



## European inspection, testing and certification associations join forces in Brussels

Brussels, 14 April 2010.

CEOC International, the International Confederation of Inspection and Certification Organisations, and EFNDT, the European Federation for Non Destructive Testing, have signed yesterday in Cyprus co-operation agreements with EUROLAB, the European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories.

EFNDT President Vjera Krstelj, EUROLAB President Jean-Luc Laurent and CEOC International President Hugo Eberhardt stated after the signing ceremony that this co-operation marks an important step in the further development of the European inspection, testing and certification sector and enhances the political visibility and technical influence towards the European Institutions and Organisations in Brussels.

These Memoranda of Understanding are defining the co-operation issues between CEOC, EFNDT and EUROLAB in the field of testing and certification of products and technical installations in Europe and will position these organisations as Europe's leading inspection and testing representations/bodies.

The growing number of unsafe products reaching the European markets and the ongoing aging of technical and industrial installations call for a concerted action between these inspection organisations providing enhanced safety to the European societies and its citizens.



**CEOC International** – the International Confederation of Inspection and Certification Organisations – was founded in 1961 in Zurich in Switzerland and acts as the voice of the inspection and certification sector at EU and international levels. Its headquarters are now based in Brussels. The confederation represents the joint interests of many of the world's leading inspection and certification companies, employing more than 70,000 highly qualified persons, of which over 42,000 are graduate engineers and technicians. CEOC members are world-wide involved in the periodical inspection of technical installations as well as the certification of new products and services to protect the workers and citizens of Europe against unsafe products and technical installations.

**EUROLAB** – the European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories – was set up in Brussels on 27 April 1990 as a network of the laboratory community and in response to the evolution of the European Union and is since 1998 registered as a legal entity in the form of an international association under Belgian law (aisbl – association internationale sans but lucratif). Composed of 24 national associations from the EU and EFTA, EUROLAB is grouping over 2,000 conformity assessment bodies representing over 100,000 technical experts and laboratory practitioners. Associated membership is open world-wide and includes representatives from East and Middle East, South Africa and America. Besides formulating and voicing the opinion of laboratories regarding economical, political and technical issues, EUROLAB aims at promoting cost-effective testing, calibration and measurement services, for which the accuracy and quality assurance requirements were adjusted to the actual needs. These are particularly addressing European legislation, consumer protection, product and occupational safety.

**EFNDT** The European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing was founded in May 1998 in Copenhagen at the 7th European Conference for Non-Destructive Testing (ECNDT). Full membership is open to national NDT societies, one per country. Associate membership is open world-wide. EFNDT aims at establishing a European system of personnel qualification by EFNDT in the sense of creating a partnership for safety and quality. EFNDT offers a route to more than 40 NDT Societies (including all those in Europe), more than 20,000 members of these individual national societies, more than 1,000 businesses in NDT which are corporate (company members) of the national societies, more than 190,000 NDT personnel certificates which are recognized under the EFNDT Multilateral Recognition Agreement.

## For more information

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