

TYPE APPROVAL PROCESS IN RWANDA

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Content

- Laws and regulations on type approval
- Objectives
- Who should seek for type approval
- Type approval requirements
- Applicable standards
- Enforcement
- Challenges and way forward



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Laws and Regulations

- Article 42 of the Law Governing Telecommunication in Rwanda (2003). Stipulate that: *“It is forbidden to import or attempt to import, supply, (whether by sale or rent, loan or gift), connect, or allow to remain connected to a telecommunications network, or put into service any item of terminal equipment which does not comply with the technical, safety, marking and other requirements specified by the Minister in a Ministerial decree)»*. However the new law very soon will be inacted to meet convergence challenges.
- Type approval procedures and guidelines are being reviewed to meet new challenges,
- Currently the requirements are highlighted in application form



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The Objectives of Type Approval

Why do we need type approval?

- To control radio interference from radio transmitters and certain other electronic products,
- Ensure safety to end-users from dangerous equipment.
- Ensure safety of telecommunication operator's line
- Ensure compatibility and interoperability of all radio and electronic communications equipment with the Public Networks.



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Who should seek for Type Approval?

- Any registered importer, distributor or vendor
- The manufacturer
- Any individual who is bring in any radio or electronic communication equipment that is not type approved that will be connected to public network



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Type approval requirements

- The process is done prior to the importation
- The applicant should submit:
 - ✓ Application letter
 - ✓ The application form duly signed by authorized signatory
 - ✓ Technical specifications
 - ✓ Third party Test reports from accredited Labs/declaration of conformity
 - ✓ Sample (where needed)



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Applicable Standards

- ETSI,
- ITU,
- FCC,
- IEC,
- EAC



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Enforcement

- Type approval process is enforced through entry points, all ICT Equipment entering the territory should comply with type approval procedures
- A regular inspection on the imported products is envisaged when the new type approval regulations will be approved
- The process of disconnecting substandards and counterfeit mobile phones is in the process



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Way Forward

- Laws and regulations are being reviewed to meet new challenges
- The system to disconnect counterfeit and substandard mobile phones is envisaged through GSMA and operators
- A partnership with EAC member states in building up a strong mechanism to ban substandard and counterfeit products is being established through EACO (ICT regulators' organizations)



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Thank you!