



EXPORTER AND IMPORTER GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

Current regulation concerns not simply Russia, but also the Customs Union (CU), introduced on January 1, 2010 by three states which are Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. Some products are still under Russian requirements, some others moved under single Customs Union's rules.

According to the Russian and Customs Union's laws and requirements, more than 80% of all products to be sold or used in Russia or Customs Union (CU) require mandatory certification, i.e. they should be approved by relevant local authorities in terms of compliance to national or CU standards. The programme covers a wide range of products such as cosmetics, food products, toys, textiles, mechanical and electrical goods and industrial equipment for food, chemical, oil & gas, construction and other industries.

This concerns both locally produced and imported goods. Main objective of the programme is protecting safety, health and environment of people in Russia and Customs Union.

MAIN OBJECTIVES OF CERTIFICATES

- To protect safety, health and environment of consumers and users of goods;
- To prove compliance of products to Russian and Customs Union safety requirements;
- Required for Customs clearance procedures at the Russian and CU border
- Required for sale and use of products on the local market
- Helps to obtain other certificates and permits

TYPES OF CERTIFICATES

Depending on the nature of the goods shipped to Russia, the exporter may need to comply with one or more certification requirements. There are various mandatory certification systems regulated by Laws of the Russian Federation and of the Customs Union such as "GOST R", "TR", "Sanitary registration", etc, and several voluntary ones.

However, the procedure may also include any combination of certificates, permits, licences and other approvals.

These include but are not limited to:

- TR CU Certificate and Declaration of Conformity (to Customs Union)
- State Registration certificate (to Customs Union)
- TR RF Certificate and Declaration of Conformity (to Russia)
- GOST R Certificate and Declaration of Conformity (to Russia)
- GOST R Pattern Approval Certificate
- Fire Safety Certificate
- Telecom Type Approval Certificate
- Permit (authorisation) of Radio-frequency Center
- FSB notification (for devices equipped with Bluetooth)
- Exemption Letter
- Etc.

Certificates are issued per product or per type of products. That means that one shipment or a range of products may require several similar or different certificates.



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GOST R CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

The GOST R certificate of conformity is the oldest permissive document in Russia testifying that the concerned product complies with Russian GOST and GOST R standards. It is valid on the territory of the Russian Federation only. This certificate is progressively replaced by new certificates, declarations or registrations as the new Technical Regulations of Russian Federation and of the Customs Union are replacing GOST/GOST R standards.

Following are the types of certifications available to exporters:

1. Mandatory Certification

Products requiring mandatory certification are defined in the official Nomenclature of products subject to compulsory certification (Government Decree No 982 by December 1, 2009 and its updates). However, this list is subject to periodic review.

Mandatory Certificate of Conformity is a pre-requisite for the placement of products on the Russian market and is required for customs clearance.

The certified product should be marked by the registered GOST R Mark of Conformity with identification number of certification body, which clearly demonstrates product compliance to the applicable Russian standards.



2. Voluntary Certification

For products not subject to mandatory certification or declaration (refer to chapter below) according to the Russian law, voluntary certification scheme may be applied.

Voluntary GOST R certificate cannot be used for customs clearance. Exporters or importers initiate voluntary certification with the aim to formally prove the conformity of their products to the applicable Russian standards and to use it as marketing advantage. The following sign demonstrates that product passed certification in voluntary GOST R system.



3. Validity period of GOST R certificates

Depending on the annual export volume, there are two different types of GOST R Certificates of Conformity which can be issued. These are:

a. Single shipment certificate

Certificate of Conformity issued in this case is a trade document valid for one consignment only, i.e. for a certain quantity and type of product.

This kind of certificate is advisable if the export to Russia is not so frequent. It can be issued only if the exporter is able to prove who will be the customer/importer in Russia by means of a contract or an invoice.

b. Certificate for serial production (multiple shipments)

Serial production Certificate of Conformity is a trade document which can be valid between 1 to 3 years depending on the nature of the products and applied procedure. Such a document enables the exporter to ship consignment an unlimited number of times and unlimited quantities of goods produced during the certificate validity period.

The advantage of serial GOST R certificate of conformity is that it is issued on the name of a foreign manufacturer or exporter and can consequently be used by any Russian importer.

Both, single shipment and serial GOST R certificates are issued per type (category) of products. That means that each shipment or a range of heterogeneous products may require several certificates.



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GOST R DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

This is the official document where Russian importer or retailer assures that imported products meet Russian safety regulations. **Only a Russian legal entity can be a holder of the Declaration of Conformity.** As well as GOST R Certificate, the Declaration is a pre-requisite for product placement onto the Russian Market and is required for customs clearance.

Similarly to GOST R Certificate, the Declaration is required for products listed in the official Nomenclature of products subject to compulsory certification (Government Decree No 982 by December 1, 2009 and its updates) and issued per shipment or for serial production with validity from 1 to 3 years.

A declared product shall be marked by the GOST R Mark of Conformity without identification number of certification body (compared to GOST R certified product) to demonstrate compliance.



TR CERTIFICATE AND DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY FOR RUSSIA

The Russian Federal Law №184 on Technical Regulation (TR) dated of 27.12.2002 established the rules of state regulatory requirements for industrial and consumer goods. Since 2010 Russian TR certification replaced the GOST R Certification for certain products and equipment. Currently, Russian Technical Regulations have been almost completely replaced by Customs Union's Technical Regulations (see next chapter).

Compliance documents issued against Russian TRs, especially those of them issued for 5 years, are still valid during transitional period until 2015.

There are two forms of compliance documents issued per shipment or for serial production from 1 up to 5 years:

- ⇒ TR Certificate of Conformity;
- ⇒ TR Declaration of Conformity.

The obligation to obtain a Certificate or a Declaration is determined by requirements of Technical Regulations applicable to the product.

The product compliant with Russian Technical Regulation is marked by the registered TR mark of Conformity which clearly demonstrates the product's compliance to the applicable Russian requirements.



TR CERTIFICATE AND DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY FOR CUSTOMS UNION

In the frame of the implementation of the Customs Union (which includes today Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus) or, in other words, of Eurasian Economic Community, whose objective is to create a single economic and customs space, new Technical Regulations are gradually introduced from June 1st, 2012. More than 30 common Technical Regulations to Customs Union have been already approved, of which over 20 are currently applicable.

Among them:

Technical Regulations to Customs Union (Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus)	№	Applicable from	Validity of certificates issued before
Consumer Goods			
Safety of packaging	TR CU 005/2011	01/07/2012	15/02/2014
Safety of toys	TR CU 008/2011	01/07/2012	15/02/2014

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Technical Regulations to Customs Union (Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus)	No	Applicable from	Validity of certificates issued before
Consumer Goods			
Safety of perfumery and cosmetic products	TR CU 009/2011	01/07/2012	01/07/2014
Safety of products for children and teenagers	TR CU 007/2011	01/07/2012	15/02/2014
Safety of products of light industry (textile, footwear, etc, except for children & teenagers)	TR CU 017/2011	01/07/2012	01/07/2014
Safety of individual protective equipment	TR CU 019/2011	01/06/2012	15/02/2014
Safety of pyrotechnic products	TR CU 006/2011	15/02/2012	15/08/2013
Electrical and Industrial Equipment			
Safety of low voltage electrical equipment	TR CU 004/2011	15/02/2013	15/03/2015
EMC (electro-magnetical compatibility) of technical devices	TR CU 020/2011	15/02/2013	15/03/2015
Safety of machines and industrial equipment	TR CU 010/2011	15/02/2013	15/03/2015
Safety of lifts	TR CU 011/2011	15/02/2013	15/03/2015
Safety of equipment for use in explosive atmosphere	TR CU 012/2011	15/02/2013	15/03/2015
Safety of gas-fired equipment	TR CU 016/2011	15/02/2013	15/03/2015
Food & Agricultural Products			
Safety of cereals	TR CU 015/2011	01/07/2013	01/07/2018
Technical regulation on fat-and-oil products (food)	TR CU 024/2011	01/07/2013	15/02/2015
Food safety	TR CU 021/2011	01/07/2013	15/02/2015
Requirements for food labelling	TR CU 022/2011	01/07/2013	15/02/2015
Technical regulation on fruit and vegetable juice	TR CU 023/2011	01/07/2013	15/02/2015
Special foodstuff, diet food	TR CU 027/2012	01/07/2013	15/02/2015
Safety of food additives, food flavouring and of processing aid means	TR CU 029/2012	01/07/2013	15/02/2015

Other categories of products will be added in the upcoming months and years.

Products covered by new Customs Union's Technical Regulations are now subject to new harmonized requirements and **new certificates or declarations of conformity TR CU.**

Special aspects of TR CU Certificates of Conformity (different from previous types of certificates):

1. The certificate, regardless of its' validity, must mention the name and legal address of the importer, distributor or subsidiary in Russia or Customs Union.
2. This importer/distributor/subsidiary must be authorised by the manufacturer/exporter to place products on the local market and are responsible for the safety of imported goods by special agreement.
3. In case of many importers/distributors, a certificate by importer/distributor is required.

New requirements stated in the implementation of the certification procedure:

- Documents to be submitted upstream of the commercial offer and for the certification folder must be in Russian language.
- Obligation of tests by a laboratory accredited by authorities of the Customs Union. Test reports indicate the name of the local importer/distributor.
- Obligation to submit ISO 9000 certificate.



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- Obligation to perform an audit of the production plant by representatives of Russian certification bodies, particularly in absence of the ISO certificate.

The product compliant with Technical Regulations of the Customs Union is marked by the market circulation sign (EAC) of the Eurasian Economic Community.



STATE REGISTRATION OF CUSTOMS UNION

The Government Decree n° 299 dated of May 28th, 2010, and its updates “Single sanitary and epidemiological requirements of the Customs Union”, as well as Technical Regulations of Customs Union determine categories of products subject to a State Registration of Customs Union or to single testing requirements. This document is periodically updated.

State Registrations are required for such goods as food additives, GMO containing food, dietetic food, some cosmetics (for children, whiteners, sunless tanning, containing nano-components, etc), disinfectant cleaners, mineral water, alcohols, paints and lacquers, packaging for foodstuffs, products of personal hygiene, apparel for children under 3 years, water treatment equipment or equipment in contact with drinking water, etc.

The aim of the State Registration of Customs Union is to confirm that products conform to applicable hygienic standards and sanitary regulations in Russia and Customs Union and proves that the product is safe for human health when used under normal conditions.

State Registrations are only delivered by certification bodies accredited by the Federal Service for Supervision in the Area of Consumer Rights and Welfare Protection. They are not limited in time and valid within the territory of Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus.

When State Registration is required by Technical Regulations of Customs Union, compliant product is marked by the market circulation sign (EAC) of the Eurasian Economic Community.



EXEMPTION LETTER

Exemption Letter is required to prove that a product exported to and/or sold in Russia is not subject to Mandatory GOST R or TR Certification and Declaration.

Exemption Letters might be requested by Russian customs authorities in case of ambiguous product coding due to discrepancy between the Russian Product Classification and the Foreign Trade Classifications, or in case of very changeable regulation. It happens that a product is not subject to a mandatory certificate or declaration, but these documents are nevertheless demanded by customs authorities or by local inspection authorities. In such cases, Exemption Letters are very useful.

RTN PERMIT OF USE

RTN Permit to Use provides permission to operate hazardous equipment/technical devices. It is needed from the time of commissioning and throughout the whole service in life to assure equipment safety compliance. A Permit to Use is issued per shipment (precise project) or up to 5 years, and is valid for the whole duration of the device's operation life.



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Note! Following introduction of Technical Regulations of the Customs Union, many facilities certified in agreement with these are exempt from the requirement to obtain the RTN permit to use. In this case, the only TR CU Certificate of conformity is sufficient.

EX-PROOF CERTIFICATE

The GOST R Ex-Proof requirements concerning Ex-equipment, which includes apparatus and components that fully or partly use electrical power and contain explosion protection for areas where the potential for explosion exists because of explosive atmosphere (gas or dust) have been replaced by new Technical Regulation of the Customs Union n° TR CU n° 012/2011 "Safety of equipment for use in explosive atmosphere".

Instead of GOST R Ex-Proof certificate it is now necessary to obtain the TR CU Certificate or Declaration of conformity against this Technical Regulation.

GOST R PATTERN APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

Pattern Approval Certificate for Measuring Instruments (Metrology Certificate) testifies that the particular pattern of measuring instruments conforms to applicable standards and is approved for the use in the Russian territory.

Pattern Approval Certificate for Measuring Instruments is a pre-requisite for obtaining of the RTN Permit to Use, when applicable.

FIRE SAFETY CERTIFICATE

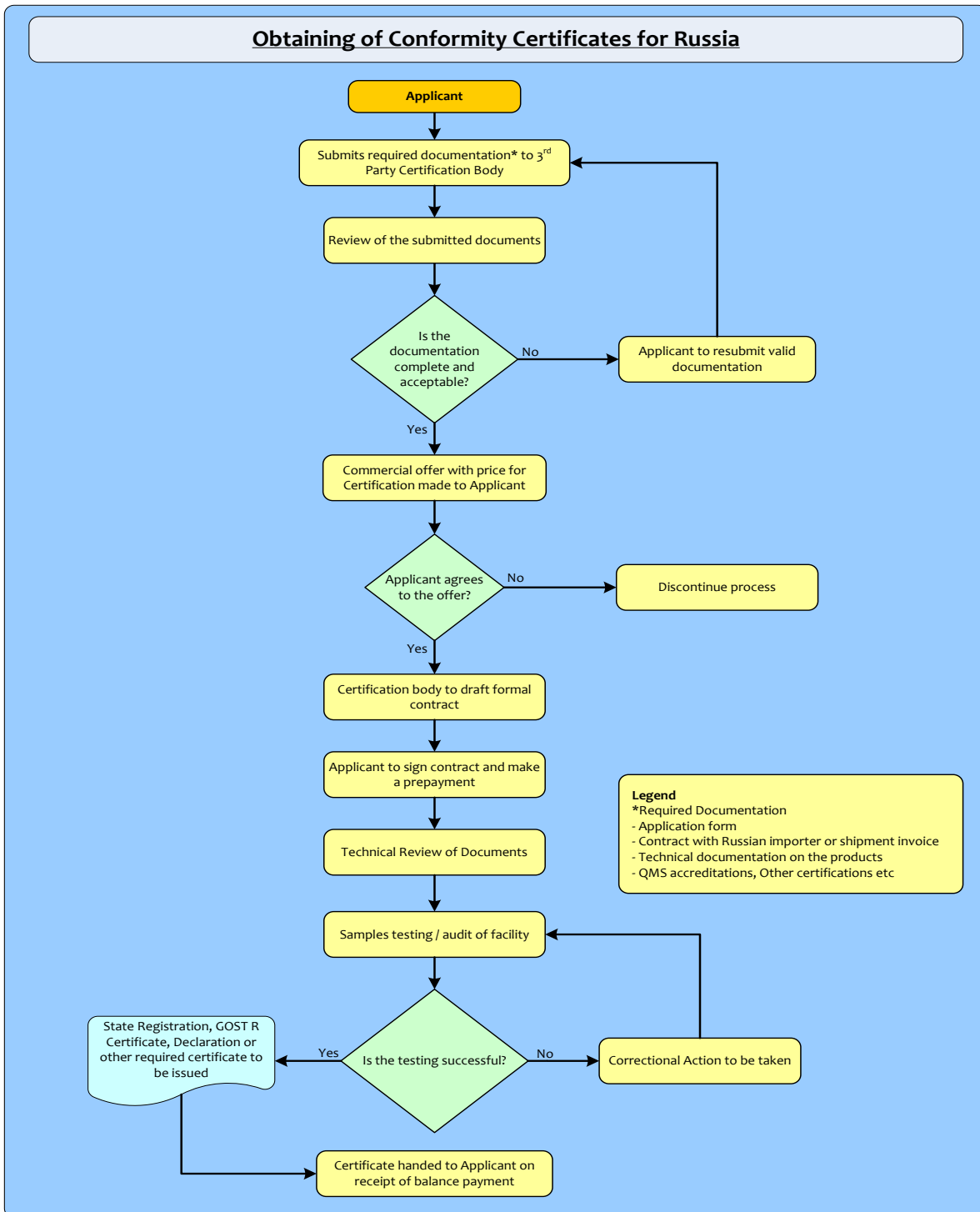
Fire Safety Certificate assures that particular materials or structures conform to the fire safety standards. It may be a pre-requisite to GOST R / TR / TR CU Certificate of Conformity.

TELECOM TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

Mandatory Telecom Certification is for technical product evaluation with the objective to ensure its compliance to Russian Telecom regulations.

Needed for Customs clearance, point of sale, commissioning.

FLOWCHART DEPICTING THE CERTIFICATION ROUTES



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STEPS OF CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The procedure of certification generally consists in the following steps:

- Samples testing in accredited laboratory
- Audit of facility (if applicable)
- Technical review of documents
- Evaluation of test-reports, of audit report and of technical documentation
- Issuance of certificates if products are compliant
- Guidance for marking and labelling in Russian language.

Products exported to Russia or Customs Union countries must be labelled in Russian language (or in Russian and Kazakh for Kazakhstan) and contain mandatory information per category of products. Appliances and equipment must be additionally accompanied by operating manual in Russian (or in Russian and Kazakh for Kazakhstan).

FEES

There is no standard price-list for Russian certification services, since its cost is very much dependable on such factors as complexity of the product, its features, complexity of the manufacturing process and the type of permissive document opted for. These fees cover the cost of evaluation, testing, audit and all other technical and administrative activities involved in the certification process. An individual quote will be provided to the party requesting for the certification services and agreed upon before commencing with the certification.

In order to be able to quote certification, the following information has to be submitted to Intertek:

1. List of products, types, models, brands
2. Manufacturer's name and address
3. Customs codes
4. Technical description and features
5. Field of applicatio, environment
6. ISO certificate or any other certificates
7. Copies of previously obtained Russian certificates

THE INTERTEK SOLUTION

Intertek pioneered the development of the product conformity assessment programmes, which is now being applied in many parts of the world to prevent dangerous and unsafe products entering into the market. Intertek has over the years built up vast experience, infrastructure and necessary knowledge in the management of these conformity assessment programmes.

- Intertek has experience in providing solutions to businesses exporting a wide range of products to Russia.
- Intertek has the world's largest networks of laboratories and experts within the fields of electrical, chemical, consumer and industrial goods. We have undertaken more assessments of more products for longer than any other organization.
- Intertek has a global network of offices and have been arranging these types of mandatory certificates for more than 15 years.
- Our staff are experts on Russian standards and requirements as well as understanding the needs of exporters and importers.
- Intertek is in close cooperation with the relevant Russian authorities.
- Intertek can provide a tailor made service that meets your particular needs.
- Intertek has dedicated customer support based in Russia.



**RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND CUSTOMS UNION
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Russia



Belarus



Kazakhstan



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