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Volume 2 Issue 2

October 28st, 2016

The Inspection Connection Newsletter

November 2016

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ASNT - AIR CAPITAL SECTION

Inspection Connection

What to Do During an Audit

By: Bruce Crouse

NDT Audits are increasingly prevalent in all sectors of nondestructive testing, and as the need for audits has increased, so have the training and requirements for auditors. In addition to a thorough understanding of the processes they are witnessing, today's auditor must also have the necessary auditing skills. Among the duties of an NDT auditor are the review of NDT procedures and witnessing technicians perform inspections. However, as audits and auditor training have become more sophisticated, audit training for NDT technicians has lagged.

Audits can be stressful. If a nonconformity is identified, the auditor will write it up as a finding and the company being audited must implement a corrective action. Uncorrected, such nonconformities could mean the loss of a customer or a product recall. Either situation can result in an economic burden for the company. As a result, some technicians may tense up and overcompensate during an audit, occasionally making mistakes they would not commonly make. The cure for all this seems to be training and "time on task"; that is to say, taking part in a number of audits. Recognizing this, some companies and technical colleges have begun to incorporate audit training as part of an NDT curriculum to provide technicians with an overview of the audit process.

Common Mistakes

Here are some common mistakes I have witnessed technicians making over the years.

Talking with Auditors. Talking is distractive and can lead to inadvertent mistakes. Auditors typically discourage discussion but often technicians volunteer "war stories" or just "shoot the breeze" during the audit. Technicians should recognize this as a nervous reaction and consciously control it.

Failure to Locate and Review Procedures, Codes, and Specifications. Another common mistake is not reviewing the applicable procedure, code or specification before performing an inspection for the auditor.

Technicians often work with multiple specifications. If the proper documentation are not reviewed, the inspection may be performed incorrectly, resulting in a finding

Whether it is for production inspection or during an audit, inspectors who do not stop and locate information when there is a procedural question are positioning themselves for trouble. Best practices and many companies require inspectors to have current revisions of documents out during inspections. During one audit, an inspector made an obvious processing mistake but did not realize it. As the inspector continued, the auditor did ask a question that should have caused the technician to think about verifying his processing. Whether it was the result of nervousness or a fear that he would look less than competent if he checked the procedure, the technician continued and was written up.

An extreme example occurred when a penetrant inspector proudly proclaimed he had developed a better way to perform an inspection on a particular area of a component and proceeded to demonstrate it to the auditor. No doubt he was out to impress the auditor, but when he was finished the auditor requested he locate the processing requirements for the component in the customer procedure and issued a finding as a result.

In another example, a number of visual inspection procedures state that the inspection area is to be exposed to 100 foot-candles of white light. When questioned about this, this auditor has not infrequently received one of the following three responses from technicians:

"The company does not have a **calibrated** light meter."

"The company does not **own** a light meter."

"The company does have a light meter but it's not on site."

From The NDT Technician ,A Quarterly Publication for the NDT Practitioner, Vol. 9 No. 3 Pg. 8-9. Reprinted with permission of the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, Inc.

For the rest of this article please go to ASNT.org TNT archive.



ASNT - Air Capital Section Board

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jsaunders@niar.wichita.edu

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Interested in getting Involved?

Contact one of our board
members for openings and
joining committees.

For general questions or more
information about our section,
please email:
ACASNT@gmail.com

Air Capital Section October meeting

For the month of October the Air Capital Section members and guest gathered in Wichita, KS at Joe's in Old town on October 20th for a presentation by David Vaughn. There were a total of 24 attendees.

The meeting began with a Social Hour and a meal enjoyed by all and sponsored by the Air Capital Section. David Vaughn's presentation, "NADCAP Auditing – A View from Both Sides", consisted of understanding NADCAP audits along with preparation techniques and suggestions. David also gave background on the start of NADCAP and how it serves its purpose. After the presentation many attendees asked questions and discussed other viewpoints. David was presented with a plaque and ASNT multifunction knife at the conclusion of his presentation.



From left to right: Bob Saathoff, Jay Amos, David Vaughn, Gian Suazo, and Joe Clasen.

Upcoming Events

October

David Vaughn
NADCAP Auditing—A View from Both Sides

November

Flynn Spears
Laser Shearography NDT on Aerospace Structures

December

None

January

None

February

ASNT-AWS Joint Meeting

March

None

April

Officer Elections—Speaker TBD

May

None

June

Officer Installment—Speaker TBD

MEMBER NEWS

Please congratulate Bryce Boe on his upcoming retirement!!!

If you have news or accomplishment you wish to share with your section please contact an officer to be recognized in our next issue.

Join the ASNT

Have you or someone you know been on the fence about joining the ASNT? There couldn't be a better time than now to join! With the spike in interest in NDT in recent years, the Air Capital is gaining new professionals on a regular basis. As a member run organization, you have the opportunity to have a

say in the future of this industry. Connect with members of similar experience and learn from members that paved the way. There are a variety of membership types and discounts.

To learn more about joining or to sign up today, go to: www.asnt.org



Receive a FREE subscription to ME when you join!



American Society for Non-Destructive Testing
Air Capital Section November Meeting

When : November 7th, 2016

Time : 5:30 PM—Board Meeting

5:45 PM—Social & Meal (Picasso's Pizza)

6:30 PM—Flynn Spears “Laser Shearography NDT on Aerospace Structures”

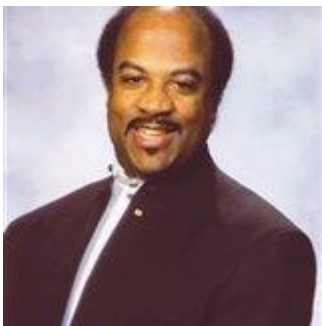
Location : Metal Finishing Co. 721 E. Murdock, Wichita, KS 67214

RSVP : Deadline is November 6th, 2016 to ACASNT@gmail.com

Cost : Free to Air Capital Members , \$5 for non-ASNT members

Topic: Flynn Spears presentation will explain Laser Shearography testing in theory, application, and analysis.

Speaker Bio: Flynn Spears works in strategic sales for Laser Technology Inc., he has been with this company for over 5 years in sales applications and field inspection work with the products. Flynn has most of his NDT career in aerospace and has been a technician for the USAF, worked in the nuclear power industry performing eddy current inspection and analysis and is currently a ASNT national board member.



Flynn Spears

Strategic Sales and Inspection at Laser Technology Inc.

ASNT National Director at Large

