



...making excellence a habit.™

# Selling electrical products overseas

Navigate the world market with the IECEE CB scheme and BSI

Trusted expertise  
from BSI



# What is the IECEE CB scheme?



The IECEE CB scheme, is based on product-testing standards for electrotechnical equipment (EE) agreed by all 60 members of the International Electrotechnical

Committee (IEC). Although CB certification is rarely mandatory, it is increasingly desirable. The popularity of the IECEE CB scheme is growing — and it now extends beyond the countries in the IEC, to, for example, Saudi Arabia.

The CB scheme was developed to harmonize standards and reduce complexity and supply-chain risks. It does this by testing products to internationally-agreed standards, using international, consistent procedures. The programme is rigorous, and systematically policed: NCBs (the National Certification Bodies authorized to certify products) audit and peer assess each other to make sure they're working in the same way and to the same criteria. CB-certified products, then, are trusted products.

The robustness of the scheme is good for both buyers and sellers. Manufacturers with IECEE CB certificates know that the risks of product recalls and legal problems are lower.

Once you have a CB certificate, you can use it to show that product complies with applicable standards; or local implementations of them. Even in countries that have signed the IECEE agreement — for example, Australia, Germany and South Africa — there can be additional requirements. Equally the IECEE CB scheme is gaining more recognition and some countries that are not members of the IECEE CB scheme accept the test certificate as proof that the product meets the safety requirements of the applicable standard(s) for that region.

Wherever you're exporting to, a CB certificate can be an important 'first staging post' on the route to compliance. It tells jurisdictions your products already meet many of their requirements.



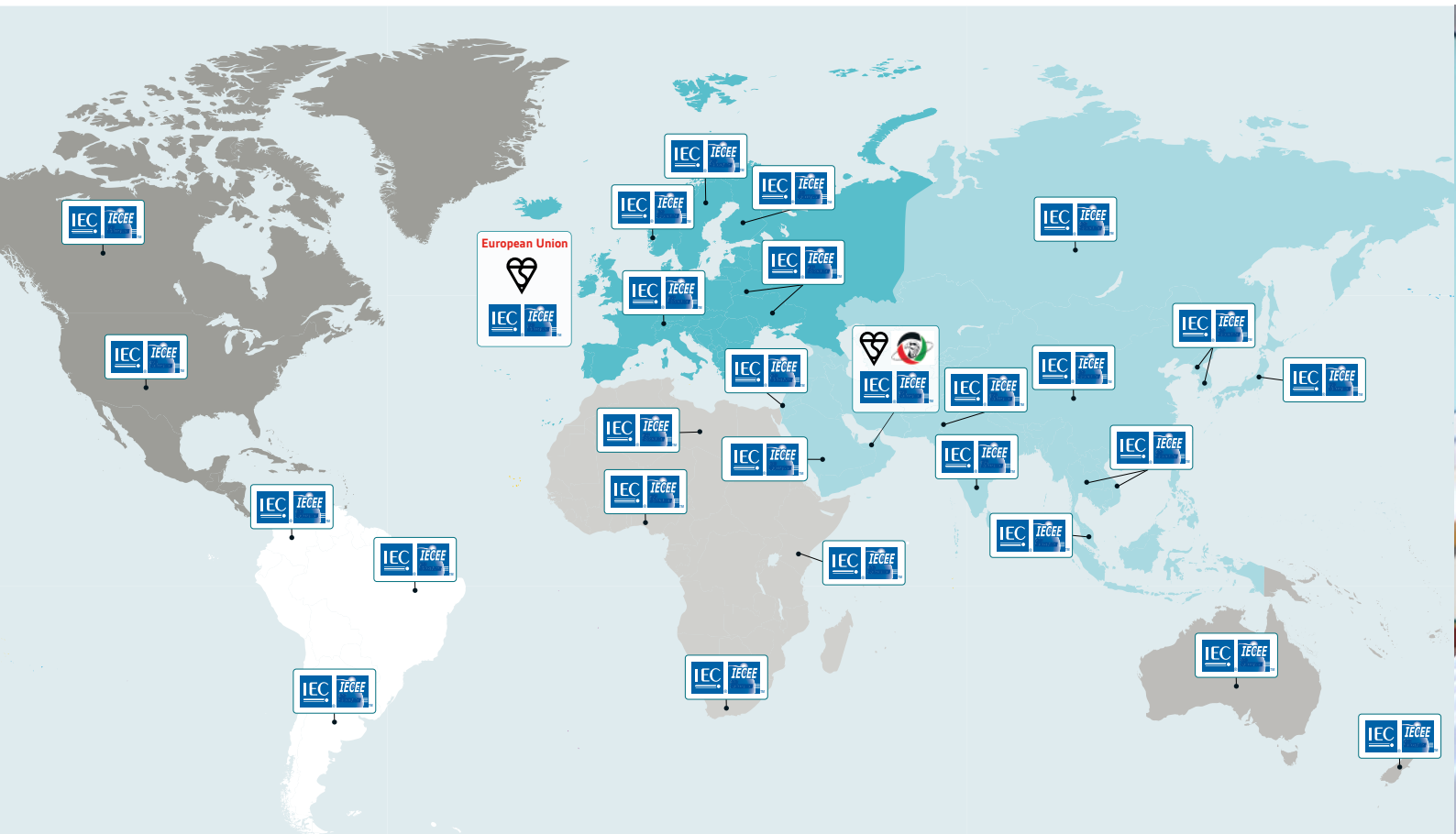
# Who is the scheme for?

The IECEE CB scheme is for manufacturers wanting a smooth path for electrical products into export markets all over the world. CB certificates are increasingly accepted as minimum requirements in countries that aren't members of the IECEE scheme. They provide the basis for certification to both international and local standards, and they can – if you work with BSI – qualify you for BSI Kitemark certification.

## CB certificates:

- Products are tested by an approved CBTL operating within the IECEE CB Scheme and then certified by an NCB.
- These approved test reports can then be used to facilitate certification with other national bodies around the world.
- The intention is that this reduces the need for additional testing in those countries the manufacturer wishes to export to and eases technical market access issues.
- It is the most widely accepted third- party conformity assessment scheme operating in the world today.
- It serves as a passport for the product that is tested and certified allowing easier acceptance for market access to different regions.
- Its is a simple type test scheme with no on-going requirements

# IECEE CB Scheme: global market reach



# How does the CB scheme work?

We will work with you to meet your needs whatever the size of your business.

If you have invested in your own testing laboratories the CB scheme permits these facilities to be used subject to an assessment. This concept is referred to as the Customer Testing Facility (CTF). The official test reports and CB certificate are still issued by BSI but over time this route could be more convenient and save you time compared to off-site testing.

The CTF process follows an evolving four stage process to ensure the quality of results is correct, repeatable and the quality maintained.

All stages mentioned below require annual inspections or assessments of the suitability of the facilities.

## Stage 1 – Testing at Manufacturers Premises (TMP)

Testing is carried out 100% by a CBTL attached to the NCB at the manufacturers site. (BSI would send a member of the testing team to conduct the test at the clients site).

## Stage 2 – Witness Manufacturing Testing (WMT)

Testing is carried out by the manufacturer and 100% witnessed by a CBTL or the NCB at the manufacturers site. (We would witness a certain amount of projects and issue WMT status on successful completion).

## Stage 3 – Supervised Manufacturers Testing (SMT)

Testing is carried out by the manufacturer and is partially witnessed by a CBTL or the NCB at the manufacturers site. At this point the manufacturer would submit their testing plans to the CBTL/NCB for approval

## Stage 4 – Recognized Manufacturer Testing (RMT)

Testing is carried out by the manufacturer and selected submissions are partially witnessed by a CBTL or the NCB at the manufacturers site.



## Working with BSI

As a fully participating member of the CB scheme, and approved CBTL (CB Testing Laboratory) we can work with you to you achieve CB certification. We can also work with you so you can identify the relevant local standards for your products. More than this, we offer the opportunity to upgrade your CB certificate to the BSI Kitemark. No further test will be needed

if you want your products to be Kitemark certified and they're already certified to IEC standards.

**Whichever route you take, our certification experts will work with you to deliver a solution that is right for your organizations needs.**

## The products we test and certify

We certify a range of electrotechnical products after they've been tested one of our associated CBTL's

### These are the categories we cover:

- Electronic controls
- EMC (Electro Magnetic Compatibility) of products
- Household equipment
- Lighting — including luminaires
- Measurement, control and laboratory equipment
- Medical electrical equipment
- IT and office equipment
- Audio visual, information and communication technology
- Cables and cords



and international requirements, and can work with you to bridge any gaps. We can declare your products fit for the markets you want to do business in. This saves you the time and expense of finding an additional accreditation service based in your export market(s) and shipping products abroad for testing.

**In addition to the internationally recognized CB scheme, we also provide testing and certification services to help you export and support your market access needs.**

Once a product has been tested to the IEC standard and has a CB certificate we can help it take the next step on its export 'journey'.

With decades of experience and detailed knowledge of standards, we understand the differences between national

## BSI Kitemark certification



We can use CB certification as the base for not only market-specific certification but also for Kitemark certification. Recognized in many markets and exclusive to BSI, Kitemark certification can make a big difference to exporters. It

is, for example, mandated by the ministry of civil defence for lighting contractors in Dubai.

Accessing the global marketplace is really a two-step process:

**Step one: CB scheme certification**

**Step two: Compliance to specific local requirements.**

No matter whether you need to obtain a CB certificate for market access or step up and achieve Kitemark certification to differentiate your products, we can work with you.

# Why choose BSI for the IECEE CB Scheme?

With world-class expertise and a global presence it makes sense to choose BSI. From luminaires to medical devices, we can work with you to place products onto the markets where you need to be.

The CB scheme is just one of a unique suite of market access solutions we offer. Our experts are on hand to discuss your requirements including transferring certifications you have elsewhere to BSI. This could help you achieve efficiencies, and save time and money, so talk to us today.

## Get in touch with us today and find out more

Call: **+44 (0)345 0765 606**

Email: **[product.certification@bsigroup.com](mailto:product.certification@bsigroup.com)**

Visit: **[bsigroup.com/ma-uk](https://bsigroup.com/ma-uk)**

## Why BSI?

For over a century BSI has championed what good looks like and driven best practice in organizations around the world. As one of the founding members of ISO, we help make sure international standards developed address today and tomorrow's business and social needs, while delivering real benefits to an organization and all its stakeholders.

We work closely with leading manufacturers to ensure their products meet the latest Regulations to gain market access. We focus on delivering a testing and certification partnership underpinned by quality, safety, reliability and accuracy aligned to your product development requirements. That's why we're best placed to help you understand standards and to meet the requirements.

From shaping collective best practice with our knowledge solutions to product testing, certification, and environmental health and safety professional services, we are committed to innovating and collaborating with our clients to build a safer more resilient tomorrow – one that protects buildings, assets, the environment and most importantly people.



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