

EG Harmonization of Product Family Grouping and Acceptance of Equipment Certificates at European Level

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Problem Statement

The use of equipment certificates has been broadly adopted by EU member states and has proven a good method to ensure grid code compliance before connection.

Issues:

- Each nation has individual approach
- Manufacturers must undergo multiple testing and certification campaigns
- No general grouping criteria for similar PGMs (family definition)
- No overall testing procedure
- No general approach for acceptance of simulation models

Results in negative impact on project plausibility (costs) and causes considerable delays to connection permission

Objective

The following objectives were defined:

1. Provide a path for the creation of EU harmonized testing strategies and proof of compliance methods as well as a proposal on key criteria to meet requirements in RfG.
2. Define an approach to accept certificates at EU level for all types (A, B, C and D). This can include a set of minimum requirements on respective statements of conformity, including the option of only selective conformity and the application of component certificates.
3. Define a common product family definition and grouping criteria for an equipment certificate.
4. Provide a path for a harmonized European approach to accept validated simulation models and define their recommended scope of use to substitute equipment testing.

Deliverables

The following deliverables were defined:

- Report about existing certification schemes and other schemes on proof of compliance in member states
- Recommendation on testing scope and family grouping definition (including definition and usage of validated models)
- Recommendation on certification specification and procedure (including criteria for the acceptance of existing certifications that cover NC RfG requirements on EU countries)

Current Status

Meetings:

- - Kickoff 15/12/21 → introduction of group and initial ToR discussion and proposal of subgroups
- - Meeting 20/01/22 → Initiated a general discussion on certificate types, Completed discussion of ToR and establish sub groups (some leaders found)
- - Meeting 22/02/22 → All sub group leaders defined and continue discussion on equipment certificate definitions

Structure of meetings: monthly

Notes: sharefile is being used to store all documents created and all sub groups will be launched within the next 3 weeks

Sub groups:

- Questionary for existing EU compliance processes
- Simulation model for FRT to be used at EU level
- Harmonized approach for equipment certificate for Type A
- Harmonized approach for certification acceptance (definition of types and testing)
- Family definition

Main take aways so far:

- Questionary working group has started and information is being gathered
- The work will center on equipment certificates for units and components
- The use of selective certification could be a way forward to cover all EU members for key requirements (like FRT)