



RACS

Newsletter

Bulletin - June

June 2020 Edition

This is RACS Newsletter Bulletin

As your trusted partner for compliance and quality assurance, we bring you this monthly edition of '*RACS Newsletter Bulletin*' giving you regular updates about important regulatory information, announcements and certification updates from various authorities in the region:

- Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA)
- The Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO)
- GCC Standardization Organization (GSO)
- GCC Accreditation Center (GAC)
- And others

We aim to guide you navigate the supply chain for you to access the Gulf market armed with knowledge and solutions you will need.



Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA) | UPDATES:

(COVID 19 – Related Updates:)

1. **ESMA has granted “Online Audit” for the continuity of Emirates Quality Mark (EQM) and Halal Applications/certifications.**



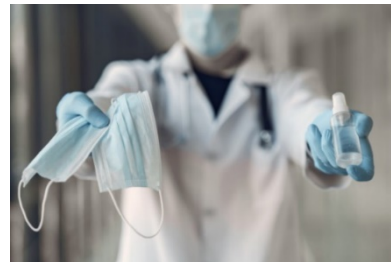
With the unprecedented global spread of Covid-19, applicants for Emirates Quality Mark (EQM) and Halal Application, will go through an online facility audit during the certification process.

Before pandemic, the usual procedure is followed where in a compliance engineer will physically visit the facility anywhere in the world (since it is a mandatory requirement as required by the standard) to conduct an on-site audit. This phase is critical as compliance engineer will check and verify if the facility has non-conformities within the factory. This is generally to have a comprehensive assessment of the factory if it is compliant with the standards implemented.

Digitalizing the facility audit process will benefit the applicant as they will not spend for the transportation fee and accommodation of the personnel. Above all, to adhere and practice contactless transaction for sake of health and welfare for both parties.

Through remote live video streaming and smart phone technology, applicant and our experts can still conduct a comprehensive discussion during the audit.

2. **ESMA issues Certificate of Conformity (CoC) for protective face mask, Protective Gloves, and Hand sanitizers product**



To ensure the confidence of the general public and maintain the quality of protective face mask, protective gloves, and hand sanitizers products which are in high-demand due to the pandemic, suppliers and manufacturers can now obtain certificate of conformity. Suppliers and manufacturers can obtain Certificate of Conformity (CoC) such as Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS) and Emirates Quality Mark (EQM) for the below products:

- a. Surgical / medical face mask
- b. Respiratory/filtering, N95 masks.
- c. Hand Sanitizers

The Certificate of Conformity is a proof that product meets the regulatory standard set forth by the authority.

3. Test Report validity for LVE & RoHS-ECAS/EQM:

For the Test Report validity for LVE & RoHS-ECAS/EQM (new and renewal) it will be valid till June 30th 2020:

Services	Type of Certification	Acceptance of Test Report	Implementation Rule
LVE - ECAS/EQM	NEW	NA	For LVE Products, IEC CBTR & IEC CBTC can be accepted up to 5 years for new applications
	RENEWAL	up to 5 Years	
ROHS - ECAS/EQM	NEW	up to 5 Years	1. RoHS test reports more than 3 years: (These test reports can be submitted for certification with the submission of a declaration stating that revised/updated test reports will be provided). 2. RoHS test reports only covering 6 hazardous substances (1st phase): (The same test reports can be submitted with the addition of a declaration for the next 4 hazardous substances (2nd phase) and a declaration stating that revised/updated test reports will be provided).
	RENEWAL	up to 5 Years	

4. Implementation of UAE Cabinet Decree No. 13 / 2018 on the requirements for e-Call in vehicles according to UAE.S 5019 :2018.



Based on the UAE cabinet decree No. (13)/ 2018, it states that all new vehicles starting from vehicle models from the year 2021 must be equipped with E-Call system.

5. Interim Period for RoHS Applications/Certification has announced!



In consideration of the current conditions faced by all industries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ESMA has decided an interim period allowing the quality performance once used.

6. ESMA has announced that all clinical thermometer must obtain Certificate of Conformity for precise performance



The authority has recently announced that all clinical thermometer including Digital and Electronic thermometers and all type of infrared thermometers must obtain certificate of Conformity Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS). These are the products used for taking body temperature upon entering in buildings (Handheld or non-handheld). This initiative is to ensure the product's precise and

submission of a Declaration of Conformity (only) for RoHS applications/certification. Acceptance of the submission of the “Declaration of Compliance” will be until 31st of July 2020 only. This applies to all regulated product categories scopes under UAE RoHS certification/application.



GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) | UPDATES:

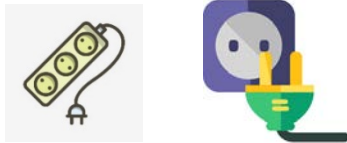
(COVID 19 – Related Updates:)

1. Expired Gmark Certificates since 1st of March are extended until June 2020

Gmark certificates with expiration date since 1st of March 2020 are extended until 30th June 2020.

Gmark Certificate is mandatory to Low Voltage Electrical Equipment and Appliances products that are sold/exported to Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE which are member countries of the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO). This is as defined within the Low Voltage Technical Regulation, BD142004-01.

2. GSO announced additional requirements for specific products



GSO has recently announced that Notified Bodies shall use the below following standards to issue G-Mark Certificates for “plugs and Socket-Outlets, and Cord extension sets when KSA national requirements have to be considered:

1. Plugs and socket-outlets: SASO 2203.
2. Cord extension sets: GSO 2117

The implementation and timelines for this notice:

- ✓ New G Mark Certificates (first-time certification): requirements are applicable to all newly certified products after the 30th of June 2020
- ✓ Existing G Mark Certificates (Updates and Renewals): Before 15 July 2020, GSO Notified Bodies shall update or renew all existing G-Mark certificates, for certificates having KSA as one of the target countries.
- ✓ If the Economic Operator does not comply with the requirement in point 2, the Notified Body shall update the target countries in the certificate by removing the KSA until the manufacturer complies with these requirements.
- ✓ The current harmonized standards for these two categories as published on GSO harmonized standards (www.gso.org.sa/hs) are still valid and shall be implemented when issuing G-Mark Certificates if one of the other GSO members states is one of the target countries on the certificate.



الهيئة السعودية للمواصفات والمقاييس والجودة
Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Org.

Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) | UPDATES

(SASO COVID 19 – Related Updates:

1. SASO has granted 'Online Audit' for SASO Quality Mark application

SASO has eased the registration process for obtaining SASO Quality Mark (SQM) for granting the 'online audit'. This is in line with pandemic affecting suppliers and manufacturers who aim to enter the Saudi Market.

Similar to this implementation of physical audits shifting to online are Emirates Quality Mark and Halal applications by ESMA in UAE.

See the list of product categories for SQM registration:

- ✓ Gas Appliances & Accessories
- ✓ Ceramics
- ✓ Steel bars
- ✓ Cement
- ✓ Sanitaryware
- ✓ Concrete
- ✓ Paints
- ✓ Power Extension
- ✓ Cables
- ✓ Sockets (mandatory since Aug 2020)
- ✓ Iron plate products (Starting this 22th of June 2020)
- ✓ Aluminum composite Panel products (Starting this 22th of June 2020))

2. Extending the validity of all Certificates of Conformity (CoC) registered in the Saber electronic



SASO has extended all expired CoC registered in SABER online platform for a period of another three months from the date of the certificate's expiration date. Expired CoC from the month of March, April and May are accepted on this extension period.

3. Acceptance of 'Goods test reports' issued by an accredited laboratory from the country of export to three previous years without the need for new tests
4. Reducing the costs of the SASO conformity certificate by 30% to become 350 instead of 500 riyals
5. Postpone visits to production lines for the products subject to this and issue conformity certificates without this condition/requirement

6. Guideline for European based manufacturers and exporters obtaining SQM for Ceramic/Tile:



-In any case you applicant cannot provide test report and holds CE mark, then you may submit a technical file of any proof that you have complied all the process obtaining the CE mark.
-However, you must submit an official letter of commitment or a declaration with national differences within 3 months after granting the SQM.

7. SASO & Saudi Customs has announced the integration of both “SABER Platform” & “FASAH System”



In line with the initiative of the Saudi Standards, Metrology and quality organization (SASO) and Saudi Customs for smooth and safe

entry of products to Saudi Arabia, both authorities have announced the integration of “SABER platform” and “FASAH” system starting 1st of July, 2020.

This aims to raise the level of safe products entering Saudi market and its environment. However, before the mentioned date, applicant must register the required conformity certificates and the shipment conformity certificate electronically in “SABER platform” to avoid re-exporting your shipment.

Expect the benefits of this integration:

- Reducing the total cost for importers and traders
- Less paperwork during the FASAH process & issuance of customs bayan
- Speed to market & smooth arrival of consumer products

Thank you

For clarifications and assistance, you can always contact us:

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