

29th December 2020

Statement regarding BTTG® and Brexit

Following the recently agreed EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, please see our update below.

Technical barriers to trade

The Trade and Cooperation Agreement, which was finalised on the 24th of December, contains a chapter on Technical barriers to trade (TBT). This sets out the intentions of the EU and the UK with regard to conformity assessment of goods, and the technical standards they will use. The intention is to use the same standards and conformity assessment procedures, where possible, and to discuss the impact if either party decides to deviate from the current legislation and standards.

The TBT chapter does NOT contain a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA). This means that a conformity assessment or certificate issued in the EU will not be accepted in the UK, and vice-versa. The standards used may be the same, and testing used for one certificate may be valid for the other, but manufacturers placing goods on the EU and UK markets, that need a certificate or approval from a third-party body, will need two separate assessments.

UK transition to UKCA

To ease the transition, the UK is accepting CE marked (and Wheelmarked) products until December 31st 2021. After that date, any relevant products placed on the market in the mainland UK (Great Britain) will need a UK approval from a UK approved body, and to be labelled with the UKCA mark.

EU and the CE mark

The EU does not have a transition in place. From 1st January 2021, any relevant product placed on the market or imported into the EU will need a CE mark (or Wheelmark), and will need certification held by an EU notified body. Certification issued by a notified body based in the UK, that has not been transferred to the EU, cannot be used for CE marking from 1st January.

BTTG® in Ireland

Shirley Technologies Limited have set up a wholly-owned subsidiary company in the Republic of Ireland, Shirley Technologies (Europe) Limited. We have been awarded accreditation, and are awaiting notification as an EU27 notified body.

Because of the gap in notification between 1st January and when Shirley Technologies (Europe) Limited are notified in Ireland, we have arranged to transfer our CE and Wheelmark notified body certification and notified laboratory test reports for the PPE Regulation, Marine Equipment Directive, and Construction Products Regulation, to notified bodies in Belgium. The transfer agreements that were sent, and which we asked you to check and return to us, have been sent to the relevant notified body, and will be returned to you once signed.



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From 1st January 2021, you should use the relevant notified body number and details on your labels, user information and declaration of conformity / performance, as appropriate. All details are contained on the transfer agreement. Once Shirley Technologies (Europe) Limited are notified in Ireland, the certification will be transferred, and new certificates issued.

BTTG® in the United Kingdom

BTTG® will become a UK Approved Body on 1st January 2021, with ID number 0338. If you have kept certification with BTTG® in the UK, either by not transferring or by asking us to keep a copy in the UK, then you should use the UKCA mark on your product from 1st January. The UK government guidance is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-the-ukca-mark-from-1-january-2021>

Placing on the market in Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland has different rules to Great Britain (the mainland UK). From 1st January 2021, relevant products can be placed on the Northern Ireland market with either EU or UK certification.

For products with EU certification, either issued by an EU27 notified body or transferred to the EU from the UK, the CE mark (or Wheelmark) should be used.

For products with UK certification, either issued before 2021 by a UK notified body and not transferred to Europe, or issued after 1st January as a UKCA approval, the CE+UK(NI) mark should be used.

The UK government guidance is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-the-ukni-marking-from-1-january-2021>

Shirley Technologies Limited appreciate the difficulties that Brexit and the transfer process have caused both you and us, and we would like to thank you for your cooperation and support during this process.

We will continue to keep you updated on developments, and will provide more information on the effect of Brexit on your certification as soon as we have it.

If you have any questions concerning the above please email BTTG® at onestopshop@bttg.co.uk