

# **General Rules for Product Certification by the co-operation of certification bodies (GRPC)**

14<sup>th</sup> February 2017

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# **1 The Cooperation of Certification Bodies (CCB)**

## **1.1 General**

CCB was established with the purpose of implementing certification in a co-operation between European certification bodies (CB) according to Annex A, table 1.

The intention is to implement product certification on basis of European standards dealing with plastic piping systems in the fields of drinking water in combination with hygienic requirements of the European member-states notified to the European Commission.

## **1.2 Procedure**

Each certification body (CB) will grant certificates with the own quality mark and therefore shall follow the certification procedures as agreed with the national Accreditation body (according to EN ISO/IEC 17065), see Annex A table 2.

## **1.3 CCB certification documents**

The certification bodies of the CCB agree to the following documents:

- *“General Rules for Product Certification by the co-operation of certification bodies”*. (GRPC).
- Product Evaluation Guidelines according to Annex B

## **1.4 Certification activities**

For gaining and maintenance of the CB’s certificate, the executed activities as described below will follow the accredited certification system of the CB (see table 1):

- Initial factory inspection
- Test reports for initial factory inspection
- Test reports for initial type testing
- Control surveillance of 3rd party
- Test reports of audits (FPC)

## **2 Principles**

### **2.1 CB procedures**

Each CB shall grant and maintain the own certificate, the own certification rules shall be followed (see Annex A).

### **2.2 Rules for the applicant:**

- each CB application procedure shall be followed separately (application form, etc);
- the technical and quality requirements of the product to be certified are described by the relevant Product Evaluation Guideline (PEG), see Annex B.

### **2.3 Auditing and testing**

Activities under point 1.4 are recognized by all CCB members, if:

- The activities a) and d) are executed by auditors qualified according to the requirements defined in point 3.2;
- the activities b), c), and e) are executed by an accredited testing lab according to the requirements defined in point 3.2.

Remark:

This implies also that only by the CB qualified personal can execute audits. Therefor each involved auditor shall be qualified by all CCB members according to their own rules to meet the intention of point 1.1.

### **2.4 Suspension**

suspension of the certificate is the responsibility of each CB according to their own certification rules (see Annex A).

### **2.5 Availability of information**

all relevant documents are available at the internet sites of the CCB members.

As there are:

- this GRPC;
- the product certification guideline
- the documents of Annex A;
- all relevant application forms;
- any other information for the applicant.

### **2.6 Communication**

any agreed change in procedures (see point 3) or requirements will be communicated in an agreed timeframe prior to this change.

### **3 CCB platform**

Parallel to the own accredited certification system, the CCB will have a platform where the following activities will be agreed on:

#### **3.1 requirements and procedures**

- BoS (for explanation see clause 4) revises the GRPC when BoS considers this to be necessary;
- BoS, or an expert group in behalf of BoS. revises the product evaluation guidelines (PEGs) when CCB in agreement with the BoS considers this to be necessary;

#### **3.2 internal quality aspects**

BoS will decide about the acceptance of new CCB members;

- Test laboratories shall be accredited according EN ISO/IEC 17025 for all conducted testing by a European approved accreditation body (EA-MLA).
- Auditors have to be qualified by the CCB according to the requirements in Annex C.

Frequently the CCB will evaluate all activities in relation to the cooperation, as there are:

- Suspensions;
- Quality of reporting;
- Quality of testing;
- Internal communication;
- Quality of requirements;
- Quality of external communication;
- Complaints of stakeholders;
- Inspection frequency
- Etc.

#### **3.3 Inspection frequency**

Inspection will be twice a year by one of the qualified auditors (see point 3.2).

### **4 BoS**

Parallel to the own accredited certification system, the CCB will be part of a platform:

The Board of Stakeholders (BoS) will advise the CBs concerning all relevant quality matters.

Remark:

The BoS includes representatives of all stakeholders: the suppliers of the products, the customers of the products, representatives of the CCB.

## ANNEX A

### Certification bodies of the CCB

Table 1 show the certification bodies of the CCB with an indication about the common national design pressure groups

Table 1: - Certification bodies of the CCB

Certification body	Design Pressures
<b>KIWA Nederland N. V.</b> Sir Winston Churchillaan 273 Postbus 70 2280 AB RIJSWIJK The Netherlands  <a href="mailto:info@kiwa.nl">info@kiwa.nl</a> <a href="http://www.1kiwa.com">www.1kiwa.com</a>	<b>Netherlands: 0,8 and 1 MPa</b>
<b>DVGW CERT GmbH</b> Josef-Wirmer-Straße 1- 3 D-53123 Bonn Germany  <a href="mailto:info@dvgw-cert.com">info@dvgw-cert.com</a> <a href="http://www.dvgw-cert.com">www.dvgw-cert.com</a>	<b>Germany: 1 MPa</b>

Pipes with higher design pressure can used for installation systems with lower design pressure level.

Table 2: - certification procedures

<b>CB</b>	<b>CB will certify according to</b>	<b>Conformity mark</b>
Kiwa N.V.	Kiwa Regulations for Product certification, 2011	See Guideline BRL-K536 K
DVGW CERT GmbH	DVGW Rules of procedure, 2017	See ZP 8803

Remark:

These documents are public available and can be found on the internet site of the relevant CB.

## ANNEX B

### Reference to Product Evaluation Guidelines (PEG)

The document referred to the following Product Evaluation Guidelines:

#### **W001:2017-14-02**

*“product certification of multilayer piping systems of PE-X/Al, PE-RT/Al, PP-R/Al, and PP-RCT/Al intended for the transport of hot and cold drinking water inside buildings”,*



## **ANNEX C**

### **Qualification of Auditors**

**Under construction by KIWA and DVGW CERT GmbH**