



**ExMC(Foz do Iguaçu/ExNB)03
September 2024**

**INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION SYSTEM FOR
CERTIFICATION TO STANDARDS RELATING TO EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN
EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (IECEX SYSTEM)**

Title: Report from the ExNB Group submitted for Regional Reports

To: Members of the IECEx Management Committee, ExMC

INTRODUCTION

This document contains a report from ExNB Group for reporting under Regional Reports at the 2024 EXMC Meeting


IECEX Secretariat

Visiting address:

**IECEX Secretariat
Level 17, Angel Place
123 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia**

Contact Details:

**Tel: +61 2 4628 4690
E-mail: info@iecex.com
<http://www.iecex.com>**

	<p>Co-ordination of Notified Bodies Equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres on Council Directive 2014/34/EU (ATEX)</p>	<p>ExNBG meetings in 2024</p>
---	--	--


ExNBG report

Since 2023 ExMC meeting ATEX Directive Notified Body Group (ExNBG) held 2 meetings:

- 27. ExNBG meeting was held as an online meeting on February 28, 2024;
- 28. meeting of ExNBG was held in Brussels, Belgium on September 17&18, 2024.

Among numerous topics that were discussed the following should be of interest for the global IECEx community:

- ATEX Guidelines, Ed. 5 has been published in April 2024. One of the revised parts that caused some discussion was the new wording related to the article dealing with the conformity assessment procedures for zone 1/21 non-electrical equipment requesting communication of the technical documentation to an ATEX Notified Body: “Notified body should check the legibility and completeness of the documentation according to index provided by the manufacturer.”. The tasks and responsibilities of ATEX Notified Bodies under this procedure remain unclear and will be discussed with the responsible parties.
- The Administrative Cooperation of European Market Surveillance Authorities for ATEX Directive (ATEX ADCO) is one of the important partners to ExNBG. In the recent time market surveillance authorities in multiple EEA (European Economic Area) countries performed various actions which included investigations of technical and formal compliance of cable glands and handheld battery torches.
The result was that a significant portion of the Ex products were not compliant with the requirements of ATEX Directive. An example of technical noncompliance includes that no plastic cable glands of smaller size (M20) passed the impact test. Additionally clear instructions were missing on how to mount and use the glands in different applications.
Some of the formal nonconformances for both torches and cable glands include lack of safety instructions in correct language(s), lack of correct EU Declarations of Conformity and various other product documentation related information.
- In different European Ex related groups (which include ExNBG, CENELEC TC31, CEN TC305 and Administrative Cooperation of Market Surveillance Authorities for ATEX Directive) the issue of durability, readability and legibility of marking is in focus and is being discussed how to resolve the current situation.

	<p style="text-align: center;">Co-ordination of Notified Bodies Equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres on Council Directive 2014/34/EU (ATEX)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ExNBG meetings in 2024</p>
---	--	--

Different perspectives are sought from the relevant stakeholders and various measures are under consideration. The work is well underway on development of a European Group Differences document that is expected to be issued as an amendment (Common Modifications) to the next (8th) edition of IEC 60079-0 (once that is published).

- An important reminder is regarding significance of use of the equipment specific (harmonized) standards (among them many are European type C standards as defined in EN ISO 12100:2010). A few examples of these standards is fans standard (EN 14986), vacuum cleaner standard (EN 17348),... Additional examples can be found in the list of harmonized standards in the Official Journal of EU.

ExNBG received the report from the ExTAG Deputy Chair about the 2023 IECEX meetings with focus on the activities of the ExTAG and unanimously supported a continued cooperation with the IECEX System.

The next ExNBG (in-person) meeting will be held in February 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmin Omerović

ExNBG Chair