

NA-016 Mutual Recognition of NANDTBs

1. Introduction: The international nature of aerospace is enhanced with the harmonisation of EN 4179, NAS 410. Each of these standards identifies the role of a NANDTB. It is important that there is equivalence among these Boards, otherwise there is the potential for an unacceptable variation in the standard of qualification and competence of NDT personnel served by the different National Boards.

The establishment of agreed minimum requirements for a NANDTB is necessary if training, examination, qualification and other matters recognised by one NANDTB are to be accepted by another. This procedure outlines the assessment criteria to be satisfied for those minimum requirements, which would underpin the mutual recognition of another NANDTB by the NANDTB of Australia.

2. Assessment Elements

	Formal recognition of the Board by the National Aviation Authority. The NAA should be an observer member of the Board.
	Effective communication capabilities. Website, periodic publication or access to industry publications to disseminate information.
	List of members and their affiliations. The membership should be a fair representation of the aviation sector interest groups. It should include qualified NDT Level 3s.
	Freely available charter, policy or operational documents such as; Terms of reference, Aims and objectives, Rules of Governance, Election/appointment/termination and tenure of members, Roles and responsibilities of Board members, Avoidance of conflicts of interest, Conduct of meetings and transparency, Resolution of disputes, NANDTB control of qualification examinations, Recognition of NDT qualifications and certifications, Recognition of NDT training organisations, Requirements for examinations, Relationships with other organisations, Financial arrangements, Interpretation of EN4179/NAS410 and employer written practice
	The NANDTB should be active. If the Board has not met or conducted business in the previous six months it may not be meeting the needs of its aerospace industry. While activity levels will vary from country to country, for recognition it must be established that the Board is performing its role as per EN 4179/NAS410.