

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEMES - WHAT, WHY, WHO AND HOW?

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WHAT?

WHAT IS PRODUCT CERTIFICATION?

A process conducted by an impartial third party (**Product Certification Body**) to certify a **PRODUCT** with the applied **Certification Scope**, based on a **Product Certification Scheme** developed, maintained and periodically reviewed by **its Owner** after evaluation of

- the quality management system of the design and manufacturing processes; and
- conformity of the product's characteristics to quality requirements in a reference standard/normative document

*Note: The Product Certification Body should be accredited by a reputable **Product Accreditation Body**.*

PRODUCT

A commodity / service or a series of commodity / service, which an Applicant is applying for or a Participant is certified for Product Certification.

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION BODY

An organization accredited by an Accreditation Body for conducting assessment on an Applicant or a Participant, based on objective evidence, regarding the compliance of a Product and the associated quality systems or governance to a Product Certification Scheme referring to applicable regulation(s) and/or reference standard(s) and/or normative document.

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME (CONTENT)

- Scope of the Scheme including type of PRODUCT(S) covered
- Requirements of reference standard(s) or other normative documents against which the PRODUCT(S) are evaluated
- Audit procedures including testing, inspection, design appraisal, assessment of services or processes and other determination activities (e.g. verification)
- Decision rules for certification based on evidences of conformity obtained in audit
- Certification (attestation, licensing, certification mark, etc.)
- Surveillance

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME (ADMINISTRATION)

- Confirmation of ownership
- Confirmation of governance and decision making mechanisms (may or may not involve stakeholders)
- Confirmation of underlying business and funding model
- Outlining monitoring and periodic review

TYPES OF PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME?

- There are 7 types of Product Certification Scheme namely 1a, 1b, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Most commonly adopted type of Product Certification Scheme is Type 5
- In system 5 the products are assessed for ongoing conformity and the certification body has the following obligations, as applicable in the Scheme:
 - ✓ Testing or inspection of samples from the open market;
 - ✓ Testing or inspection of samples from the factory;
 - ✓ Assessment of the production;
 - ✓ Management system audits combined with random tests or inspections.

Conformity assessment functions and activities ^a within product certification schemes		Types of product certification schemes ^b							
		1a	1b	2	3	4	5	6	N ^{c,d}
I	Selection, including planning and preparation activities, specification of requirements, e.g. normative documents, and sampling, as applicable	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
II	Determination of characteristics, as applicable, by: a) testing b) inspection c) design appraisal d) assessment of services or processes e) other determination activities, e.g. verification	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
III	Review Examining the evidence of conformity obtained during the determination stage to establish whether the specified requirements have been met	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
IV	Decision on certification Granting, maintaining, extending, reducing, suspending, withdrawing certification	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
V	Attestation, licensing								
	a) issuing a certificate of conformity or other statement of conformity (attestation)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	b) granting the right to use certificates or other statements of conformity	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	c) issuing a certificate of conformity for a batch of products		x						
	d) granting the right to use marks of conformity (licensing) is based on surveillance (VI) or certification of a batch.		x	x	x	x	x		
VI	Surveillance, as applicable (see 5.3.4 to 5.3.8), by:								
	a) testing or inspection of samples from the open market			x		x	x		
	b) testing or inspection of samples from the factory				x	x	x		
	c) assessment of the production, the delivery of the service or the operation of the process				x	x	x	x	
	d) management system audits combined with random tests or inspections						x	x	

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME OWNER

- a legal entity
- able to take on full responsibility for the objectives, the content and the integrity of the scheme (a reputable organization)
- maintain the scheme and provide guidance when required (competence and resources)
- set up a structure for the operation and management of the scheme (management committee/board)
- document the content of the scheme (publication)

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME OWNER

- ensure that the scheme is developed by persons competent in both technical and conformity assessment aspects (drafting and reviewing committee/board)
- make arrangements to protect the confidentiality of information provided by the parties involved in the scheme
- Evaluate, manage and have arrangement to cover the risks/liabilities arising from its activities (disclaimers, insurance)
- have the financial stability and resources required for it to fulfil its role in the operation of the scheme

ACCREDITATION BODY FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

- **Accreditation?**
 - ✓ enhanced recognition and confidence of the certification
 - ✓ ensure the conformity of certification body and its certification activities conform to ISO/IEC 17065 (including but not limited to impartiality, confidentiality, competence, openness, accessibility of information, responsiveness to complaints and appeals, responsibility, etc.)
- **Accreditation service?**
 - ✓ E.g. Hong Kong Certification Body Accreditation Scheme (HKCAS) under Hong Kong Accreditation Services (HKAS)

Why?

WHY DO WE NEED PRODUCT CERTIFICATION?

- Assists clients and consumers to differentiate products in the marketplace and make informed purchasing decisions.
- Gives consumers more relevant assurance that the PRODUCT(S) concerned consistently meet the quality requirement(s) of a reference standard or normative document
- Allows the manufacturer/supplier to provide more clear indication to their customers that their ability of maintaining their PRODUCT(S) consistently conform to the quality requirement(s) of a reference standard or normative document
- Supplements ISO9001 certification with specified control on operations and test regime for a particular PRODUCT
- Provides a unified acceptance criterion for specifiers to put in specification for certain PRODUCT(S) other than simply performance requirements, which may only refer to test results of single or small number of specimens

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ISO9001 & PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

Content/Requirements	ISO9001	Product Certification
Reference Standard	ISO9001: 2015	Product Certification Scheme established under the guidelines given in ISO17067: 2013
Focus	Quality Management System	Product Conformity
Objective(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to enhance customer satisfaction by meeting customer requirements to improve its overall performance and provide a sound basis for sustainable development initiatives 	<p>Assurance of Product Conformity by adopting defines rules, procedures and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give interested parties the confidence regarding fulfilment of a PRODUCT conforming to specified requirements to allow suppliers to demonstrate to the market that their product has been attested to fulfil specified requirements by an impartial third party body

COMPARISON BETWEEN ISO9001 AND PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

Certification	ISO9001	Product Certification
Meeting the requirements of ISO9001	Yes	Yes
Meeting the requirements in relevant Product Conformity Certification Scheme (PCCS)	No	Yes
Quality Requirements for Product/Service	No	Yes (refer to national or well recognized standard)
Requirements for design, manufacturing and quality control processes	Determined by the organization itself	Yes (in particular for initial type testing & production control testing)
Audit testing	Normally not necessary	Must required! Sampling frequency & test items are stipulated in PCCS
Qualification and/or experience requirement(s) for technical representative in organization	Not specified	Yes for Some PCCSs

This is to certify that the Quality Management System of

This is to certify that

Name of the certified company

Name of the certified company

Examples

of

ISO 9001

&

PCCS



certificates

complies with the requirements of
ISO 9001 : 2015
Quality Management System Standard



have been found to conform to
Product Conformity Certification Scheme for Tile Adhesives
PCCS-TA Issue 1 (2010)*
Hong Kong Concrete Institute
**Excluding Reaction to Fire*



for the manufacture of the following product(s)

1. Score Tech Super Tile Adhesive: ST-TA(Super) Grey (Type C, Class 2TE to BS EN 12004: 2007)
2. Score Tech Tile Adhesive (Ultra-Strength): ST-TA (US) Grey (Type C, Class 2E to BS EN 12004: 2007)
3. Score Tech Tile Adhesive (Ultra-Strength): ST-TA (US) White (Type C, Class 2E to BS EN 12004: 2007)

Applicable to the Scope of
Design, Production and Supply of Pre-batched Concrete for Structural and Non-Structural Use
為結構性和非結構性用途而預先混合的袋裝混凝土的設計、生產和供應

Signed for and on behalf of
CASTCO CERTIFICATION SERVICES LIMITED

Signed for and on behalf of
CASTCO CERTIFICATION SERVICES LIMITED

1st Surveillance
Audit Label

2nd Surveillance
Audit Label

Thomas
Chief Executive

1st Surveillance
Audit Label

2nd Surveillance
Audit Label

Thomas
Chief Executive

This certified organization must successfully pass the surveillance audits to maintain the validity of the certificate before the date of expiry. Please check the validity of the certificate at www.castco.com.hk

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Registered address : 1/F Sun Ling Plaza, 30 On Kai Street, Fanling, N.T., Hong Kong
Tel : (852) 2597 8333 Fax : (852) 2597 8399

Original Certification 18 August 2017 Expiry 17 August 2020
Issue Date *(1) 18 August 2017 Issue no. 1

* Note 1 - initial Granting; 2 - renewal; 3 - scope expanding; 4 - scope reduction; 5 - other



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Registered address : Units 1-5, 2/F Techno Centre, 33 On Kai Street, Fanling, New Territories, Hong Kong
Tel : (852) 2677 2138 Fax : (852) 2677 0351

Original Certification 8 March 2011 Expiry 7 March 2020
Issue Date *(2), (3), (4) 03 February 2017 Issue no. 5

* Note 1 - Initial Granting; 2 - renewal; 3 - scope expanding; 4 - scope reduction; 5 - other

Who?

WHO IS THE PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME OWNER?

A reputable, independent organization with widely recognized credibility in the field relating to the PRODUCT, which may be:

- Government
- Academic institution
- Professional institution
- Learned society

It may sometimes also be:

- Certification body
- The manufacturer/supplier itself

WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME?

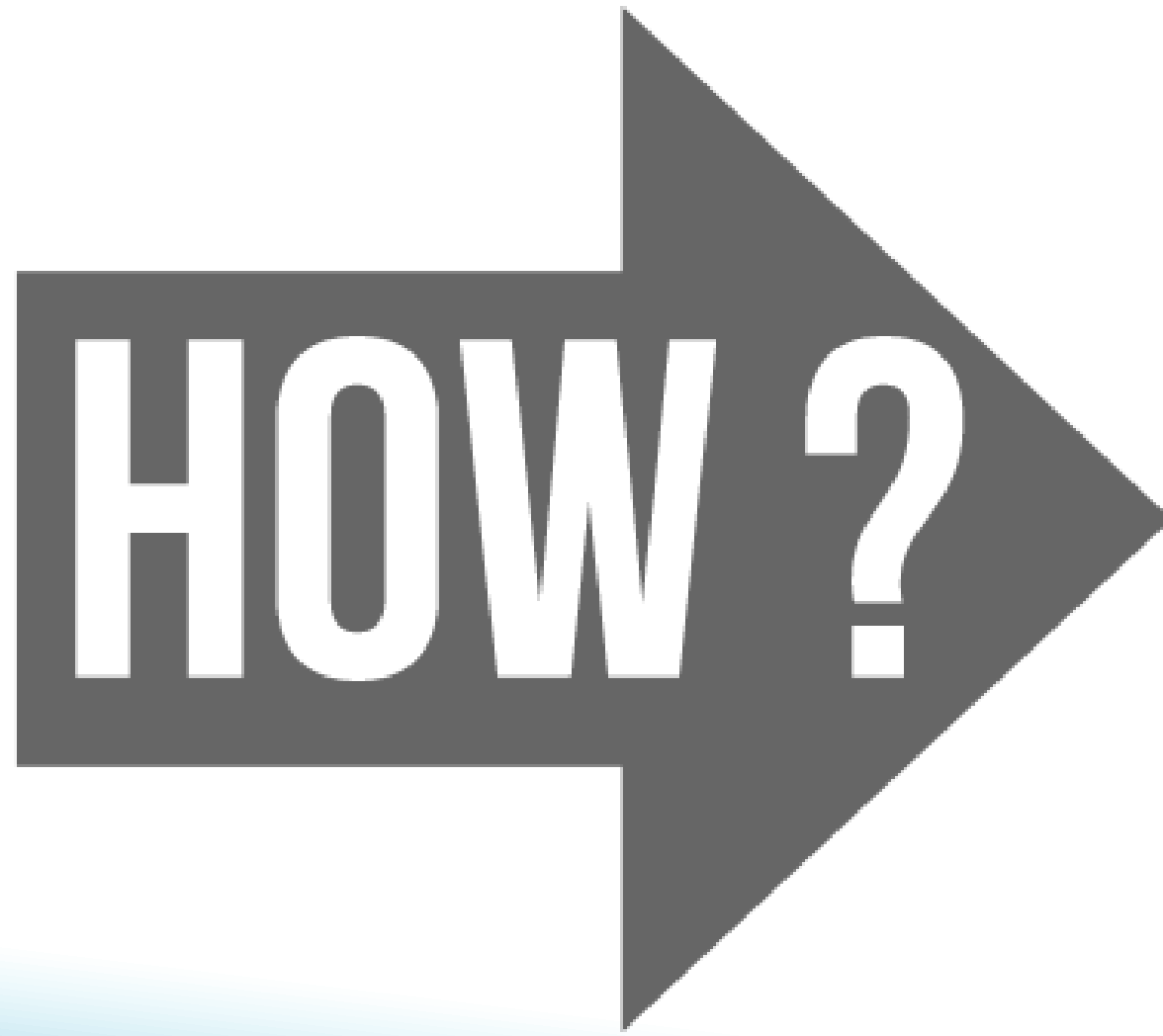
- Representatives from the Owner
- Competent persons outside the Owner's organization to give independent opinions/ assistance in establishing the Scheme
- Representatives from stakeholders/interested parties should be involved to give comments to fundamental scheme principles, governance, decision making mechanisms as well as outline for monitoring and periodic review of the Scheme
- The Scheme should be made available to other stakeholders/interested parties to ensure transparency, understanding and acceptance

WHO SHOULD SPECIFY THE REQUIREMENT FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION OF PRODUCT(S)?

- Project owners, either governmental or private
- Specifiers
- Responsible purchaser (e.g. contractors)

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION?

- Manufacturers/Suppliers who want to provide assurance to their clients and customers Specifiers for consistent conformity of their PRODUCT(S) to reference standard(s) or requirements stipulated in normative documents



HOW?

HOW TO APPLY FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION?

