

Minutes of the Special Open Meeting to Elect Members to the NANDTB

**Thursday 23rd March 2006
Qantas Group Lounge Terminal 3 (Qantas Domestic)
Sydney Airport**

- 1. Opening:** Interim Chairman Tony Collier opened the meeting at 1000 and welcomed those present.
- 2. Attendance:** 28 persons present and one apology (Malcolm Oakey), Attendance sheet attached to these minutes.
- 3. Address by interim Chairman:** Tony Collier outlined the agenda and aims of the meeting, noting the letter of recognition by CASA and the pending release of the new AS 3669. He also noted that active participation by the aviation industry was needed.
- 4. Adoption of the agenda:** The agenda was adopted unaltered.
- 5. Address by CASA:** Albert Fleming welcomed everyone and stated that it was the only pro-active group in aviation support and that it was a great assistance to CASA to have it. He quoted directly from the CASA letter from Graham Edkins noting specifically the following points:
 - CASA formally recognised the Board.
 - The board must demonstrate independence and be representative of all the aerospace sectors utilising NDT.
 - The Board is to perform the functions as per the AS3669 standard, including the assessment of all levels of personnel and providing guidance with respect to employers' written practice.
 - Be involved with CASA's legislation and process changes, working on behalf of the NDT aerospace industry.
 - Work with CASA to achieve mutual recognition with other states NANDTBs.

Notwithstanding the above, the Board is to remain independent of CASA.

Albert went on to outline the assistance CASA is providing in the construction of, and ongoing maintenance of a NANDTB web site. It is planned to be accessed through the CASA site or directly.

He stated that the new Regulations would be based on EASA regulations and review of those Regulations would give a very good indication of the style to be expected from CASA. The related AMC would also be useful to the reader. He went on to note that the EASA approach to regulation were considered more relevant than the FARs because they were newer and not formulated from dated material or ideas. He is currently writing the AMC for the NDT Regulation and that it will prescribe adherence to AS3669, the need for a written practice and that a Level 3 person should review and approve it. CASA legal advice is pending regarding the need to authorise persons to release to service after NDT is performed.

CASA's previous role of being involved in each step of authorising persons to certify for NDT will continue to be reduced to only issuing an authorisation (if necessary) to those persons who can show that they have been passed an assessment by a suitable

Level 3. Its validity would still be restricted to the organisation which employs the person. This approach may be implemented even before the new Regulations are released, but after the release of AS3669-2006. He explained that a joint industry working group is currently writing the new Regulations and this should reduce the repetitive consultation cycle which typified earlier attempts.

Tony Collier noted that many current CASA NDT authorisations do not relate to AS3669 because over the period of time during which they were issued, CASA did not always use AS 3669. He noted also that GA was the area to be affected the most and changes and would be the most challenging for CASA and the NANDTB. Albert urged the Board to include national competency standards as well as the specific training outlined in the standard when developing policy. His discussions with EASA indicated that this is an approach they favour.

6. Address by the Chairman of the AANDTC: Garry Bowden gave a brief history of the AANDTC as a subcommittee of the AINDT. He noted the correspondence between himself and the AINDT Executive Officer, David Barnett in which David agreed that there was no longer a need for the Committee. The authority of previous correspondence would remain and the archiving of material would be discussed with AINDT. The winding up of the AANDTC would be communicated in the AINDT journal and web site.

7. Summary of the establishment of NANDTBs in other countries: Colin Hockings presented a table showing the salient points about the formation of NANDTBs in various European countries. The only similarity was that each was formed to best suit its country's industry. Accordingly, no one model predominated. From that review it could be argued that the Australian Board could also be formed to best suit local conditions so long as the CASA continued to recognise it.

8. Address by interim Chairman on the developments thus far in establishing the Interim Board: Tony Collier summarised earlier discussions and raised the issue of indemnity for Board members. Albert Fleming stated that the CAAP Admin 1 which previously indemnified many people, would eventually be removed. David Barnett noted that ACIP and CBIP are examples of similar bodies which are legal entities and that the Board needs to consider this. It was agreed that indemnity and legal standing are to be investigated by the newly formed Board;

9. Outline of Charter Documents: Colin Hockings presented the Procedures Manual and discussed its contents. It was agreed that this was a reasonable starting position from which to build a workable document to be used by the Board. It will be posted in total on the web site.

10. Q & A: Will existing authorisations continue to be recognised? Yes

* Will recognition of prior learning still be accepted? Yes

8 Will the CASA "blue book" remain? It will most likely be eliminated but for the immediate future it will remain.

* Would the 2 year renewal remain or be extended to 5 years as per the standard?

CASA could not answer positively but did note that although the current renewal was 2 years CASA still required persons to have vision tests annually as per the standard. This same approach may apply.

* Will recertification be in accordance with the standard? Yes but it will be up to the organisation to set its own procedure, noting that the AS3669 would be considered as

a minimum. The earlier CASA authorisations provided to persons without training and experience would present a problem.

* Tony Collier noted that the new CAAPs for MT and PT are about to be issued. The CAO 108.8 and 108.10 will be amended to refer to these CAAPs.

* David Barnett suggested that a significant support structure will be needed by the Board as was found to be the case with the AINDT CB. Tony Collier responded by noting that much of the responsibility remains with the employer and not the Board so the amount of support infrastructure should not be excessive.

* Who will be doing the CASA audits? This is uncertain at this time. Albert Fleming believes that NDT “aware” auditors from CASA would probably be used and did not foresee NDT experts being required.

* How often will CASA audits be carried out? As determined by risk assessment.

11. Description of the procedure to be followed in electing the Board: Colin Hockings made reference to the procedure outlined in the manual. It was agreed by the meeting to accept additional nominations from the floor and these were added to the list of nominees. It was agreed that only the MRO/NDT Service Provider category needed election because the other categories were already in accordance with the charter. A secret ballot was used.

12. Appointment of returning officer: Albert Fleming agreed to be the returning officer.

13. Election of Board members: The following persons were elected to the Board

Garry Bowden	Hawker de Havilland
Malcolm Oakey	Rosebank Engineering
Brian Tydeman	Timken
Ron Quirk	Helitech
D.Gary Martin	ATTAR
Colin Hockings	Qantas Airways
Neville Morgan	BAE Systems
Shayne Flynn	Boeing Australia
Trevor Jones	Qantas Defence Services
Tony Collier	Hawker Pacific
Neil Joiner	Gippsland Aeronautics
Peter Virtue	DSTO

14. Other Business: David Barnett congratulated those elected and promised any assistance and co-operation which the Board may require from AINDT. Jed Murry also offered his organisation’s assistance should the Board request it.

Albert Fleming note that there would be new positions within CASA called Safety Advisers. These would not be auditors but described as providing compliance assistance. About 2 per state would be initially appointed for a trial period. He urged everyone to utilise this resource.

15. Close: Tony Collier Closed the meeting at 1230.

C.Hockings
Interim Secretary