ExNB	Co-ordination of Notified Bodies Equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres on Council Directive 94/9/EC (ATEX)	Clarification Sheet N° ExNB/09/345/CS

Status:	**Step*5.2.1**	**Question**	**Originator**	Customer	**Date:**	2008-10
	Step*5.2.3	**Initial proposal**	**Proposer:**	Sira	**Date:**	2008-11-12
	Step*5.2.4	**Responses/Final Draft**			**Date:**	2009-11-18

Step refers to ExNB Rules, mentioned in draft only if not approved

Sealing test for cable glands with sealing rings

Authorised by Chairman:	**Dr. Thedens**	**Date:**	**2010-04-22**
Date of application:	**2010-04-22**	**Signature:**	M. Thedens

Background: Clause C.3.1 of EN 60079-1:2007 requests that cable glands be assembled on to either mandrels or cable (as applicable to their design) in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and then subjected to the appropriate thermal conditioning parameters as applicable in accordance with EN 60079-0. The sealing test is conducted after thermal endurance.

Clarification Sheet N° ExNB/07/283/P – Ingress protection testing of enclosures requires the enclosure lid to be removed and then refitted as this would be representative of life in service which would normally include opening and closing of all enclosure joints particularly gland plates likely to be disturbed as part of an installation or maintenance procedure.

However refitting these parts and tightening to the manufacturer specified torque, may improve the seal after thermal endurance if the seal has been subject to 'compression set' (relaxation of seal pressure) during thermal endurance.

Question: Is it permissible to retighten a cable gland in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions prior to carrying out the sealing test?

Answer: It is permitted to tighten the gland prior to the overpressure test when the manufacturer's instructions state the gland is to be checked for tightness within a specified time after installation and at suitable intervals, possibly in accordance with EN 60079-14.

The check of tightness is to ensure that if the cable is twisted during installation, that any torque applied by the cable on the cable gland does not result in loosening of the clamping nut(s) during the period after installation.

Subject:	**Directive, 94/9/EC Article No.**	
	Directive, ESR No.	
	Directive, Module Annex No.	
	Standard, No.	EN 60079-1:2007

This ExNB Interpretation/Clarification Sheet has the sole purpose of clarifying the application of the EN Standards and/or of the requirements of Directive 94/9/EC and related documents. It does not in any way change the content of the standards and/or of the requirements. It remains valid until an official answer is received from the European Commission of the relevant standardization bodies.