CML Compliance process

It is easy to think the certification process starts when you place an order with a certification body. However, to reduce the risk of non-compliances, our clients usually discuss the technical aspects of compliance with us in advance of an application. We can help with technical advice, training and pre-compliance testing when you are at the specification and prototyping stage.

Once you are satisfied you have a compliant product, we can open a formal project to handle the testing and certification. This generally follows the following stages:

1. Quotation

We will establish the scope of the project, certification code, ambient temperature ranges and number of products required to be included in the certificate. It is best to also consider other approvals needed at this stage, so that a full test program can be established. We will also ask for detailed information on the product so that when you place an order, you can supply us with the information and samples we need to get the project started. We will supply you with a fixed price quotation that also defines pricing and timescales.

2. Evaluation

Once you have placed an order we will review the design against the appropriate standards and arrange physical tests. Any non-compliances can be established at this point and we can also advise you if any additional information is needed in your technical documentation.

3. Testing

Using our accredited laboratory, or arranging witness testing (if appropriate) at your site, we follow the highest standards of accuracy to achieve credible results. The results are reviewed and we will discuss any test failures with you. You have an opportunity to limit or adjust the compliance specification, or modify your product design and arrange re-testing.

4. Final Assessment

When all the testing is satisfactorily completed, the technical documentation describing the product is reviewed and it is confirmed that a sufficient level of detail is present to define the product for certification. An evaluation report detailing all the compliance and testing is prepared.

5. Review

The evaluation report and technical documentation is reviewed for accuracy and completeness, by someone who has not been involved in the testing or evaluation.

6. Certification decision

The evaluation report and technical documentation are submitted for certification. The details are reviewed with respect to the appropriate certification scheme and a decision on certification is made. If successful, the certificate is then issued.

7. Surveillance

The manufactured product is subject to surveillance, which may require factory audit or inspection. This confirms the manufactured product complies with the technical documentation. The factory audit may be required before a product certificate can be issued. When a factory audit has been successfully completed and all audit findings cleared, a quality approval certificate or report is issued.

8. Project Review

Upon completion, we like to take the opportunity to mutually review your project. By identifying items that were done well, could be improved or went wrong throughout the project we can decide on an action plan for moving forward. Not only does this fuel our continuous improvement program but is a valuable way for all involved to improve performance and skills.