



# Remote IECEx Training 5 September 2022

Dr Jim Munro  
Convenor ExAG

# Scope of presentation

- Role of ExAG and matters currently under consideration
- Role of IECEx Peer Assessment (why we have them)
- Reminder of lessons learnt from Remote Assessments

# ExAG: IECEx Assessment Group

- Terms of reference: To act as the dedicated IECEx Maintenance and Consultative Group for matters relating to the IECEx Assessment of ExCBs and ExTLs across all IECEx Schemes, covering terms of reference, structure, membership, and responsibilities.
- Convenor: Jim Munro
- Deputy Convenor: Katy Holdredge
- Mainly lead assessors, but with a few additional nominations from member countries. 16 in total.



# ExAG: IECEx Assessment Group

## Main responsibilities

- Ensuring there are competent assessors (for all schemes)
- Providing and updating appropriate procedures and forms for assessments

# ExAG matters under consideration

- Change for mid-term reports from ODs to F forms – for voting at ExMC
- Revision of OD 003-2 to reflect changes in forms
- Revision of OD 032 – assessment guide
- Development for training material for assessors

# IECEx Peer assessment

ISO/IEC 17040:2005

Conformity assessment — General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies

ISO/IEC 17000:2020

Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles

6.7

peer assessment

assessment of a body against [specified requirements \(5.1\)](#) by representatives of other bodies in, or candidates for, an [agreement group \(9.10\)](#)

Note 1 to entry: “Candidates” are included for the situation where a new group is being formed, at which time there would be no bodies in the group.

Note 2 to entry: The term “peer assessment” is sometimes referred to as “peer evaluation”.

# Reminder of lessons learnt from Remote Assessments

- OD 060 - IECEx Guide for Business Continuity – Management of Extraordinary Circumstances or Events affecting IECEx Certification Schemes and Activities
- Remote assessments have filled a gap
- In most cases not as good as onsite, but there are some options for remote assessments after COVID

# After COVID – remote unlikely

The following assessment are UNLIKELY be done remotely, unless there are extenuating circumstances:

- Initial assessment of any bodies (except possibly in some cases for ExCB – see next slide)
- Any assessments for ExTLs or ATFs, with possible exception of surveillance visits or scope extensions not involving new testing capabilities (for example see OD 233 for IEC 60079-33 Ex “s”)
- Re-assessments of any bodies



# After COVID – remote possible

The following assessments MAY be possible for remote assessment after COVID:

- Initial assessment of ExCBs (where IECEx has prior onsite experience with the organisation and staff)
- Surveillance assessment of ExCBs (any scheme)
- Scope extensions for ExCBs
- Mid-term assessments

Remote meetings as a potential tool for any assessment

# Guidance remote assessments

Guidance on remote assessments will be prepared by ExAG:

- For inclusion in OD 032 assessment guide