#### ASNT POSITION PAPER ON NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING HANDBOOK

### Purpose

To provide a coherent and efficient methodology for generating the third edition of the Nondestructive Testing Handbook.

- ASNT Headquarters staff shall establish the working policy to initiate and manage the NDT Handbook.
- Production of the third edition base text will be performed under contract to ASNT.

### Rationale

- The second edition of the Nondestructive Testing Handbook should be completed using the volunteer structure already in place (four volumes with 50+ authors and 100+ reviewers), with the exception that the volume technical editors, volume coordinators and the Handbook Development Director will be reimbursed for phone, mail, and other clerical expenses. These individuals presently receive payment for services in the form of a complete set of Handbook volumes (\$1,000).
- Commencing with the third edition, ASNT may contract with a corporation/author to (1) upgrade the Handbooks based on available text; and (2) to extend the coverage to include new technology. Peer reviews will be performed.

### Advantages

- A time-based contract could enhance planning, improve efficiency, lower costs, and reduce turn-around time.
- The councils will continue to serve as the technical liaison and review agent.
- The council members will be freed from the responsibility of generating text and this will enable them to discharge their functions more efficiently.
- Volunteers can be used more effectively in the planning and review stages.

# **Disadvantages**

- The contract will have no real teeth so we could end up buying the problems we now get at no cost.
- Once authors are paid, the Society will no longer be able to count on volunteers.
- The recommended procedures are unproven and may not solve the problem of untimely, expensive, or inadequate text generation.

### **POSITION PAPER #4**

# **Implementation**

- The policy and procedure, when written, shall contain provisions to preclude the possibility of any ethical problems. This will ensure than qualified authors are contracted through a publication proposal review committee.
- If approved in principle, the implementation will be subject to favorable financial review.
- Handbook Development Committee (HDC) will remain in the Technical Publications Division of Technical Council. HDC will assume the charges and authorities outlined in the Technical Publications Policy and Procedure (now being rewritten). HDC will provide the generic outline for changes necessary to the third edition Handbook. TC method committee must approve the HDC outline. Contract will be between ASNT and the text-generating organization/author, but the HDC will select the most appropriate bid.

#### Resources

Additional Headquarters staff will be required.