Penetrant Testing

Course Information

Penetrant Testing (PT), also known as Liquid Penetrant Testing, is a highly versatile surface-based non-destructive testing (NDT) method. This technique employs a liquid containing a coloured dye, enhancing its visibility, to infiltrate and fill any open voids on the surface through capillary action. Once the excess penetrant is meticulously removed from the surface, a developer substance is applied. This developer acts as a contrasting medium, facilitating the migration of the penetrant from within the defects. Consequently, any discontinuities or flaws become prominently visible against the contrasting background, typically a white powder.

One of the remarkable attributes of PT is its applicability across a wide range of materials, provided that the discontinuity of interest is accessible from the surface. If you possess an affinity for chemistry, particularly the interplay of liquids, and find fascination in precision work that goes beyond swimming or indulging in the occasional beverage, then Penetrant Testing offers a fulfilling career path.

The effectiveness of PT is influenced by several factors, including the type of dye used (whether it's designed for normal light or backlight conditions, or both), the specific penetrant employed, the method used to remove excess penetrant, and the developer chosen for the testing process. Additionally, PT techniques must adapt to extreme temperatures, as variations in temperature can affect liquid properties such as viscosity and evaporation. Specialised techniques are employed in cases of excessively high or low temperatures to ensure accurate and reliable results.

Embarking on a career in PT allows you to explore the fascinating intersection of chemistry, materials science, and meticulous precision, making it one of the fundamental and indispensable NDT methods in various industries.

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Please refer to contacts on page 16

Scan to download the SAIW Course Prospectus App onto your cellular phone.

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If you enjoyed chemistry at school and your interest in liquids exceeds that of swimming and the occasional beer, then we invite you to start your career in one of the most basic yet useful NDT methods.

Inspection techniques depend on whether the dye used is under normal light or backlight conditions (or both), the type of penetrant, excess penetrant removal process as well as developer used during testing. Furthermore, since temperature has an effect on the liquid properties, such as viscosity and evaporation, special techniques are applicable at excessively high and low temperatures.

The training course is based on general theory as well as sector specific applications relating, but not limited to, the following standards and specifications:

- ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code - Section V - Subsection A - Article 1 & 6
- ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code - Section V - Subsection B - Article 24
- ISO 3452 Part 1 PT – General Principals
- ISO 3452 Part 2 PT – Testing of penetrant materials
- ISO 3452 Part 3 PT – Reference test blocks
- ISO 3452 Part 4 PT – Equipment
- ISO 3452 Part 5 PT – Testing at temperatures > 50 °C
- ISO 3452 Part 6 PT – Testing at temperatures < 10 °C
- ISO 12706 PT – Vocabulary
- ISO 23277 PT – Acceptance Levels

PENETRANT TESTING - SAIW CERTIFICATION NDT SCHEME (ISO 9712) | NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING - SURFACE METHODS

NDT Method and Level	Industrial Sector	Product Sector / Category	Duration 1 day = 8 hours	Prices (Inclusive of VAT)			Course & Initial Exam Dates				
				Training & Initial Examination Non-Corporate Members	Training & Initial Examination Corporate Members	Initial Certification					
Penetrant Testing Level 1	Pre- and in-service	PT 1.1 Forging (f) PT 1.2 Castings (c) PT 1.3 Welds (w)	Training 4 days Exam 1 day	**R 17 066**	**R 15 900**	**R 2 650**	**Course Code**	**PT 1 A JHB 01**	**PT 1 A JHB 02**	**PT 1 A JHB 03**	**PT 1 A JHB 04**
							Training	19-22 Jan	08-11 Jun	14-17 Sep	23-26 Nov
							Exam	23 Jan	12 Jun	18 Sep	27 Nov
Penetrant Testing Level 2	Pre- and in-service	PT 2.1 Forging (f) PT 2.2 Castings (c) PT 2.3 Welds (w)	Training 4 days Exam 1 day	**R 17 066**	**R 15 900**	**R 2 650**	**Course Code**	**PT 2 A JHB 01**	**PT 2 A JHB 02**	**PT 2 A JHB 03**	
							Training	23-26 Mar	06-09 Jul	02-05 Nov	
							Exam	27 Mar	10 Jul	06 Nov	

*Prices subject to change