



22 September 2017

(17-5017)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

### NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> <u>SOUTH AFRICA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA (ICASA) AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS (SABS) <b>Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:</b> <a href="mailto:tbcomments@sabs.co.za">tbcomments@sabs.co.za</a>
<b>3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [ ], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [ ], other:</b>
<b>4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Non-telecommunications electronic and electrical products classifiable under various HS chapters that may emit electromagnetic interference
<b>5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:</b> EMI/C conformity assessment procedure (6 page(s), in English)
<b>6. Description of content:</b> <u>PURPOSE OF EMI/C CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE</u> The CoC (Certificate of Compliance) programme entails the assessment of test reports by the SABS, which have been issued by Authorised Laboratories within a program that provides for assurance of lab capability and traceability of tested samples and reports. <u>SABS Authorised Laboratory (A-Lab) Program</u> The SABS A-Lab program seeks to close the gap for full-testing of products for EMC and subsequent assurance of traceability of tested samples. The SABS A-lab program is open to all accredited 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party laboratories and is based on the verification of the lab's requisite skills, equipment, technical competence in the identified scope of accreditation and testing abilities. SABS Electro Technical department undertakes the verification assessment by conducting the requisite laboratory verification in consultation with the 3 <sup>rd</sup> party laboratory. The process for a 3 <sup>rd</sup> party laboratory to apply for SABS verification is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The 3<sup>rd</sup> party laboratory must request an application form to be verified and enrolled into the SABS A-lab program by sending an email to <a href="mailto:EMC@sabs.co.za">EMC@sabs.co.za</a> with the subject "SABS Lab Authorisation".</li><li>• The complete application forms must be submitted to <a href="mailto:EMC@sabs.co.za">EMC@sabs.co.za</a>.</li><li>• The SABS shall validate the documentation accompanying the application form and issues a quotation to the applicant.</li></ul>

- Upon acceptance of the quotation, SABS will submit an invoice to the applicant.
- Upon receipt of payment (proof thereof), SABS will schedule a date for the 3<sup>rd</sup> party laboratory to be verified.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> party laboratory assessment takes a period of 2 working days onsite during working days.

Once the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party laboratory is verified, its details are uploaded to the SABS EMC A-lab directory, enabling manufacturers to choose to test at any SABS A-lab listed in the official directory. Manufacturers have the discretion to introduce their preferred labs to be verified and added on the A-lab directory upon compliance with the set requirements.

Testing of Manufacturer Samples at SABS Authorised Lab (A-Lab) – See Annexure "C" for process flow diagram

- Manufacturer sends/submits test sample/s to SABS Authorised Lab.
- SABS Authorised lab receive the samples for testing.
- SABS Authorised lab will receive the unique number from SABS which is to be inserted on the test report/s.
- SABS Authorised lab emails tests schedule for SABS EMC testing to [EMC@sabs.co.za](mailto:EMC@sabs.co.za).
- SABS Authorised lab tests samples according to SANS standard and schedule.
- SABS Authorised lab issues test report to manufacturer for confirmation and validation of results.
- Manufacturer validates and accepts test report from SABS Authorised Lab.

The SABS EMC Certificate of Compliance COC application process – See annexure "D" for process flow diagram

- Applicant downloads SABS EMC Certificate of Compliance application form from SABS website.
- Applicant completes application form downloaded from SABS website.
- Applicant submits application form to SABS at [EMC@sabs.co.za](mailto:EMC@sabs.co.za).
- SABS reviews the application once received.
- SABS links a unique tracking number to the application.
- SABS prepares quotation for applicant.
- SABS quotation is emailed to applicant for acceptance.
- SABS submits application linked unique number to SABS Authorised lab.
- Lab conduct tests according to the relevant SANS and SABS Lab testing process.
- Applicant submits validated test report to the SABS.
  - SABS submits invoice to the manufacturer for payment.
  - Applicant effects payment of invoice.
    - SABS conducts first level review on test report submitted by applicant.
    - SABS conducts a second level review.
    - SABS compiles a test report summary for internal approval.
    - SABS EMI/C GM approves report reviewed and issues the Certificate of Compliance.
    - Scanned copy of certificate is emailed to the manufacturer.
    - The original Certificate of Compliance is delivered as per the applicant's request either by:
      - Email to applicant.
      - Collection at SABS offices.

- 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** The objective with the introduction of the conformity assessment procedure is to give effect to existing EMI/C regulations which calls for conformity assessment of products to protect the integrity of public networks, the consumer and to avoid harmful interference; ensure and validate that electronic and electrical equipment entering the south African market meets the required EMC performance standards, as per ICASA regulations and to ensure traceability of actual testing samples and address changes to critical components in electrical and electronic products.

The procedure is, *inter alia*, underpinned by domestic consumer protection laws. As the process constitutes the only available process for conformity assessment of products to applicable standards, the implementation thereof is urgent due to the eminent safety,

	health and environmental problems for South Africa. Any delays in the implementation of the program may necessitate the cessation of import products pending compliance with the WTO/TBT reporting requirements and the subsequent
<b>8.</b>	<b>Relevant documents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• G/TBT/N/ZAF/73.</li><li>• And government gazette no. 30753, notice no. 215, date: 7 February 2008</li></ul>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> Procedure adopted. <b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> Procedure adopted.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Final date for comments:</b> 60 days from notification
<b>11.</b>	<b>Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:</b>