

Guidelines on Adoption of Latest International Safety  
Standards for Electrical Products

Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
1 Introduction	1
2 Advisory Notes for the Suppliers	2
3 Role of Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	3
4 Implementation Time Frame for Adoption of Latest International Safety Standards	3
5 Consultation with the Trade	4
6 Means of Notification	4
7 Enquiries	5

Appendix 1 - Internet Websites Relating to Standards & Testing

Electricity Ordinance, Chapter 406  
Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation

Guidelines on Adoption of Latest International Safety Standards for Electrical Products

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation (EPSR) stipulates the safety requirements of all household electrical products supplied in Hong Kong. All electrical products shall comply with the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation and shall be issued with a certificate of safety compliance. The certificate of safety compliance shall include, among other information, the standard to which the electrical product was tested and found in conformity.
- 1.2 In general, electrical products that conform to the safety standards listed in the Section C.1 of the Guidance Notes for the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation (hereafter called the Notes) or equivalent standards are deemed to satisfy the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation subject to complying with the “General conditions” requirements stipulated in Schedule 1 of the Regulation, the additional and specific safety requirements for particular types of electrical products (Section 5, Section 6 & Schedule 2 of the Regulation refer).
- 1.3 Standards, both national and international, are kept under review by standards organizations from time to time and are revised and improved frequently. When a standard is revised or newly introduced, it will often take some time for the consequent changes in the manufacture of the product concerned to be made. In addition, there will usually be stocks of goods manufactured to the unamended standard left in the market. These residual stocks would continue to be accepted if the old versions of standards are deemed to comply with the applicable safety requirements of the EPSR, unless the products made to the unamended standards are subsequently found to pose unacceptable risks to the consumers.
- 1.4 This procedure is to provide guidance for the trade on adoption of latest international safety standards for electrical products supplied in Hong Kong.

## 2. Advisory Notes for the Suppliers

- 2.1 Suppliers of electrical products designed for household use should ensure that the electrical products they supplied are in compliance with the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation. The suppliers should also ensure that certificates of safety compliance have been issued in respect of the corresponding electrical products.
- 2.2 Suppliers should obtain documentary proof from their supplying sources to confirm the availability of the certificates of safety compliance. Certified true copies of the certificates of safety compliance are examples of such documentary proof. It is important that the suppliers should keep the relevant documentary proof for record and for the inspection by EMSD. Though it is not required for the supplier to submit certificate of safety compliance for prior acceptance of EMSD, suppliers are encouraged to submit the certificates of safety compliance to EMSD for voluntary registration. Suppliers are advised to refer to the internet address: [http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/pps/electricity\\_reg\\_hep.shtml](http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/pps/electricity_reg_hep.shtml) for details of the voluntary registration.
- 2.3 The suppliers should check and confirm with the manufacturers that the safety standards listed in the certificates of safety compliance fulfil the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation. The suppliers are recommended to keep the relevant correspondence for record purpose. A list of the safety standards that are deemed to satisfy the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation are shown in Section C.1 of the Notes.
- 2.4 Suppliers who manufacture the electrical products should ensure that the safety standards to which their products conform meet the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation.
- 2.5 Suppliers should ensure that the certificates of safety compliance of their electrical products are of the types specified in Section 8(1) & 8(2) of the Regulation. The supplier should also ensure that the certificates of safety compliance of their electrical products contain the information stipulated in Section 7 of the Regulation [see also Sections B.7 & B.8 and Figure 3 to Figure 6 of the Notes].
- 2.6 All levels of the suppliers including manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers shall ensure that their electrical products conform to the latest safety standards as detailed in the Notes.

### **3. Role of Electrical and Mechanical Services Department**

- 3.1 EMSD will keep abreast of the technological development of the national and international standards via:
- (a) monitoring the internet websites of the standards issuing organizations and testing organizations (Appendix 1) to identify any revisions of the international standards.
  - (b) maintaining close contact with the recognized certification bodies and the standards issuing organizations to keep track with the latest changes.
  - (c) receiving request from outside party for adoption of latest edition of safety standards.
- 3.2 Once the new edition of international standards has been identified, EMSD will review the major changes between the new edition and previous edition of the standards and will inform and discuss with the trade to adopt the new edition of international standards as far as practicable.

### **4. Implementation Time Frame for Adoption of Latest International Safety Standards**

- 4.1 EMSD will make reference to the prevalent practices of other countries on the adoption of the relevant latest edition of the international standards and will discuss with the trade associations to agree upon a mutually acceptable time frame to manufacture and import various types of electrical products complying with the relevant new edition of the international standards.
- 4.2 The IEC 60335 Part 1 safety standard and the series of IEC 60335 Part 2 safety standards cover a large range of household electrical products. In general, the series of European Standards EN 60335 are based on the corresponding IEC standards. Electrical products manufactured to the superseded EN standards are not allowed to be placed in the European Community market after the "Dates of Cessation of Presumption of Conformity of the Superseded Standards" specified in the Official Journal of the European Union.
- 4.3 EMSD will keep close monitoring the enforcement practice in the European Community and will make reference to, as far as practicable, the "Dates of Cessation of Presumption of Conformity of the Superseded Standards" in drafting the implementation time frame as mentioned in paragraph 4.1 above. The dates of cessation of presumption of conformity of

particular EN standards are available for viewing at the website: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/newapproach/standardization/harmstds/reflist/lvd.html>.

- 4.4 The dates of cessation of presumption of conformity of particular EN standards will be updated regularly by the European Commission. Electrical products suppliers are advised to browse regularly the above European Community website to get the latest information on the "Dates of Cessation of Presumption of Conformity of the Superseded Standards" for various types of household electrical products.
- 4.5 The adoption of latest international safety standards will be implemented in phases for different types of electrical products. In general, electrical products of high incident rates will be included in the Phase One implementation schedule.

## 5. Consultation with the Trade

- 5.1 Upon completion of drafting the implementation time frame, EMSD will consult the trade and the relevant electrical products suppliers via the regular co-ordination meetings or ad hoc meetings to agree upon a mutually acceptable implementation time frame.

## 6. Means of Notification

- 6.1 Upon agreement with the trade on the acceptable implementation time frame, EMSD will inform all level of the electrical products suppliers including manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers via the trade associations. In addition, EMSD will also post the implementation time frame onto the EMSD website under the webpage "Electricity : Information for the Electrical Trade" at the internet address: [http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/pps/electricity\\_trade.shtml](http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/pps/electricity_trade.shtml) for information of the trade and electrical products suppliers.
- 6.2 Electrical products suppliers are advised to browse regularly the webpage "Electricity: Information for the Electrical Trade" to get the latest information on the implementation time frame for adoption of latest international safety standards for electrical products supplied in Hong Kong.

## 7. Enquiries

7.1 Enquiries about this procedure can be addressed to the Electrical Products Sub-division of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department or at telephone number 2808 3803.

**Note:** *This publication is not a legal document. It is only a procedure to provide guidance for the trade on adoption of latest international safety standards for electrical products supplied in Hong Kong. You must read the Regulation themselves and, if necessary, seek independent legal advice for full and accurate understanding of the Regulation.*

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

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## Appendix 1

### Internet Websites Relating to Standards & Testing

International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)	<a href="http://www.iec.ch/">http://www.iec.ch/</a>
European Committee For Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC)	<a href="http://www.cenelec.be/">http://www.cenelec.be/</a>
European Committee For Standardization	<a href="http://www.cenorm.be/">http://www.cenorm.be/</a>
British Standards Institution (BSI)	<a href="http://www.bsi.org.uk/">http://www.bsi.org.uk/</a>
Standards Australia	<a href="http://www.standards.org.au/">http://www.standards.org.au/</a>
American National Standards Institute (ANSI)	<a href="http://web.ansi.org/">http://web.ansi.org/</a>
Canadian Standards Association (CSA)	<a href="http://www.csa.ca/">http://www.csa.ca/</a>
Standardization Administration of China	<a href="http://www.sac.gov.cn/">http://www.sac.gov.cn/</a>
CB Scheme	<a href="http://www.cbscheme.org/">http://www.cbscheme.org/</a>
Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL)	<a href="http://www.ul.com/">http://www.ul.com/</a>
Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS)	<a href="http://www.itc.gov.hk/en/quality/hkas/about.htm">http://www.itc.gov.hk/en/quality/hkas/about.htm</a>
International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ)	<a href="http://www.ianz.govt.nz/">http://www.ianz.govt.nz/</a>
National association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA)	<a href="http://www.nata.asn.au/">http://www.nata.asn.au/</a>
The Singapore Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (SINGLAS)	<a href="http://www.sac-accreditation.org.sg/index.asp">http://www.sac-accreditation.org.sg/index.asp</a>
United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS)	<a href="http://www.ukas.com/">http://www.ukas.com/</a>