

**GUIDELINES OF IMPORTS FOR THE TRADE**



**CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT OF  
GOODS TO BE EXPORTED TO  
THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**



This data sheet has been prepared specifically in respect of exports to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Date issued : **05.05.2011**

Last modification : **25.07.2019**

**1. PRODUCT CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT (PCA) MANDATE**

PROGRAM NAME	SASO SALEEM PROGRAM
PROGRAM MANDATED BY	Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO)
IMPLEMENTATION DATE (RENEWAL)	01 January 2019
PROGRAMME SCOPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure conformity of certain imported products to the applicable technical regulations and standards;</li> <li>• All subject imported regulated products must be issued a Product and a Shipment Certificate (SC) issued under the SABER system of SASO.</li> <li>• Products not covered by a Technical Regulation can obtain a Consignment-Based Technical Assessment Certificate, to demonstrate compliance of the product with the SASO and/or International Standards</li> </ul>
REGULATED PRODUCTS	<p>Products defined within their respective SASO Technical Regulation, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SASO TR 03-03-16-156               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Degradable plastic products</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 04-03-16-156               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>LPG Appliances used for cooking, heating and lighting</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 03-03-16-155               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Paints and varnish products</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 02-03-16-155               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Detergent products</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 01-03-16-155               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Lubricating oils</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 05-03-16-156               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Energy efficiency requirements for :                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Large capacity Air conditioners (20kW and below)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Room airconditioners</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Refrigerators (up to 1,100 liters volume)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Freezers (up to 850liters volume)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Washing machines (up to 12 kg capacity)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Lighting products</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incandescent lamps</li> <li>• Compact Fluorescent lamps with integrated ballast (CFLi)</li> <li>• Halogen lamps</li> <li>• Light emitting diodes (LED) lamps (Halogen retrofit types)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Light emitting diode (LED) lamps (Incandescent retrofit lamps)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>AC Motors (0.75 to 375kW)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>All pneumatic tires</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 01-03-16-156 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Building materials I: Metals and their alloys for construction and buildings</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 02-03-16-155 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Building materials II: Insulation and cladding materials for buildings</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 03-07-17-161 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Building Materials III: Hydraulic links and related products</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 03-07-17-161 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Building Materials IV: Bricks, tiles, ceramics, sanitary wares and related products</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 05-07-17-161 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Elevators (Lifts) used in buildings and installations</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 03-01-17-162 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Electric vehicles</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 02-04-17-162 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Automotive spare parts</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 04-03-16-155 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Electric Self-Balancing Boards (Scooters)</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR on IECCE Conformity Assessment Scheme 01-04-16-155 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Mobile phones</b></li> <li>○ <b>Mobile phone chargers</b></li> <li>○ <b>Batteries (for mobile phones, cars)</b></li> <li>○ <b>Water pumps</b></li> <li>○ <b>Dishwashers</b></li> <li>○ <b>Television sets</b></li> <li>○ <b>Laptop computers</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• SASO TR 06-03-16-156 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Water Rationalization Devices</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• GSO Regulation BD-142004-01 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Low Voltage Electrical Equipment and Appliances</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• GSO Regulation BD-131704-01 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Toys</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>ASSESSMENT METHODS</p>	<p>Products that are listed in any of the SASO Technical Regulations shall be required to comply with the SALEEM / SABER rules, and as such have to undergo 2 processes, before the goods can be shipped to Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>The 2 processes are described as follows:</p> <p><b>Part 1: Product Certification Stage</b></p> <p>In addition to the other requirements cited in each of the SASO Technical regulation governing the product, the Saudi Arabia Importer has to log-in into the SABER platform (<a href="https://saber.sa">https://saber.sa</a>) and 'register' its entity details, and next, the product/s that it intends to import to Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>The SABER system provides information whether the products 'registered' are under specific SASO Technical Regulation or otherwise. Importer must be ready with the corresponding HS codes of the products,</p>

<sup>1</sup> SGS provides a product 'registration' service to entities with a long list of items to import to Saudi Arabia. Kindly inquire with your SGS contact in your region.

	<p>as this will be the information that SASO uses to cross-match with the SABER's regulated product database.</p> <p>Once SABER detects that the products are subject to SASO Technical Regulation/s, importer will be directed to contact a 'Notified Body' of its choice (SABER provides a list of Qualified NBs within the platform at this stage), for example <b>SGS</b>, for the necessary conformity assessment processes that the product's need to undergo.</p> <p>Depending on the SASO Technical Regulation, a product shall be subjected to any of the following conformity assessment type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Type 1a</b></li> <li>- <b>Type 3</b></li> <li>- <b>Type 5</b></li> <li>- <b>SASO Quality Mark</b></li> </ul> <p>Typically, the applicant entity shall be subjected to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>independent assessment of their product/s</b> (compliance to relevant standard/s) <i>and</i>,</li> <li>2. <b>When required, an independent assessment of the factory operations</b> (company's product safety management program).</li> </ol> <p><b>Product conformity to SASO standards</b> – Under the <b>Type 1a</b> conformity assessment, products are to be independently tested based on the established SASO. Exporter obtains a test report (to be submitted to NB) based on the ruling standard/s. Note: If there are no test reports, SGS has to undertake product sampling at the production/warehouse site, and have the products tested at an accredited test laboratory. Test reports and/or test certificates from these test laboratories are one of the main reference documents where the conformance (or non-conformance) to Saudi requirements will be based from.</p> <p><b>Factory audit, as required</b> - Products subject to Type 1a conformity assessment requires NO factory audit. Those under Type 3 , Type 5 or SASO Quality Mark Scheme require factory audit.</p> <p>As guided by the relevant SASO TR, a product's manufacturing facility may be subject to either a Type 3 , Type 5 or SASO Quality Mark scheme factory assessment.</p> <p><b>Type 3 conformity assessment methodology</b> – manufacturing facility is subjected to a factory audit/visit to check on the company's implementation of the so-called 'product safety management system' (defined in the SASO TR). If audit is satisfactory, the exporter is awarded a 'Product Certificate', with a validity of <b>1 year</b>, subject to a yearly surveillance visit. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, a full audit shall be performed on the factory. Note: Failure to fulfil the yearly audit leads to the suspension of the Product Certificate.</p> <p><b>Type 5 conformity assessment methodology</b> – shall be same as the Type 3 method described above, only with the addition of a regular (yearly) sampling (from factory or market) and testing of the product as per requirements of the relevant SASO standard.</p> <p><b>SASO Quality Mark Scheme</b> – shall be exactly the same as the type 5 method, only that this has to be performed by SASO itself or its designated CAB<sup>2</sup>, and the subject products are subject to additional SASO Quality Mark Scheme rules.</p>
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<sup>2</sup> CAB – Conformity Assessment Body specifically designated by SASO to perform SASO Quality Mak Certification

Once product is proven to have conformed to the standards and that the factory (as necessary) is already audited with satisfactory results, a Product Certificate of Conformity (PCoC) shall be created in the SASO SABER System, after the Notified Body has given a satisfactory certification decision on the product applied for by the applicant. The certificate bears the specific name, brand, model of the product, and is not transferable.

### Part 2: Shipment Certification Stage

After obtaining the PCoC from SASO SABER System (see Part 1 above), the exporter shall apply for a shipment certificate, again through the SASO SABER system every time the subject product is to be shipped into Saudi Arabia. No shipment certificate can be issued by the SASO Saber System if product certification is not yet completed.

The Notified Body which issued the PCoC shall also be the same NB that will give the approval (on behalf of SASO) to issue the Shipment Certificate in the SABER system.

### Special Cases/Processes for some products:

- *Electrical/electronic products under the SASO TR on IECEE Conformity Assessment Scheme 01-04-16-155.*

Exporters (and their partner importers) are required to file their application for IECEE Certificate recognition, together with the necessary technical documentations into the SASO GEEM system (link – <https://jeem1.saso.gov.sa/>)

Notice: SGS offers and provides technical assistance service to companies in the facilitation of the SASO recognition of the IECEE CB test reports and certificates in Saudi Arabia. The application exercise requires constant coordination with the SASO technical office, and may require substantial time and resource on the part of the applicant. SGS technical staff well-versed in this process will be able to help facilitate the approval process, and thus, this is a highly recommended service.

Please inquire with the SGS contact in your area.

- *Water Rationalization Devices under the GSO Regulation BD-142004-01*

Manufacturers are required to apply (register) directly to a dedicated SASO site <https://water.sls.gov.sa/> . The application shall be fully processed by SASO itself.

- *Listed products below (re. Energy Efficiency) under the SASO TR 05-03-16-156*

Manufacturers are required to apply (register) directly to a dedicated SASO site <https://www.sls.gov.sa/Pages/en/SignIn.aspx>.

- Large capacity Air conditioners (20kW and below)
- Room airconditioners
- Refrigerators (up to 1,100 liters volume)
- Freezers (up to 850liters volume)
- Washing machines (up to 12 kg capacity)
- Lighting products
  - Incandescent lamps
  - Compact Fluorescent lamps with integrated ballast (CFLi)
  - Halogen lamps
  - Light emitting diodes (LED) lamps (Halogen retrofit types)
  - Light emitting diode (LED) lamps (Incandescent retrofit lamps)
- AC Motors (0.75 to 375kW)
- All pneumatic tires

FORMS OF ATTESTATION	<p>A <b>Product Certificate of Conformity (PCoC)</b> issued within SABER system is a requirement before any Shipment Certificate can be issued to a regulated product intended to be shipped to Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>A <b>Shipment Certificate (SC)</b> issued within the SABER system is required for every shipment of regulated product/s into Saudi Arabia.</p>
PURPOSE OF ATTESTATION (PCoC and SC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Shipment Certificate (SC) is needed for Customs clearance of the imported goods (mandatory document)</li> <li>• The Product Certificate of Conformity provides the Saudi authorities with a basis for conducting post-market Surveillance in the Saudi Arabia market.</li> </ul>
<b>2. OTHER CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT DETAILS</b>	
TESTING	<p><b>Test reports:</b></p> <p>As part of the conformity assessment process, as defined in each of the relevant SASO Technical Regulation, a product shall be required to be tested as per the applicable SASO (or equivalent) standard to it. SGS shall validate the qualifications of the testing laboratory that will conduct the tests, as per the applicable requirements of ISO/IEC 17025.</p> <p>Should test reports for the subject products are presented, such test reports shall require validation before they are considered, as per the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Credentials of the testing laboratory that performed the tests;</li> <li>- Reference standard/s used in the testing, especially if not the same as the SASO-designated standards;</li> <li>- Age of the test report (note: old test reports may be required to be supplemented with additional documents, e.g. Bill of Materials, Certification of no change in material, design and production, etc.;</li> <li>- Brand, model names, product reference codes in the test reports, especially if not exactly the same as the product being applied for certification (note: SGS might require supplemental documentations to correlate the product to the test report, e.g. Product Identity Declarations (PID), etc.)</li> </ul>
FACTORY ASSESSMENT REPORT/s	<p>When required, SASO Technical Regulations explicitly specify that factory audits be conducted for those products that are under the conformity assessment types 3<sup>3</sup> or 5<sup>4</sup> as defined in ISO/IEC 16067:2013. This shall mean that the supplier (manufacturer) must be prepared to have its manufacturing facility (whether owned or contracted) be subjected to such audits, as part of the compliance program demanded by the relevant SASO technical regulation/s. Every factory audit exercise, SGS shall prepare a Factory Audit Report which shall be used, together with the product test reports, for the final evaluation, review and approval of the application for certification.</p>
STANDARDS	<p><b>Applicable standards (as defined under each SASO Technical Regulation):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SASO (Saudi Arabian Standards Organization) Standards</li> <li>• GSO (Standardization Organization for GCC) Standards</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> Model compliance based on quality assurance of the production process.

<sup>4</sup> Same as Model 3, but with added product sampling and testing at either production site or from the market.

<b>3. G-Mark Regulated Products</b>	
GENERAL PROVISION	<p>SASO have adopted two technical regulations which are applicable to products to be exported to Saudi Arabia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSO Regulation BD-142004-01, Low Voltage Electrical Equipment and Appliances.</li> <li>• GSO Regulation BD-131704-01, Toys.</li> </ul> <p>The above products, prior to product 'registration' in SABER, are required to secure the product approvals (as per above GSO regulations) from any of the GSO-designated notified bodies found in the following GSO link: <a href="https://www.gso.org.sa/nb/">https://www.gso.org.sa/nb/</a>.</p> <p>For more information, the below link can be visited. <a href="https://www.gso.org.sa/en/conformity/gcc-conformity-assessment-scheme/">https://www.gso.org.sa/en/conformity/gcc-conformity-assessment-scheme/</a>.</p>
<b>4. CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	
<b>PLEASE CHECK SGS CONTACT LIST AVAILABLE IN OUR WEBSITE. IMPORTERS MAY CONTACT OUR LIAISON OFFICE IN SAUDI ARABIA</b>	
<p><b>SGS Inspection Services Saudi Arabia Ltd.</b>  Olaya District, Wadi Alneer Street, Alrabiah Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Office N° 304  Riyadh – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  <b>Operations Manager: Hasan Almanasif</b>  Mobile: +966 50 686 7735  Phone: +966 11 2934235  E-mail: <a href="mailto:hasan.almanasif@sgs.com">hasan.almanasif@sgs.com</a></p>	

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