

ANNEX V

Minimum criteria to be taken into account by Member States for the notification of bodies

1. The body, its director and the staff responsible for carrying out the verification tests may not be the designer, manufacturer, supplier or installer of appliances which they inspect, nor the authorized representative of any of those parties. They may not become either involved directly or as authorized representatives in the design, construction, marketing or maintenance of such boilers and appliances. This does not preclude the possibility of exchanges of technical information between the manufacturer and the body.
2. The body and its staff must carry out the verification tests with the highest degree of professional integrity and technical competence and must be free from all pressures and inducements, particularly financial, which might influence their judgment of the results of the inspection, especially from persons or groups of persons with an interest in the result of verifications.
3. The body must have at its disposal the necessary staff and possess the necessary facilities to enable it to perform properly the administrative and technical tasks connected with verification; it must also have access to the equipment required for special verification.
4. The staff responsible for inspection must have:
 - sound technical and professional training,
 - satisfactory knowledge of the requirements of the tests they carry out and adequate experience of such tests,
 - the ability to draw up the certificates, records and reports required to authenticate the performance of the tests.
5. The impartiality of inspection staff must be guaranteed. Their remuneration must not depend on the number of tests carried out or on the results of such tests.
6. The body must take out liability insurance unless its liability is assumed by the State in accordance with national law, or the Member State itself is directly responsible for the tests.
7. The staff of the body must be bound to observe professional secrecy (except *vis-à-vis* the competent administrative authorities of the State in which its activities are carried out) under this Directive or any provision of national law giving effect to it.