

Orrery Update February 2021

Rules on CE Marking following the end of the Brexit Transition Period

Following the end of the Brexit transition period, the conformity marking requirements for placing certain products, including many products used in space systems and applications, on markets in the UK and within the European Economic Area are changing. This Orrery describes some changes impacting UK manufacturers.

Prior to the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December 2020, certain products were required to comply with the EU's CE marking regime in order to be placed on the UK market.

Under this regime, manufacturers are required to self-declare that their products meet all the legal requirements for CE marking, in order to place them on markets within the European Economic Area (EEA). For certain high-risk products, additional third party approval is required by an EU Notified Body.

This CE marking requirement applies to a wide range of goods including electronic equipment, machinery and appliances burning gaseous fuels.

Placing goods on the UK market

From 1 January 2021, the UK is moving towards implementation of a new UK Conformity Assessed (UKCA) marking regime for placing products on the UK market, and a UKNI marking regime for products placed on the Northern Irish market.

The scope and requirements of this new UK regime are currently equivalent to the CE marking regime, so manufacturers can apply the same standards and assessments as before. Products which require third party approval will have to be assessed by a UK Approved Body instead of, or in addition to, an EU Notified body.

The CE marking regime will largely be accepted in the short term as part of a transition period, with UKCA marking being mandatory from the end of 2021.

Products assessed under this new UK regime will not be allowed to be placed on the EEA market, for which CE marking will still be required. Furthermore, non-UK manufacturers will need to identify a UK-based representative to be responsible for compliance with the regime.

Placing goods on the EEA market

For goods to be placed on the market in countries within the EEA, CE marking will still apply as before. However, goods approved by a UK Approved Body will need to be certified by an EU Notified Body as well.

UK manufacturers will need an EU-based representative to act as a contact point and to provide compliance information.



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