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?


2

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:

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:


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

**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.

**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.
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”

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

A:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United States of America</th>
<th>Canada</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.</td>
<td>Canadian Standards Association (CSA International)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUV Rheinland of North America</td>
<td>Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.</td>
<td>Underwriters Laboratories of Canada</td>
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</table>
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.

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.

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.


A: Absolutely not, all will remain in force.

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/
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.

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.

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.

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.

Q: When will the agreements go into effect?

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

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.
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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mexican Standard and Scope</th>
<th>American Standard</th>
<th>Equivalence</th>
<th>Canadian Standard</th>
<th>Body</th>
<th>Body</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.</td>
<td>Underwriters Laboratories of Canada</td>
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**Scope:**
- NOM-001-SCFI-1993: Just audio and video devices.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>CERTIFICATION MARKS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/etl.png" alt="ETL Listed" /></td>
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