COLLECTION OF IECEx / ExTAG DECISIONS

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| Standard:  IEC TS 60079-46:2017 | **Clauses:**  All as relevant |  |
| **Subject:**  Reference to  *IEC TS 60079-46 Explosive atmospheres - Part 46: Equipment Assemblies Edition 1.0*  **Status of document: Approved** | **Key words:**   * Assemblies * Equipment | Date: February 2021 **Originator of proposal:** IECEx Secretariat + Mr Paul Kelly Convener ExTAG WG 14 |

**Background:**

Prior to the availability of IEC TS 60079-46, IECEx published Decision Sheet ExTAG 2015/001A to ensure a uniform approach to the certification of Equipment Assemblies, within the IECEx 02 Certified Equipment Scheme.

During the Washington 2017 ExTAG meeting ExTAG recorded the following Decision which was ratified by the IECEx Management Committee

**ExTAG Decision 2017/09**

Members discussed the question of assessment and certification of Ex Assemblies that incorporate both electrical and non-electrical equipment, noting the provisions of Clause 8 in OD 280 and the requirement of recently published IEC TS 60079-46. It was agreed to recommend to the ExMC the use of IEC TS 60079-46 for certification purposes. The meeting also agreed the possible need for revisions of IECEx Rules and ODs and it was agreed to establish a Working Group (to be convened by Mr Paul Kelly) to consider a revision of existing DS 2015/001A regarding the publication of IEC TS 60079-46 and recommendations for transitional period.

It was agreed that DS 2015/001A be retained for use by ExCBs until further notice and recommended that scope extension for IEC TS 60079-46 should be an administrative extension, via the ExMC/251B/Q form, for ExCBs already accepted to DS 2015/001A and non-electrical standards ISO/I 80079-36 and ISO/I 80079-37. Bodies without non-electrical standards, even with DS 2015/001A in their scope, must first apply for scope extension to include non-electrical standards ISO 80079-36 and ISO 80079-37 and would be subjected to a site assessment accordingly. Bodies may continue to use DS 2015/001A instead of IEC TS 60079-46 as IEC TS 60079-46 is seen as an updated edition to the DS 2015/001A and hence may be regarded meeting the rule “Use of current edition or 1 edition prior” of IECEx 02.

In line with the above decision, no new Issue 0, IECEx Certificates are to be issued according to the Decision Sheet ExTAG 2015/001A, from 1st January 2020, however previously issued certificates may continue to be valid according to the IECEx Scheme Requirements of IECEx 02 and supporting IECEx Operational Documents, e.g. OD 009. Up Issues of existing IECEx Certificates previously issued according to DS 2015/001A are permitted where required.

This Decision Sheet provides both a reminder of the 2017 Washington Decision and clarification of ExCB criteria for using IEC TS 60079-46 to issue IECEx Certificates of Conformity.

**QUESTION: Are there any requirements for an IECEx Certification Body, ExCB, to be able to include IEC TS 60079-46 within their scope of IECEx acceptance to issue IECEx Certificates of Conformity?**

**ANSWER: Yes an ExCB shall comply with the following:**

1. Have ISO 80079-36 and ISO 80079-37 within their scope prior to being able to issue IECEx Certificates according to IEC TS 60079-46.
2. In accordance with IECEx 02 rules and OD 009, *IECEx Certified Equipment Scheme, Procedures for the Issuing of IECEx Certificates of Conformity, IECEx Test Reports and IECEx Quality Assessment Reports* ExCBs, ExCBs can only accept IECEx Certificate applications for assemblies where the ExCB has all Ex protection techniques, associated with the Equipment Assembly, within their scope.
3. Certificate information and Marking requirements shall be in accordance with IEC TS 60079-46.
4. The following standards are the only standards to be identified on a Certificate involving IEC TS 60079-46, with supporting ExTRs to also be generated:
   1. IEC TS 60079-46 must always be identified.
   2. IEC 60079-0 must always be identified (as it is required for both electrical and non-electrical evaluations).
   3. ISO 80079-36 would only be identified if the assembly includes non-electrical ignition sources.

For assemblies that do not include any non-electrical ignition sources, the Certificate need not state in so many words that there were no non-electrical ignition sources. The identification of IEC TS 60079-46 on the Certificate, and lack of identification of ISO 80079-36 on the Certificate, is a clear enough statement that there were no non-electrical ignition sources (as IEC TS 60079-46 requires the evaluation of all electrical and non-electrical ignition sources).

*Note 1: The performance of an ignition hazard assessment (IHA) according to ISO 80079-36 that results in a determination that there are no non-electrical ignition sources would be detailed under 6.4 of the IEC TS 60079-46 ExTR. There would not be a need for a separate ISO 80079-36 ExTR..*

*Note 2: In accordance with 5.2.2 of IEC TS 60079-46, “Specific Conditions of Use that are related to items of equipment forming the equipment assembly, that are not satisfied in the equipment assembly, but able to be satisfied in the end-user site installation, shall be included or addressed, on the equipment assembly certificate”.*