DEKRA
On the safe side.

UKCA for Explosion Safety (UKEX)

FAQ – August 2023

Contents

Transitional considerations

1. How does the announcement of DBT on 1st August 2023 affect my current UKCA projects?

   Government has announced the intention to accept the CE marking for the 18 schemes regulated by Department of Business & Trade.

   https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-extension-of-ce-mark-recognition-for-businesses

   The decision affects the EX scheme. As this is just an announcement of intention and not a legislation, at the moment we are awaiting further guidance and legislation on the implementation. A consultation is currently open to develop smarter regulation. If you want the UKCA mark the process is currently as per existing regulation and no impact on projects in progress.

2. Are there timelines for when products with CE-marking can no longer be made available?

   As of current legislation, products placed on the GB market before 11pm on 31 December 2024 can have CE marking.

3. Can products be placed on the market of NI with UKCA and no CE marking?

   As per current legislation, CE marking or UKNI is required for the NI market.

4. Do I need UKCA for the EEA market?

   As per current legislation, The UKCA Mark is required to place a device on the market of Great Britain. If the device is not available in the market in Great Britain, this marking is not required.

Designation process

1. Which entity is DEKRA's UKAB and what will the number be?

   DEKRA Certification UK Ltd (DCUKL) is the legal entity and the UKAB number is **8505** for all certificates.

2. What is the timeline for DEKRA's designation as a UK Approved Body for UKEX?

   We are already a UK Approved body, number 8505 and we can begin product certification. This will be our UKAB number for DEKRA UKCA conformity assessed products and should appear on your labelling.

3. What will be DEKRA's UK Approved Body scope?

   Currently Explosion Safety and Medical device is within the scope of DCUKL for Certification purpose. DEKRA will be applying to become a UK Approved Body for Machinery, Equipment to be used outdoors, Radio Equipment & Personal Protective Equipment. Testing will be performed by other DEKRA entities.

4. Will DEKRA perform UKCA conformity assessment activities before designation?

   Yes, where it is essential.

   Sometime in order to extend the scope we may have to do pre-designation activities with limited clients. But these activities will be performed with the authorisation of UKAS.

Application process and service delivery

1. How will DEKRA's UK Approved Body work with DEKRA's notified bodies?

   The DEKRA UK Approved Body will work closely with our two notified bodies based in Germany and Netherlands, and plan to combine audits where possible.
   A UK Approved Body is an extension of the British government and, as such, needs to be physically located in the UK. DEKRA's UK Approved Body is DEKRA Certification UK Ltd. The DEKRA UK Approved Body (#8505) and EU Notified Bodies (#0344 and #124) work closely together and share resource to ensure that we can provide a lean service to our customers. This does not mean all current NB resource will become qualified for UKCA nor does it mean the same resource will manage all NB and UKAB activities. Indeed, we are aware that the pressures of the EU regulations are extensive, and we are building a resource pool in the UK to support the migration to UKCA certificates.

2. Will I have 2 project managers for my Ex projects?

   We aim to provide a **single point of contact for UKCA and CE**, and we will combine UKCA audits with other audit wherever possible to minimise the impact on customers.
   For technical documentation reviews, approved Ex test reports can be leveraged as meeting most of the UKCA requirements, reducing the time for UKCA conformity assessment wherever possible. We cannot guarantee all certification activities will be combined, as there are differences between the CE and UKCA requirements and interpretations, but our aim is to implement a combined services as much as possible.

3. How will DEKRA prioritise customers for UKCA?

   We will operate on a **first-come-first served basis**.
   When we receive an application from a customer, we will ask for some information, including the products where UKCA is required and when the customer intends to submit the files for review.
   As part of the application, customers will be required to enter into a contractual agreement with the UKAB.
   Customers can register their interest using this email address: certification.uk@dekra.com

4. Do manufacturers need to update their documents for UKCA?

   The short answer is **yes**. There are additional requirements, including labelling. It is important that in your UKCA gap analysis you identify the required updates and proceed to make changes accordingly. In your application package, please include all documents for the evaluation. This may mean that you need to scan plans or other documents on which your ATEX certification was based.

5. How long will it take to obtain UKCA certification?

   The timeline depends on your product and the quality of your submission. If you have current CE certification and up to date files that meet all UKCA requirements, we are planning on being able to turn around the UKCA certification in a matter of a few months. Where there are questions raised or gaps, it will considerably.

6. For QAN, can I have combined visits?

   Yes, as the ATEX and UKCA QAN have the same foundation, they can be delivered as a single event**.**

7. How will DEKRA achieve the migration of existing CE certificates to UKCA certificates in such short timelines?

   We will try to meet the deadlines.
   DEKRA has developed a lean process for UKCA applications.
   It is important to stress that ATEX certification does not guarantee UKCA certification; nor can we predict accurately the amount of work required to deliver UKCA conformity assessment until after the Application Review stage.
   It goes without saying that where your package is complete, is of high quality, and meets all the UKCA requirements, you will receive your certificate more quickly than where questions are raised.

8. What can I do to ensure that I get UKCA certification as soon as possible?

   The best thing manufacturers can do is **pay attention to the materials we provide and submit a good quality package.**
   We need to work together, and effective communication is critical to this collaboration. But we cannot meet with all customers; nor can we give regular updates on individual cases. We will update the FAQ and provide more feedback based on our lessons learnt. Please work with us to ensure efficient and lean migration of certificates.

Labelling and UK responsible person

1. Is dual labelling possible?

   For the UK market, dual labelling is possible, as long as the labelling is clear and not misleading.
   A product can have UKCA and CE marking on the same label or UKCA and CE UKNI on the same label.
   It is important to note that if you have CE marking, you do not need CE UKNI.

   To our knowledge, the EU will also allow dual marking as long as the CE marking labelling requirements are met; however, a definitive answer will be required from the relevant competent authority

2. Some schemes are offering UKCA over labelling as an option after UKCA marking is mandatory. Has this been considered for UKEX and, if so, is there a timeline?

   The rules on affixing the UKCA marking are currently the same as for affixing the CE marking, but UK government intend to introduce legislation to extend the period for which the UKCA marking can be affixed on a sticky label or accompanying document.

3. How can we implement the labelling transition with such short timelines?

   Unfortunately, the timelines are out of our control.
   The UK government has stipulated clear timelines for labelling transition.
   The information can be found here https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-the-ukca-marking.
   The guidelines state that UKCA marking is not required before 31st DEC 2024 or existing stock ready to place on the market before 1 Jan 2021 as long as it is placed on the market before 31 Dec 2024.
   We are awaiting further legislation around over labelling and will inform you when it becomes available.