



QPS Evaluation Services Inc.

SOURCE IEx

Personnel Certified for Explosion Safety

Industry and government are continually sharpening controls on proof of personnel competencies. Rightfully so, because they are dealing with highly complex processes and equipment in potentially explosive atmospheres; a slight error can have dramatic consequences. The IECEx system now has a scheme that quantifies and qualifies people's expertise and experience regarding explosion safety. Source IEx as an IECEx Recognized Training Provider (RTP) along with QPS Evaluation Services as an IECEx Certification Body (Ex CB) is able to provide both the training and assessment of personnel to issue 'Certificates of Personnel Competencies' (CoPCs).

The need for certification

As the search for oil and gas spreads around the world and costs escalate, methods used to extract it are becoming even more complex. Plants and systems need to be built to exacting standard and must operate safely to protect people from harm, the site from damage, and the surrounding area from an explosion. What's more, with some facilities operating longer than originally intended, maintenance is critical for safe operation.

The IECEx 05 CoPC Scheme is the first international scheme designed to provide personnel with a certificate that is recognized worldwide. A CoPC may cover areas of design, selection, installation, maintenance, inspection, audit, overhaul and repair of Ex equipment, based upon the applicant's requirements.

It shows that the certificate holder is capable of:

- Working in the Ex industry safely
- Conducting work on such equipment
- Ensuring that it is operating safely and in accordance with its protection techniques



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Source IEx, QPS Evaluation Services & IECEx

The International Electrotechnical Commission System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for use in Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx) system has put in place a number of conformity assessment schemes which provide assurance that equipment and systems are manufactured and operated according to the highest international standards for safety. The use of the IECEx conformity assessment system and its schemes provides the following clear advantages for industry and governments:

- Cost savings – Reduced need for additional testing and certification resulting in faster access to new markets.
- Improved safety – the assurance that equipment in manufactured and operated according to strict international standards
- Instant verification – the possibility to verify all issued IECEx certificates online at www.iecex.com

Training is provided by Source IEx, an approved IECEx Recognized Training Provider (RTP) and certifications are delivered by QPS Evaluation Services, an approved IECEx Certification Body (ExCB), at our location in Spring Texas or can be delivered on site. IECEx is endorsed by the UNECE.

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The following IECEx Units of Competency are available:

- Ex 001 – Apply basic principals of protection in explosive atmospheres
- Ex 002 – Perform classification of hazardous areas
- Ex 003 – Install explosion-protected equipment and wiring systems
- Ex 004 – Maintain equipment in explosive atmospheres
- Ex 005 – Overhaul and repair of explosion-protected equipment
- Ex 006 – Test electrical installations in or associated with explosive atmospheres
- Ex 007 – Perform visual & close inspection of electrical installation in or associated with explosive atmospheres
- Ex 008 – Perform detailed inspection of electrical installations in or associated with explosive atmospheres
- Ex 009 – Design electrical installations in or associated with explosive atmospheres
- Ex 010 – Perform audit inspection of electrical installations in or associated with explosive atmospheres

IECEx 05 Certificate of Personnel Competencies

The IECEx 05 CoPC Scheme provides the means for personnel to obtain an IECEx CoPC from QPS, which is intended to provide the international Ex community with confidence that such personnel maintain the ability to undertake work or provide services in accordance with the technical and quality system requirements of the IECEx 05 Scheme. The IECEx CoPC provides the necessary confidence that personnel act responsibly and that they have sufficient theoretical and practical skills. This is all within the boundaries of the units of competencies in the certificate's scope.

How do I get certified?

Anyone working in a potentially explosive area can apply for an IECEx 05 CoPC. A CoPC is issued to an individual, and is based on an assessment of his/her academic and professional history, together with relevant training records.

To obtain the certificate, it is necessary to first pass an exam which QPS designs and Source IEx delivers. Some modules require students to receive training before taking the exam, and for other modules this can be beneficial. In both cases, QPS/Source IEx can provide additional support and training to assist in fulfilling IECEx CoPC requirements.

Upon successful completion of the assessment, the application will receive a CoPC. The certificate is valid for five years after issue date.

The modules can be taken at one time or over a time frame depending on the students workload. Source IEx offers training on both individual modules as well as packages with multiple modules combined. And training/assessments can be offered at your location as well as our facility here in Spring Texas.

A QPS issued IECEx 05 Certificate of Personnel Competency is truly an international passport. It allows holders to take their skills anywhere and thus improves safety in the Ex industry worldwide.

For more information please contact:

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