

UKEX Update

November 2022

Update on UK legislation amendment – delay in process

On the 20th of June 2022, the UK government announced changes to legislation that they propose to implement to simplify the requirements for manufacturers placing product on to the UK market. A summary of those changes is provided below.

For these changes to take effect, an amendment to the existing legislation is required. This amendment was published on the 6th September, but was subsequently withdrawn on the 10th October.

There is no information available on the reason for this withdrawal, or a date when the reissuing of the amendment will happen, but it is assumed that this will be within the next two months in order for this significant relaxation of the requirements to be in place before the existing end of transition date of the 31st December 2022.

It is expected that the UK government will have the amendment made into law before the end of the year, not doing so would create a barrier for manufacturers using existing EU NB approvals to place product on the UK market.

Proposed Changes – as proposed in June 2022

The main changes as presented by the UK government department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) will be:

To reduce re-testing costs for UKCA certification, by allowing conformity assessment activities for CE marking completed by 31 December 2022 to be used by manufacturers as the basis for UKCA marking. This will reduce the immediate costs faced by manufacturers and will be valid until the expiry of their certificate or for 5 years (31 December 2027), whichever is sooner. This will reduce duplication and costs for businesses and by extension, consumers.

To make clear there is no need to re-test existing imported stock, as these products will be considered already placed on the market in Great Britain (GB). This will prevent the costly and unnecessary re-labelling of existing stock for businesses.

To make clear that spare parts that repair, replace, or maintain goods already on the GB market can meet the same requirements that were in place at the time the original product or system was placed on the GB market. This will allow products and goods requiring spare parts to continue to be maintained.

To continue to allow businesses to affix the UKCA marking, and to include importer information for products from EEA countries (and in some cases Switzerland), on an accompanying document or label until 31 December 2025. This will allow business to adjust their product design to accommodate marking changes at a convenient and cost-effective time.

If you have any questions or would like any further information, please contact us at sales@cml.com.