

News in Brief

for March 2021

Dear Reader,

This month, it is one year 'anniversary' since the Corona pandemic took off. We have, amongst other, learnt that this is something highly un-predictable. Just when seeing some signs of things going better, another and even stronger wave appears. New and more contagious mutations of the virus are popping up, and at least one of the used vaccines is showing possible risk of dangerous side effects and being on hold in several European countries.

Nevertheless, North America appears to show improvement and parts of Asia, not least China, are back to something that resembles 'normal'.

This month was also the annual [National People's Congress](#) in China. Amongst topics high on the agenda were

-technological independence, -solving the pollution problem in major Chinese cities, and -continuation of the successful program to reduce poverty.

The new US Administration started practicing their foreign politics with harsh rhetoric towards particularly China and Russia and got prompt reactions.

This Nemko News in Brief for March includes the following topics, which are at a quite different scale, but hopefully still found to be of interest.

- ***Nemko becomes UK Approved Body for Radio Equipment***
- ***Market access requirements in Australia and New Zealand***
- ***ETSI arranges virtual "IoT Week 2021"***
- ***Update on European energy and environmental requirements***
- ***Promoting IEC's Conformity Assessment Systems to developing / industrializing countries***
- ***Coming events***

Wishing you to stay safe and healthy,..and to have a good Easter holiday for those celebrating that.

Best regards

[T.Sollie](#)

Editor

P.S. If you know of colleagues or others you think should get this monthly newsletter, please refer to [this link](#) for registration.

Nemko becomes UK Approved Body for Radio Equipment

On 22 March, Nemko achieved recognition as 'Approved Body' for radio equipment in the UK and is thereby now listed on the UK's [Conformity Assessment Body website](#).

This means being formally able to issue Type Examination Certificates against UK radio regulations for the purposes of UKCA marking (the equivalent of the CE-marking, which no longer is valid in the UK after having left the European Union (EU), and the transition period is ending),



The recognition as 'Approved Body' is based on a mutual recognition agreement between Canada and the UK, (the *Canada-UK Trade Continuity Agreement*) which has now been ratified. This agreement is based on continuing the provisions of the Canada-European Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement that the UK was party to before its exit from the EU.

Being listed as an 'Approved Body' in the UK is essential for continuing to provide certification of radio equipment for the UK, i.e. as long as there is no conformity assessment MRA between the UK and EU in place. Until the end of this year, however, UK accepts Type Examination Certificates according to the EU Radio Equipment Directive issued by the *EU Notified Bodies*.

So, this UK 'Approved Body' status adds to the existing role as *EU Notified Body* whereby Nemko can continue performing the mandatory conformity assessment services for radio equipment required across the EU and European and Economic Area plus the UK, in total 27 European countries.

For more information, please contact Vina.Kerai@nemko.com.



Market access requirements in Australia and New Zealand

Although the market access conditions for electrical and electronic equipment in Australia and NZ are largely equivalent to those in the EU, there are certain differences.

For most electrical and electronic equipment there are both el.safety- and EMC compliance requirements.

The el.safety area is covered by an 'Electrical Equipment Safety System' (EESS) while the EMC area (ref. [Notice 2017](#)) is controlled the telecom

authority [ACMA](#), which is also responsible for the radio/telecom area.

The equipment is subject to Declaration of Conformity with the relevant requirements issued by a "Responsible Supplier" in Australia and shall be registered in a "Registration Data Base" governed jointly by ACMA and the EESS.

Concerning el.safety, there are different requirements depending on risk level of the equipment, i.e.:

[Risk Level 1](#): Equipment classified as low risk or unknown risk. [Risk Level 2](#): Equipment classified as medium risk and defined in the [AS/NZS 4417.2](#) and [Risk Level 3](#): Equipment classified as high risk and defined in the [AS/NZS 4417.2](#).

The risk level for different types of equipment can be seen [here](#).

Equipment classified as Level 3 (high risk) must have a valid Australian or New Zealand issued certificate of conformity and be registered in the national EESS database. The latter also applies to Level 2 equipment. Certificate is not required for equipment classified as Level 2 or Level 1, while the supplier must on request be able to show evidence that the equipment complies with the relevant safety requirements.

Similarly, for EMC, ACMA distinguishes between devices of high-risk (Compliance Level 3), medium-risk (Compliance Level 2) and low-risk (Compliance level 1).

All devices are required to ascertain the required EMC compliance level, but labelling with the Regulatory Compliance Marking (RCM) is mandatory only for high-risk and medium-risk items.

Regarding telecom/radio, the regulatory requirements are available [here](#).

The RCM, which is common for EESS and ACMA, is like European CE-marking, but can only be applied by a party located in Australia/New Zealand, whether manufacturer, importer or other local party having a formal agreement with the foreign manufacturer/exporter to undertake this task.

Use of the RCM for EESS purposes is subject to an ongoing annual fee, while registration to use the RCM for ACMA purposes is free of charge.

For assistance with market access for Australia and New Zealand, please contact TorGunnar.Sollid@nemko.com

ETSI arranges virtual "IoT Week 2021"

The European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) will 26-30 April 2021 arrange their annual so called "IoT Week", this time as a fully virtual and free-of-charge event, to provide updates on the industry and standards for the Internet of Things (IoT).



The focus will be on major IoT achievements concerning digitalization of society, businesses and Industries, and also on how digitalization enables countermeasures against the current pandemic.

There will, amongst other, be sessions on:

- [oneM2M](#): Status update, Service Experiences & Best Practice

- IoT Cyber security for Consumers, Smart Cities, e-Health and SMEs, the related standards.
- IoT and [3GPP](#) Connectivity
- IoT standards developed in ETSI, oneM2M and 3GPP.
- Energy Efficiency and Sustainability.

Also, it is intended to show real-life implementations of standard based technologies applied to real IoT services.

The current pandemic has demonstrated how the IoT digitalization is essential to support countermeasures for personal and home life (smart working, remote access to public services, etc) as well as industry IoT capabilities (remote maintenance, Virtual Reality, etc), and how e-health services have become essential tools to support the medical care systems, enabling the remote care of patients, and how IoT has enabled technologies such as the [Asynchronous Contact Tracing](#).

Further information about this event may be seen [here](#).



Update on European energy and environmental requirements

The European Commission has issued a new regulation [\(EU\) 2021/341](#), which amends the eco-design requirements for the following types of products:

- Servers and data storage products,
- Electric motors and variable speed drives,

- Refrigerating appliances,
- Light sources and separate control gears,
- Electronic displays,
- Household dishwashers,
- Household washing machines and household washer-dryers,
- Refrigerating appliances with a direct sales function.

The main amendments are more precise definitions and more detailed description the required tests.

One must be aware that this amended regulation is separate from the European Energy Labelling regulation [\(EU\) 2021/340](#), and it covers more types of products. So, when testing the abovementioned types of products to document compliance with environmental requirements in Europe, one needs to comply with both these regulations.

Regarding electronic displays and TVs, both the latest [ErP Directive](#) related regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2021](#) concerning eco-design and the new regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2013](#) concerning energy label are now in effect. The new regulation covers more types of displays and includes power consumption requirements. Also, material efficiency is now included, which entails restrictions for the use of raw material and requirements for repair and reuse. Furthermore, the energy efficiency class range is now from A to G. The European Commission has published a presentation about the present requirements for electronic displays and televisions, which may be seen at [this link](#).

For further information or assistance with necessary testing/documentation for EU eco-design requirements and Eco-labelling, please contact JonIvar.Tidemann@nemko.com or Kenny.Ho@nemko.com

Promoting IEC's Conformity Assessment Systems to developing / industrializing countries

In the role as Ambassador for [IEC's Conformity Assessment Systems](#), the editor of this newsletter has been interviewed by IEC's magazine '**e-tech**'. The interview is featured in two articles in the last issue of that bi-monthly publication, which is distributed by email to nearly 40 000 persons in the electro technical industry worldwide.

The ambassador role is to promote the use of IEC's Conformity assessment systems to IEC's [Affiliated Member countries](#) (currently 84), which are amongst the developing/industrializing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

So, the main message in the two **e-tech** articles is challenging relevant authorities/bodies in these countries to take advantage of IEC's unique conformity assessment systems.

Primarily the [IECEE/CB scheme](#) is highlighted, since covering typically electrical/electronic products for consumers, and hence relevant for all countries. (NEK and Nemko in Norway are referred to as examples of what it entails to be IECEE Member Body and National Certification Body, respectively).

Many of the affiliates already take active part in IEC's international standardization activities, which is quite demanding as it entails an infrastructure with stakeholders, standards implementation, publication facilities, etc. To take advantage of e.g. the CB scheme, however, may be quite simple. One can have a simple operation with

issuing of own national product certificates based upon the recognition of test certificates issued by national certification bodies (NCBs) within the IECEE system. The relevant authority/body can generate revenue by



charging applicants (whether an importer or a foreign manufacturer/exporter) a reasonable amount for issuing a national product certificate.

The two articles may be seen in full [here](#) and [here](#). For further info, please contact the [editor](#).

Coming events

Nemko Italy webinars 2021: Various topics presented in Italian.

Program for 2021 and links for registration are available at [this site](#).

IEC Academy courses and webinars

Information may be seen [here](#).

GSO courses in the Arabic Gulf Region

Information about themes, places and times may be seen [here](#).

Receive invitations to Nemko webinars on current compliance matters

The webinars will be conducted in English, and one will be able to access the recordings afterwards, for own use and sharing with others.

Please [register here](#).

