



الهيئة السعودية للمواصفات والمقاييس والجودة
Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Org.

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Guideline

Procedures of Issuing Certificate of Conformity for Commodities and Products to be Exported to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

1431 – 2010

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About SASO

Saudi Arabian Standards Organization being the sole standardization body in the Kingdom, was established according to the Royal Decree No. M / 10 dated 3/3/1392 H, on 16/4/1972, as a body corporate Organization and an independent budget assigned to deal with all that relates to activities of specifications, standards and quality, which include adopting national standards for all commodities and products, also sampling techniques and methods of inspection and test, etc., as well as establishing the rules for granting certificates of conformity corresponding to the imported goods, quality marks, the systems for issuing them and the right to use. The Organization publishes the necessary awareness on the characterization and standardization.

The decision of the Council of Ministers No. (61) Dated 28/2/1430 ordered and changed the name of the Organization by adding quality to be (Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization).

Introduction

Reference is made to the Cabinet decision number (216) dated 17/06/1431 H about the approval to organize the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO), and to the article(four) of the item (2) about issuing the regulations of providing conformity procedures to goods, products and services in accordance to its related standard.

And item (7) about coordinating the works of standards, quality, providing conformity procedures, measurement, calibration in the Kingdom, and mutual recognition with the same bodies in the other countries.

And to SASO's board of directors' decision number (4) in the 124th meeting dated 20/02/1428 H about updating the certificate of conformity regulation and adding article (6) which states: (SASO signs mutual recognition agreements in the field of the Certificate of Conformity with other countries via same organizations and bodies especially standardization bodies).

Realizing the Responsibilities of Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) as a sole body for standardization activities and quality systems including testing and inspection.

As (SASO) aims to insure that goods and products imported to Saudi markets are complying to the related technical regulations and standards to protect the consumer and national economy, and to facilitate and guide the exporters to Saudi Arabia to the easiest way to get certificate of conformity (CoC) according to the related technical regulations and standards. SASO has prepared this guideline according to the international guides and to the Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (TBT) one of the World Trade Organization Agreements (WTO) and to clarify the correct procedures to be followed when issuing CoC for goods and products in order to facilitate the entry without any technical barriers at borders. As the (CoC) considered to be the passport to Saudi Markets, in case of there is no certificate of conformity (CoC). The consignment will be subjected to inspection and testing at borders to insure that it is conforming to the related technical regulations or standards, this will cause delay of releasing and in case of non-conformity rejected and re-exporting to its source or destroyed.

Article (1) : Definitions

- 1- **SASO:** Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization.
- 2- **Certification Body (CB):** Any Certification body accredited by an official accreditation body member in the related international organizations and recognized to issue certificate of conformity (CoC) according to the international guides and accepted by (SASO).
- 3- **Exporter:** A firm or Trader wishes to export its/his products to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- 4- **Accredited Laboratory:** Any Laboratory accredited by an accreditation body member in the related International Organizations, and recognized according to ISO/17025 Standard.
- 5- **Certificate of Conformity (CoC):** A certificate issued by any certification body confirm that the mentioned consignment is complying to the related technical regulations and/or standards issued by(SASO) or determined by (SASO).
- 6- **ISO/IEC 65 :** Guide issued by the International Organization for Standardization, concerning the general requirements for bodies operating product certification systems.
- 7-**Saudi standard / International SASO/ISO 17025:**
Specification related to(general requirements for The efficiency of testing and calibration laboratories) .
- 8- **(Pre-shipment inspection):**
Method (Process) for testing the product (intended to be exported) to be done in the exported country by a third party (CB), for checking the good's quality and compliance to the related standards before the shipment to the importers country.

Article (2) : Scope

This Guideline shall be applied to all commodities and products which exported to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia excluding the following items:-

- A) Foods and agricultural products.
- B) Medicine and cosmetics.
- C) Medical devices and equipments.
- D) Crude oil.

Article (3) : Procedures of Issuing Certificate of Conformity

- 1- The exporter should apply to the CB (as defined) or accredited Lab in order to get the required (CoC) for goods and products to be exported to Saudi Arabia.
- 2- The intended (CB) or the accredited Lab shall issue the required (CoC) and test report based on the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide (65) and the requirements of the product in the related technical regulations and/or standards that issued by (SASO) or determined by (SASO).
- 3- Testing should be based on items (B, C, D) of clause 1-2 of ISO/IEC Guide (65).
- 4- The (CB) and/or the accredited Lab is committed to do the following:-
 - A- Carrying out tests stated in the related technical regulations or standards for the product to issue (CoC) for it.

- B-** Appliance of Preshipment Inspection System as below:
- If the consignment is in the company storages or site, after drawing samples it should be kept in a manner difficult to change or parts of it and to be waxed and sealed by the (CB).
 - If the consignment is in the port of exportation, after drawing samples and before transporting to the containers it should be kept, waxed and sealed by the (CB).
- C-** The (CB) or the accredited lab “under its lawful responsibility” has the right to:-
- Concentrate on specific tests especially Health and Safety Tests.
 - Carry out randomly tests.
 - Register some trusted factories and products, under their control and issue (CoC) for them.

Article (4) : General Regulations

- 1-** The CB shall issue a (CoC) (difficult to be forged) to be accompanied with the consignment and provide SASO with an electronic copy instantly, for the purpose of taking the necessary action before the arrival of the consignment.
- 2-** The Certification Body must provide SASO with the specimen of the (CoC) intends to issue, provided that it is according to the CoC form shown in this guide, and the names of the persons who are authorized to sign the (CoC) and copy of their approval signatures and (CB) official stamp.
- 3-** The (CoC) is valid only for the shown consignment, and it should not be used for any other consignment.
- 4-** It is forbidden to issue (CoC) for any consignment without a fixed name of the source (origin) and difficult to change (unalterable).
- 5-** SASO has the right to ask for test reports for any consignment has a (CoC).
- 6-** SASO shall provide the Responsible Authorities for Releasing within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with the following:-
 - A-** List of names and addresses of certification bodies and accredited laboratories in each country.
 - B-** Forms of the (CoC) approved for each certification body or accredited lab in Arabic and English language.
 - C-** Names & approved signatures of persons authorized to sign the (CoC) and official stamp for every certification body or accredited lab.
- 7-** When a consignment arrived to the KSA ports, the responsible authorities for releasing shall check and insure the authenticity of the information given in the (CoC) accompanied with the consignment.
- 8-** The Surveillance Authorities in Saudi Arabia have the right to draw samples from random consignments accompanied by (CoC) for inspection for the purpose to insure the conformity of goods and products to the technical regulations and/or standards.

- 9-** The Surveillance Authorities in KSA have the right to take suitable action for the consignments not conforming to the technical regulations or standards (even though it accompanied with a CoC or not) including rejection from entry to KSA or re-exporting to its source.

- 10-** When the drawn sample does not comply to the related technical regulations or standards, SASO has the right to debate the Certification Body to know the reasons of granting the consignment a (CoC) and to take the suitable procedure about it