



59th DEFENSE WORKING GROUP ON NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING



JUSTIFICATION FOR LODGING ALLOWANCE ABOVE PER DIEM

The Defense Working Group on Nondestructive Testing (DWGNDT) provides the only forum for Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, and DLA/DCMA representatives to freely exchange information pertaining to nondestructive testing methods, equipment, and applications. For the past 59 years this group has met annually, providing a conduit for engineers, scientists, and technicians to present technical problems and innovative testing systems/solutions to the assembled specialists. It is essential that maintenance personnel, specialists and supervisors, from all branches of the Federal Government interact with their peers to collaborate on the most cost-effective implementation of new technologies and develop solution strategies to current maintenance related issues.

The DWGNDT has expanded the program and added advanced training open to all DWGNDT conference attendees. The 2011 concurrent training sessions will include Bridging the Gap Between Film/Digital Radiography, Phased Array Ultrasonics, Phased Eddy Current Testing, and a special Cross Training Seminar on VT, PT, MT, ET, UT and RT interrelationships.

This year, the DWGNDT has chosen a property that has a room rate above the area per diem. The decision was made by the Steering Committee to use this property based on facility requirements for the DWGNDT that other properties could not meet. The DWGNDT has negotiated a contractual agreement with the property, setting the lodging rate during the conference time frame (December 3-10) at the prevailing Government per diem plus 25%. This lodging rate is allowable in accordance with the requirements of JFTR/JTR (see below).

In Accordance with Joint Travel Regulations:

C4410 What constitutes TDY Travel:

(6) Attendance at technical, scientific, professional, or similar meetings and conferences sponsored or arranged by non-Federal organizations.

- JFTR/JTR, Appendix R applies to Uniformed Members of DOD civilian employees (JFTR, par. U1000 and JTR, par. C1001-C). It is derived from the Federal Travel Regulation (FTR) and references cited within Appendix R.

APPENDIX R; PART I: CONFERENCE PLANNING POLICY

D.3. Conference lodging allowance: The lodging allowance that is up to 25% above the established geographical lodging portion of the per diem rate (rounded up to the next higher dollar). The per diem M&IE remains unchanged.

APPENDIX R; PART II: CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

A. General: A DOD civilian employee and/or a Uniformed Service member may attend and participate in conferences/meetings of recognized, professional organizations to maintain and further professional competency at Government expense, subject to the availability of funds and the employee, service member work responsibilities.

D.3. Purpose: A Uniformed member and/or a DOD civilian employee may attend conferences at Government expense to:

- a. Further Service or DOD Agency programs;
- b. Present scientific and technical papers which further the development of the U.S. Resources; and
- c. Maintain an effective professional, scientific, technical, managerial, and supervisory workforce.

Additional information may be found at: www.dwgndt.org or by contacting Ms. Karen Bruer, Executive Secretary/Treasurer at kbruer@ameebay.com.