

Product Assessment and Certification

- Building and Engineering
- Electrotechnology and Export Services
- Health and Safety including personal Protective Equipment
- Water and Gas



Australian
Standard

Are you demonstrating compliance?

What does the market require? Product requirements vary from market to market. Manufacturers, importers, exporters and distributors – all must be aware of these requirements and be able to demonstrate to customers, regulators, directors and shareholders that they understand and meet them.

In some cases, the requirements are specific, spelled out in a contract or in regulations such as reference to an Australian Standard. In other cases, they may be covered by law. Certification is a means of demonstrating compliance with recognised and respected standards and can provide an edge over your competitors.



<p>What is Product Certification?</p>	<p>Product Certification is a service whereby a third party (such as SAI Global) provides assurance that a product fulfils the specified requirements of a nominated product standard. Product certification offers customers a high degree of confidence that the product will perform according to the specified standard.</p>
<p>How do you demonstrate product compliance?</p>	<p>In general, the independent assessment or certification of a product is the first step toward both industry and customer acceptance. Many products cannot be sold without independent expert confirmation that they meet certain standards or guidelines. SAI Global is the region's leading product certification specialist.</p>
<p>What does product certification involve?</p> 	<p>The product certification process involves product testing and, for many programs, ongoing assessment of the manufacturing site to ensure that the product continues to comply with a nominated standard.</p> <p>Only manufacturers whose products have been certified and whose facilities undergo routine audits by SAI Global may display our recognised 'five tick' StandardsMark. The StandardsMark will assure your customers that your product is manufactured to conform to the nominated product standard.</p>
<p>What benefits can a certified product bring to your organisation?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • competitive edge – make your product stand out! The red 'five tick' StandardsMark, is an instantly recognisable signal that your product meets recognised safety or performance benchmarks in International or Australian Standards. • market access – compliance with certain standards or specifications can mean wider market acceptance from both customers and regulators. • reduced risk of product liability claims – certification demonstrates that you have the capability to consistently manufacture a product to meet a recognised standard, potentially reducing the risk of product liability claims being made against you. If there is a problem, the records resulting from assessment and certification activities may offer evidence of due diligence. • export success – SAI Global has agreements with agencies worldwide that can assess your product against country-specific regulatory and market requirements. • ongoing improvement and performance – continual monitoring of your product's performance, and the effectiveness of your processes in achieving that performance, can lead to production efficiencies and performance improvements. These benefits apply particularly to the quality-based programs such as the StandardsMark Scheme.
<p>Enjoy wider market access, increased sales and customer confidence</p>	<p>Whatever your market, SAI Global can provide advice on which type of assessment or certification is best for your product and your business. Areas where SAI Global can assist include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • automotive accessories, components and materials • building including glass • electrotechnology • engineering • fire protection • gas industry • health care • horticultural • personal protective equipment • waste treatment • water industry • water quality • wood packaging

Pathways

to Conformity Assessment

Different options for different needs

All products and markets are different, so SAI Global offers a variety of assessment and certification services to meet your needs.

<p>The Certified Product StandardsMark Scheme</p>  <p>This program is accredited by JAS-ANZ.</p>	<p>The Certified Product StandardsMark Scheme provides a high degree of confidence that your company is capable of consistently producing products that meet the requirements of a recognised Australian or International Standard for that product.</p> <p>The scheme involves initial product type testing, followed by assessment, regular production batch testing and evaluation of the effectiveness of your company's manufacturing processes in ensuring continuing compliance. Certification by SAI Global to Australian Standards results in the right to display the red Certified Product StandardsMark in the marketing, packaging and promotion of the product, as well as on the product itself. Only SAI Global offers access to this key competitive certification mark.</p> <p>This scheme is suitable for consumer, electrical, safety, plumbing, infrastructure and building products.</p> <p>The Certified Product Australian StandardsMark Scheme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Verification – Sample(s) of the product are assessed for compliance with the relevant product specification or Standard (also known as Type Testing). • Document Review – The documented quality plan for the design and manufacture of the product is reviewed, to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to address risks to designated standards or specifications. • Quality Plan Implementation – On site assessment by SAI Global's independent experts takes place to ensure that the quality plan is effectively implemented in practice to achieve ongoing compliance. • Ongoing Assessment – Regular assessments, both of the product itself in batch production and of the manufacturing site, verify that quality plans are being maintained and the product continues to comply with the Standard.
<p>The Certified Product WaterMark Scheme</p>  <p>This program is accredited by JAS-ANZ. WaterMark is a registered Certification Trademark of Standards Australia Limited.</p>	<p>All products installed within the Plumbing water supply and drainage systems in Australia must comply with requirements of the Plumbing Code of Australia (Code).</p> <p>The WaterMark Certification Scheme (WMCS) provides a uniform national approach, which identifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the products that require certification • the levels of certification required • the procedures involved in obtaining this certification. <p>SAI Global offers WaterMark with two levels of certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 (ongoing testing and audit regime) • Level 2 (Type Test regime)



TypeTest Scheme



This program is accredited by JAS-ANZ. WaterMark is a registered Certification Trademark of Standards Australia Limited.

The TypeTest scheme involves a one-off product review and test report assessment. The TypeTest scheme involves the review of plumbing products but NOT product performance. Upon satisfactory consideration a certificate is issued.

TypeTest certificates have a defined life, requiring full re-submission for testing at the end of the specified time, or if any significant modifications are made to the product.

Export services

Overseas markets have a range of different product requirements including CE Marking and IECEE CB (electrical safety) test certificates and reports.

To facilitate recognition of exports through demonstrated conformity with national product standards, SAI Global is able to provide services through relationships with worldwide national certification bodies, such as UL, CSA, ZS, BSI, JQA, QMI and NSF International. SAI Global employs professional staff specifically trained by overseas certification bodies to provide services on their behalf.

Using SAI Global's widespread network, your organisation will be able to gain certification through several international bodies through a simple point of contact.

**Other features:
Systems Integration**

The SAI Global Certified Product Program integrates neatly into all other management systems including:



environmental management systems



quality management systems



occupational health and safety management systems



automotive management systems



information security management systems



aerospace management systems

Building your Future

Achieving product certification or assessment does not need to be a complicated process. The following steps outline the process for both TypeTest and Audit Programs.

The steps for success

1

What you need to know before you embark upon certification

Do you need certification or assessment to gain entry to your chosen market? Who are your customers, and what do they look for in the product? Where is your market? If you are unsure of the market requirements for your product, consider your customers, Government websites (eg www.fed.gov.au), industry associations and local agents.

2

Product standards or specifications

What standards or specifications are essential for your product? Which are desirable to deliver a competitive edge? In many cases, a product may be required to meet a number of standards or specifications; in others, a minimum level of assurance may be required.

Visit www.sai-global.com to obtain standards.

3

Does your product conform?

Before applying for certification, you should make an assessment of whether the product is likely to meet the standard. This may be by internal or external assessment.

NOTE: It is important to determine whether any modifications are necessary before you submit to the certification process. Making changes at this stage will speed the process and reduce the likelihood of failure and the need for repeat testing.

4

Submit an application

You will need to submit detailed information about the range of products for which you are seeking certification. For further information, refer to the Product Certification Guide to Applicants.

5

Submit your product for testing

A sampling plan will be agreed to, and your product will be tested by a recognised laboratory (normally NATA accredited or equivalent). SAI Global technical staff will assess the evidence of compliance of the design and performance of your product against the nominated Standard or specification.

6

TypeTest Program

The TypeTest program involves a one-off product review and test report assessment. It also involves the review of the product but not product performance. TypeTest certificates have a defined life, requiring full re-submission for testing at the end of the specified time or if any significant modifications are made to the product.



7

Audit Program:

a) Work to refine and update your Quality Plan

- The areas your quality plan should address include:
- product design changes
 - purchase and acquisition of components and sub-assemblies
 - process control and assignment of specialist tasks
 - inspection and test programs, including those nominated by the particular Standard or Specification
 - personnel training programs.

NOTE: For companies with an established Quality Management System, the quality plan for the particular product would normally form a small subset of the overall system



b) Prepare for the Certification Audit

Ensure that all the processes documented in your Quality Plan are in place and effectively implemented. Your factory is then ready to be audited by independent experts from SAI Global.

This Certification Audit determines whether your systems and processes will consistently manufacture product that complies with the standard.



c) Ongoing monitoring

To ensure the ongoing compliance of quality production processes, SAI Global will conduct periodic Surveillance Audits of your factory.

If there are changes to the product or the standard, additional type testing may be required.




Formalised Systems and Certification

Today, business success relies on achieving a critical balance between the competing demands of **stakeholders' requirements** and **commercial pressures**. This balancing act takes place against a backdrop of increasingly onerous legislative and regulatory requirements and growing **community expectations** that are directly affecting today's corporate decisions.

As a result, many businesses are using formalised systems to effectively manage their operations. This ensures strategic focus on long term aims such as **profitability and growth**, while competing demands such as the **management of risk, assets and reputation** are also addressed.

That's where SAI Global can help and inform you how to implement and maintain a system that matches the needs of your business, today and in the future, while **independently demonstrating compliance** to all interested parties via conformity assessment, verification, and certification of your products and management systems.

<p>SAI Global : offering standards, assurance and innovation to business globally</p>	<p>SAI Global is one of the world's leading providers of independent assurance. This experience provides the ability to assist its clients with audit services that help manage risk. With a large pool of auditors drawn from a wide range of industries and academic disciplines, SAI Global's auditors are matched with the business needs of its clients. Email product@sai-global.com for more information.</p> <p>In addition to assurance (certification) services, SAI Global is also a leader in business publishing which enables it to provide its clients with access to thousands of different national and international codes of practice (standards). Email sales@sai-global.com for more information.</p> <p>SAI Global's Professional Services staff are also well positioned to service the world's leading innovators, with many business improvement and education services ranging from introductory to advanced courses. Email training@sai-global.com for more information.</p> <p>SAI Global can bring its experience around the world to your business locally.</p>
<p>Accreditation, Recognition and Experience</p> 	<p>In order to provide the most value to its clients, SAI Global has sought to have the majority of its assurance (certification) services accredited by recognised accreditation bodies. These vary from region to region. For more information visit www.sai-global.com.</p> <p>Most importantly all of SAI Global's accreditation bodies are members of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) which is the world association of Conformity Assessment Accreditation Bodies and other interested parties. For more information visit www.iaf.nu</p> <p>SAI Global is also a member of IQNet which is a group of over 30 leading certification bodies world-wide. A combination of SAI Global's world-wide offices and SAI Global's IQNet membership provides a virtual world passport to its clients. In addition, SAI Global issued certificates are recognised by IQNet partners who upon request can issue their certificate for use in that part of the world. A great benefit for exporters or tenderers. For more information call SAI Global or visit www.iqnet-certification.com</p>

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