**ExTAG Chairman’s Report to ExMC – September 2020**

This is a brief summary of the ExTAG Meeting held in webinar format on 29th and 30th of September 2020.

As commencement of the meeting, I welcomed all members/observers, and invited the new IEC TC 31 Chair, Dr Martin Thedens to address. After approval of the agenda and last meeting report, we began with an introduction regarding the ExTAG Chair and ExTAG Deputy Chair voting approach. Each candidate was asked to give a brief self-introduction. Thereafter ExCBs and ExTLs were asked to email to IECEx Secretariat to vote the Chair and Deputy Chair after the meeting in Day 1.

We then received a verbal report from the Secretary on an overview of the IECEx Equipment Scheme activities since the last meeting in 2019, including noting the publication and application of Editions 1.0 and 2.0 of IECEx OD 060.

Then we had a technical discussion on Certification of Equipment/Assemblies using heaters to raise internal ambient temperatures, and the originator UL LLC was agreed to generate a draft DS for circulation.

**In the closed session,** it has been discussed the co-operation between IECEx bodies. We talked about the necessity of the confidential agreement with regard to document requests from issuing ExCBs and/or applicants by receiving ExCBs, this topic was arisen by Dr Jim Munro, Australia.

**We then received reports on the status of activities of ExTAG Working Groups:**

* WG 01 looks after preparation and maintenance of ExTR formats

ExTAG members accepted the Convenor’s report, and agreed to support the ExTAG WG 01 proposal to revise the IECEx OD 010-2 to clarify requirements for the provision of related drawings to ExCBs.

* WG 03 is responsible for OD 017 on Documentation and Drawing Requirements It was reported by the convenor of WG 03, the continuation of the work will take into account additional comments.
* ExTAG WG 04 Uncertainty of measurement

Members accepted the report from ExTAG WG 04 as circulated and presented by the Executive Secretary，noting a new draft OD 012 will be circulated at the end of this year.

* WG 06 is responsible of rules of procedures for Testing at Other Locations

Chris Agius reported the progress of the publication of the new version OD 024 and a new IT feature to provide access to the on-line Register.

* WG 10 deals with Proficiency testing

The Convenor Mr. Tim Krause reported the progress and results of the recent proficiency testing programs, and then members endorsed the future Proficiency Testing Programs for 2021/2022 as indicated in ExTAG/629/R.

* ExTAG WG 12 is dedicated to the requirements for Retention of Records

The convenor explained the draft revision of OD 207, and members agreed to recommend for publication.

* WG 14 is looking at policies on Certification of Ex Equipment Assemblies

Members accepted the report present by Mr Paul Kelly (circulated as ExTAG(2020 Remote/WG01)04) on ExTAG WG 14 work in monitoring and supporting the work of PT 60079-46 in maintaining IEC TS 60079-46.

* ExTAG AdhocWG1 is dealing with Modular Concept for electrical Ex Equipment

After some discussion it was agreed by members to recommend ExMC to proceed the revised OD 034 for the publication as circulated as ExTAG/614/CD, following an editorial review of formatting.

* ExTAG adhocWG2 Identification of Ancillary Devices and Marking Identification

After the report by the Convenor, members agreed the recommendation:

* To give the working group more time to revise the draft DS in consideration of the comments for circulation for 6 weeks, and
* Dr. Detlev Markus will involve into this revision with the WG.

I would like to thank all the Convenors and members of these WGs for their effort and work on all these essential matters.

**We then worked on the ExTAG decisions sheets.** After noting the current list of existing DSs, and the draft DSs which were withdrawn by the originator since last meeting, members agreed on the removal of DS 2013/006, DS 2006/009A and DS 2012/002 according to the proposals from ExSFC and USA.

The meeting agreed that the incoming ExTAG Chair and Deputy Chair be requested to re-confirm the existing 17 DSs falling under the 5-year review, with support from secretariat and originator consultation

In noting the publication of IECEx OD 035 Edition 2.3, the meeting discussed the draft Decision Sheets underway. Many valuable inputs were noted by members. The results are:

* 2 draft DSs (under Agenda Item 9.1 and 9.3) proceeded to publication
* 1 draft DS (under Agenda Item 9.2) did NOT proceed to publication and further discussions with the relevant IEC TC31 MTs required
* 1 draft DS (under Agenda Item 9.4) proceeded to publication with editorial changes requested during this meeting

**The following points are specifically referred to ExMC at this time:**

1. Following the undertaking of secret ballot via email at the close of Day 1 of the meeting, The ExTAG agrees with the nomination of Dr Lienesch and Mr Omerovic for ExMC approval as ExTAG Chair and ExTAG Deputy Chair respectively and seeks ExMC approval for their appointment.
2. IECEx 02 rules governing cooperation among ExCBs in receiving ExTRs and QARs for others with AU experts raising the concern and a request from ExTAG that this matter be raised with ExMC WG 01.
3. ExTAG indicated its support for the new OD 060 to assist with business continuity and wish to inform the ExMC.
4. A document was tabled from Dr Munro and Mr Sinclair, ExTAG(2020 Remote/JM+RS)05 regarding the issue of Decision Rule according to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and request that ExAG be given the task to oversee this issue noting that ExTAG WG 04 is to take this issue into account during its current work on revising OD 012.
5. Rev of OD 207. ExTAG WG 12 finalised and requests ExMC approval of ExTAG/617/CD for publication.
6. Revision of OD 034 as prepared by Dr Detlev Markus (ExTAG/614/CD proceed for approval by ExMC for publication.
7. Agreed to meeting in 2021 along with ExMC as usual.

***Xu Jianping***

***ExTAG Chair***