PART II — TEST CERTIFYING SAFETY-RELATED COMPETENCES (THE 'SAFETY TEST')
see below

2. PART II — TEST CERTIFYING SAFETY-RELATED COMPETENCES (THE 'SAFETY TEST')

2.1. **General principles**

2.1.1. *Objective of the Safety Test*

The Safety Test shall pursue the objective of assessing the fulfilment of safety-related minimum requirements of the candidates, which are essential for ski instructors working in specific surroundings.

2.1.2. *Eligible candidates*

Citizens of the Union may participate in the Safety Test, if they have successfully passed the Technical Test. Eligible candidates can repeat the test without restriction, where they have been unsuccessful in previous attempts. Eligible candidates shall apply directly to an organising Member State or to a competent entity in that Member State, which organises the test, in order to participate in a Safety Test.

2.1.3. *Responsible authority*

The organisation of the Safety Test shall fall under the responsibility of the competent entity for the training of ski instructors in the respective territory of the Member State where the Safety Test is realised following an agreement with a technical commission created for that purpose. The technical commission shall be composed of qualified citizens from any Member State and shall represent at least three Member States. They shall be appointed by the organising Member State or competent entity, as appropriate, based on their competence and professional experience in the sector. The organising Member State or competent entity shall communicate the dates of the Safety Test at least two months in advance to the Commission and to the other Member States or competent entities.

2.1.4. *Test juries*

Test juries shall supervise and ensure the correct implementation of the Safety test. Membership of the test juries for the Safety Test shall be open to qualified citizens from any Member State. Only those citizens either who have passed the Eurosecurity test before the entry into force of this Regulation or who have passed the CTT shall be considered as eligible to be appointed to the test jury in order to assess the modules of the Safety Test.

Those test juries shall be appointed by the organising Member State or by the competent entity, as appropriate, based on their competence and professional experience in the sector. The organising Member State or competent entity shall be able to delegate this power of appointment to third parties, but the members of the test jury shall at all times represent at least three Member States. Member States or competent entities other than those organising the CTT may make proposals for the composition of the test jury. In such a case, the organising Member State or the competent entity, as appropriate, may only refuse such a proposal based on duly justified reasons.

2.1.5. *Review procedure*

Candidates can request a re-assessment of their Safety Test performance by the test jury, where they consider that material errors have been committed. In that instance, the test jury shall assess the request and shall reply without delay setting out the reasons for either maintaining or changing the results of the Safety Test for that individual candidate. The test jury shall decide by a simple majority of its members.

2.1.6. *Documentation of results*

The organising Member State or competent entity, as appropriate, shall inform, the Member States or competent entities that issue the qualifications as listed in Annex I of the results of the Safety Test, within 7 working days after an event has been organised for implementing the CTT. Member States or competent entities, as appropriate, shall maintain and publish on an annual basis an up-to-date list of ski instructors who have either successfully completed the Safety Test or who have benefited from acquired rights or exemptions, where they have awarded a qualification corresponding to those listed in Annex I to that ski instructor.

2.2. **Test structure**

The Safety Test shall be composed of two parts including five compulsory modules, each of which is subject to individual evaluation. The Safety Test shall assess the safety-related knowledge and skills of the candidates by means of a theoretical exam and a practical exam

If a candidate fails one or more of these modules or if the Safety Test does not include all of the modules, they must re-sit the test in its entirety.

The content of the various modules is set out below.

2.2.1. *The theoretical exam*

Module: 'Make an emergency call in the language of the host country to the local rescue services after an avalanche accident'.

The theoretical exam shall be successfully completed, where the emergency call has been made to rescue services in a clear and comprehensible manner and by providing accurate information enabling them to perform their duties.

2.2.2. *The practical exam*

The practical exam for off-piste skiing consists of three teaching modules focussing on group leadership and a module comprising the search for and rescue of two persons buried under an avalanche. The practical exam must be taken in one of the official languages of the Member State where the test takes place.

The three modules on group leadership shall each last 15 minutes in addition to 15 minutes preparation time. These teaching modules shall be successfully completed, where at least 75 % of the exercises have been performed satisfactorily.

2.2.2.1. Modules on group leadership

Module 1: 'Interpret the avalanche forecast together with your group. Compare the information in the forecast with your own observations on-site and assess the situation'.

Module 2: 'Take your group on an off-piste descent and propose a route by taking into account factors such as choice of snow, assembly points and forms of group organisation. Work with your group to assess the risks of the descent'.

Module 3: One further form of assessment shall be selected randomly from the following possibilities:

a) Interpretation and understanding of Meteorology

1. The mountain weather forecast shows a '*Nordstau*' situation, *namely* heavy precipitation from the North (*high pressure to the West and low pressure to the East*). How does this situation occur? Where and in what quantity can we expect precipitation approximately? How can this situation influence avalanches?

2. The weather forecast shows the probable arrival of strong foehn winds on the northern slopes of the high mountains. What will the weather be like in the northern and southern parts of the mountain massif and how is this likely to affect the avalanche situation?

3. Assess the meteorological situation on location. What are the factors influencing changes in the weather and how do you think the weather will actually change over the coming days?

b) Understanding of dangers in high mountain regions

1. Which factors can lead to hypothermia and what precautions must you take? What are the distinctive signs of hypothermia and how should you react? Which symptoms indicate that it is necessary to consult a doctor?

2. Which factors can lead to frostbite and what precautions must you take? What are the distinctive signs of frostbite and how do you react in the case of a localised frostbite? Which factors encourage such frostbite to develop further? Which symptoms indicate that it is necessary to consult a doctor?

3. You are in the middle of a long downhill course. Visibility is gradually deteriorating due to fog. How do you find your bearings without using a GPS and which group leadership tactics do you use?

c) Ability to assess and understanding of snow cover

1. Analyse the stability of the current snow cover.

2. Describe the possible snow cover in a winter with little snowfall. Explain the meteorological events that can cause the snow cover to become unstable.

3. Describe the possible snow cover in a winter with a lot of snowfall. Explain the meteorological events that might cause the snow cover to become unstable.

2.2.2.2. Module to search for and rescue for people buried under an avalanche

The aim of the module is to detect two Avalanche Victim Detectors ('AVD') and successfully retrieve at least one of the two devices. Each AVD shall be placed in a kitbag with an insulator approximately 60 cm wide and buried, but without superimposed signals around 1 metre deep. A training AVD may be used. The search zone shall be limited to a maximum area of 50 metres × 50 metres. The maximum time allowed to find the two AVDs and retrieve one of them shall be 8 minutes. To participate in the search module candidates shall require a digital AVD with at least three antennae. Candidates with analogue AVDs will not be permitted to take this test module. This module shall be successfully completed, where the two buried AVDs are successfully located and one of them is retrieved within the time limit.