

# Important Changes regarding TÜV Rheinland Certificates.



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## Dear Customer,

Safety and quality have been our passion for many years. We test, inspect and certify for you and manage projects with you. Based on our business relationships going back many years, you know us as a reliable and capable partner. Therefore it is very important for us to have our customers well-informed and updated on the most recent changes related to the testing and certification environment.

Today we are pleased to inform you about important changes regarding your TÜV Rheinland OEM Certificates. These changes are necessary to comply with the requirements of our Accreditation Bodies, Authorities, Regulations and Laws. Therefore we would like to detail out the scope and practical application of this approach by answering some questions one by one:

### 1. What is an OEM Certificate, a Co Certificate and a MAIN Certificate and why are there different types of certificates?

- A MAIN Certificate is the basic certificate issued in the name of the applicant / certificate holder for a product.
- An OEM Certificate is issued on behalf of the MAIN certificate holder for the same product, but for the owner of a different brand name. The main certificate holder's name is mentioned on the OEM Certificate.
- A Co Certificate is issued on behalf of the MAIN certificate holder for the same product but for the owner of a different brand name. No reference to the main certificate holder's name was made in the Co Certificate yet.

### 2. What are the changes from July 1, 2016?

Signing a General Agreement by every certificate holder will be mandatory. OEM Certificates will be replaced by Co Certificates and it is also possible to identify the MAIN certificate holder / the manufacturer on the Co Certificates.

### 3. How are TÜV Rheinland OEM and Co Certificates handled today?

So far TÜV Rheinland issued e.g. the so called OEM Certificates and Co Certificates for products based on a MAIN Certificate. By applying for an OEM Certificate, no General Agreement needed to be signed until now, whereas the Certificate holder of a Co Certificate has to sign a General Agreement with the respective TÜV Rheinland Company already.

### 4. Why are these changes necessary now and what are the effects?

Due to the requirements of the Resolution of the European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA) 2014 (33) 31 TÜV Rheinland requires a test sample in case of an application for a Co Certificate is placed after the MAIN Certificate has been issued. The same as each accredited laboratory, also TÜV Rheinland has to compile a test report in order to evaluate and record the verification whether the applied product conforms to the original manufactured product certified under the MAIN license.

Please note, without this TÜV Rheinland is not allowed to issue a Co Certificate.

### 5. Is there any activity from our side regarding an existing OEM necessary?

No, already existing OEM Certificates remain unaffected.

TÜV Rheinland is always happy to support your ambitions for safety and quality. Our certifications and test marks gives consumers independent proof of safety testing and certified quality, providing tailored and consumer-friendly information in our online certificate database "Certipedia".

We look forward to continuing to work as your partner and impressing you with our high-quality services. We hope to have clarified your most essential questions and are available for further requests.

Please contact your local TÜV Rheinland sales representative or **hotline +49 (0)911 655 5225** for the timeliest response in case of further questions.

