



**The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
Standardization Organization (GSO)**

**CONFORMITY MARKING
FOR THE GCC COUNTRIES**

Issue No.: (5)

Date: (2/21/2008)


Committee Draft No. 5

Hint

This Translation is informative and is not binding.

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Clause 1 - Purpose

1. In execution of the goals of the Gulf Cooperation Council to realize the integration and connection between the member countries in all fields and support their unity, and according to the goals of the “economical agreement” between the Council countries, which established the basis of the common market for the GCC countries, to develop the common work method between the Council countries, and whereas a unified conformity marking shall be used to facilitate the control process of the common market for the GCC countries by the competent authorities of the member countries, and to clarify the commitments of the manufacturers and importers in regards to the mark by virtue of the applied systems.
2. The conformity marking shall be interpreted as the conformity of a product with a specific level of the principal requirements provided in the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries related to the product, and shall realize a specific level for the protection of the joint interests as imposed by the relevant technical regulation in order to prove that the manufacturers and importers have already taken all the procedures of conformity verification provided in the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries in regards to the product.

Clause 2 - Application Scope


This regulation shall apply to all the products being subject to the requirements provided in the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries, requiring to place the conformity marking for the GCC countries.

Clause 3 - Definitions

The **definitions**, provided in the international specification ISO/IEC 17000 shall **apply**, as well as:

1. **The Council Countries**
The Gulf Cooperation Council countries.
2. **The Standardization Organization**
The Standardization Organization for the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.
3. **The Conformity marking for the GCC countries**

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It is the conformity marking for the GCC countries, being a mark having a special form (clause 5) placed on the product and/or is the conformity acknowledgment to indicate the conformity of the product with the principal requirements provided in the related regulation. It might be indicated with the conformity marking for the Council countries or only the conformity marking.

4. Conformity Verification

The proof of conformity with specific requirements in regards to a product, operation, system, person or authority.

5. The approved authority for conformity verification

An authority appointed as an authority having the capacity to take all procedures of conformity verification within a specific scope, provided in the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries and is usually an authority approved according to the guide of the approved authorities, and might be indicated as the approved authority.

6. The Regulation

The conformity marking regulation for the GCC countries.

7. The technical regulation for the GCC countries

A required document issued by the standardization organization to determine the principal requirements for a specific category of products, and the necessary procedures of conformity verification to ensure conformity with the provided principal requirements in order to place the conformity marking of the GCC countries thereof, and might be indicated as the technical regulation.

8. The Approval

An official acknowledgment by an approval authority that the conformity verification authority is qualified and competent to carry out a specific mission.

9. The Approval Authority

An authority having power to ensure the reliability of the conformity verification authorities.


10. The Principal Requirements

The requirements related to the products which may affect the safety, health and environment.

Clause 4 - Meaning of placing the conformity marking on the products

1. The conformity marking for the GCC countries indicates the compliance of the manufacturer or his representative with all the requirements of the product according to the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries and related to placing this mark so the meaning of conformity is not restricted to the technical requirements related to

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- safety, public health and environment. Whereas specific regulation may impose specific commitments that are not necessarily part of the principal requirements.
2. Placing the conformity marking for the GCC countries on the products means that the legal or natural person, who placed the mark or who became in charge of placing it, ensured that the product complies with all the requirements of the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the relevant GCC countries, and that it was placed after taking all the procedures of the conformity verification provided in this regulation.
 3. Whereas the products are subject to technical regulations issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries, the conformity marking for the GCC countries shall mean that the products comply with all the conditions provided in all these regulations, and such regulations shall be registered in all the documents enclosed to the product whereas appropriate on the data card.
 4. The conformity marking for the GCC countries is mandatory for the products being subject to the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries, and shall be placed on the product which complies with its conditions before launching thereof in the common market of the GCC countries.
 5. The conformity marking for the GCC countries is the sole mark that ensures the compliance of the products with the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization. The member countries shall not indicate any conformity marking other than that of the GCC countries in their national legislations in regards to conformity with the requirements of the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries.
 6. The manufacturer, either belonging to the GCC countries or not, shall be in charge of the product conformity with the related technical regulation, and placing the conformity marking for the GCC countries. The manufacturer shall appoint a representative to be authorized to represent him in the GCC countries and, in exceptional justified cases, to be determined by the technical regulation, the person in charge of launching the product in the Gulf market may be in charge of the manufacturer's responsibilities.
 7. The conformity marking for the GCC countries shall not be placed without completing the procedures of the product conformity verification, provided in the relevant technical regulation and proving compliance with the related conditions in this regulation.

Clause 5 - Form of the Conformity marking for the GCC Countries

1. The form of the conformity marking for the GCC countries as follows:

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2. In case of reducing or increasing the size of the conformity marking for the GCC countries, the proportions, provided in the chart above, shall be respected.
3. In case the technical regulation, issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries, did not impose specific dimensions for the mark then the conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be at least 5 mm high.

Clause 6 - Place and Affix the Conformity marking for the GCC Countries


1. The conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be affixed on the product or its data card, however if it is not possible or unavailable considering the product's nature, the mark shall be placed or affixed on the container, if any, or on the enclosed documents according to the terms of the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries.
2. The conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be clearly affixed, legible, legal and not to be easily removed.
3. The conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be placed at the end of the production control phase.
4. The conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be along with the identification number of the approved authority in the cases requiring the intervention of an approved authority in the production control phase (refer to the guide of the approved authorities for more information about the approved authorities).
5. Specific conditions might be necessarily established for some products in regards to the use thereof, and in such cases the mark and the identification number of the approved authority may be followed by a chart or another mark indicating, for instance, the category of the product use.
6. The other marks on the product shall not deceive or confuse the user in regards to the meaning and form of the conformity of the GCC countries.

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7. A product might be bearing different marks indicating, for instance, conformity with the national or international specifications, or with regulations related to traditions or religion provided that placing such marks would not lead to any confusion of any type with the conformity marking for the GCC countries. Such marks might be affixed only on the product and its container or on the documents enclosed to the product provided that they would not prevent the legibility and legality of the conformity marking for the GCC countries.

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8. The conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be affixed through the manufacturer, his agent or his legal representative in the market of the GCC countries. In exceptional cases, if provided in the Gulf technical regulation, the mark may affixed through the person in charge of launching the product in the market of the GCC countries. In all such cases, placing the identification number of the approved authority shall be under the responsibility of the approved authority itself, the manufacturer or his authorized agent in the GCC countries.

Clause 7 - Acknowledgment of Executing the Requirements of the Conformity marking

1. The manufacturer or his authorized representative in the GCC countries shall acknowledge receipt of the conformity marking for the GCC countries after compliance with the related requirements (type examination, application of the quality system,...) as detailed in paragraph 4 below.
2. The acknowledgement confirms that the product complies with the principal requirements and conditions provided in the technical regulation issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries or that the product complies with the type which was tested by one of the approved authorities.
3. The content of the acknowledgment (the technical file) shall be kept for a period of 10 years at least from the manufacture date unless the technical regulation, issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries, specifies another period.
4. The acknowledgment may be interpreted as a document or card including at least the following information:
 - Name and address of the manufacturer or his authorized agent in one of the GCC countries.
 - The product identification (name, type, model number and any additional information such as the serial number...).
 - The technical references and specifications used during the product design and manufacture.
 - Any further information related to the product level, being the group to which it belongs (such as the electrical appliances...).
 - Date of issuing the acknowledgment.

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- Name and signature of the legal person in charge of the product (the manufacturer or his legal representative in the GCC countries).
 - An acknowledgment clarifying that such conformity acknowledgment was issued under the responsibility of the manufacturer (or his legal representative).
 - Identification of the signature holder who has the power to take commitments on behalf of the manufacturer or his authorized agent.
5. The acknowledgment may also include some other information such as the name, address and the number of the approved authority which conducted tests related to the product, as well as the name and address of the person in charge of keeping the technical file related to the product.
 6. In case of the availability of a group of technical regulations, issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries and which apply to the product, the manufacturer may issue one acknowledgment including all technical regulations, issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries and of which requirements are respected by the product.
 7. The acknowledgment shall be in Arabic and/or English.
 8. The acknowledgment and its content shall be available to the authorities specialized in controlling and surveying the markets in the member countries upon request as well as to the general secretary office of the standardization organization.


Clause 8 - Violations and Penalties

1. The member countries shall take all arrangements according to their laws and national legislations, which prevent any potential confusion with the conformity marking for the GCC countries and prevent wrongful use thereof.
2. The penalties for violations committed in regards to the abuse of the conformity marking for the GCC countries shall be applied according to the terms of the regulations and laws of the market survey and the responsibility for the products.

Clause 9 - References

1. The technical regulation and evidence issued by the standardization organization for the GCC countries.
2. The decision of the European Commission No. 93/465/EEC issued on July 22, 1993 (for guidance).

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The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Standardization Organization (GSO)	Conformity marking for the GCC Countries Issue No.: (5) Date: (2/21/2008)	 The logo of the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO) is a blue circular emblem. It features a stylized white 'G' shape in the center, with the letters 'GSO' written in white at the bottom of the circle.
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3. The international specifications and evidence ISO/IEC related to the conformity verification issued by the Conformity Verification Committee CASCO in ISO organization.

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