

Nemko Telecommunications Certification Body Schemes

PURPOSE

Nemko operates third-party product certification schemes for telecommunication products through accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065 and applicable recognition with regulatory authorities.

Nemko currently operates certification schemes for the following Jurisdictions

[Federal Communications Commission \(USA\)](#)
[Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada](#)
[National Communications Commission \(Taiwan\)](#)
[Office of the Communications Authority \(Hong Kong\)](#)
[National Radio Research Agency \(Republic of Korea\)](#)
[Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications \(Japan\)](#)

Nemko is also an EU Notified Body authorised to evaluate products for compliance with the Radio Equipment Directive and is aUK Approved Body for the UK Radio Equipment Regulations (RER) . These schemes are detailed in a separate document.

Certification is based on initial evaluation of the product and where required by the individual schemes, random re-evaluation activities intended to verify continued compliance.

Certification is based on compliance with applicable standards, regulations and certification scheme requirements.

Nemko operates the certification schemes in an impartial, independent, and non-discriminatory manner and in accordance with the scheme descriptions published by the regulators.

Nemko is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada as detailed on the respective scopes of accreditation. [Nemko North America Inc. | Standards Council of Canada](#) and [A2LA](#).

Our conformity assessment body recognitions are detailed on the [ISED](#) and [NIST](#) websites

PROCESS FOR CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION

Applications for new certificates or updates to existing certificates shall be submitted using forms provided by Nemko. The documentation required may vary depending on the product and applicable standards but normally includes information identifying the customer, applicant, manufacturer, production facilities, product models, technical specifications, trademarks, and other information necessary to evaluate compliance.

Before testing and certification activities commence, Nemko reviews the application and supporting documentation to verify that the product and certification scope are clearly defined, the applicable standards and certification requirements have been identified, sufficient technical information has been provided, and appropriate evaluation activities can be performed. Additional information may be requested where necessary.

The applicant is the holder of the certificate and is responsible for maintaining certification and paying applicable certification and annual license fees. Where the applicant is not the manufacturer, suitable authorization from the manufacturer shall be provided.

Application forms and documentation requirements for each of the following types of application are available on request.

Original application

An application for certification for a new product or module not previously approved.

Multiple versions of a product design are permitted to be certified under a single family certification provided they meet the specific conditions set out in the applicable regulations.

Update application

An application for certification where either a technical or administrative modification are to be made to the product.

FCC and ISCED refer to such applications, as permissive change applications.

Transfer of Certification

An application for certification where one company takes over another company.

Multiple listing

An application for certification where the current holder of a certificate or another entity/company (new applicant) is seeking to private label/co-brand the existing certified product based on the existing certification of a product.

The above application types may not be applicable for each of the schemes and naming conventions may differ as per the regulator scheme definitions.

TESTING, EVALUATION & CERTIFICATION

Testing will be performed by laboratories accepted by the regulatory scheme. The following table summarizes the options.

Scheme	Accredited and Recognized Laboratory	Nemko Qualified	Witness test
ISED Canada	X		
FCC	X		
Taiwan (NCC)	X		
Hong Kong (OFCA)		X	X
Japan (MIC)		X	X

Following testing, Nemko evaluates the test reports, technical documentation, product markings, applicable standards, and other relevant information to determine whether all certification requirements have been fulfilled.

The evaluation results are independently reviewed by qualified personnel who have not performed the evaluation activities. The review confirms that applicable standards have been correctly applied, the required evaluation activities have been completed, and sufficient evidence exists to support a certification decision.

Certification decisions are made by authorized personnel independent of the evaluation process. For products deemed to comply with all certification requirements, Nemko issues a certificate notifies the regulatory authority following a decision to certify.

MARKING & CERTIFICATE HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Certain modifications made to previously certified apparatus may affect the validity of the certification. It is the responsibility of the Certificate Holder to ensure that a product continues to comply. We therefore require that the Certificate Holder contact Nemko to determine whether proposed modifications require re-certification. A modified product shall not be labeled until confirmation of continuing certification is obtained from Nemko.

MAINTENANCE, SURVEILLANCE & FEES

It is a requirement that the certificate holders ensure that all certified equipment continues to comply with all requirements relating to the original certification. Receipt by Nemko of a signed application form and certification agreement signifies acceptance of these conditions.

Our accreditation and associated recognitions by regulatory authorities require us to perform surveillance activities to ensure continuing compliance of certified products.

The surveillance requirements implemented by Nemko meet the surveillance procedures published by the applicable jurisdiction. For ISSED, FCC, NCC (Taiwan), OFCA (Hong Kong) and RRA (Republic of Korea) this includes retesting of samples.

Sampling criteria will be based on

- a) Random selection
- b) Product compliance history
- c) Complaints
- d) Market penetration (i.e. volume of products in the market)
- e) Regulatory requests
- f) Technology
- g) Laboratory

Where surveillance activities identify non-conformities, Nemko will advise the regulatory authority who advise on required corrective actions and may suspend or withdraw certification where appropriate.

Applicable fees for testing, certification, and surveillance activities are communicated through contractual arrangements and fee schedules. Fees for surveillance testing are supplementary to the cost for initial certification.

PUBLICATION & CONFIDENTIALITY

Our certification services involve close contact with the Accrediting Agencies and Authorities having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in their capacity as accreditation body and regulator respectively. During the course of our operations, it may be necessary to supply, or make available for inspection, records relating to your product as evidence of compliance to applicable standards and to enable Accreditors and Regulators to monitor compliance of its accredited and recognized certification bodies. Where the schemes require routine submission of documents to the AHJ, confidentiality may be requested as part of your applications and will be processed in accordance with the requirements of the regulatory schemes.

Scheme	Information released to Regulator	Information publicly available	Confidentiality request options
FCC	All exhibits submitted in the application	All information unless a request to withhold design critical information made at the time of application.	A request for confidentiality is required at time of application
ISED	All exhibits submitted in the application	Product details, i.e. ownership, naming information and technical ratings. Public applications to access information are possible.	A request for confidentiality is required at time of application
NCC (Taiwan)	All exhibits submitted in the application	Product details, i.e. naming information and technical ratings. Public applications to access information are possible.	
OFCA (Hong Kong)	Product details related to ownership, naming, technical ratings and test report information.	Product details related to ownership, naming, technical ratings.	
MIC (Japan)	Product details related to ownership, naming, technical ratings. Photos and test report is required only for unlicensed radio where testing is not under subcontract agreement.	Product details related to ownership, naming, technical ratings. Photos and test report is published only for unlicensed radio where testing is not under subcontract agreement.	
RRA (South Korea)	CRA Form, POA Form, Product details related to ownership, naming, manufacturer, country of origin.	Product details related to ownership, naming, manufacturer, country of origin.	
All schemes	All project files are available to the accreditor/regulator for audit purposes only	None	

CHANGES, VALIDITY, SUSPENSION AND WITHDRAWAL

Certifications shall be updated to address product modifications and new model variants or administrative corrections. Any change that may affect compliance shall be submitted for evaluation before implementation. A new certificate will be issued where affected by the update.

Suspension and subsequent withdrawal of certification can occur if non-compliance with the certification requirements has been identified and suitable corrective action not implemented.

Relevant authorities are involved in any suspension of withdrawal process.

COMPLAINTS & APPEALS

Any person or organization may submit complaints concerning Nemko's certification activities, Complaints shall be submitted in writing and are handled in accordance with Nemko's complaint handling procedures. [Complaint Submission Process | Impartial Handling and Resolution](#)



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Applicants have the right to appeal decisions made by Nemko with respect to certification activities related to their application or certification. Appeals shall be submitted in writing and are processed in accordance with Nemko's appeals procedures. [Complaint Submission Process | Impartial Handling and Resolution](#)

The final arbiter on disputes relating to Nemko's fulfillment of accreditation or recognition criteria rests with Standards Council of Canada for activities being performed under Nemko's SCC accreditation, or A2LA for activities performed under their accreditation.

Regulatory authorities have the level of appeal with respect to fulfillment of scheme requirements of a product and Nemko's recognition as a Certification Body.