IECQ PUBLICATION

IEC Quality Assessment System, IECQ

IECQ Supplement to IEC Conformity Assessment Systems – Basic rules IEC CA 01
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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

IEC Quality Assessment System, IECQ

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FOREWORD

This IECQ Supplement IECQ 01-S is to be used in conjunction with the IEC Conformity Assessment – Basic rules, IEC CA 01 Edition 3.0.

It was established on the basis of IEC CA 01 Edition 3.0.

This supplement supplements or modifies the corresponding clauses in IEC CA 01, so as to convert that publication into the IECQ Basic rules.

This updated edition of IECQ 01-S is issued to align with the IEC Conformity Assessment Board (CAB)- Decision 53/25, that enables the application of IECQ’s environmental related conformity assessment services to areas beyond the quality assessment of electronic components.

When a particular subclause of IEC CA 01 is not mentioned in this supplement, that subclause applies. When this supplement states "addition", "modification" or "replacement", the relevant text in IEC CA 01 is to be adapted accordingly.

The following numbering system is used:

– subclauses that are numbered starting from 101 are additional to those in IEC CA 01;
– unless notes are in a new subclause or involve notes in IEC CA 01, they are numbered starting from 101, including those in a replaced clause or subclause;
– additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc.

The text of this publication is based on the following documents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Report on Voting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IECQ MC/553/RM</td>
<td>Meeting Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IECQ MC/554/DV</td>
<td>IECQ MC/554A/RV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAB/2392A/DV</td>
<td>CAB/2430/DL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IECQ Supplement to IEC Conformity Assessment – Basic Rules IEC CA 01

1. Title

Clause 1 of IEC CA 01 is replaced by the following:

The title of the system is “IEC Quality Assessment System, IECQ”, hereinafter referred to as “the IECQ System”.

The abbreviation is “IECQ”.

2. Object

Clause 2 of IEC CA 01 applies with the following addition:

The particular object of the IECQ System, operated under the authority of the IEC in conformity with the Statutes, is to facilitate international trade by providing a global framework for independent assessment and certification in the following areas:

a) Environmental services to support a circular economy; and

b) Quality assessment of electronic components, assemblies and related materials and processes

The object is achieved by the implementation of quality assessment procedures in such a manner that organizations, processes, and components certified as conforming to the requirements of an applicable standard or specification, are acceptable to all participants.

3. Scope

Clause 3 of IEC CA 01 applies with the following addition:

The IEC’s object of facilitating international trade is achieved through the IECQ System of implementation of quality assessment procedures in such a manner that organizations, processes, components, assemblies and materials certified as conforming to the requirements of an applicable standard or specification, are acceptable to all participants.

The IECQ’s CA Services include those related to the environment, used in support of a circular economy, that assist in giving confidence to declared environmental performance.

The IECQ System provides manufacturers with a “supply chain verification tool” for seeking assurance that electronic components, assemblies, processes and related materials conform to declared technical standards and specifications.

The full scope of the IECQ System as approved by the IEC Conformity Assessment Board (CAB) is listed in IEC CA 01 Annex A.

In the IECQ System an applicable standard or specification denotes a standard or specification which is in accordance with clause 11.

4. Governing documents

The requirements of Clause 4 of IEC CA 01 apply.
5. Membership

The general requirements of Clause 5 of IEC CA 01 apply.

In addition Clause 5.3 of IEC CA 01 is replaced with the following and a new Clause 5.101 is added:

5.3 There shall be only one member body of the CA System in a particular country. It shall be responsible for the receiving, considering and endorsing applications from bodies seeking acceptance as IECQ certification bodies (IECQ CB), when submitting such to the IECQ Secretariat, in accordance with the Rules of procedure. The member body shall be responsible for the nomination of individuals for membership to the IECQ management committee (MC), its working groups (WG) and task forces (TF). Membership of committees reporting to the MC and their WGs are covered in the relevant IECQ Rules of procedures.

5.101 Any National Committee of the IEC, or a body nominated by the National Committee of the IEC, desiring to participate in the IECQ System shall submit an application to the IECQ Secretary, accompanied by a National Statement of Surveillance Arrangements (NSSA). The NSSA shall consist of two parts, the first of which relates to the national administration. The second, where appropriate, shall consist of a series of annexes prepared in accordance with the Rules of procedure by IECQ CBs recognized by the member body to operate in the country, giving descriptions of their resources.

In the first part the applicant shall make the following declarations:

a) that it wishes to be recognized as a member body;
b) that it agrees to implement the rules of the IECQ System and to publish documents which are necessary nationally;
c) that it agrees to recognize without discrimination all approvals, accreditations and validations granted in accordance with the IECQ System by other participants;
d) that it agrees to meet the financial obligations of Clause 13.

The first part shall also give the following information:

e) a description of the relationship between the IEC National Committee, the member body and any certification body(ies) proposing to operate in the country;
f) a statement regarding the relationship to government and industry with reference to any relevant law(s) and other legal provisions.

6. Organization

Clause 6 of IEC CA 01 applies, along with the following:

The IECQ organization comprises:

g) an IECQ management committee (MC);
h) a Conformity assessment bodies committee (CABC);
i) an IECQ Executive; and
j) a Secretariat;
7. Management committee

7.1 The composition of the IECQ management committee (MC) is according to 7.1 of IEC CA 01 with item 7.1 g) limited to the following:

a) the Chair of the CABC (without vote);

b) the Vice-Chair of the CABC (without vote);

The requirements of IEC CA 01 is extended to include MC deciding on the appointment of Chairs identified in 7.1 above, a) and b).

7.101 The IECQ System shall use the document distribution contained in IEC CA 01 with the exception of CABC reports to the MC and those working groups required to meet along with the MC, to enable CABC to continue meeting in the same week as the IECQ MC.

7.7 of IEC CA 01 a) to k) applies with the following additional items:

l) types of services for the IECQ System for subsequent approval by CAB;

m) acceptance, rejection and suspension of CBs;

n) appointment of the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the CABC.

8. Officers, Executive and administration

The requirements of Clause 8 of IEC CA 01 apply.

8.2 of IEC CA 01 applies with the exception of items a), b), c) being replaced with the following:

a) the CAB appointed officers of the IECQ System;

b) the Chair of the CABC; and

c) the Vice-Chair of the CABC.

8.11 of IEC CA 01 applies with the following additional text:

With the agreement of the MC Chair, members of the IECQ Executive may attend meetings of committees and working groups reporting to the MC.

In addition to general provisions of 8.11 of IEC CA 01, the MC shall approve a document setting out the tasks and responsibilities delegated to the IECQ Executive.

9. Committees and other groups reporting to the CA System MC

Clause 9 of IEC CA 01 applies noting the constitution and duties of the committees reporting to the MC are covered in the following IECQ publication:

a) IECQ Conformity assessment bodies committee (CABC) – IECQ 02.

10. Legal provisions

The requirements of Clause 10 of IEC CA 01 apply.
11. Standards and specifications

The requirements of Clause 11 of IEC CA 01 apply, with the addition of the following new clause:

11.101 The IECQ System is based primarily on the use of international standards that include the necessary provisions for quality assessment as proposed for use by the MC and approved by the CAB. The list of standards and other normative document types approved by the CAB for use in the IECQ System is included in Annex AA.

11.102 However, in the absence of an applicable standard, as defined in 11.101, use can be made provisionally of other documents that fall within the scope (Clause 3). A proposal to use such documents shall be submitted to the CAB for approval. The IECQ Rules of procedure shall define the process for the approval of specifications.

The MC may request the relevant IEC technical committee to prepare as quickly as possible an IEC International Standard to cover the scope of the provisional documents in accordance with the normal IEC rules and procedures.

A provisional specification may be used to grant component approvals, but shall not be used for this purpose after the issue of an applicable IEC International Standard, approved for use in the IECQ System.

12. Voting

The requirements of Clause 12 of IEC CA 01 apply.

13. Finance

The requirements of Clause 13 of IEC CA 01 apply.

14. Dissolution of the IEC CA System

The requirements of Clause 14 of IEC CA 01 apply.

15. Appeals

Clause 15 of IEC CA 01 applies with the following addition:

Appeals concerning decisions taken by an IEQ CB shall be first addressed in accordance with the appeal procedures of that IECQ CB.

Where the appellant is not satisfied with the outcome of the appeal process of the CB or for disputes regarding a decision of the MC, the IECQ Executive and Chair shall attempt to resolve the issue, however if this is not possible then a formal appeal may be lodged in accordance with IEC CA 01.

IEC CA 01 Annexes A, B and C

Annex AA
(normative)

Normative documents approved for use in the IECQ

The following normative documents have been approved by the CAB for use within the IECQ System for testing and certification purposes:

a) IEC International Standards for electronic components falling within the scope of the IECQ System;

b) ISO and IEC International Standards and Guides related to conformity assessment;

c) IECQ approved manufacturers’ component specifications, including those previously approved by the CECC prior to the CECC/IECQ merger;

d) process approval specifications, e.g. IECQ QC 080000;

e) standards and/or specifications approved by the IECQ MC to which an approval or approvals have been granted prior to April 2008.