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General

This general guidance document is to provide information on suitability of IECEE CB test reports, particularly when testing in customer testing facilities (CTF) is used by the CB Test laboratory.

Question

What is acceptable for IECEE CB test reports for use for certification in the EESS?

Answer

The Equipment Safety rules (ESR) section 10.3 provides information on IECEE CB test reports being accepted for use for certification in the EESS. However, it does not specifically list the acceptance requirements for reports in relation to the IECEE customer testing facility (CTF) options being adopted in the IECEE Scheme.

The ESR will be proposed to be amended to add the required clarity for completeness. In the interim the following is applied for IECEE CB test reports (in alignment with proposed amendment to ESR):

IECEE CB Scheme Testing Laboratories (CBTLs) accepted under the CB Scheme of the IEC System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components (IECEE). A CB Test Report is required to be accompanied by CB Test Certificate issued by the appropriate National Certification Body (NCB) for all situations. Test Reports are required to be related to:

- i. Full testing performed within the IECEE CB test facility*
- ii. Full testing carried out by CBTL staff or qualified Local Technical Representative (LTR) at Customers' Testing Facility (CFT Stage 1)*
- iii. Witnessing 100 per cent of each test program by CBTL/NCB qualified staff or a qualified LTR at Customer Testing Facility (CFT Stage 2)*

Note: CFT stages 3 or 4 are not accepted

Note: where any hybrid testing of i., ii., or iii. occur the test report shall clearly indicate which type of testing was carried out for each test/assessment

This requirement does not change the requirement to have the IECEE CB Test Report be accompanied by a IECEE CB Certificate.

This information bulletin applies to requirements for certification in the EESS stage . Where a Responsible Supplier wishes to use manufacturer provided test reports or IECEE CB scheme CTF stage 3 or CTF stage 4 test reports as evidence of compliance for Level 2 or Level 1 equipment (and not wanting EESS certification) they may do so. In such situations, if after applying criteria within the Equipment Safety Rules and EESS legislation, such test reports are later identified as unsuitable or insufficient, then regulatory actions may be taken against the Responsible Supplier.

Background

This guidance re-confirms suitable test reports for IECEE CB scheme within EESS. In the past the IECEE CB Scheme had various levels of manufacturers testing laboratories and designations for such testing (as opposed to testing in the IECEE CB test facility directly). This terminology included TMP (Tested Manufacturers Premises), WMT (Witnessed Manufacturer Testing), SMT (Supervised Manufacturers Testing), RMT (Recognised Manufacturers Testing). This has now evolved into designation of Customer Test Facilities and different levels (CFT stage 1, CFT stage 2, CFT stage 3 and CFT stage 4).

Regulators have identified there have been inconsistent application of requirements in certification when using IECEE CB test reports. This guidance document is to clarify the expected requirements for certification in the EESS - to provide a consistent level of test report acceptable to regulators and certification in line with the basic requirement that EESS certification is based on accredited test reports independent from manufacturers own test results.

This guidance document does not change any requirements for independent certification in EESS (or requirements for Responsible Supplier own acceptance of test reports for level 2 or level 1 equipment), it merely documents requirements so there is no confusion as to acceptable IECEE CB test reports for certification in the EESS.

This guidance document will be reviewed when the ESR amendment is finalised.