

# 18 years together in NDT

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**הלאומית לבדיקות לא**  
**הורסות BG S NDT.**

The Bulgarian specialists in the field of NDT have good relations with Israeli specialists, who arrived to Israel in the 70's, after having studied together in Russia. Since then, we have maintained good relations with Prof. G. Krug, Prof. St. Rohlin, Assoc. Prof. A. Fishmann, Dr. G. Passi, S. Passi and others.

The first official contact between ISRANDT and The Bulgarian Society for NDT (BG S NDT) was in the year of 1993. The representatives of ISRANDT G. Shoef and G. Ronen and those of the BG S NDT M. Mihovski and Al. Skordev signed a contract for cooperation between the two organizations. This contract gave the opportunity to attain significant results over next 18 years.

ISRANDT and BG S NDT have assisted to realise three scientific projects between The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities (Israel Institute of Technology – Technion) and The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Institute of Mechanics):

1. Non-destructive Investigation of the Structure and Physical-Mechanical Properties of Materials and Products (1994-1998).
2. Quality Assurance of NDT of Material Degradation (2000-2003).
3. NDT Qualifications as a part of Quality Assurance (2004-2007).

Leaders of these joint research projects were Prof. Amos Notea, Prof. S. Segal and Prof. M. Mihovski (Bulgaria).

There have also been other projects between BAS (Institute of Mechanics), G. Shoef Ltd. and Sonotron Ltd. (Israel):

1. Investigation of the possibilities of the Isonic systems for training and qualification of ultrasonic personnel in nuclear power plants.
  2. Development of the characterization of defects in welded joints - Project for participation in the 5<sup>th</sup> Framework Program of The EU, prepared with specialists from Israel, Bulgaria, Italy and the UK.
- These projects contributed to achieving new scientific

and practical results in improvement of NDT education, preparation of new student books in the field of application of NDT for assessment of physical-mechanical properties of materials and products.

Bulgarian-Israeli scientific and training seminars were organized as follows:

1. Complex control of fuel containing vessels.
2. Qualification of the control of nuclear power plants and thermal power plants by using the recommendations of The European Network for Inspection Qualification (ENIQ).
3. NDT in civil construction.
4. Testing of railways welding
5. New achievements of the Sonotron Company in the field of ultrasonic NDT.

Primary lecturers at these seminars were Prof. A. Notea, Dr. G. Passi, G. Shoef, Dr. Y. Shoef, Ing J. Aronoff and Yagil Shoef from the Israeli side. From the Bulgarian side were Prof. M. Mihovski, Assoc. Prof. A. Skordev, Prof. T. Markov, Assoc. Prof. D. Dimov, Assoc. Prof. T. Donchev.

Firmly demonstrated at those seminars were new achievements and developments of advanced methods of control in civil engineering, control of pressure vessels and pipelines, the high level of Israeli made UT equipment, and also, significant improvement of personnel qualification.

The participation of Bulgarian specialists in these seminars gave opportunities for establishing business contacts between Israeli specialists and leading Bulgarian companies (Multitest Ltd., Controltest Ltd., Gamma Ltd. and others), and also Bulgarian universities (Technical University – Sofia, Technical University – Varna, University for Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy).

The cooperation in personnel training and certification activity between Israel and Bulgaria has been long and fruitful. Specialists from Israel finished training and certification in Bulgaria, because they still didn't know Hebrew. There was exchange of

exams for certification, student books, lectures and exercise books.

Practically, every second year of the National NDT Conference of BG S NDT participants from Israel attended. There were three conferences of ISRANDT with participation of Bulgarian scientists.

ISRANDT and BG S NDT together with the NDT organizations of Greece and Romania created The Balkan Association of NDT specialists, which has conducted two Balkan conferences. However, the effective spread of this idea of cooperation encountered difficulties due to certain military conflicts in former Yugoslavia.

ISRANDT and BG S NDT are active participants in EFNDT and ICNDT, where they strive to protect the interests of their countries in the conditions of an instant global increase in the number of NDT specialists.

As honoured members of BG S NDT were nominated Prof. A. Notea, G. Shoef and Dr. Y. Shoef. Prof. M. Mihovski and Assoc. Prof. A. Skordev are honoured members of ISRANDT. This membership is recognition of the contribution in realizing and developing cooperation between both countries.

In the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Gabi Shoef and because of his significant part in the scientific and practical research and in organizing various NDT activities, BG S NDT awarded G. Shoef with The Prize of the Name of Assoc. Prof. Slavcho Popov – founder of BG S NDT.

Long ago our relationship has ceased to be merely formal and stepped into the realm of friendship. Today we are friends who can always rely on each other for help and advice when necessary. Let it go on like this.



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**הישראלית הלאומית לבדיקות לא הורסות**  
**ISRANDT בהרצאה בכנס הבלקני בשנת 2003.**



**מר גבי שואף נשיא העמותה הישראלית הלאומית**  
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**דר' יוסי שואף נשיא העמותה הישראלית הלאומית**  
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**מיחובסקי בכנס אזורי בבולגריה בשנת 2009.**