



The Chinese Certification Process for Gas Detectors

The certification process for gas detection equipment is complicated in China. There are three stages of approval and all are mandatory requirements:

1) Chinese Ex Certification by a National Testing Agency

MA Certification - A mandatory requirement involving factory inspections. ATEX (Group I) certification required (or other anti-explosion approval).

Estimated duration: 3 - 6 months

China Ex - A voluntary requirement with no factory inspection, however normally Chinese customers want suppliers who have such a certificate who also hold some kind of anti-explosion approval from a foreign certification body.

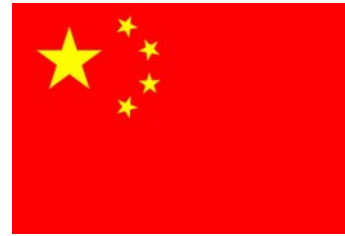
Time estimated: 2 - 3 months

2) Chinese Pattern Approval Operated by the State General Administration of the People's Republic of China for Quality Supervision and Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ)

This requirement is mainly related with metrology according to the Law of Metrology of China. The pattern approval system includes product listings for 75 categories of measuring instruments, in which the gas detection apparatus for CO₂, H₂S, CO, CO₂, NO_x, H₂, CH₄ etc. are involved.

For the pattern approval, the manufacturer must forward an application form to AQSIQ. The officer at AQSIQ will then assign a national level testing lab to conduct a type test based on the Chinese approval standard. Satisfactory testing of the equipment will then allow AQSIQ to issue a type approval certificate. No factory inspections are required for this aspect of approval work.

Estimated duration: 5 - 6 months



3) Type Approval for Fire Safety, Operated by the China Certification Center for Fire Products Ministry of Public Security (CCCF)

This is a mandatory certification system for fire protection products.

For the certificate of type approval, the manufacturer must present an application to CCCF in Beijing. CCCF will then organise an assessment team to conduct an on-site factory audit. If the audit result is satisfactory a sampling of related products will be made by the team, and these samples will be forwarded to an assigned national level testing lab to conduct a type test based on relevant Chinese approval standards.

Finally, CCCF will issue a type approval certificate based on the type test report and site audit report. The certificate is normally valid for three to five years (depend on the complexity of type test).

Please note that that both of the type approvals for fire safety and metrology are mainly based on the same standard (GB15332), which is similar to IEC 61179, however, for metrology approval there is also a series of verification regulations which concern metrological accuracy, action-time, climate (high temp, low temp, humidity), vibration and EMC testing.

Estimated Duration: 5 - 7 months

More Details

Sira has expertise with dealing with Chinese certification bodies and can offer advice on next steps, including typical prices for certification work.

Contact Sira for more details:

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