

News in Brief

March 2020

Dear Reader

Hope that you are well and stay safe in the special situation we all are in now!

The short editorial intro this time was meant to touch upon what is by many now called the 4th industrial revolution, i.e. when everything possible being digitalized. However, the scary quick spread of the Corona virus worldwide now overshadows everything, undermining businesses and all activities, even locking up major cities.

Is it the nature's way of calibrating the humanity and the environment? -and to which extent can our advanced technology be helpful? It is sincerely hoped that the situation is soon under control.

In any case, here is this year's third issue of Nemko News in Brief with the following articles:

- **Products lacking RoHS documentation stopped at Russian borders.**
- **Acquisition for Cyber Security.**
- **Market access requirements for electrical equipment in Morocco.**
- **Nemko US hosting the USNC/IECEE committee.**
- **Royal visit in Jordan.**
- **Appointment as an IEC Ambassador.**
- **Status of Nemko's local operations during the current virus crisis.**
- **Coming events**

Best regards

[Trond Sollie](#)

Editor

Products lacking RoHS documentation stopped at Russian borders

As also reported in earlier issues of this newsletter, from 1 March, electrical and electronic products to be marketed in the EAEU (Eurasian Economic Union), i.e. the countries Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan, must have specific documentation which shows compliance with the Technical Regulation "EAEU TR 037/2016 for the restriction of the use of hazardous substances in electrotechnical and radioelectronic products".

Especially Russia has decided on strict enforcement of these new requirements, and manufacturers and exporters now experience that products are actually being stopped by customs at the Russian borders. The products are verified against the Eurasian Customs Union database, and shipments are denied market access if the necessary documentation of RoHS compliance cannot be presented.

The EAEU TR 037/2016 is equivalent to the EU's RoHS Directive, regarding the scope of products, the substances restricted and the limit values, but requires more technical documentation to be shown than merely suppliers' own *Declaration of Conformity* as in EU/EEA.

The EAEU regulation offers options for the type of documentation to show compliance, and Nemko has a well-established route for this.

For further information and/or application for necessary documentation, please contact:

Jonlvar.Tidemann@nemko.com or Morten@Smith.nemko.com .



Acquisition for Cyber Security



Nemko Group has during March acquired a conformity assessment agency for safety of information technology and cyber security, namely *System Sikkerhet AS*, based in Arendal, Norway. Founded already in 1986, it is a widely experienced agency in purebred information security, offering advice on critical digital infrastructure and security approval of classified communication systems, including the international [ISO common Criteria](#). The testing facility is accredited to the international standard ISO/IEC 17025 and is one of two associate information security laboratories to the [Norwegian National Security Authority](#)'s certification scheme.

According to Nemko's President & CEO, Per Ove Øyberg, the acquisition of *System Sikkerhet AS* is in support of the Nemko Group's current growth strategy, and shall contribute to secure the Group's position as a one-stop service provider for conformity assessment of both products and systems in the rapidly evolving digital world. The growth of digital networks and IoT (*Internet of Things*) drives the demand for secure systems to mitigate the risk of breaches. As the cyber security regulatory landscape continues to take shape, Nemko wants to be at the forefront of innovative solutions to ensure that the customers can meet the demand for appropriately certified and secure products.

For further information, please contact Kristian.S.Myrbakk@nemko.com or Geir.Horthe@nemko.com

Market access requirements for electrical equipment in Morocco

Morocco has since 2016 had the [Law 24-09](#) and *Ministerial Order No. 6404-15* with technical regulations concerning safety- and EMC requirements for electrical/electronic products, similar to the European LV- and EMC Directives. The regulations also include requirements for *Declaration of Conformity* and use of the above shown "C_e" conformity marking, which is equivalent to CE-marking in Europe. Further information may be seen [here](#).



During the first 3 years, it was for the importers to affix this marking to the products before being put on the Moroccan market. But from the start of this year, the marking must be fixed to the products by the manufacturer/ exporter before being shipped to Morocco. Products arriving without the marking will not pass customs.

In addition to electrical safety and EMC, certain products are also subject to other Moroccan technical requirements, such as telecom equipment and lithium ion batteries.

For assistance with necessary documentation for shipments of electrical/electronic products to Morocco, please contact Lars.Hjerpseth@nemko.com or Nancy.Tran@nemko.com.



Nemko US hosting the USNC/IECEE committee

In USA, the National Committee of the IEC is in care of the US standards organization [ANSI](#). It is also the US Member Body / National Committee of the IECEE, the governing body of the successful international CB scheme for certification of electrical products.

The operating procedures for the national IECEE committee (USNC/IECEE) can be seen [here](#). The committee members represent different stakeholder groups, including conformity assessment bodies, industry (manufacturers, users and associations) and governmental agencies (federal, state or local).

On 3-4 March, the annual meeting of the USNC/IECEE was hosted at Nemko's head quarter for North America in San Diego, California. Nemko is a member of this committee in its capacity as a national US Certification Body, i.e. [NRTL](#).

The committee provides input to the IECEE CB scheme with a focus on US interests and helps keeping the US stakeholders up to date on relevant issues. The purpose of the annual meeting is also to prepare for IECEE's annual Certification Management Committee (CMC), which this year is planned to be hosted at Montego Bay in Jamaica 3-4 June . However, due to the current situation with spread of the Corona virus worldwide, it is presently expected that this meeting will be cancelled/postponed.

For further information please contact Stuart.Beck@nemko.com or Morten.Andersen@nemko.com .

Royal visit in Jordan

On 3-5 March, the Norwegian king, His Majesty King Harald V, and Her Majesty Queen Sonja were on official state visit to Jordan, hosted by Their Majesties King Abdullah II and Queen Rania. Also the Jordanian Crown Prince His Royal Highness Hussein bin Abdullah attended during the visit.

This was the Norwegian Royal Couple's first visit to a Middle East country. It marks 50 years of diplomatic relations between Norway and Jordan, and 25 years since Norway established its embassy in Amman. In addition, it has been 20 years since King Abdullah and Queen Rania paid a state visit to Norway.



The Norwegian Ministers of *Foreign Affairs* and of *Trade & Industry*, also took part during this state visit. Norway and Jordan enjoy excellent relations. Business and trade have been limited, but opportunities are now being considered for cooperation in various areas, including renewable energy and tourism, and also in medical areas.

As reported in the Sept. 2019 issue of this newsletter, Nemko has since 2011 had a successful cooperation with the local agency Moayana for helping customers with market access to Middle East countries (primarily Saudi Arabia), and did on 11 September enter into a joint venture by formally establishing of Nemko Middle East, based in Amman, Jordan.

The deal was signed during a ceremony at the Norwegian Embassy. The manager of this new Nemko branch, Mr. Hatim Afaneh, was on invitation by the Embassy having the honor of taking part in the official dinner during the Royal visit.

For further information, please contact John.Bakken@nemko.com or Hatim.Afaneh@nemko.com



International
Electrotechnical
Commission

Appointment as IEC Ambassador

During March, the editor of this newsletter had the honor of being appointed by the IEC Executive Committee as their Ambassador for Conformity Assessment training of *Affiliate Member Countries* for the period 2020/2021.

(The list of IEC's ambassadors* may be seen [here](#)).

In this case, the role will essentially entail being available to provide training on matters concerning IEC's conformity assessment (CA) systems for bodies/people in IEC's 85 [Affiliate Member Countries](#) who may need and request such assistance. However, due to the current travelling restrictions worldwide, it may surely take some time before this role can practically come to effect.

Amongst IEC's present four CA systems, the international [IECEE](#) (CB scheme) is by far the biggest and covers a wide range of electrical products. The other three CA systems, [IECEX](#), [IECQ](#) and [IECRE](#), are for special industrial areas.

The IEC Affiliate Country Program is aimed at developing countries around the world, and offers such countries a form of participation in the IEC without the financial burden of actual membership. The program provides better possibilities for developing countries to take part in electrotechnical standardization and conformity assessment.

It also helps the economic development of these countries by removing technical barriers to trade by adoption of the IEC standards and conformity assessment systems, as well as helping for assurance of product safety and efficiency.

For further information, please contact the [editor](#).

**)At the same time Mr.Wolfgang Niedziella (from VDE, Germany) has been appointed Ambassador for increasing the EU Commission's awareness of IEC's activities in the cyber security area and to promote harmonization of relevant European- and IEC standards .*

Status of Nemko's local operations during the current virus crises

China: The operation in Shenzhen back to normal since 9 March.

Hong Kong: The operation in Tuen Mun back to normal since 20 March.

Taiwan: The operation in Taipei is as normal.

South-Korea: The operation in Youngin (Seoul area) now back to normal.

Italy: The operation in Milan is under some restrictions on visits and protection measures.

India: The operation in Faridabad (New Delhi area) is closed since 24 March (by governmental lock down of India for 21 days).

In **Norway, Germany, US and Canada**, the operations continue with some restrictions on visits and operations, continuously following the development and public advice on safety precautions.



For further information, please contact Yngvar.Sjoner@nemko.com

Coming events

12-14 May 2020, IEEE/PSES ISPCE, Chicago ,USA:

IEEE Symposium on Product Compliance Engineering (ISPCE).

(As can be seen [here](#); now decided cancelled due to the current Corona virus situation).

15-16 June: 26th Annual Nemko Customer Seminar in Oslo, Norway

For information, please see [here](#).

(Possible postponement till September, depending on the Corona virus situation)

GSO courses in the Arabic Gulf Region during 2020

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

Receive invitations to Nemko webinars on current compliance issues

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](#).

