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Canada

The Implementation of the Conformity Assessment Protocol in CETA

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CACEE – September 7, 2017

Standards **experts**. Accreditation **solutions**.



Canada-European Union (EU) Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

- CETA is a progressive trade agreement that aims to increase the flow of goods, services, and investment to the benefit of both Canada and the EU.
- CETA enters into provisional implementation on September 21, 2017.
- SCC supports the Government of Canada in implementing the *Protocol on the mutual acceptance of the results of conformity assessment*.



Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol – Highlights

- The Protocol establishes a framework for the mutual recognition of accreditation.
- The CA Protocol only applies to products that require third-party certification in order to enter Canadian or EU markets. As such, Supplier's Declaration of Conformance (SDoC) falls outside the scope of the Protocol.
- CETA does not require recognition or acceptance of the other Party's technical regulations, or limit a Party's right to set technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures.
- The CA Protocol does not require the harmonization of standards or requirements; it establishes a framework to facilitate the mutual recognition of certification to different requirements.



CA Protocol – Highlights

- The framework for mutual recognition of accreditation is still under development. Mutual recognition of accreditation will occur only when SCC and the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) deem both parties to be ready.
- A pilot project in the area of HAZLOC/ATEX is underway and has been effective in providing a common understanding of what model will be used to implement mutual recognition.
- Products will be selected and implemented on a schedule mutually agreed on by both SCC and EA.



Implementing the CA Protocol

- Bilateral Cooperation Agreement between SCC and EA – June, 2016
- Establishment of the SCC-EA Steering Group – September, 2016
- Establishment of the Technical Expert Group (TEG) – March, 2017
 - Reports to the Steering Group
 - Nominated by SCC: 1 HAZLOC technical expert, 1 SCC lead assessor
 - Nominated by EA: 3 National Accreditation Body (NAB) lead assessors/assessors, one or more (as needed) technical experts familiar with the EU's ATEX Directive
- TEGs will be created, as needed, for each of the product categories that are implemented.



Outreach on the CA Protocol

- SCC continues to conduct consultations and information sessions:
 - Information Session (CABs and RAABs): March, 2017
 - Provincial-Territorial Advisory Committee: May, 2017
 - Standards Development Organizations Advisory Committee: May, 2017
 - National Public Safety Advisory Committee: June, 2017
 - Canadian Regulatory Council on Plumbing: August, 2017
 - Canadian Advisory Council on Electrical Safety: September, 2017
 - And many more.
- SCC is hosting an event on October 17th in Ottawa. Items to be discussed include: outcomes of the HAZLOC/ATEX pilot project; next steps for implementation; and, a presentation by the European Commission on the EU's conformity assessment and regulatory systems.



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Questions