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1.0 QUALIFICATION ASSESSMENT

1.1 The applicant shall fulfil the minimum requirements of pre-requisite, training, experience, examinations and vision test prior to certification.

1.2 The applicant shall provide documentary evidence, acceptable to the RSA, the following:

- a. Pre-requisite requirements
- b. Satisfactorily completed training
- c. Experience
- d. Recent vision test.

1.3 Certification Department shall verify the examination grades given by the Examination Department.

2.0 CERTIFICATION VALIDITY

2.1 Certification becomes effective from the date of successful qualification assessment as specified in Section 1.0 and shall be valid for three (3) years unless revoked for reasons defined in Section 3.0 and Section 5.0.

2.2 The certification instrument may be a hard copy certificate, digital certificate and/or by electronically uploading and displaying the relevant information on a database on IPCS's website.

2.3 Upon renewal, if the application is received prior to or on the date of expiration of the certificate, the renewal date of the new certificate shall be the same as the date of expiration of the certificate and expires three (3) years from the date of expiration of the original certificate.

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2.4 If the renewal application is received after the date of expiration of the certificate, the renewal date of the new certificate shall be the date on which all requirements for renewal are met and expires three (3) years from the date of expiration of the original certificate.

3.0 CONDITION OF CERTIFICATION

3.1 Plant Inspector certification is a critical process that ensures the quality and integrity of materials, components, and structures. The following are the conditions that must be met by certificate holder:

a. Examination and/or Certification Fees

- i. Certificate holder shall pay all examination and/or certification fees due to RSA.
- ii. Certification is suspended if fees due are not paid.

b. Yearly Vision Examination

- i. Certificate holder shall maintain a valid yearly eyes test in accordance with Section Vision Requirements as it is crucial for ensuring the accuracy and reliability of their works.
- ii. Certification is suspended without a valid eyes test.

c. Renewal and Recertification

- i. Certificate holder shall initiate renewal and recertification through periodic recertification exams in accordance with Section 6.0.
- ii. Expired certification shall not be used for any Plant Inspection activity.

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d. Actively Engaged in Plant Inspection

- i. Certificate holder shall document all Plant Inspection work activities involved in the entire certification of period.
- ii. When Plant Inspector has not been actively engaged in the performance of the certified Plant Inspection level and scope for a period of one (1) year or more during the certification period, the certification is suspended.

e. Professional Conduct and Ethics

- i. Certificate holder shall demonstrate professionalism, integrity, and ethical behaviour in all aspects of Plant Inspection practice.
- ii. Certificate holder shall maintain confidentiality of sensitive information obtained during plant inspections.
- iii. Certificate holder shall uphold the reputation of the Plant Inspector profession through responsible and ethical conduct in interactions with clients, colleagues, and regulatory authorities.
- iv. RSA may suspend, refuse renewal, revoke, place on probation, or reprimand a certificate holder, if found guilty of any unauthorized practice after reviewing evidence of behaviour incompatible with the certification procedures or failure to abide by a code of ethics.

f. Compliance with Safety and Quality Standards

- i. Certificate holder shall strictly adhere to safety protocols and guidelines to ensure the well-being of personnel and the integrity of testing procedures.
- ii. Certificate holder shall comply with industry-specific quality standards and regulations to uphold the reliability and accuracy of Plant Inspection results.
- iii. Certificate holder shall document all Plant Inspection activities, including inspection procedures, results, and reports, in accordance with established protocols.

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g. Continuing Education

Certificate holder shall participate in ongoing professional development activities to stay updated on advancements in Plant Inspection technology and methodologies.

3.2 By meeting the above conditions, Plant Inspectors can maintain certification, demonstrating their competence and commitment to ensuring the safety and quality of materials and structures through Plant Inspection activities.

4.0 CERTIFICATION VERIFICATION

4.1 RSA shall release certification test results only to the applicant, or to a person or agency designated by the applicant upon written request, and with notarized and witnessed release.

4.2 Requests for verification of status and certification number of Plant Inspectors shall be provided to requestors. Only the certification number, date certified, expiration date, photo, status (current, revoked, etc.), and certification limitations (corrected vision, etc.) shall be disclosed by RSA staff members without the express written approval of the inspector or certificate holder.

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5.0 SUSPENSION AND WITHDRAWAL

- 5.1 The Certification Committee shall have the authority to suspend, refuse renewal, revoke, place on probation, or reprimand a Plant Inspector certification for misrepresentation of facts regarding personal qualifications, status, assignments, or other certification-related matters, whether such misrepresentation was made at the time of application or on subsequent applications (including renewals).
- 5.2 The Certification Committee may suspend, refuse renewal, revoke, place on probation, or reprimand a certificate holder if found guilty of any unauthorized practice as outlined in the Code of Ethics, Rules of Conduct, or Practice.
- 5.3 Reinstatement of a revoked certificate shall be permitted with no penalty or prejudice to the individual, provided that the cause for revocation has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Certification Committee.

6.0 CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

- 6.1 The renewal application shall be submitted within six (6) months prior to the certification expiration date. Applications submitted within twelve (12) months after the expiration date shall require recertification in accordance with Section 7.0. Beyond this period, no exceptions shall be permitted, and the inspector shall be required to take the full examination in accordance with the procedure established for new applicants.
- 6.2 Certification may be renewed for a new period of three (3) years on production of:
- Documentary evidence of a satisfactory visual acuity examination taken within the preceding 12 months.

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b. Actively engaged within the most recent three-year certification period.

c. Taken a twenty (20) multiple choice questions quiz relating to the applicable reference documents and pass minimum 70%.

6.3 “Actively engaged” shall be defined by one of the following provisions:

a. A minimum of 20% of time spent performing inspection activities, supervising inspection activities, or providing engineering support for inspection activities during the most recent three-year certification period.

b. Performance of inspection activities, supervision of inspection activities, or engineering support of inspection activities on at least seventy-five (75) pressure vessels during the most recent three-year certification period.

6.4 For Assistant Plant Inspector and Specialist Plant Inspector, in addition to meeting the requirements of Section 6.2, the inspectors shall also hold valid certifications as described in Section Assistant Plant Inspector and Section Specialist Plant Inspector, respectively.

6.5 Inspectors are permitted to attempt two (2) Quiz re-tests, provided these occur prior to the expiration of the certificate. Inspectors failing all permitted Quiz re-tests shall be recertified in accordance with Section 7.0.

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7.0 RE-CERTIFICATION

7.1 Re-certification for a new period of three (3) years by written examination shall be required under any of the following conditions:

- a. Inspectors who satisfy requirement 6.2a but have not satisfied requirements 6.2b and/or 6.2c.
- b. Every six (6) years from the date of initial certification, provided requirement 6.2a is met.

7.2 The inspectors shall provide documentation as listed in Sections 6.2a and 6.4 prior to the recertification examination.

7.3 The inspectors are allowed to attempt two (2) re-tests and shall not exceed one (1) year after the expiry of the certificate.

7.4 Inspectors failing all permitted recertification examination re-tests shall apply for and take the full examination in accordance with the procedure established for new applicants.

7.5 For Assistant Plant Inspectors, the recertification examination shall consist of twenty (20) multiple-choice questions selected from Section Examination (Assistant Plant Inspector). A minimum score of seventy percent (70%) shall be required to pass.

7.6 For Plant Inspectors, the recertification examination shall consist of a Part B, Part C, or Part D open-book examination, in accordance with Section Examination (Opened-book Examination), whichever is applicable. A minimum score of seventy percent (70%) shall be required to pass.

7.7 For Specialist Plant Inspectors, the recertification examination shall consist of forty (40) multiple-choice questions selected from Section Examination (Specialist Plant Inspector). A minimum score of seventy percent (70%) shall be required to pass.

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8.0 CERTIFICATION LEVEL UPGRADE

- 8.1 IPCS Assistant Plant Inspector may upgrade to IPCS Plant Inspector by satisfying requirements pre-requisite as described in Section Pre-Requisite (Plant Inspector) and passing the relevant examinations as described in Section Examination (Assistant Plant Inspector), whichever is applicable.
- 8.2 IPCS Plant Inspector in one (1) or two (2) categories may add categorise(s) of inspection by passing the relevant Part B, Part C or Part D examinations as described in Section Examination (Plant Inspector), whichever is applicable.
- 8.3 IPCS Plant inspector may upgrade to IPCS Specialist Plant Inspector by passing the written examinations as described in Section Examination (Specialist Plan Inspector).