



ExMC(Dubai/ExNB)04  
September 2019

**INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION SYSTEM FOR  
CERTIFICATION TO STANDARDS RELATING TO EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN  
EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (IECEx SYSTEM)**

**Title: Report from Mr Thierry Houeix regarding the activities of the ExNB  
Group for ATEX**

**To: Members of the IECEx Management Committee, ExMC**

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**INTRODUCTION**

This document contains a report from the ExNB Group on activities since the 2018 IECEx Cannes meeting presented during the 2019 Dubai ExMC meeting.

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<b>ExNB</b>	<b>Co-ordination of Notified Bodies Equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres on Council Directive 2014/34/EU (ATEX)</b>	<b>22nd ExNB-Meeting February 5 and 6, 2019 Brussels</b>
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## **ExNBG meeting short report**

### **1. General**

22nd meeting was held on February 5th/6th, 2019 in Brussels.

ExNB elected unanimously with one abstention each Dr Thedens (PTB) as Chairman and Mr Sinclair (SGS Baseefa and SGS Fimko) and Mr Houeix (Ineris) as Vice-Chairmen. All three accepted their elections.

ExNB has got three active Working Groups:

- WG 98/5 Devices with measuring function for explosion protection
- WG 04/13 QM-questions
- WG 08/14 Consideration of state of the art

### **2. Cooperation with bodies outside EU (BREXIT / IECEX)**

After the Brexit, if no deal, the bodies from UK will be no longer Notified Bodies. Therefore, they will not be able to take part in the ExNB-meetings as such. It was agreed by ExNB that these bodies (which it is understood will all become UK Approved Bodies with an identical technical scope) are invited as observers according to subclause 3.4 a) of the ExNB-rules.

IECEX-certificates are accepted in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, India (with some restrictions) and Israel for a direct market access. IECEX has implemented a liaison with IEC TC 31 (e.g. all DS of IECEX will be send to the relevant maintenance team for mentioning) and OIML (due to measurement in hazardous areas).

### **3. Technical discussions**

#### **3.1. Use of ISO/IEC 80079-34:2018**

It was agreed that it was not appropriate to use the current harmonised standard EN ISO/IEC 80079-34:2011, as it contained mandatory references to clauses in ISO 9001:2008, which had now been formally withdrawn.

As a harmonised standard cannot be used, the next available standard is ISO/IEC 80079-34:2018, which should be used as the reference document. ExNB is satisfied that there are no requirements within ISO/IEC 80079-34:2018 that conflict with the requirements of the harmonised standard EN 80079-34:2011. Additionally, the Annex ZB of EN ISO/IEC 80079-34:2011 should be applied as the equivalent text is not in ISO/IEC 80079-34:2018, but will be published in the new edition of EN ISO/IEC 80079-34.

#### **3.2. Applicable IECEX ExTAG Decision Sheets (DS)**

ExNB agreed unanimously with one abstention to issue a new Clarification Sheet of ExNB that includes a list of applicable IECEX ExTAG DS.

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### **3.3. Electronic signature**

ExNB agreed to publish a new CS, clarifying that electronic signatures on documents are permitted by the European Regulation eIDAS (Regulation (EU) No. 910/2014) and are considered to have the same validity as handwritten signatures. Then, it is possible to sign an EU-type examination certificate by an electronic signature

Next meeting of ExNB is planned for February 4th/5th, 2020 in Brussels.

Thierry Houeix  
ExNBG Vice-Chairman