

EQUIVALENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BETWEEN ELECTRONIC MEXICAN STANDARDS

AND US & CANADIAN STANDARDS

Published on August 17th, 2010 Official Gazette.

Implementation date: August 24th, 2010

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1

Q: What is the new equivalence recognition between NOM Safety Standards and the US and Canadian Safety Standards for electronic devices?

A: The new resolution, published by the Mexican Government in the August 17th edition of the Official Gazette, acknowledged equivalence between three prominent Mexican NOM standards and their US and Canadian counterparts. The Government thereby created equivalent recognition between select North American certification bodies such as Intertek to Mexico's NOM certification for a limited scope of electrical and electronic products imported into Mexico.

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Q: What is the scope of these agreements?

A: The decree affects the following NOM standards and the corresponding ANSI/UL and CSA standards:

- **NOM-001-SCFI-1993 Electronic appliances** – household electronic appliances powered by different sources of electricity – Safety requirements and test methods for type approvals.

Note: The scope of this equivalence is limited to audio and video products.

- **NOM-016-SCFI-1993 Electronic appliances** – office electronic appliances powered by different sources of electricity – Safety requirements and test methods
- **NOM-019-SCFI-1998 Data processing equipment** - Safety requirements

Equivalency of NOM-001-SCFI-1993

With respect to NOM-001-SCFI-1993, Mexico will accept the following standards and results of conformity assessment procedures that are used in the United States:

- ANSI/UL 60065, Seventh Edition Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus-Safety Requirements (2003), and UL 6500 Standard for Audio/video and Musical Instrument Apparatus for Household, Commercial and Similar General Use (1999) approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and any amendments to those standards.

U.S. exporters are reminded that the scope of this equivalency is limited to audio and video products.

Equivalency of NOM-016-SCFI-1993

With respect to NOM-016-SCFI-1993, Mexico will accept the following standards and results of conformity assessment procedures that are used in the United States:

- ANSI/UL 60335-1 Standard for Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances, Part 1: General Requirements approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), as well as any amendments to that standard.

Equivalency of NOM-019-SCFI-1998

With respect to NOM-019-SCFI-1998, Mexico will accept the following standards and results of conformity assessment procedures that are used in the United States:

- ANSI/UL 60950-1 Second Edition Information Technology Equipment-Safety-Part 1: General Requirements (Ed. 2 Mar 27 2007) approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), as well any amendments to that standard.

➔ Standards, equivalences, Certification Bodies and Certification (Listed) Marks are provided at the end of this document.

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Q: What is the purpose of these agreements?

A: The agreements will allow the designated products to enter the Mexican market with either a certificate of compliance with the official Mexican standard (NOM) or with a document or certificate issued according to the technical regulations and conformity assessment followed in the U.S. and Canada. It is expected to promote the competitiveness of small and medium-sized Mexican companies and make products more accessible to Mexican consumers.

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Q: What will happen to other official Mexican standards (NOM)?

A: There is no impact to any other NOM standard. Any product not covered by one of these three specified standards must continue to demonstrate compliance with the appropriate NOM standards.

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Q: Do the products have to demonstrate compliance with both NOM standards and US/Canadian standards at the same time? What documents must be shown to Mexican customs?

A: Not necessarily. Product certificates can be submitted under an official Mexican standard like NOM-ETL as long as it is endorsed by the relevant accreditation body.

- For certificates issued under a Mexican official standard (i.e - NOM-ETL), the relevant accreditation body is the Mexican Accreditation Entity (EMA).
- For foreign certificates (i.e. – ETL), the relevant accreditation bodies are the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC).

The agreements published by the Official Gazette (Diario Oficial de la Federación, DOF) on August 17th, 2010 literally state:

“The verification of the conformity assessment with the standards recognized as equivalent in accordance with these agreements before the customs authority, the Federal Attorney's Office of Consumer (Procuraduría Federal del Consumidor, PROFECO) as the Consumer Product Safety Commission in the U.S. as well as before any other competent Mexican authority will be performed with the exhibition of the document or certificate and no extra formality will have to be fulfilled such as notary recognitions, apostille or translations into Spanish, except in the case that the document that verifies the certification is written in a different language from English or French.”

The same treatment shall apply to all products covered by the admission rules for the Mexican market during distribution and marketing within the National territory regardless of whether the label of compliance shown on the product is either the local, United States or Canadian listing. This statement is supported by the Twentieth Amendment to the Agreement that the Mexican Ministry of Economy issues rules and general criteria in the Field of Foreign Trade published in the Official Gazette on August 17, 2010.

“... it is advisable to allow these products to enter the Country covered with either a certificate of compliance with the Official Mexican Standards or a document/certificate issued under the technical regulations and conformity assessment of the United States of America or Canada, since they have the same security of NOM certificates issued in accordance with our legal system”

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Q: Which accredited bodies from the U.S. and/or Canada are recognized to issue a certificate for importing to Mexico?

A:

United States of America	Canada
Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.	Canadian Standards Association (CSA International)
TÜV Rheinland of North America	Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.
Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.	Underwriters Laboratories of Canada

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Q: The agreements mention that the certificates issued by Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc. are acceptable for import purposes (to be used at Mexican customs), what about the certificates issued in other Intertek offices around the world?

A: All certifications performed by Intertek, regardless of location, are issued by Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.

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Q: Will a NOM certificate now be valid for exporting to U.S. and Canada?

A: No, this option is not included in the agreements published by the Official Gazette on August 17th, 2010.

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Q: Why are importers/manufacturers just now hearing about these agreements?

A: The agreements published by the Official Gazette on August 17th, 2010 were announced to importers, manufacturers and certification bodies at the same time.

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Q: Will Mexican standards NOM-001-SCFI-1993, NOM-016-SCFI-1993 and NOM-019-SCFI-1998 disappear?

A: Absolutely not, all will remain in force.

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Q: Is it possible to ask for a certificate in accordance with an American or Canadian standard through Intertek Mexico?

A: Yes, that is possible. Please contact our Mexican Sales Team for more information.

Intertek Testing Services de Mexico
Commercial and Electrical Division
Poniente 134 # 660
Col. Industrial Vallejo
Del. Azcapotzalco
C.P. 02300
México, D.F.
Tel: + 52-55-5998-0900 ext. 6117

<http://mexico.intertek-etlsemko.com/contact-us/>

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Q: Is the jurisdiction of Mexican authorities affected as it relates to the regulations for imports?

A: No. The Federal Attorney's Office of Consumer (Procuraduría Federal del Consumidor, PROFECO) will still have the ability to immobilize or suspend products relative to compliance to all Mexican Standards.

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Q: Is it still acceptable to submit certificates issued in accordance with the corresponding NOM standard in Mexico?

A: Yes, absolutely. The use/acceptance of Mexican NOM certificates as well as the NOM-ETL will remain valid.

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Q: Is it sufficient to show a test report at Mexican customs in order to export a product into Mexico or do you need to obtain an authorization mark?

A: No, it is not enough to show a test report. A certificate issued by a certification body must be shown at Mexican customs and it has to match the listing mark shown on the certified product. This applies to the Mexican certification (i.e. - NOM-ETL) and for foreign listing marks such as ETL, CSA, TÜV and UL.

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Q: What happens with the Mexican NOM mark or countersign? Can it be replaced by the ETL listing mark?

A: If the product has a current certificate issued by a Mexican certification body such as NOM-ETL, it is not necessary to replace the NOM mark or countersign that the product shows with another listing mark and vice versa.

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Q: When will the agreements go into effect?

A: The agreements went into effect on August 24th, 2010.

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Q: What about mutual recognition agreements (MRA)?

A: Mutual recognition agreements are in place. Equivalence agreements published in the Official Gazette on August 17, 2010 did not include any statement regarding MRA.

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Q: What about follow-up service to certified products under the NOM-ETL Mark?

A: Follow-up service for NOM-ETL certified products will remain active. Equivalence agreements published in the Official Gazette on August 17, 2010 did not include any statement regarding this issue.

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Q: Is it necessary to use a registered legal importer when importing products covered by this equivalence agreement into Mexico?

A: Yes, it is still mandatory to have a registered legal importer for products imported into Mexico.



STANDARDS EQUIVALENCE AND CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATION CHART

Mexican Standard and Scope	Equivalence			
	American Standard	Body	Canadian Standard	Body
<p>NOM-001-SCFI-1993</p> <p>Scope: Just audio and video devices.</p>	ANSI/UL 60065 7 th edition; audio, video and similar electronic apparatus - Safety requirements (2003).	Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.	<p>CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 60065-2003 + Amendment 1: 2006 audio, video and similar electronic apparatus - Safety requirements.</p>	Canadian Standards Association (CSA International)
	UL 6500 Standard for audio / video and musical instrument apparatus for household, commercial and similar general use (1999).	TÜV Rheinland of North America, Inc. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.		Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
<p>NOM-016-SCFI-1993</p> <p>The entire scope declared on the standard.</p>	ANSI/UL 60335-1 Standard for Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances, Part 1: General Requirements	Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc. TÜV Rheinland of North America, Inc. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.	<p>CAN/CSA-E60335-1/4E-03 (R2007) Household and Similar Electrical Appliances – Safety Part 1: General Requirements (Adopted CEI/IEC 60335-1:2001, 4th edition, 2001-05, with Canadian deviations)</p>	<p>Canadian Standards Association (CSA International)</p> <p>Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.</p> <p>Underwriters Laboratories of Canada</p>
<p>NOM-019-SCFI-1998</p> <p>The entire scope declared on the standard.</p>	ANSI/UL 60950-1 2nd edition Information Technology Equipment-Safety-Part 1: General Requirements (Ed. 2 Mar 27 2007)	Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc. TÜV Rheinland of North America, Inc. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.	<p>CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 60950-1-07 2nd edition Information Technology Equipment-Safety-Part 1: General Requirements (Bi-National standard with UL 60950-1)</p>	<p>Canadian Standards Association (CSA International)</p> <p>Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.</p> <p>Underwriters Laboratories of Canada</p>

INTERTEK CERTIFICATION OR LISTING MARKS

CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATION	CERTIFICATION MARKS
Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.	   