

5.1.12. FEATURES OF CERTIFYING SPECIALISTS IN NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING WITHIN THE LIMITS OF LARGE, BUT UNDERPOPULATED TERRITORY

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Paper discusses certification procedures for personnel in the field of nondestructive testing (NDT) within the frames of the Unified conformity evaluation system with NTC “Promyshlennaja bezopasnost”, Rostekhnadzor and other interested organizations as its participants.

Independent body on personnel certification «ENTEST» (NOAP «ENTEST») of the LLC «Askotekhenergo – diagnostika», based in Khabarovsk has developed and introduced into practice certification options for personnel staying within the limits of large ($\sim 5 \cdot 10^6$ sq. km), but underpopulated ($\sim 7 \cdot 10^6$ person) territory of the Far East Federal District of the Russian Federation. These procedures are intended to minimize financial expenditures of certified persons for travels and business trip expenses, while maintaining all requirements to the completeness and quality of certification under the normative document PB 03 – 440 – 02.

One of the procedures consists in arrangement of the off-site session in composition of not less than 7 persons for certification of the NDT specialists groups. Availability in the place of certification of exam specimens approved by the head of the NOAP «ENTEST» is an obligatory condition to hold such a session. NDT specialist of III level permanently residing in this place and having a contract on work as an examiner concluded with NOAP must attend these exams. This specialist not only participates in grading exams, but carries out preparatory work on their arrangement, as well.

Second procedure using modern electronic communication means is applied in order to extend the validity term of the NDT specialist certificate. It consists in that questions of special exam are sent by e-mail or fax to certified person, while he/she must send answers to these questions by e-mail or fax to the NOAP within the normatively provided time (3 minutes for every question). In the event of positive result of examination the certified person is notified of by telephone, fax or e-mail, he/she must complete the standard exam form on paper and send it by post to the address of NOAP. During passing of special exam, certified person must be supervised by the NDT specialist of III level residing in the same populated locality. The latter is the participant of an exam and must sign the standard exam form.

There are some other procedures based on the combination of above ones. For example, “local” specialist of III level grades general and special exams by questions sent from the NOAP using e-mail. Then, in order to pass practical exam, the certified person arrives to the NOAP or an additional examiner from the NOAP arrives to the place of residence of certified person (it depends on the load of examiners and availability of exam specimens on the site of certification).

Paper discusses matters of further economic optimization of certification procedures of the NDT personnel in conditions of large distances between the place of NOAP location and the place of residence of certified specialist.