Inspiring trust for a more resilient world.

UKCA marking

Frequently asked questions

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UK
CA

1. General questions and timelines

What is the UKCA marking and when did it come into force?

The UKCA marking (UKCA = "UK Conformity Assessed") is the new British product marking which will be required for certain products placed on the market in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland).

The UKCA mark came into force on 1 January 2021, but will be mandatory for most products from 1 January 2025. Please note: products already placed on the UK market with CE Marking before this deadline do not need to be replaced.

Which products are covered by the UKCA marking?

Most products currently covered by regulations and directives on CE marking will be covered by the UKCA mark.

What if I don't achieve UKCA marking?

You will no longer be able to place products on the market in Great Britain. If you continue to do so, you can face fines and potentially criminal charges.

What are the timings for UKCA marking? When can I use CE marking until?

The UKCA mark came into force on 1 January 2021. For most products, it will become mandatory for products placed on the market from 1 January 2025 but there are a few exceptions (medical devices, for example), so we recommend you check the exact timelines for your products.

Whilst there was an extension (announced in August 2021), there is no indication that there will be another one, in fact, the department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) have made it clear that there won't be another extension.

Whilst the deadline is the 31 December 2024, it is important that organizations note that the process can take months, particularly with an increase in demand of UKCA applications. Therefore BSI strongly encourages organizations to make their applications in good time to avoid a bottleneck as the deadline nears

What do I need to do if I want to use my existing CE certification as the basis for a UKCA application?

If you do not already have CE certification with BSI you will need to supply a technical file containing the following to demonstrate compliance with regulations:

- UKCA Application form (available **here**)
- Contents list
- Revision history
- Product description (GA drawings, component drawings, materials, intended use)
- Details of the manufacturer
- Risk assessment/compliance with Essential Safety Requirements (ESR)
- Product type test reports
- Copies of existing Notified Body certificates
- User information
- It is beneficial to include Product marking and draft Declaration of Conformity

Existing BSI CE certificate holders have a simplified process; they don't have to worry about resubmitting a technical file, as long as the scope is unchanged and the product standards sought are still current. In this situation, BSI would only require a completed UKCA application form.

1. General questions and timelines (cont.)

How long does it take to obtain certification?

Again, this will depend on many factors – for example, the regulations that apply to your products, the number of products you make, and the number of manufacturing locations you operate. Realistically, we think this process should not take too long for products that were already CE marked.

Remember there are very few Approved Bodies and they are likely to find it hard to meet the increased demand for UKCA services in the short-term. Incomplete technical files can delay the process as we're not able to proceed and issue the certificate until we have a complete technical file.

Will all CE marked products need to be recertified?

All CE marked products will need to be recertified for the GB Market, if they were previously certified by an EU Notified Body. If your CE marking certification was from a UK Notified Body, it has ceased to be valid in the EU but is still valid in the UK during 2021 and 2022. The UK Notified Body should be able to issue a UKCA certificate without significant reassessment unless there have been changes to the designated standards or products since the original CE certificate was issued.

Can BSI provide us with both CE marking and UKCA marking of products?

BSI is well placed to help clients access both British and European markets, as it is both an Approved Body and a Notified Body through its operation in the UK and The Netherlands.

How long is UKCA marking valid for?

The UKCA marking does not have any time limit – it is a declaration made at a point of time. Some certificates that are required for UKCA (as with CE Marking) may have time limits. For example, GAR type examination certificates are valid for a maximum of 10 years. This is the same under UK law.

What marking do I need to place a product in Northern Ireland?

For Northern Ireland, the UKCA mark is never acceptable. The acceptable marks are:

"CE" Mark (where self-declaration permitted), or
"CE" Mark supported by an EU Notified Body (where required), or
"CE UKNI" mark supported by a UK Notified Body (where required)

For further information on this topic, BSI has an informative factsheet available for download from **our website**.

2. Questions about approved bodies for UKCA marking services

Do I have to work with a UK approved body for UKCA marking services?

Yes, the UK regulations require the use of a UK approved body in place of the EU notified body that was used in many EU regulations. Please note: some regulations are self-declaration and thus don't require this. The circumstances in which you can use self-declaration of conformity for UKCA marking are the same as for CE marking.

Which approved body number will be below the UKCA mark if the services are provided by BSI? Does the notified body number change for BSI?

It is "0086" for BSI UK. Our CE Marking clients should continue to use "2797".

Where can information about EU notified bodies and UK approved bodies be found?

Details of EU Notified Bodies may be found in the Europa Nando site. The UK Government list of approved bodies is available here: **https://www.gov.uk/uk-market-conformity-assessment-bodies**

Please note: Notified Bodies are appointed by the EU Member States and these only apply to CE Marking. Approved Bodies are appointed by the UK and these only apply to UKCA marking. So no single body can do this. However, some organizations may have operations in the EU and the UK, so they are able to support both regions. BSI is an Approved Body in the UK and also operates an EU Notified Body in the Netherlands.

Can routine UKCA surveillance work be combined with the CE surveillance work?

Only bodies that are both an Approved Body and a notified body for the relevant regulations (such as BSI) can do this. It makes commercial sense for such a body to plan a combined visit that covers both regulations, which is likely to reduce costs.

How easy is it to transfer from a European Notified Body to BSI?

The UK regulations are currently similar to the EU directives and regulations, with the underlying standards being exactly the same. This means that manufacturers shouldn't need to repeat any product testing. Do remember, however, that it is a different regulation to which compliance is being claimed and so some changes will be necessary for certification. CE or UKCA marking is applied by the manufacturer which is supported by certification. They therefore, need to ensure that they're claiming compliance with the correct regulation in the technical file. Manufacturers will also need to update their technical files and pay specific attention to the Declaration of Conformity and product marking.

BSI's Netherlands location has Notified Body status and is supporting clients with their application for BSI UKCA certificates in addition to their BSI CE certificates (These UKCA certificates are issued from BSI UK 0086). This process is relatively straightforward as BSI has already established evidence of compliance. Manufacturers will in most cases maintain their existing CE certificate which we expect to be a common scenario as dual marking will allow access to both GB and EU markets.

3. Questions about certificates, marking and documentation

Which EU directives / regulations will be affected by UKCA?

All current EU CE Marking directives / regulations are being replaced with new UK regulations requiring the UKCA marking.

Please note, the introduction of UKCA for Medical Devices and IVDs is not covered in this document as timelines are different.

Are products or type labels allowed to carry both markings, i.e. CE and UKCA?

Yes, they are. As long as there is no confusion between the two marks.

Do the test reports necessarily have to be in English or are test reports in other languages also accepted?

All client facing documents (Declaration of Conformity, user instructions, markings) must be presented in English. Other supporting documents should be in English but BSI will apply some discretion on a case-by-case basis if submitted in their original language, to support our clients.

How does self-certification work?

Some regulations do not require the intervention of an Approved Body and the manufacturer affixes the UKCA mark when they are satisfied that they fulfil the essential requirements of all relevant regulations – this is known as "self-declaration" within the industry.

Does the UKCA marking also require a UK importer address to be provided?

Yes, for a product that was manufactured outside of the UK. The regulation places duties on importers to ensure products are in compliance with the regulations and to mark their name and contact details on the product or its packaging/documentation.

Will products that are only covered by the Low Voltage, Machinery and EMC Directives have to carry the UKCA marking in the future when sold into the UK or will CE continue to be recognized in this case? Have the requirements changes for these regulations?

Yes, electrical equipment within the scope of regulations such as the LVD or EMC directives will be covered by the UKCA marking requirements, but they do not generally require the use of an approved body (as with CE marking). CE marking will continue to be accepted in the UK for these products until the end of 2024.

Currently, these regulations have the same technical content, but they may have different procedures. (For example in the case of UKCA marking, use of the term "Approved Body" for example).

Is the marking of the actual products compulsory or is it sufficient to put the marking on the documentation?

Marking of the product is compulsory. The government has announced that 'the UKCA marking can be placed on a label affixed to the product or on a document accompanying the product until 31 December 2024.' This will apply for most goods requiring UKCA marking, however, different rules apply to medical devices, construction products, marine equipment, transportable pressure equipment and rail products.

Where marking on the product is impossible due to size constraints, it may be on accompanying packaging and/or literature.

3. Questions about certificates, marking and documentation (cont.)

What about the declaration of conformity? What is it called? Does it need to be signed by a UK company.?

The circumstances in which you can use self-declaration of conformity for UKCA marking are the same as for CE marking. If you were able to self-declare conformity for the CE marking, you will be able to do the same for the UKCA marking.

It is called the UK declaration of conformity (UK DoC) and the manufacturer or their Authorized Representative in the UK must sign the declaration wherever they are based. The UK DoC must reference the UK regulations that apply to the products and not the EU regulations - this is the main difference.

4. Other questions and specific product, regulations and directives

What are the changes to construction products being supplied in the UK?

Construction products cannot be legally supplied within market in Great Britain after 1 January 2023 unless they bear the UKCA mark and comply with the UK regulations. Of course these products may be CE marked as well.
For Northern Ireland, CE Marking will remain.

What will be the requirements for rating labels on electrical products? Will we need to have CE and UKCA marking and addresses on one label or do they need to be separate?

Only the UKCA mark will be mandatory in the UK. If you dual-mark (ie: CE and UKCA) then the entity taking responsibility for the product in each market needs to be clearly and unambiguously shown on the label.

Are BS standards identical to the EN standards? Will our test reports based on EN standards be recognized for UKCA marking or do we have to repeat all the tests according to BS standards?

All EN standards should be identical – so "BS EN" standards are identical to, for example, "DIN EN" standards. "BS" standards are not likely to be identical to EN standards. Most standards used for product compliance in the UK will be BS EN standards. Further information is available here: **https://www.gov.uk/guidance/designated-standards**

For most regulations, it is the responsibility of the manufacturer (in conjunction with their individual Approved Bodies where relevant) to decide standards to use as evidence of conformity to the regulations. Subject to the age of the test report and a technical review, BSI would always look to avoid repeating any testing that had been correctly performed by an accredited laboratory.

When might the BS versions of standards start to differ from the EN versions, and how do we keep track of this?

The UK, via BSI, the UK National Standards Body, remains a member of CEN and remains committed to developing European standards. There is no suggestion that EN standards would be routinely replaced by conflicting BS standards. However, EN standards have always included country-specific deviations to cover particular local situations. A good example is the reference to the mandatory fitting of a UK three-pin plug in electrical safety standards.

Do plant manufacturers have to make sure that products used carry the UKCA marking? Or is the entire product "approved"?

Products are only required to carry the UKCA mark if they are being placed onto the GB market. In most cases, this will then apply to a finished product, and not the components within it, unless they are also being placed onto the British market independently. As a UK approved body, BSI would still need to check that component parts complied with expected safety standards.

What marking will be required for product placed on the market in the Isle of Man? (UKCA or CE or both?)

We understand that the Isle of Man has indicated that it will adopt the UKCA regulations, but this is a matter for their own government.

UKCA marking from BSI

As an approved body, we can provide for UKCA marking-related services for the following types of products:

- Construction products
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Gas appliances
- Boilers
- Pressure equipment
- Lifts
- Marine equipment
- Measuring instruments
- Radio equipment

Directives such as Low Voltage Directive (LVD) and Electro Magnetic Compatibility (EMC) will remain self-declaration under UKCA. We are still able to deliver services such as issuing reports to clients which might provide evidence of compliance with UK law.

CE marking from BSI

BSI continues to offer CE marking services for EU27 market access via our Netherlands notified body (2797). Our CE marking services include the following:

- Construction Products Regulation (CPR) (EU) 305/2011
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPER) (EU) 2016/425
- Gas Appliances Regulation (GAR) (EU) 2016/426
- Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) 2014/68/EU
- Medical Devices (MDR / IVDR)*

We also offer many other market access solutions enabling you to export and meet regulations.

***NOTE: CE marking services for Medical Devices and IVDs are operated through BSI Regulatory Services**

Why BSI?

We are committed to working with you to build a trusted partnership as you grow your business for the long-term. When you need to keep up-to-date and comply with the latest regulatory requirements BSI is ideally placed to support your market access needs. With 83 offices worldwide our global reach combined with our local presence means we are never far away and always on hand to work with you. What's more, our teams of trusted experts have an in-depth knowledge of standards and market access requirements that can enable you to successfully navigate the evolving regulatory landscape so your business remains resilient.

By Royal Charter

As the UK National Standards Body, a notified body for numerous EU Regulations / Directives, as well as our status as an approved body for UKCA marking, BSI is the logical choice for your product certification in a post Brexit landscape.

Start your preparation now to make sure your business is ready for UKCA marking

Contact us today
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For regular updates on UKCA and other market access solutions, visit bsigroup.com or follow us on LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook