

**PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION AND QUALIFICATION BY THE  
INDEPENDENT CERTIFICATION BODY “SPEKTRCert” OF JSC  
“MSIA “SPECTRUM”**

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**Abstract**

The Independent NDT personnel Certification Body– “SPEKTRCert” (JSC “MSIA “Spectrum”) functions in accordance with two schemes:

- Personnel certification in the field of NDT within the frames of the Voluntary Certification System registered in the Federal Agency on technical regulation and metrology;
- Personnel certification within the frames of schemes approved and implemented by the State Agency responsible for safety supervision at the potentially hazardous industrial and production facilities – Rostekhnadzor.

The CB is accredited to run certification for three qualification levels covering nine testing methods and seven types of hazardous industrial facilities that are under the Rostekhnadzor supervision. The scope of accreditation of the Independent CB has been extended recently. Now “SPEKTRCert” can provide personnel certification for thermal testing method as well as specialists qualification and certification working in metallurgy industry (I.e. Equipment NDT) and in civil construction (i.e. Buildings and constructions).

In 2007, “SPEKTRCert” was successfully assessed and approved by auditors of the European Federation for NDT (EFNDT). All aspects of the Independent CB activity were thoroughly checked, especially the compliance of documents maintenance and flow in accordance with requirements of the Quality Management System and qualification exams procedure. The European auditors made a positive report and finally the “SPEKTRCert” received the Certificate on Approval issued by the Certification Executive Committee (CEC) of EFNDT as well as the Certificate on Registration of “SPEKTRCert” under Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) maintained by the EFNDT. The certificate of approval confirms the right of CB to provide NDT personnel certification for three levels for` RT, MT, PT and VT methods relevant to product sector “Weldings” and industrial sector – “Production of Metals and Items made of it” in accordance with European standard EN473.

**Key words:** certification schemes, SPEKTRCert, RT, MT, PT, VT

The Independent NDT personnel Certification Body– “SPEKTRCert” (JSC “MSIA “Spectrum”) functions in accordance with two schemes:

- Personnel certification in the field of NDT within the frames of the Voluntary Certification System registered in the Federal Body on technical regulation and metrology;

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The development of different branches of industry, particularly oil-and-gas industry, requires creating and developing new equipment as the pipeline system is growing continuously. This means that provide safety and reliability of industrial facilities and equipment used for their safe running it vitally important to extensively implement non-destructive instruments. Wider implementation of NDT requires availability of qualified specialists able to perform examinations and testing at different stages of service life of facilities, equipment, structures, etc.

In these conditions, the Certification Body “SPEKTRCert” take all possible steps to provide high quality qualification and certification of personnel and satisfy the growing demand in it. To successfully solve this task, it is necessary to optimize the training process and certification and involve highly qualified specialist and examiners. At present, in the Center work two professors and 8 doctors of science. It is also promoted by the engagement of leading specialists from other enterprises. All these specialists participate in working out of syllabus and question banks. Also Center carries out audits of training centers to control the quality of training provided by relevant centers. In parallel to every-day work on personnel qualification and certification at “SPEKTRCert” the steps are made to extend its accreditation scope.

The CB is accredited to run certification for three qualification levels covering nine testing methods and seven types of hazardous industrial facilities that are under the Rostekhnadzor supervision. The scope of accreditation of the Independent CB has been extended recently. Now “SPEKTRCert” can provide personnel certification for thermal testing method as well as specialists’ qualification and certification working in metallurgy industry (i.e. Equipment NDT) and in civil construction (i.e. Buildings and constructions being new even for Rostekhnadzor). In 2007, this resulted in the following: 189 specialists were certified for level I, 1284 - for level II and 67 for level III. In the future CB “SPEKTRCert” is planning to extend its accreditation area onto “Facilities of electric power industry”.

In 2007, “SPEKTRCert” was successfully assessed and approved by auditors of the European Federation for NDT (EFNDT). All aspects of the Independent CB activity were thoroughly checked, especially the compliance of documents maintenance and flow in accordance with requirements of the Quality Management System and qualification exams procedure. The European auditors made a positive report and finally the “SPEKTRCert” received the Certificate on Approval issued by the Certification Executive Committee (CEC) of EFNDT as well as the Certificate on Registration of “SPEKTRCert” under Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) maintained by the EFNDT. The certificate of approval dated April 4, 2007 confirms the right of CB to provide NDT personnel certification for three levels for four (RT, MT, PT and VT) methods relevant to product sector “Welding” and industrial sector – “Production of Metals and Items made of them” in accordance with European standard EN473.

Certificates issued within the frames of this scheme will be valid until 4<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Now “SPEKTRCert” is certifying personnel providing it with certificates that are recognized at the European level. The current extension of International co-operation stipulates the steadily increasing need in NDT specialists certified for the European level.