy of NDT methods shall also be certified. Trainees, auditors and instructors shall be qualified to this standard. Specialized NDT inspections utilizing NDT related techniques, such as ultrasonic thickness gauging or electrical conductivity test, with equipment designed for and limited to such usage that produces a direct readout for both acceptable and unacceptable conditions, do not require qualification or certification to this standard.

4.3 METHODS. For the common methods listed in paragraph 1.2.1 of this standard, the requirements for training, experience and examination are detailed in section 5 of this standard. Those requirements, as well as those requirements contained in the publication referenced in paragraph 2.1, may serve as guidelines for those methods not listed in paragraph 1.2.1.

4.4 COMPLIANCE. Prime contractors shall be responsible for compliance to this standard by their subcontractors. Those organizations utilizing outside agencies shall be responsible for assuring that the appropriate requirements of this standard are met. The employer is solely responsible for the certification of its employees and cannot certify for another employer. Individuals cannot certify themselves.

4.5 OUTSIDE AGENCY. An employer may utilize an outside agency to develop a certification program, train and examine NDT personnel and perform any other Level III function. An outside agency cannot certify personnel. The employer shall document the suitability of any outside source selected to perform any function to meet the requirements of this standard. This documentation shall be sufficient to justify that the outside agency is capable of performing the required Level III function.

5. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

5.1 LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION.

5.1.1 TRAINEE. A trainee is an individual who is participating in a training program for an NDT method and is not certified. Trainees shall obtain work experience only under the direct supervision of a Level II, Level III or Instructor in the same method. Trainees shall not independently conduct tests, make accept or reject decisions, or perform any other NDT functions.

5.1.2 LEVEL I. Level I is the first certifiable qualification level. The Level I individual shall have the skills and knowledge to perform specific tests, specific calibrations, and, with prior written approval of the appropriate Level III individual, specific product or product form interpretations and evaluations for acceptance or rejection, and document the results in accordance with specific procedures. The individual shall be knowledgeable of any necessary preparation of parts before or after inspection. The individual shall be able to follow procedures in the techniques for which certified and shall receive the necessary guidance or supervision from a Level II or Level III individual.

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5.1.3 LEVEL II. Level II individuals shall have the skills and knowledge to set up and calibrate equipment, conduct tests, and to interpret, evaluate, and document results in accordance with procedures approved by the appropriate Level III. The individual shall be thoroughly familiar with the scope and limitations of the method in which he is certified and shall be capable of directing the work of trainees and Level I personnel. The individual shall be able to organize and document NDT results. The individual shall be familiar with the codes, standards, and other contractual documents that control the method as utilized by the employer. Level II may write procedures which must be approved by a Level III.

5.1.4 LEVEL III. Level III individuals shall have the skills and knowledge to interpret codes, standards, and other contractual documents that control the method as utilized by the employer; select the method and technique for a specific inspection; and prepare and verify the adequacy of procedures. Only individuals certified to Level III shall have the authority to approve procedures for technical adequacy in the method to which they are certified. The individual shall also have general knowledge of all other NDT methods utilized by the employer. The individual shall be capable of conducting or directing the training and examination of personnel in the method certified. The individual shall not conduct NDT for the acceptance of parts unless the demonstration of proficiency in this capability was included in the practical examination upon which, in part, the certification is based.

5.1.5 INSTRUCTOR. Instructors shall have the skills and knowledge to plan, organize, and present classroom, laboratory, or on-the-job training programs of instruction, in accordance with approved course outlines.

5.1.6 AUDITOR. Auditor shall have the education, training, skills and knowledge to understand the processes and procedures utilized in the application of NDT processes. The individual shall be familiar with the applicable codes, standards, and other contractual documents that control the method.

5.2 TRAINING. Candidates for certification as Level I or Level II shall complete sufficient organized training to become proficient with the principles and practices of the applicable test method and techniques. The training shall be conducted in accordance with a detailed course outline approved by the responsible Level III. The training shall cover basic principles, products, equipment, operating procedures, techniques, applicable specifications, codes and instructions used by the employer. Subjects not covered in the instruction shall not appear on the training outline. The training outline shall include a list of references from which the training material is derived.

5.2.1 SPECIALIST PERSONNEL. Training shall be presented by an instructor or a Level III with the exception that specialist personnel not qualified to this standard may be used to provide instruction on highly specialized topics. Selection of such personnel must be approved by the responsible Level III.



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5.2.2 MINIMUM REQUIRED TRAINING HOURS. The minimum training hours for Levels I and II are given in Table I for the specified NDT methods. The minimum training hours for those methods not covered by Table I shall be as determined by the Level III. There are no additional training requirements to transition from Level II to Level III nor can an individual have sufficient training to allow certification to Level III without prior certification as a Level II or performance equivalent to a Level II.

TABLE I MINIMUM TRAINING HOURS, LEVEL I AND II

METHOD	CONDITION		
	[1]	[2]	[3]
PENETRANT	8	8	16
MAGNETIC PARTICLE	12	8	20
EDDY CURRENT	12	40	52
ULTRASONIC	40	40	80
RADIOGRAPHY	40	40	80

- [1] Level I
- [2] Level II, with prior Level I Certification
- [3] Level II, no prior Level I Certification

5.2.3 PREVIOUS TRAINING. Training must be documented in order to be accepted by the employer. For personnel credited with training or those not certified within 6 months of their training, refresher training must be provided. The refresher training shall cover the following subjects with the depth of coverage of each subject determined by the Level III responsible for the employer's certification program:

- Standardization and calibration
- Operation of applicable test or inspection equipment
- Specific test or inspection procedures
- Interpretation and evaluation of test or inspection results
- Safety
- Applicable codes, standards and specification

5.2.4 EQUIVALENT TRAINING. For personnel certified under previous revisions of this document or other NDT qualification/certification programs, the equivalency of their previous training to the requirements of Table I will be determined and documented by the Level III.

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5.3 EXPERIENCE. Candidates for certification at Level I, II or III shall have sufficient practical experience to assure that they are capable of performing the duties of the level for which certification is sought. The minimum requirements for Level I, II and III are given in Table II.

TABLE II. MINIMUM EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

METHOD	CONDITION					
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]
PENETRANT	130 hrs	270 hrs	400 hrs	4 yrs	2 yrs	1 yr
MAGNETIC PARTICLE	130 hrs	400 hrs	530 hrs	4 yrs	2 yrs	1 yr
EDDY CURRENT	130 hrs	1200 hrs	1330 hrs	4 yrs	2 yrs	1 yr
ULTRASONICS	400 hrs	1200 hrs	1600 hrs	4 yrs	2 yrs	1 yr
RADIOGRAPHY	400 hrs	1200 hrs	1600 hrs	4 yrs	2 yrs	1 yr

[1] Trainee, total NDT experience for Level I. Experience in method must be at least half this time.*

[2] Level I, total NDT experience for Level II. Experience in method must be at least half this time.*

[3] Trainee, total NDT experience for direct certification to Level II. Experience in method must be at least half this time.*

[4] Level II or equivalent experience required for Level III with no college degree.

[5] Level II or equivalent experience required for Level III with technical associate degree.

[6] Level II or equivalent work experience required for Level III with technical bachelors degree. Equivalency of the work experience shall be determined and documented by the Level III responsible for the employer's certification program. Experience in multiple methods may be accumulated simultaneously.

* Applies when remaining time is in other NDT methods when approved by Level III.

5.3.1 PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE. A candidate's experience with a previous employer may be accepted by the current employer only if that experience is documented.

5.3.2 EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE. For personnel certified under previous revisions of this document or other qualification/certification programs, the equivalency of their previous experience to the requirements of Table II will be determined and documented by the Level III.



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5.4 EXAMINATIONS. The examinations to verify the physical and technical qualifications of candidate personnel shall consist of a physical examination, a general examination, a specific examination and a practical examination. The requirements for the physical examinations; the questions utilized for the general and specific examinations, and the checklist for the practical examination shall be available for review by the facility's customers. If the actual test questions given during certification examinations are not kept in each certified individual's records, then the listing of questions from which examinations are derived shall be available for review by the facility's customers. The questions shall be made available to certification candidates only during administration of the examinations.

5.4.1 PHYSICAL. The physical examination shall assure that the applicants near vision and color perception meet the following requirements. Near vision test shall be administered annually and color perception tests shall be administered prior to certification or recertification. These tests shall be administered by an individual approved by the Level III responsible for the maintenance of the certification program or by the outside agency utilized for the examination of personnel:

NEAR VISION - Jaeger #1 test chart at not less than 12 inches, or equivalent as determined by medical personnel with one eye, either natural or corrected.

COLOR PERCEPTION - Distinguish and differentiate between the colors used in the method for which certification is sought.

5.4.2 GENERAL. The general examination for all levels shall be a closed book examination consisting of questions that cover the cross-section of the applicable method at the appropriate level. The questions, answers, and references in the applicable SNT-TC-1A supplement and other publications may be used to develop the general examination. A minimum of 40 questions shall be used for the general examination at each level. For the Level III, the general examination questions will address the general knowledge of other methods as well as the method for which certification is sought. Possession of a current ASNT NDT Level III or equivalent certificate by the candidate may be satisfactory evidence that the general examination requirement is satisfied.

5.4.3 SPECIFIC. The specific examination for all levels shall be a closed book examination and shall cover the specifications, codes, equipment, operating procedures, and test techniques the candidate may use in the performance of their duties. A minimum of 30 questions shall be used for the specific examination at each level.

5.4.4 PRACTICAL. The practical examination shall consist of a demonstration of proficiency in performing tasks that are typical of those to be accomplished in the performance of the candidate's duties. Test samples used in the examination may be actual hardware, if the candidate is required to demonstrate proficiency in the application of the process as well as interpretation of results, or may be images, such as radiographs, if the candidate is only required to interpret the results and not perform the process of generating the image. Written checklists covering the topics detailed below shall be developed by the Level III to assure adequate coverage and to assist in the administration and grading of the examination.

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5.4.4.1 LEVEL I. The candidate shall demonstrate proficiency by using the appropriate method to examine at least one test sample for each technique to be used and document the results. The test samples shall be representative of the products to be encountered by the candidate in the performance of their duties. The checklist shall address proficiency in the use of the equipment and materials, adherence to procedural details and the documentation of the results. If the Level I candidate is to accept products, then the checklist shall also include proficiency in the interpretation and evaluation of indications.

5.4.4.2 LEVEL II. The candidate shall demonstrate proficiency by using the appropriate method to examine at least one test sample for each technique. At least two test samples shall be evaluated for each method. The test samples shall be representative of the products to be encountered by the candidate in the performance of their duties. The candidate shall interpret, evaluate and document the results of the examination of the test samples. The checklist shall include proficiency in the use of equipment and materials, adherence to procedural details, and the accuracy and completeness of interpretation and evaluations of indications.

5.4.4.3 LEVEL III. The candidate shall demonstrate proficiency by preparing an NDT procedure appropriate to their employer's requirements. When the candidate's duties will include inspection or evaluation of products, then proficiency in performance of such tasks shall be demonstrated also. The checklist shall address the practical and technical adequacy of the procedures prepared by the candidate, and when applicable, the adequacy of the interpretation and evaluation of indications. In the event that the candidate has already developed satisfactory procedures, then it is not necessary to develop another one for the practical examination. The results of the practical examination shall be documented. Procedures developed for a previous employer can be used to satisfy this requirement if their adequacy can be verified and documented.

5.4.5 ADMINISTRATION. A Level III, knowledgeable and familiar with the specifications, standards, codes, techniques and products associated with the employer, and certified Level III in the method for which the examinations are given, shall be responsible for the administration of all qualification examinations. The administration and grading of those examinations using multiple choice or true/false type questions can be delegated by the Level III. If an outside agency is used to provide this function, then the employer shall assure that the individual who performs the administration of the examinations is fully qualified. In no case can an examination be administered by one's self or by a subordinate.

5.4.6 GRADING. The candidate for certification must achieve a minimum grade of 70% on the general and specific qualification examinations. The candidate must detect all discontinuities or conditions specified by the Level III during the practical examination and achieve a minimum score of 70%. The candidate must have an average score of no less than 80% in order to be eligible for certification. All examination scores shall be of equal weight in determining the average score. Scores for third party examinations where grading is a pass/fail, the value of pass used for the average score shall be 80%.

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APPROVAL DATE May 1996 REVISION



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5.4.7 RE-EXAMINATION. Candidates failing any examination, (general, specific or practical) shall receive additional training before attempting re-examination of the failed exam. The additional training shall be documented and shall address those areas found deficient in the candidate's skills or knowledge. The re-examination shall not utilize the same tests or specimens that were used in the initial examination.

5.5 APPROVAL OF INSTRUCTORS. Instructors shall be approved by the Level III responsible for the employer's certification program and shall meet at least one of the following criteria:

- a. Be certified to Level III in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.
- b. Possess the equivalent of a B.S. in engineering, physical science or technology and have adequate knowledge in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.
- c. Possess an associate's degree in physical science or technology and have a minimum of 2 years experience, or equivalent, as a Level II in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.
- d. Possess a minimum of 4 years experience as a Level II, or equivalent, in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.

5.6 QUALIFICATION AND APPROVAL OF AUDITORS. Personnel performing audits, surveys or assessments shall be approved by the responsible Level III from the cognizant NDT organization. They shall have documented NDT and audit training and shall pass (scoring per 5.4.6) general and specific examinations covering the applicable NDT methods and audit requirements. They shall also pass a practical examination consisting of two audits, accompanied by a qualified NDT auditor. Training content and time required shall be determined by the supervising auditor and cognizant Level III, and shall be at least equal to or greater than the requirements listed for Level I in Table 1. Third party auditors may be used by the employers when approved by the NDT Level III and documented evidence of qualification is on file and available for review..

5.7 CERTIFICATION. Personnel, who have demonstrated that they possess the appropriate qualifications, shall be certified by their employer in accordance with the employer's certification procedure. Certification is not required for personnel who are trainees or those who are designated as Instructors or Auditors.

5.7.1 RECORDS. The employer shall maintain certification records for personnel for as long as their certification is in effect. Such records shall be available for audit by the facility's customers. The records shall include, as a minimum:

- a. Name of the individual certified.
- b. Level, method, and techniques for which individual is certified.
- c. Results of all qualification examinations, including the latest written test and test scores, that the individual has taken.
- d. Date and expiration of current certification(s).



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- e. History of all previous NDT certifications with current employer.
- f. Training history which identifies source, type of training and dates of training, course hours and grades(if given after training), and instructor's name.
- g. Experience history, both with current and previous employers sufficient to justify satisfaction of experience requirements for certification.
- h. Results of physical examinations.
- j. Extent and documentation of formal education.

5.7.2 LOSS OF CERTIFICATION. Certification may expire, be suspended or be revoked. Certification shall expire when employment is terminated or when the certification interval has lapsed with no recertification issued. Certification shall be suspended when the physical examination is overdue, the individual does not perform in the method certified for at least 12 consecutive months, or the individual's performance is found to be deficient in any manner. Certification shall be revoked when the individual does not perform in the method certified for at least 24 consecutive months or the individuals conduct is found to be unethical or incompetent.

5.7.3 REINSTATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION. Certifications which have been suspended may be reinstated when the cause for the suspension has been corrected and the correction verified by the employer. Certifications that have expired or been revoked may not be reinstated except by recertification.

5.7.4 RECERTIFICATION.

5.7.4.1 Level I and II personnel shall be recertified at intervals not to exceed three years. The physical, practical, general and specific examinations equivalent to those required for initial certification shall be administered.

5.7.4.2 Level III personnel shall be recertified at intervals not to exceed 5 years. Recertification including the practical may be accomplished by documented experience. However, if equipment operation or accepting production hardware are required as part of their duties, a practical exam equivalent to initial certification shall be administered.