

Join the USNC/IECEX— The U.S. gateway to the world's leading formal conformity assessment system for the explosive atmospheres industry

Upstream, it's about the standard, and the industry's biggest influence often comes from joining an IEC Technical Committee and actively contributing to a standard's development. This way, we can ensure that requirements are realistic, open to innovation, effective and align with the actual product design and development. **BUT**

Downstream, manufacturers have a lot to deal with when it comes to formal 3rd party testing and certification including slowing down new ideas, keeping products from reaching the market quickly, and driving up costs. A lot of these hassles come from disagreements over technical details, obscure rules about component acceptance, complicated certification and local processes, repetitive testing, different interpretations of standards, and simply trying to make sense of how the whole system where a 3rd party, backed by an obscure group of shadows, have already decided most outcomes.

Over time, you reach your own conclusion that “standards, testing, interpretation, certification”, operate in their own isolated domains, lack important interoperability and are outside the influence of the manufacturer who knows the product best. But there is a space that they intersect - IEC Conformity Assessment Systems and the IECEX. And while largely driven by the 3rd party testing, inspection and certification bodies (aka TICs), there is space for a manufacturer.

As a US manufacturer, your voice in the IECEX US member body (USNC/IECEX) can directly influence how the IECEX and related programs operate, ensuring they support open and effective conformity assessment across international markets.

Addressing these issues most effectively requires a collective voice and active engagement by all the stakeholders. That's where the USNC/IECEX offers manufacturers the opportunity to:

- Influence national and international decisions that shape certification processes and standards interpretations.
- Advocate for streamlined harmonized procedures and clearer guidance.
- Promote positive mutual recognition models of test results,
- Enhance transparency and understanding of scheme operations.

Your involvement is not just about representing your company—it's about strengthening the U.S. manufacturing sector's leadership and ensuring that the IECEX schemes evolve to meet real-world needs. Together, we can drive meaningful improvements that benefit all stakeholders.

Why participate now? Key benefits for manufacturers:

The objective of the IECEX System is to facilitate international trade in equipment and services for use in explosive atmospheres, while maintaining the required level of safety:

- reduced testing and certification costs to manufacturer
- reduced time to market
- international confidence assessment process of products, equipment, personnel, and facilities
- one international database listing for certified Ex equipment & Ex components, personnel, and facilities

- maintaining International Confidence in equipment, personnel, and services covered by IECEx Certification

Additional information on the IECEx System, and the IECEx Certified Equipment Scheme, can be found on the IECEx website at iecex.com

Overall, your company will benefit from membership in USNC/IECEx by helping you build and maintain a solid understanding of the processes that ensure uniform application of conformity assessments conducted throughout all countries in the IEC Ex Equipment Scheme. Being a part of USNC/IECEx also gives your organization a voice in US positions on these processes, and the opportunity to participate or lead in international working group activities.

Influence U.S. positions on IECEx decisions: Help set national positions on IECEx Management Committee (ExMC) agendas—from approving new ExCB scopes to refining ExCB scheme rules—preventing surprises that could raise your certification costs or timelines.

Gain early intelligence on global requirements practices and policies addressing test interpretation, publication of national differences.

Network with ExCBs, ExTLs, regulators, and peers: Build relationships that streamline your understanding of the certificate process, ISO/IEC conformity assessment programs, other stakeholder priorities and challenges.

Strengthen U.S. market participation: Balanced representation (industry, labs, government) ensures fair play; your input counters dominance by an outsized lab interest and keeps IECEx aligned with real-world manufacturing needs.

High-impact IECEx programs needing more manufacturer voices:

- IECEx operations (core mutual recognition) Inconsistent national differences; slow ExTL response times; unworkable test interpretations. Shape ExMC approvals for new scopes, advocate for "one test, many markets" efficiency
- Standard expansions (e.g., new tech like AI, functional safety, hydrogen)

Manufacturer members

ABB Inc.
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 Dodge Mechanical Power
 Emerson Discrete Automation
 Emerson Measurement Solutions
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National Electrical Manufacturers Association

Get involved today! Membership is straightforward – just contact the [USNC/IECEX](#). Your participation doesn't just represent your company – it ensures one of the most important conformity assessment and mutual recognitions system continues to support the interest of the explosive atmospheres industry.