

**GTSPA007**

**GTS**  
**Implementation Regulations**

**December 2011**

Gemeinschaft Thermisches Spritzen e.V.  
Association of Thermal Sprayers

**GTS Implementation Regulations  
GTSPA007**

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Quality fundamentals .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Conferment.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Use.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Period of validity .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Punishment of offences .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Appeals .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Reconferment.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Independent inspection authorities approved by GTS are.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Amendments .....</b>	<b>5</b>



## 1 Quality fundamentals

Fundamental proof of quality in thermal spraying constitutes the fulfilment of the GTS Certificate Guideline (GTSPA002), the GTS-Quality Guideline (GTSPA003) and the respective GTS QM Company Inspection (GTSPA013).

These working papers will be updated and extended by the GTS Quality Committee, in conformance with ongoing technical developments.

## 2 Conferment

- 2.1 GTS e.V. confers on its members the right to display and use the “GTS Certificate”.
- 2.2 For this purpose a written application must be submitted to the headquarters of GTS e.V., Carl-von-Linde-Str. 25, 85716 Unterschleissheim, Germany. The application should include a legally binding and signed certificate of obligation (GTSPA008), if not previously submitted.
- 2.3 GTS applications are examined by the Executive Board. With a legally binding signature, a GTS member confirms that all information provided in the application form is true. The GTS Executive Board proposes an independent inspection authority approved by GTS. The inspection for the attainment of the GTS certificate is then carried out by this authority. Inspection costs are to be paid by the applicant.
- 2.4 If the inspection result is positive, the GTS Executive Board awards the applicant, in agreement with the independent inspection authority, the GTS certificate. The award is documented (GTSPA009). If the inspection result is negative, the GTS Executive Board defers the application, offering the applicant the possibility of a second inspection within the next 12 months. Should this repeat inspection be unsuccessful, the inspection application and full membership in GTS automatically expire.

## 3 Use

- 3.1 The GTS certificate may only be used for processes and products listed in the GTS application form.
- 3.2 The association reserves the sole rights to have labelling material for the GTS certificate made (metal embossing, stamps, printing block, seals, embossed seal, rubber stamp, GTS promotion material, and the like.) and to issue these to the user of the certificate.
- 3.3 The Executive Board can issue special regulations for the use of the GTS certificate in general and GTS advertising in order to safeguard fair competition and to protect prevent any misuse of the GTS certificate. Individual advertising may in no way be impeded by this. Here the same maxim applies as for fair competition. The use of the GTS certificate by GTS members in their documents (e.g. in the letterhead) must first be agreed on by the GTS headquarters.
- 3.4 GTS members whose certificate has been withdrawn, shall return the awarded certificate and all related labelling material; the member is not entitled to reimbursement. This also applies if the right to use the GTS certificate expires for other reasons.

## **4 Period of validity**

The GTS certificate is valid for 3 years.

### **4.1 In-process inspection or in-process audit**

After the initial GTS certification, the GTS member-company must carry out an annual in-process inspection or in-process audit.

## **5 Monitoring**

5.1 GTS is entitled and obliged to monitor the use of the GTS certificate.

5.2 Every certificate holder is personally responsible for complying with the GTS Certificate Guideline (GTSPA002), the GTS Quality Guideline (GTSPA003) and the respective GTS inspection regulations. The certificate holder shall carefully record the results of all in-house inspections. The GTS Executive Board or its representatives have the right to see these records.

## **6 Punishment of offences**

6.1 Should shortcomings in the use of the GTS certificate be identified, the GTS Quality Committee will propose penal measures to the GTS Executive Board – graded according to the severity of the offence. The measure must first be agreed on by a 2/3 majority in the GTS Quality Committee. The GTS Executive Board must then decide unanimously on this measure.

Penal measures are:

6.1.1 Additional requirements concerning in-house inspection,

6.1.2 Increased external monitoring,

6.1.3 Reprimand,

6.1.4 Penalty of up to 5,000 euros,

6.1.5 restricted or permanent withdrawal of GTS certificate,

6.1.6 Expulsion from GTS.

6.2 GTS certificate-holders who violate section 3 can be reprimanded.

6.3 Penalties shall be paid to GTS e.V. within 4 weeks after the receipt of the order if no objection is filed.

6.4 The measures stated in section 6 can be combined as is fit.

- 6.5 For GTS certificate-holders who repeatedly violate section 3 the GTS certificate shall be withdrawn for a restricted period or permanently. The same applies to GTS certificate-holders who delay or prevent inspections.
- 6.6 The member affected shall be heard before any measure is taken.
- 6.7 In urgent cases, the Executive Board may withdraw the GTS certificate with immediate effect. This measure shall be unanimously confirmed by the entire Executive Board within 14 days.

## **7 Appeals**

- 7.1 GTS certificate-holders can file written appeals with the GTS Executive Board within 4 weeks of receiving a penal decision.
- 7.2 If the GTS Executive Board rejects the appeal, the appellant may refer to a court of arbitration within 4 weeks of receiving the decision.
- 7.3 To this end, Section 11 of the Statutes of the Association of Thermal Sprayers (GTS e.V.) (GTSPA001) shall apply.

## **8 Reconferment**

GTS certificate-holders whose GTS certificate has been withdrawn, can re-apply after 3 months at the earliest. The procedure is governed by section 2.

## **9 Independent inspection authorities approved by GTS are**

GTS authorization to carry out the inspection for the attainment of the GTS certificate has been granted to the

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## **10 Amendments**

Amendments are approved by a 2/3 majority in the GTS Quality Committee and announced to all GTS members in written form.

Unterschleissheim, December 2011

*Gemeinschaft Thermisches Spritzen*  
*Quality Management for Thermal Spraying*