Global Compliance News

Achieving Global Product Certification Success

ICM are an independent product certification specialist company with almost 30 years' experience in the field of global product certifications.

Due to the dynamic nature of our industry, many manufacturers are not able to devote specific resources in managing product certification processes internally. They instead often look to outsource this element for assistance beyond regulatory testing of their equipment. The International Compliance Management Group are team of dedicated compliance experts with nearly 30 years' experience. Working in over 200 countries globally we ensure products are certified in the quickest timeframes whilst maintaining cost efficiencies for your company. One advantage of being fully independent is the lack of significant overheads, like other organisations, as a result ICM is able to pass on these cost benefits to our clients.
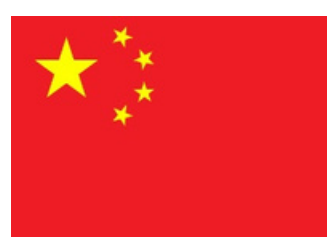
Our network of accredited test laboratories, regulatory national agency contacts, in country representatives combined with procedural knowledge-experience enables ICM to consistently delivery product certifications to our clients. Allowing our clients to sell and distribute products on a global basis. Whether it's a single product/country project, right up to the multi product-multi country projects. We offer a flexible range of compliance services tailored around the needs of our clients. From research / intelligence reporting, to providing on-site compliance resource, through to the management of global product certification requirements, we have a solution available to meet your needs.

If you would like to learn more about our compliance services and how they can help benefit your company please contact us: markb@internationalcompliancemanagement.com

China

Certificate and Labelling Notice

In January 2024 the Chinese Quality Certification Center announced the implementation of a new version of their CCC certificate, along with the new procedure of issuing electronic certificates plus additional labelling requirements.
Regarding the labelling changes the CCC now allows for the use of the CCC mark for devices with displays (eg. mobile-tablet devices).
There is also an update regarding CCC marking for very small devices.

Singapore

Propsal VoLTE Requirements for Mobile Terminals

The Singapore regulator 'IMDA; has announced their latest publication for the cessation of 3G-only devices and non-VoLTE capable mobile devices.

IMDA proposes dealers who are importing mobile phones for sale in Singapore will need to ensure that the mobile phones comply with:

- Mobile phones shall be capable of making VoLTE calls on all four Mobile Network Operators' ("MNOs") public networks in Singapore. Dealers shall validate this through their own testing, and submit a declaration letter as a form of confirmation to the requirement during the equipment registration process.
- Mobile phones shall comply with the specifications in 3GPP TS34.229-1 (refer to Annex 1). If unsure, dealers/equipment suppliers shall check with their handset manufacturers on compliance with the specifications and submit a compliance checklist during the equipment registration process.

Rwanda and South Sudan

On Line Equipment Registration Portals

Both the respective equipment certification agencies of Rwanda (RURA) and South Sudan (NCA) have recently launched new electronic equipment registration systems for equipment certification.

Their new simplified application systems are in response to growing demand for all applications now to be conducted electronically, making them environmentally friendly plus streamlining the process of equipment registration.

As part of the application process both regulators recognize formal US-EU test reports issued by ILAC accredited laboratories to ensure the process of equipment certification is a paperwork process only. The new processes allow ICM to offer up even more quicker turnaround times on equipment certificates.

Taiwan
Draft Technical Specification Low Power Radio Devices

The Taiwanese regulator National Communications Commission 'NCC' announced on December 19, 2023, a proposed amendment to the Fifth Point of the "Technical Specifications for Low-Power Radio Frequency Equipment,". The amendments, effective from July 15, 2020, open the frequency band of 5.945 GHz to 6.425 GHz for low-power wireless information transmission devices (U-NII). Specifically, devices with an output power of 14dBm or below are permitted, as well as indoor devices with an output power of 23dBm or below. To ensure compliance with international standards, mechanisms such as Listen-Before-Talk (LBT) are incorporated to prevent interference during channel access. The NCC seeks feedback from all stakeholders before a formal decision is announced.

UK
2G - 3G Network Closures

The UK's mobile network operators notified the UK regulator OFCOM back in late 2023 that they do not intend to offer 2G and 3G mobile network services in 2024. This decision supports the roll-out of the 4G and 5G networks, offering faster and more reliable services for customers. The operators are making their own decisions on the timing and process of the switch-offs, and they all plan to switch off their 3G networks first.
The switch-off will affect customers using older mobile devices and services – most customers already have 4G (and increasingly 5G) capable devices and their services won't be affected.

Philippines
Energy Labelling Program introduces new requirements for product compliance

In late Dec 23, the Philippines Department of Energy (DOE) unveiled new draft regulations for the Energy Label (PELP) and Minimum Energy Performance (MEPP) programs. The proposed regulations are currently open for public comment and this announcement is part of the government's ongoing efforts to promote energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

The products currently under review for compliance with the updated regulations include:
- Televisions
- Air conditioners
- Lighting products
- Washing machines
- Refrigerating appliances

The DOE has also expanded the scope to include new products such as display monitors, energy-saving devices, and low-voltage devices. One of the more significant changes in the regulation is the stricter requirement for meeting minimum energy performance standards.

To ensure compliance with the new regulations, companies will be required to submit test reports from laboratories that meet the following criteria:

- Duly accredited by signatories to ILAC/APLAC (may be third-party or company-owned)
- Duly accredited and recognized by the Department of Trade and Industry – Philippine Accreditation Bureau (DTI-PAB)
- Company-owned or third-party laboratories that are ISO 17025-accredited or PS-Certified