

G-Mark labeling obligation for the import of low-voltage products into the Gulf region



The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has adopted uniform criteria and the application of the G-Mark certificate for the introduction of low-voltage products into the Arab region through its common standardization organization (GSO Gulf Standards Organization). All manufacturers, importers or distributors of low-voltage products, such as refrigerators and freezers, washing machines, hair dryers and toasters, are subject to the new G-Mark labeling obligation. The GSO member countries are Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Directive for electrical products

The technical regulations for low-voltage electrical products are divided into two lists, which are referred to as list 1 and list 2.

Products included in list 1 are subject to a conformity assessment procedure according to annex 3 of the "GSO LVD". This results in a manufacturer's declaration of conformity with the requirements of the directive.

The products given in list 2 are subject to a conformity assessment procedure according to annex 4 of the "GSO LVD". This conformity assessment procedure compulsory requires a



participation of a notified body, such as the VDE Institute. The notified body shall determine whether the products meet the requirements of the applicable technical requirements and check the product design as well as the technical documentation for each product. The manufacturer's technical documentation is the basis for the evaluation by the notified body.

The VDE Institute is a GSO Notified Body

The VDE Institute is listed as a GSO Notified Body, number 0031, and therefore entitled to carry out examinations and certifications within the frame of its DAkkS accreditation on the basis of the G-Mark procedure and to issue the G-Mark certificate. The testing of the products is based on the IEC standards as well as the results of the safety relevant tests and the risk analysis prepared by the manufacturer. The subsequent certification of the products is carried out by the VDE certification body.

The range of products currently covers mainly household appliances from list 2 for private use:

- Air conditioners
- Centrifugal clothes dryers and clothes washing machines, including machines which both wash and dry
- Cookers, cooking plates, boiling rings, grillers and roasters
- Domestic electrical fans
- Domestic electric heating apparatus
- Electric instantaneous or storage water heaters and immersion heaters
- Electric smoothing irons
- Electro-thermic hair-dressing apparatus and hand dryers
- Food grinders and mixers
- Fruit or vegetable juice extractors
- Microwave ovens
- Plugs, socket outlets, adaptors, cord extension sets and chargers
- Refrigerators, freezers and other refrigerating or freezing equipment
- Toasters

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