

30 March 2021

WELMEC Information on UK Notified Bodies after Brexit

Background

Over the past weeks, WELMEC received several questions from different stakeholders regarding the validity of certificates issued by former UK based notified bodies after Brexit.

While the question of certificates and conformity attestations of former UK notified bodies in relation to Union legislation has been answered by the European Commission, with this document WELMEC provides some clarification on the acceptance of certificates in the framework of the voluntary modular approach.

Please find below the communication of the WELMEC Executive Board on certificates and conformity attestations of former UK notified bodies.

BREXIT : Certificates and conformity attestations of former UK Notified Bodies

The United Kingdom (UK) left the European Union on 31 January 2020. On 1 February 2020 the Withdrawal Agreement came into force and on 31 December 2020, the transition period ended and the UK lost all rights and obligations of being an EU Member State and is no longer a part of the EU's Single Market and Customs Union. On that date, UK Notified Bodies lost their status as EU Notified Bodies and were removed from the NANDO database.

As a consequence, from 1 January 2021, manufacturers, when satisfying their obligations under MID article 8 or NAWID article 6, can no longer refer to certificates and can no longer refer to services and conformity attestations delivered by former UK Notified Bodies, even if these certificates or attestations date from before 1 January 2021.

The EU-type examination certificates (module B), assessment decisions (module D(1), module E, module H(1)), certificates of conformity (module F(1), module G) delivered by former UK Notified Bodies are no longer valid after 31 December 2020. Arrangements for renewal or transfer of certificates during the transition period were highlighted in the European Commissions' "Notice to stakeholders - Withdrawal of the United Kingdom and EU rules in the field of industrial products" ¹.

In the framework of the conformity assessment of non-automatic weighing and measuring instruments, WELMEC introduced a voluntary modular approach. Notified Bodies may rely on the use of evaluation certificates of and part certificates of specific sub-assemblies, issued by other Notified Bodies. For more information regarding the modular approach, see WELMEC Guide 8.8. ²

From 1 January 2021, former UK Notified Bodies can no longer issue evaluation or part certificates to be used in the framework of the WELMEC modular evaluation of non-automatic and measuring instruments.

¹ [European Commission – Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs: "Notice to stakeholders - Withdrawal of the United Kingdom and EU rules in the field of industrial products" REV2 – Brussels, 13 March 2020.](#)

² [WELMEC Guide 8.8 on the General and Administrative Aspects of the Voluntary System of Modular Evaluation of Measuring Instruments \(Version 2017\)](#)

EU Notified Bodies can, after 1 January 2021, accept evaluation certificates and part certificates issued by UK Notified Bodies issued before 31 December 2020, and after assuring full access to the supporting information that was on the basis of the sub-assembly certification. By accepting evaluation certificates, the EU Notified Body takes full responsibility for all obligations towards relying parties and EU market surveillance authorities.

The WELMEC Executive Board will request Working Group 8 to review Guide 8.8 in order to determine if it is useful and feasible to introduce end-of-validity dates on evaluation and part certificates in the near future.