



United Kingdom Hazardous Location Market Access

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Background

Brexit's new rules and market access implications

Staying abreast of market entry requirements is more important — and challenging — than ever to maintain market access in the United Kingdom (U.K.) and European Union (EU). The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement requires significant changes in product conformity assessments and product marking. Leverage UL's global regulatory expertise to help maintain continued market access.

The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement: Key regulatory changes

Following the U.K.'s departure from the EU on Jan. 31, 2020, the EU and U.K. jointly agreed on a transition period that ended on Dec. 31, 2020. During the transition, the U.K. maintained the status quo for businesses and consumers, meaning that the EU still recognized U.K. Notified Bodies and manufacturers could sell CE-marked products into the U.K. market until Dec. 31, 2020.

The deal secured tariff-free access between EU and U.K. markets but does not change the compliance process, so the U.K. Conformity Assessed (UKCA) marking and conformity to U.K. legislation remain mandatory for placing goods on the market in Great Britain (GB). The new rules have been in application from 11 p.m. GMT on Dec. 31, 2020.

Recognizing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses, on Aug. 24, 2021, the government announced an extension of the deadline to Jan. 1, 2023, to apply UKCA markings for certain products to demonstrate compliance with product safety regulations, superseding the previously announced deadline of Jan. 1, 2022. CE-marked goods in the scope of this document that meet EU requirements can continue to be placed on the Great Britain (GB) market until Jan. 1, 2023, where EU and U.K. requirements remain the same. This includes goods that have been assessed by an EU-recognized Notified Body (NB).

The UKCA marking must be used for placing goods on the GB market from Jan. 1, 2023.

The UKCA marking

The new UKCA marking declares that the product conforms to all applicable U.K. legislative requirements and that appropriate conformity assessment procedures have been successfully completed. Beginning Jan. 1, 2021, the UKCA marking replaced the CE marking as a requirement for goods entering the GB market, including England, Scotland and Wales. The UKCA marking is required on products subject to the U.K.-equivalent legislation to all of the EU directives/regulations that required CE marking, including the Radio Equipment, EMC and Low Voltage Directives. Additionally, all U.K.-based EU Notified Bodies lost their status on Jan. 1, 2021. All EU Certificates issued by those Bodies must have been transferred to an EU 27 Notified Body by Dec. 31, 2020, to ensure continued validity.

UKCA marking implementation and transition

In August 2021, the U.K. government extended the implementation period for UKCA marking.

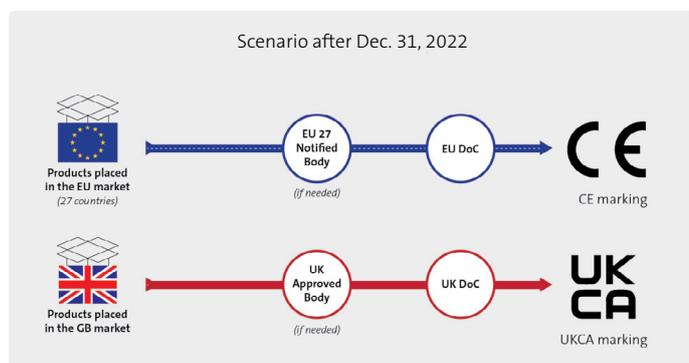
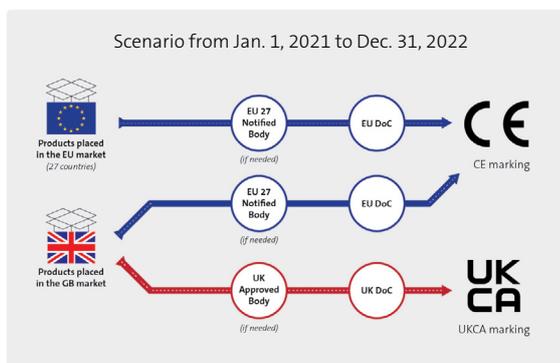
The UKCA marking will apply to most goods currently subject to the CE marking (products covered by the following directives/regulations, e.g., Low Voltage Directive (LVD), Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMCD),

Gas Appliances Regulation (GAR), Machinery, Appareils destinés à être utilisés en ATmosphères EXplosives (ATEX), Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and Radio Equipment Directive (RED).

The UKCA marking could be used from January 2021. However, to allow businesses time to comply with the new requirements, CE marking can still be used until Jan. 1, 2023, provided that the requirements for the EU and U.K. legislation will continue to be the same.

Starting Jan. 1, 2023, the U.K. government will no longer recognize the CE marking for GB market access. Products bearing both the CE marking and UKCA marking will be acceptable as long as they comply with the relevant U.K. rules. The UKCA marking must be used immediately after Jan. 1, 2021, if the product is only marketed in Great Britain and is covered by legislation that requires the UKCA marking and mandatory third-party intervention of a UKCA Approved Body.

For Northern Ireland, the CE marking will continue to be the conformity assessment marking for most goods. Manufacturers may also need the UKNI marking if selecting U.K. Approved Bodies for approvals or certification. Harmonized goods carrying only the UKCA marking will not be allowed in the Northern Ireland market.





How UL can help you achieve business continuity in the U.K. and EU

UL is prepared to support changes to product marking schemes for the U.K. and mainland Europe immediately.

We have established the following accredited Notified and Approved Bodies in the EU and U.K., allowing uninterrupted support for customers needing the UKCA marking and other Global Market Access services.



UL's EU Notified Body service capabilities

- Construction Products Regulation
- Marine Equipment Directive
- Personal Protective Equipment Regulation
- Machinery Directive
- EMC Directive
- Radio Equipment Directive
- ATEX Directive
- Measurement Instrument Directive
- Gas Appliance Regulation
- Pressure Equipment Directive
- Hot-Water Boilers Directive
- Toys Directive

UL's U.K. Approved Body service capabilities

- Construction Products Regulation
- Marine Equipment Regulation
- Personal Protective Equipment Regulation
- Machinery Regulation
- Medical Devices Regulations 2002
- EMC Regulations
- Radio Equipment Regulation
- UKEX (ATEX) Regulation
- Gas Appliance Regulation

UKEX frequently asked questions

Can I use the assessment data in my UL ATEX certification in support of the issue of a UKCA equivalent?

Yes. As the regulations for UKCA for “Ex” products are based on the ATEX Directive 2014/34/EU, our certification team will base their assessment of UKCA on this existing data.

Can existing ATEX certificates issued by other test bodies be used as supporting documentation for UL to issue certification for UKCA?

Yes, some additional assessment may be required, but UL will provide any additional evaluation needed to support the issue of a UKCA marking certificate.

Do original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) require quality system certification in addition to Quality Assurance Notification (QAN)/Quality Assurance Registration (QARs)?

Yes, manufacturers will require an additional UKQAN audit to manufacture products with the UKCA marking. It follows the same structure as a Quality Assurance Notification/Quality Assurance Registration but will result in additional certification and control of production checks, so additional time may be added to the audit depending on the number of certificates held.

Does the UKCA marking have an “Ex” mark like ATEX?

Yes, coding and Ex remain unchanged (they are only required once, not duplicated) on the label,

but it will require the UKCA marking, Approved Body number and UKCA certificate number.

Should the U.K. accredited body number be marked like the ATEX NB number?

Yes, under the UKCA marking, you should use the Approved Body (AB) number (UL International (U.K.) Ltd. is 0843).

Will the Ex component be treated in the same way as ATEX, i.e., it must be evaluated by a U.K.-accredited body but no marking is required?

Yes, components will be required to be UKCA approved. If relied upon for an equipment certificate, they will need to have UKCA certification before being referenced in the equipment reports/certificates.

Can the product have both the CE marking and UKCA marking on the same side, i.e., should the CE marking be erased when imported into the U.K. or not?

Yes, having both the CE marking (ATEX) and UKCA marking is acceptable.

Is a manufacturer representative required in the U.K.?

Yes, an importer (a representative can be an importer) is required, and importer information should be revealed on the product or attached document, e.g., the manual. See the UKCA Guidance Document.



Global Market Access with UL

Global certification is necessary to compete in today's modern world. Fortunately, Global Market Access is one of UL's specialties, making us experts on hazardous locations (HazLoc) certification requirements.

By combining our hazardous locations services, we can help your company accelerate the certification process and achieve worldwide product acceptance. We have the expertise and know-how to pull our resources and create solution bundles that can ultimately help you reduce costs and minimize time to market.

We are one of the top issuers of global certifications. This helps support acceptance of your UL-issued certificates, test reports and quality audits for local country marks around the globe. The UL brand is highly recognized and accepted by certifiers, installers and regulators in local, regional and international markets. Leverage our global brand acceptance and trust to add value to your innovations.

International market — IECEx Certification

The IECEx System is an international system for the safety of equipment installed in a potentially explosive atmosphere. It is similar to the IECEx CB Scheme and based on the IEC 60079 and ISO 80079 series of standards facilitated by the TC31 technical committee. We participate in and lead many of the TC31 technical committees leading the charge of standards evolution.

We are an approved certification body within the IECEx Certified Equipment, Quality Audits (ISO/IEC 80079-34), Certified Service Facilities (IEC 60079-19), Personnel Competency (Ex000, Ex001, Ex003, Ex004, Ex006, Ex007, Ex008 and Ex009) and Recognized Training Provider programs.

European Union — ATEX Certification

Hazardous locations and explosion-protected equipment intended for installation in the EU must comply with the ATEX Directive 2014/34/EU that replaced the former ATEX Directive 94/9/EC. The directive ensures the free movement of goods throughout the EU by harmonizing compliance procedures. We are an approved Notified Body and accredited Ex Testing Laboratory for electrical and nonelectrical equipment based on the EN 60079, EN/ISO 80079 and EN 13463 series of harmonized standards. We can also help with ordinary locations and functional safety requests. Our services include Ex marking certification, unit verification and quality audits.

Brazilian market — INMETRO Certification

To sell hazardous locations products in Brazil, you need to apply for National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (INMETRO) certification in accordance with the local ordinance, Portaria 179:2010. This sets

the rules for equipment used in hazardous locations. The INMETRO certification covers INMETRO Marking Certification (ABNT NBR 60079 series) and Quality Audits (ABNT NBR ISO/IEC 80079-34).

Chinese market — CCC Certification

CCC certification is required in order to gain access for hazardous locations (HazLoc) products to the People's Republic of China, as of Oct. 1, 2020. UL-issued ATEX and IECEx certificates and associated test reports can be used to obtain a CCC certificate. We have auditors around the world who are qualified to perform CCC factory audits.

Taiwan market — TS Certification

The Safety Label for Ex equipment in Taiwan indicates conformity to Taiwan national standards (CNS) and completion of the official registration scheme by Taiwan's Ministry of Labor. It is currently mandatory that all Ex equipment acquire a safety label prior to importation, sales, distribution, installation or operation in Taiwan.

Saudi Arabia market — SASO Certification

A Certificate of Conformity (CoC) issued by a certification body authorized by the Saudi Standards Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO), such as UL, provides entrance into Saudi Arabia based on an IECEx Certificate.

UAE market — ESMA/ ECASEx Certification

A CoC issued by a SASO-authorized certification body, such as UL, provides entrance into Saudi Arabia based on an IECEx Certificate.

South Africa market — SABS or MASC Certification

An IECEx Certificate may be used to obtain local South Africa Bureau of Standards (SABS) or Mining and Surface Certification (MASC) certification.

South Korea market — KCS Certification

An IECEx Certificate may be used to obtain local South Korea (KCS) certification.

Why UL for hazardous locations?

UL drives global research and standards development to continually advance and meet ever-evolving product safety, performance and interoperability needs. Our global network of technical experts and innovative facilities, along with our long-standing relationships with regulatory authorities, partner laboratories and industry technical leaders helps manufacturers gain the compliance credentials they need to compete in a more complex global supply chain. Leverage our global brand acceptance and trust to add value to your innovations.



Single-source provider

Our global family of certification staff around the globe can help save you time and money with a single, local point of contact for your global certification needs.

Knowledge and speed

We have technical expertise in all protection methods with comprehensive industry knowledge. Through early engagement, manufacturers can develop a risk mitigation plan with a partner they can trust. This can help speed time to market. UL's engineers perform quality audits, bringing a higher level

of technical competency to the audits. With a U.S.-based Certification Officer (CO) on staff, certification time is reduced.

Global Market Access

Leverage our active participation and leadership in the global standards writing process. With our certification process, you can benefit with faster time to a global marketplace. Not only do we understand the requirements — we helped develop them. In fact, we participate in over 50 standards-writing committees, such as TC31 (IECEx), STP (North America), NFPA, API and BSEE and CFR committees.



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