

The Need for Standardization in NDT Personnel Certification

C.J. HELLIER, Hellier Technical Training and Consulting, Niantic, USA

Abstract. This paper will address the concerns and problems that result when multiple NDT certification programs exist. It will focus primarily on the programs that are currently being used in the United States and the complications that multiple programs can cause. Since SNT-TC-1A was first published in 1968, it has experienced a number of revisions but the common theme has not been changed. The development and publication of ANSI/ASNT CP-189 in 1991 was expected to “raise the bar” but it was not generally embraced by industry. The ASNT Central Certification Program (ACCP) which was adopted in 1996 was an attempt to align with ISO 9712 and this too, was unsuccessful. It was basically dormant for years after its publication, until it was revived through “grandfathering” in 2002. In summary, there are a number of ASNT certification programs currently in use and several that have been developed by other organizations. It is the opinion of many in the U. S. that standardization is essential if current personnel certification issues are to be resolved. The technology of NDT will benefit greatly when a universal program for certification can be developed and mutually recognized by all.