

Standards Council of Canada Accredited Certification Bodys' Responses to questions on mark acceptance and factory audit policies

Certification Body	CSA	QAI	Intertek	TUV Rheinland of North America	Labtest	QPS
Acceptance of other Bodies' certification Marks	Yes – Finished products with additional documentation	Yes – Finished products as is	Yes – Components with additional documentation	Yes – Finished products as is	Yes – Components with additional documentation	Yes – Finished products as is
	Yes – Components with additional documentation	Yes – Components as is		Yes – Components as is		Yes – Components as is
Comment/Policy	<p>CSA Group will accept components that are certified by other accredited Certification Bodies provided that the component was certified to the latest applicable standard. Test Data is preferred but in cases where relevant test data or report details are incomplete or unsatisfactory, CSA can discuss other options with the client.</p> <p>CSA and UL currently have an MOU in place that is intended to provide an expedient and efficient process for clients seeking certifications of both UL and CSA. The MOU is intended to apply only to the product and component categories specified in Annex A, MOU Electrical Product Categories.</p> <p>Under the MOU, CSA and UL will accept product test and evaluation data and completed certification reports in accordance with a defined process</p>	Note in all cases the product or component needs to be evaluated to determine if it meets the requirements so specifications etc. are generally required. If an item is within the required specifications and is certified by a SCC accredited agency for the noted use no additional evaluation is typically required.	No policy statement is required. Intertek will accept approved components and products when used within their ratings or, in the case of components, when installed in accordance with their conditions of acceptability. This would exclude IECEx and ATEX listed products for use in hazardous locations as these products would be similar to components that require documentation and more to meet all of the applicable safety requirements for installation in Canada	Acceptance assumes product/component’s certification is current and was certified to an appropriate product test standard.	If the product is marked, we assume the product is in compliance with the applicable standard and under a surveillance program by the CB. For components, we will require documentation to determine the limits and approvals conducted which are noted with the certification reports and/or certificates.	QPS accepts the certification mark of any CB provided the following conditions are met: 1) The CB is accredited either by sec or by OSHA 2) The scope of accreditation of the CB in question covers the standard used to certify the product. 3) A complete tesUevaluation report is available for verification purpose. 4) The report is complete, and all tests were conducted correctly and with satisfactory results. 5) The report and certificate is not older than 5 years, unless the standard has not changed.
How Many	4 is the normal frequency however, some specific products only require 2 (Plumbing) and some high risk products may require 8.	This varies based on product type and is typically 2 or 4	Four inspections per year is required for North America. This may vary per product type for such items as personal protective equipment and others. A reduction of frequency for Canada is possible on request.	Minimum 2 per year	LabTest conducts minimum 2 factory inspections annually for low risk products. For high risk (hazardous location equipment, medical devices, etc.) products minimum of 4 annual factory inspections conducted.	For Canada: twice per year, all products. For the USA: • Haz Loc products: 4 inspections per year. • Products manufactured in certain countries in Asia: 4 inspections per year • Other products: 4 inspections per year, which may be reduced to 2 inspections based upon good track record and good quality system.
Policy on Inspection Reduction	Depending on the product, with a proven track record of no significant findings over 4 the last 4 years and Marked product was always available at time of visit the frequency may be reduced to 2. Hazardous Equipment is not eligible for a reduction at this time.	Our minimum is usually 2 per year based on a qualified i	<i>Reduction of inspection frequency is based on a number</i>	In short, the Factory must demonstrate that it continually maintains a Quality System that is effectively applied and ensures products continue to be manufactured in compliance with specified requirements. Certain products, such as those intended for hazardous locations, are not eligible for inspection frequency reductions. Inspections frequency may only be reduced to a minimum of 2 per year.	Factory inspection can be reduced to 2 per year, based on previous history. If organization has good manufacturing system in place we can reduce to 2 inspections, for low risk products only.	Reduction of inspections does not apply to haz lac products and to products manufactured in specific countries in Asia. For other products, inspection may be reduced if the following conditions are met: 11) The manufacturer has in place an effective quality system, and 2) No major non-conformances have been identified for the past 2 years of regular inspections
Policy on factory location?	Yes, available to developing countries only as defined.	Not typically	No but country requirements may differ. See above comments on reduction of inspection frequency.	no	Yes, factory located in high risk areas are inspected minimum 4 times per year. This can be high counterfeit regions.	Yes - see previous responses
Comment	At this time Factory Inspections are specific to Marked Product and not to the Quality Management System.	On a case by Case bases QAI may accept other agencies reports if they are accredited and the reports are detailed enough to make an informed decision.	Obviously there would need to be complete support from all parties but, at this point, Intertek feels the infrastructure to support this program would be too costly.	No. In accordance with the U.S. NRTL requirements, we are not permitted to accept factory inspection reports from other certification bodies in lieu of performing our own. Therefore, we maintain this same policy for factory inspections under our SCC accreditation since in most cases, we are inspecting factories for the both the U.S. and Canadian certifications at the same time.	We would consider if the CB conducting the factory inspection is willing to accept the liability of the inspection.	Accreditation criteria, including SCC, do not allow a CB (CB1) to accept inspection reports from another CB (CB2) unless: 1) CB2 has been formally assessed and qualified by CB1 to do inspections on behalf of CB1 on subcontract basis, and 2) CB2 performs inspections as per CB1 procedures, and 3) CB1 has trained staff of CB2, and 4) The two CBs have a signed formal subcontract agreement, and 5) CB1 audits CB2 at least once per year
Bill Separately?	No		No	Inspected separately but not billed separately)	No	No
Point of final assembly or Mark application	Site of application of Mark	Final Assembly	Both	Both	Site of application of Mark	Both
Reduction possible in inspection frequency?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Inspections accepted from other CBs?	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

Status: November 23, 2015

Note: The following agencies were asked to complete a survey and either declined or no response was received: Bureau de normalisation du Québec, Electrical Safety Authority Operating As ESA Field Evaluation (ESAFE), FM Approvals LLC, IAPMO Research and Testing, Inc., ICC Evaluation Service, LLC, OMNI-Test Laboratories, Inc., SGS North America, Inc., TÜV SÜD America Inc. (Product Service Division), Underwriters Laboratories of Canada Inc.