ATA Spec 105

Guidelines for Training and Qualifying Personnel in Nondestructive Testing Methods

105

Revision 2017.1

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Highlights

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Location	Description of Change
Section 1-1: Scope	Added information regarding acronym use
Section 1-2: Definitions	Added definitions to align with NAS-410 document.
Section 1-4: Qualifications	Clarified NDT individual qualification.

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Introduction

In June of 1988, the Federal Aviation Administration sponsored an **Aging Aircraft Conference**, which included separate discussion sessions on nondestructive testing (NDT) of aircraft structure. Such sessions included discussions on what training is received by NDT specialists at a typical airline and whether this training is adequate. Certain attending NDT specialists from the Air Transport Association (ATA)-member airlines expressed the view that a uniform approach to training NDT inspectors among the airlines was highly desirable but that certification of individuals should be accomplished within the existing framework of each airline's maintenance training program.

Existing standards, such the **American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT)** Recommended Practice No. [SNT-TC-1A], National Aerospace Standard [NAS-410], and EN 4179, directly respond to the training and qualification of NDT personnel. In fact, the curriculum of individual member programs upon which this guideline was developed was primarily derived from such standards. However, ATA NDT-specialists required a training guideline that was specifically tailored for airplane inspection. A guideline that could be adopted among ATA-member training programs was needed.

The first draft of this guideline was developed by NDT representatives from American Airlines, Eastern Airlines, Trans World Airlines, United Airlines and US Air. This draft was distributed among the other ATA members for comment and, following minor changes, was adopted in January 1990 by the ATA Engineering, Maintenance and Materiel Council (EMMC). Also approved by the EMMC was the formation of the ATA NDT Panel, which is responsible for review and approval of subsequent changes to this specification.

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It is important to note that the Federal Aviation Regulations 14 CFR do not require NDT, but do specify that procedures and inspector qualifications be documented when NDT is used. The following 14 CFRs have requirements related to NDT: 14 CFR 23.1529 & Appendix G,14 CFR 25.611, 14 CFR 25.621, 14 CFR 25.1529 & Appendix H, 14 CFR 27.1529 & Appendix A, 14 CFR 29.1529 & Appendix A, 14 CFR 33.4 & Appendix A, 14 CFR 35.4 & Appendix A, 14 CFR 43.11, 14 CFR 91.403, 14 CFR 121.135, 14 CFR 121.369, 14 CFR 121.371, 14 CFR 121.1109, 14 CFR 135.419, 14 CFR 135.427, 14 CFR 135.429, 14 CFR 145.61, 14 CFR 145.155, and 14 CFR 145.161.

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