COMPLIANCE UPDATE

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Global Compliance News

Japan

Cybersecurity Requirements - New Rules Take Effect in April 2027

Japan is set to strengthen its existing cybersecurity requirements for telecommunications terminal equipment, with Ministerial Ordinance No. 111 scheduled to come into force on 1 April 2027. The country already has mandatory cybersecurity requirements under the Telecommunications Business Act, which have been in place since April 2020.

These are currently assessed through the existing terminal equipment conformity assessment and certification framework. The upcoming changes will not introduce an entirely new cybersecurity certification scheme. Instead, they will strengthen and expand the existing requirements, with key updates including:

- Default credentials: Stricter requirements for default IDs and passwords.
- Software and firmware updates: More specific requirements for updating software and firmware.
- Unnecessary interfaces: Additional measures to address and restrict unnecessary interfaces.

What does this mean for EU Cyber Resilience Act (CRA) compliance?

There is some overlap between the cybersecurity principles and technical requirements covered by Japan's revised rules and the EU Cyber Resilience Act (CRA).

However, CRA conformity does not automatically demonstrate compliance with Japanese requirements.

Existing CRA cybersecurity assessments, test results and technical documentation may nevertheless be reused as supporting evidence where the requirements overlap. This evidence will need to be reviewed against the specific requirements of Japan's Telecommunications Business Act and the relevant Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) regulations.

Australia
Proposed amendments to the EMC Requirements

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is seeking industry feedback on proposed amendments to the Radiocommunications Equipment (General) Rules 2021, as part of its ongoing programme to modernise and streamline the regulation of radiocommunications equipment in Australia.
Key proposal: Consolidation of EMC requirements
A major element of the proposed changes is the consolidation of Australia's electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) regulatory framework into the General Equipment Rules.
This would involve repealing the existing Radiocommunications (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Standard 2017 and Radiocommunications Labelling (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Notice 2017, with their substantive requirements incorporated into the General Equipment Rules.

Other proposed changes

The ACMA is also seeking feedback on a number of additional amendments aimed at improving the clarity, consistency and effectiveness of the equipment regulatory framework. These include:

- Recognition of additional EMC standards.
- Updates to EMC compliance classifications.
- Refinement of existing regulatory exemptions.
- Alignment of labelling requirements with telecommunications equipment arrangements.
- Updates to electromagnetic energy requirements.
- Various technical and administrative amendments.

Sri Lanka New Equipment Certification Rules

Sri Lanka introduced a new digital equipment certification process for telecommunications equipment. The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) ended manual processing on September 30, 2026, and now requires applicants to use its Equipment Clearance System (ECS) for all relevant requests starting October 1, 2026. This change brings type approval, mobile device clearance, and short-range device clearance into a single online platform, making the Sri Lanka device approval process fully digital for these services.
New Online Requirements

Under the new process, manufacturers, importers, and vendors must submit their type approval and equipment clearance requests through the official TRCSL Equipment Clearance System. The platform covers three main services: type approval applications, IMEI clearance for devices such as mobile phones and SIM/eSIM-enabled routers, and clearance for non-IMEI devices, including Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and other short-range wireless equipment. Existing Technical Requirements Remain Unchanged, EU / FCC reports are accepted as the basis of the application. So no further testing necessary.

FCC Votes to Limit Recognition of Authorized Testing Laboratories

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has voted to limit the agency’s recognition of authorized testing laboratories in countries that deny reciprocal treatment of U.S.-based testing labs.
Detailed in a Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the FCC’s action will limit recognition of testing laboratories to those located within the U.S. and in “Reciprocal Economies.” The new limits would also apply to testing laboratories in non-reciprocal economies accredited by Telecommunications Service Bodies (TCBs) and other laboratory accreditation bodies.

The FCC’s new recognition limits will take effect in December 2028 to provide manufacturers with the time needed to evaluate and qualify alternative testing laboratories for their products.
The new limits would effectively revoke existing recognitions of all China-based testing laboratories. According to FCC Chair Brendan Carr, China-based laboratories were responsible for testing 82% of electronic devices evaluated for FCC approval in 2025, increasing concerns about the integrity and safety of electronic and communications systems essential to U.S. national security.

Nigeria
Updated rules for SIM-enabled devices

Nigeria has reinforced its compliance rules for SIM-enabled devices. On 19 October 2026, the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) issued a notice to manufacturers, importers, distributors, dealers, and retailers.
The notice reminds businesses of their duties under the Nigerian Communications Act 2003, Type Approval Regulations 2024, and Type Approval Business Rules 2024. The NCC device verification system has been operating for new imports since 7 October 2026. It aims to confirm that device models have the required approval. It also checks each device's International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) before sale.

Every SIM-enabled device model must have NCC Type Approval before import, assembly, distribution, or sale in Nigeria. Businesses must apply through the NCC eServices portal if a model lacks approval. In addition, manufacturers and importers must submit IMEI details through the approved industry verification portal. This process confirms the identity of each device before it reaches customers. Dual-SIM devices have two IMEIs. Therefore, manufacturers and importers must account for both numbers during verification. These rules cover two important areas. Type Approval applies to each device model, while IMEI verification applies to individual devices.

Kenya
Proposed amendments on Certification Rules

Kenya's Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy has released a revised draft of the Kenya Information and Communications (Amendment) Bill, 2026, for public consultation. The proposed amendments aim to establish a legal framework for the type approval of electronic communications equipment, giving the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) responsibility for setting and applying relevant ICT standards to ensure equipment compliance, safety and interoperability.

The draft also proposes allowing the Cabinet Secretary to introduce further regulations covering type approval procedures, fees and conditions. However, specific technical standards, testing requirements and certification procedures have not yet been defined and will require further regulations.

Spotlight on Compliance

One of the key questions our partners frequently ask is whether product certificates can be issued directly in the manufacturer's name, or whether a local company must be appointed as the named certificate holder.
Wherever possible, ICM's preferred strategy is to have certificates issued in the manufacturer's name. However, where this is not permitted or practical, ICM has established a network of trusted local partners who can provide certificate-holding services on the manufacturer's behalf. Over the years, we have encountered situations where a manufacturer's importer has obtained a local equipment certificate but subsequently refused to provide a copy to other third-party importers. This effectively places the manufacturer in a position where it becomes dependent on a single importer, potentially restricting its ability to work with other distribution partners.

By using ICM's local partners as certificate holders, this risk can be eliminated. Copies of the issued equipment certificates will be made available to all of ICM's partner importers, ensuring that no single importer has exclusive control over the certification documentation. An example of ICM's local representative service can be found below:

Australia	Algeria	Angola	Botswana
Brazil	Cameroon	Canada	Cote d'Ivoire
Ghana	India	Israel	Jordan
Kenya	Laos	Malaysia	New Zealand
Philippines	Senegal	Serbia	South Africa
Thailand	Tunisia	Ukraine	UAE