



ExTAG/325/CD
July 2014

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

TITLE: Use of subcontractors in support of IECEX ExTR

Circulated to: ExTAG – IECEX Testing and Assessment Group

INTRODUCTION

This document was prepared by UL LLC for discussion during the ExTAG 2014 The Hague Meeting.

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Issue

- UL has received multiple ExTRs that include acceptance of testing from IEC 60079-0 by other bodies that are not ExTLs or listed in OD 001

All testing fully performed by ExTL No, See below for additional details.
 staff at ExTL address above:

In accordance with OD 024, testing not fully performed by ExTL staff at the above ExTL address:
 See General remarks above – The original testing was performed either by EECS, which was an IECEx notified body, or by specialist 3rd party laboratories with UKAS accreditation.

26.10.1	Test procedure	<p>The manufacturers' supplied 3rd party report (RKS Laboratories Report No. 1540), records a 1000hr UV Resistance test to ISO4892-2 on the enclosure GRP materials.</p> <p>This data is considered acceptable since RKS is a UKAS accredited Lab for environmental testing.</p>	Pass
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26.13	Surface resistance test of parts of parts of enclosures of non-metallic materials	<p>RKS Laboratories Report No. 1540 records a surface resistance test, as detailed by this clause, giving a result of less than 30MΩ for The GRP material. Additional testing by alternative methods gave even lower results</p>	Pass
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Points for Discussion

- Should the accepting ExCB assume that the arrangement is covered by the IECEx or should the subcontractor information appear on the IECEx website so that it can be more easily verified by accepting ExCBs?
- Should the accepting ExCB contact the secretariat in these situations to verify that the subcontracted test lab was covered under the IECEx assessment?
- Does the IECEx secretariat have access to specific subcontracting laboratory information for ExCBs?
- If an ExCB wants to use a new subcontractor between assessments, should they be allowed to add it without notification to the IECEx secretariat if they used their internal procedure, added it to their register and did on-going checking?
- Does the subcontracted testing laboratory need to have the relevant standard within their ISO/IEC 17025 scope of accreditation or would equivalent standards be considered acceptable?

