
PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR PROTECTIVE PERSONAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT

1. Objective:

This procedure describes the criteria implemented by RACS as Notified Body of Emirates Authority of Standardization and Metrology (ESMA) and as Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) authorized by Saudi Standards Metrology & Quality organization (SASO) to assure that **Protective Personal Safety Equipment** products intended for certification with ESMA/SASO are complying with the relevant mandatory schemes and applicable standards.

Furthermore, this document identifies the steps taken by RACS Clients (Manufacturers, Traders, importers, retailers, Business owners or any other client) to get their products/processes certified prior to its commercializing in the market, and registered by through RACS Quality Certificates Issuing Services as ESMA Notified Body and SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) by issuing certificates of conformity in accordance with Scheme Owner (ESMA/SASO) Regulations:

2. Definitions:

- **ESMA:** Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology.
- **SASO:** Saudi Standards Metrology & Quality organization
- **RACS:** RACS Quality certificates issuing services
- **Scheme:** Certification system related to specified products, to which the same specified requirements, specific rules and procedures apply.
- **Certification:** Third-party attestation related to products, processes, systems or persons.
- **Notified Body:** a conformity assessment body designated by ESMA to conduct conformity assessment process on products and processes in accordance with related schemes/standards/regulations mandated by ESMA.
- **Certification Body:** a conformity assessment body designated by SASO to conduct conformity assessment process on products and processes in accordance with related schemes/standards/regulations according to SASO.
- **Conformity Certificate:** Formal document issued by RACS as notified body under approval of ESMA and SASO stating that certification is being granted for the product/process in accordance with applicable scheme/standards as per ESMA and SASO Requirements.

3. Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of RACS as ESMA Notified Body and SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) to establish and maintain the appropriate system to satisfy both SASO and clients requirements in accordance to the certification system mandated by SASO.

It is the responsibility of SASO clients and RACS clients to provide all needed requirements as per SASO Certification system to ensure their products compliance to the applicable schemes and standards.

4. Introduction about RACS Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) to provide Certification:

RACS is an accredited certification body & SASO approved Certification Body (3rd Party CAB). RACS is an authorized conformity assessment body by SASO that it is technically competent to perform the specific tasks of certification to SASO clients.

5. Service Type:

As per Scheme owner rules, RACS certifies Protective Safety Equipment Products and issues Certificate of conformity under:

- **Product Certification:** Product Certification is a Product certification is being implemented by the (SASO) according to the Decree no. 6386 issued by the Trade and Industry Ministry of Saudi Arabia (MOCI), dated the 4th of August 2004.

6. Scope of certified products by RACS – SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB):

This document covers Protective Safety Equipment products with below details of Sector, scope of certified products, products categories, and applicable type of certification:

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Sector (Product Group)	Scope of Certification (Scope of Products)	Product categories	Type of Certification
CHEMICAL	Protective Personal Safety Equipment Products	NA	Product Certification -Type Approval

7. Mandatory Schemes and Applicable Standards:

UAE Scheme No 3 for the year 2016

SASO Scheme is not available as per the Scheme Owner, please refer to the related standards. If needed, Client refers to RACS to identify applicable Scheme and Standards.

Also, Decree no. 6386 issued by the Trade and Industry Ministry of Saudi Arabia (MOCI), dated the 4th of August 2004.

RACS Staff to refer to RACS/REC/79 Scope of Certified Products by RACS to identify Certification applicable schemes and standards.

8. Requirements for Certification:

Requirements varies depending on the scope of certified products; Details of the documents required for certification for the scope of Protective Safety Equipment Product as per SASO requirements are detailed as following:

8.1. Supportive documents: as following:

Product Certification:

- Application form (Online).
- Valid Industry/Trade License (For Local Companies).
- Declaration of Conformity by the Applicant on the Product(s) for Registration using the Applicant's Official Letterhead.
- Test Reports from recognized laboratory as per the requirement of applicable standard for the product.
- Risk Assessment Analysis Report of the product.
- Controlled Copy of relevant (QM) Quality Manual (Soft Copy/in CD/DVD).
- Effective Safety Management Systems related with the scope.
- Copies of labels, markings, logos as required by Specific Standard.

8.2. Application for Certification (Application Form): Application to be filled by the client will contain all the necessary information needed by RACS Quality for conducting the certification Process, such important information is:

- Type of Product to be certified: Product, facility (Process) to identify the related scheme implemented by SASO.
- Relevant standard/ or normative documents clients is seeking certification for.
- General information: Applicant Business activities & related business facilities & relationship between their facilities, in relevance to the certification scheme applied for information about outsourced Processes relevant to Product conformity.
- Any other information needed related to certification requirements.

By signing the application form, the applicant and the manufacturer agrees to comply with these General Rules and with the Specific Product Standard for the product covered by Registration / CB Certification

8.3. Legal Agreements:

- Certification Agreement:
- Non-Disclosure Agreement

8.4. Fees as detailed in RACS Schedule of Fees (RACS/REC/46)

9. Certification Procedures:

Based on its role as SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB), Procedure will be performed as following:

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9.1. Preparatory Steps:

- 9.1.1. Application Form shall be submitted by applicant to RACS, submission can be done via RACS affordable communication methods (mail, emails, hard copy, website, E-System)
- 9.1.2. Administrative assistant will review it to check documents availability on a primary basis
- 9.1.3. A quotation will be sent to applicant by Head of Sales and Marketing; containing the scope of certification and fees related to each step of the certification process.
- 9.1.4. Payment shall be done by applicant.

9.2. Application Review

- 9.2.1. Upon acceptance of quotation by client, he is requested to Sign the Certification agreement.
- 9.2.2. Application along with related supportive documents will be received by RACS Conformity Manager who shall assign one of RACS technical team members (Conformity Officer- (Evaluator or Auditor).

9.3. Application Evaluation

- 9.3.1. Conformity Officer (Evaluator or Auditor) shall perform conformity assessment (Evaluation) steps related to the certification scheme (Product Certification):
 - **Product Certification:**
 - Detailed documents review for all the documents
 - Document review includes the check up for Test Reports parameters and results, done by 3rd party Laboratory according to the specific technical regulations and applicable standards.
 - Evaluation of product the eligibility of the Product for certification to assure compliance according to applicable schemes and standards

Note: No of Samples to be selected for testing is defined by the specific technical requirements and as per scheme owner

- 9.3.2. Evaluation Outcome results:
 - If evaluation is pending for missing or invalid documents or other needed information to complete evaluation; Additional Supportive Documents will be requested by Applicant.
 - Evaluation includes Product Safety Verification through test reports provided on all safety Test parameters requested by applicable scheme/standards, test reports shall be issued by 3rd party accredited Laboratory sub-contracted according to the approved Standards and applicable technical requirements.
 - If test reports are not complying with Standards; Conformity Officer/Assessor requests rectification of the non-complying aspects, then based on applicant confirmation of rectification, Collection of samples will be done to conduct the same laboratory tests again and for once.
 - Evaluation will be repeated upon applicant re-submission of needed documents/information.

9.4. Decision of Certification: Upon submission of this information, and as per the result of documents review and completing product evaluation process,

- 9.4.1. Recommendation of approval of Product certification: Product evaluation shows full compliance with applicable schemes/standards:
 - Application is initially approved by Conformity Officer/Assessor
 - Recommendation for certification approval will be made by Conformity Manager
 - Certification decision will be done by Decision Committee
 - Granting the issuance of Certificate of conformity
 - Certified Products will be listed in RACS Certified Products registry.
- 9.4.2. Recommendation of rejection of Product certification: Product evaluation shows non-compliance with applicable schemes/standards, due to any reason preventing product from Certification:
 - Application is declined by Conformity Officer/Assessor
 - Recommendation for certification rejection will be made by Conformity Manager
 - Rejection decision will be done by Decision Committee
 - RACS will inform client by an Official rejection statement (Letter of certification Status) by e-mail stating the reason of rejection.

Please refer to Available on RACS Website→Publicly available information→ RACS Notified Body→Required Docs→

- **PPE/REC/01:** Application form- Protective Safety Equipment

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PPE/REC/02: Legal & Quality Documents-List of certification requirements per related Scheme – Protective Safety Equipment

- **PPE /REC/03:** Assessment Checklist-BS EN -137-2006
- **PPE/REC/04** Protective Safety Equipment-Product Certificate Template.
- **PPE/REC/05** Protective Safety Equipment-Facility Certificate Template.
- **PPE/REC/06:** Assessment Checklist- BS EN 352-3-2002
- **PPE/REC/07:** Assessment Checklist-BS EN 361-2002
- **PPE/REC/08:** Assessment Checklist-BS EN 397-2012+A1-2012
- **PPE/REC/09:** Assessment Checklist-BS EN420-2003+ A1-2009
- **PPE/REC/10:** Assessment Checklist- BS EN ISO 20346-2014
- **PPE/REC/11:** Assessment Checklist-BS EN ISO 11612-2015
- **PPE/REC/12:** Assessment Checklist-BS EN 166-2002

Notes for clients:

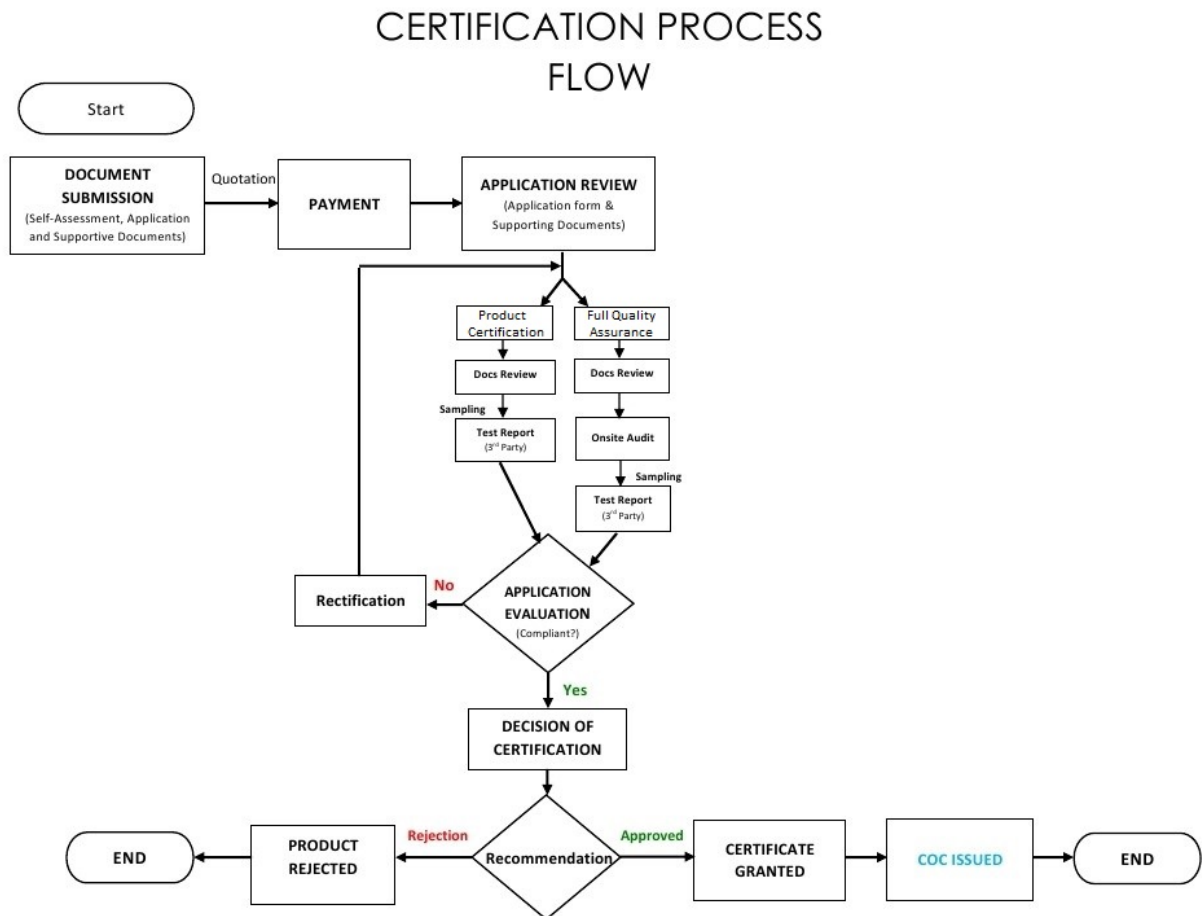
- For some scopes where it is required to have a quality system available, clients seeking to be certified for any of their (Products or services or facility/Process) to Schemes and applicable standards through RACS are requested to implement relevant Quality System including documentation in a way to meet all requirements of this standard and all relevant specific standards depending on the nature of service (certified Product& Process).
- In case of a Client newly operating, and seeking to be certified, Client is required to demonstrate more than 3 months' compliance against the standard immediately preceding the date of the Pre-Assessment performed by RACS. This will prove the efficacy and sustainability of the implemented system. After which RACS will be contacted to decide for required audits and Certification.
- Client seeking extension or renewal of Certification scope shall as well submit the self- assessment checklist specifying the extension or renewal of the Certification scope.
- Whenever applicable, Additional Certification requirements per Certification schemes: Legal & Quality documents (such as Client Quality Manual) and supportive documents (records and checklists used by applicant), are to be attached to the application form.

10. Renewal:**Product Certification:**

- Validity of certificate is one year,
- COC should be renewed 2 months prior expiry.

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11. Process Map:



12. Market Monitoring:

RACS Will be conducting Market Surveillance campaigns in the local markets to assure continuous compliance of certified products and inform Scheme owner on immediate basis on the non-conformity products to take the appropriate action.

13. Related Forms:

Listed Agreements, SOPs, Records related to the **SOP 50** as follows:

General Forms:

TITLE OF DOCUMENT	IDENTIFICATION
Quality Master List	RACS/REC/01
Certification Agreement/ RACS Quality- Client	RACS/AG/01
NDA/RACS Quality - Client/Subcontractor	RACS/AG/03
Scope of Certified Products	RACS/REC/79

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Schedule of Fees	RACS/REC/46
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Specific Records related to the Scope:

Application form- Protective Safety Equipment	PSE/REC/01
Legal & Quality Documents-List of certification requirements per related Scheme – Protective Safety Equipment	PSE /REC/02
Assessment Checklist-BS EN -137-2006	PSE /REC/03
Protective Safety Equipment-Product Certificate Template	PSE/REC/04
Protective Safety Equipment-Facility Certificate Template	PSE/REC/05
Assessment Checklist- BS EN 352-3-2002	PSE/REC/06
Assessment Checklist-BS EN 361-2002	PSE/REC/07
Assessment Checklist-BS EN 397-2012+A1-2012	PSE/REC/08
Assessment Checklist-BS EN420-2003+ A1-2009	PSE/REC/09
Assessment Checklist- BS EN ISO 20346-2014	PSE/REC/10
Assessment Checklist-BS EN ISO 11612-2015	PSE/REC/11
Assessment Checklist-BS EN 166-2002	PSE/REC/12

14. References:

General Requirements for Certification Bodies (3rd Party CAB) –SASO Document.
 Requirements for Registration –SASO Documents-Available in SASO website and RACS website and upon request by RACS Staff.

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