

ISNT's Indian ICN Scheme (International Certification in NDT)

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India did not have its own international scheme for NDE qualification and certification until recently. We had a domestic scheme based on the Indian Standard IS 13805, General Standard for Qualification and Certification of Non-Destructive Testing Personnel. However, ISO 9712, Non-destructive testing - Qualification and Certification of NDT Personnel, being an international standard, gained popularity. The National Certification Board of the Indian Society for Non-destructive Testing (ISNT) decided to create a qualification and certification scheme based on ISO 9712. The scheme was named International Certification in NDT (ICN), and was launched in a limited capacity in the welding sector. It was later revised in 2021 to be based on the edition 9712:2021, and covered all sectors. The scheme underwent a stringent audit by the Indian Accreditation body, the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies, before being approved. This scheme is registered under MRA Schedule 2 of ICNDT which gives wider acceptance to the certification in member countries. The basic objective of the scheme is to make better and more competent NDE personnel. To ensure standardization of training, a separate board called the Training Management Board was formed to draw up training institute requirements and assess them. NCB conducts exams, and TMB manages Training. The risk of the same body involved in training and examinations is minimum now due to two separate bodies. We all know that quality cannot be inspected in the product, however, it has to be built in. NCB's examinations, TMB managed training, ICNDT Question banks and other features ensure this. The paper highlights the salient features of the ICN scheme.