



Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) Homologation Procedures A case of Uganda

By Arthur Ariiho BSci. Telecom Eng. (MUK)

Quality Assurance Officer UGANDA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (UCC) Plot 42-44, Spring Road Kampala

- Regulatory Framework
- Type Approval (TA) processes
- Equipment for TA
- Standards
- Challenges
- Addressing Challenges

Overview

Regulatory Framework

The Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) is the regulatory authority for the communication sector in Uganda.

UCC is mandated by The Uganda Communications Act 2013 (UCA 2013), section 5 to;

- Monitor, inspect, license, supervise, control and regulate communications services.
- Promote and safeguard the interests of consumers and operators as regards to quality of communications services and equipment.
- Set national standards and ensure compliance with national and international standards

Type approval regulations have been developed to expound sections of the UCA 2013. The regulations empower UCC (in relation to TA) to:

- Have exclusive control over all telecom and radio apparatus
- Authorize any person to manufacture, import, ship or sale communications apparatus.
- Inspect all communications apparatus and installations to ensure compliance to the regulations

Uganda is currently developing new type approval regulations to address new challenges. The new regulations shall provide for labeling requirements.

Cont'd

The following are the requirements for TA in Uganda.

- Formal application to UCC for TA.
- DoC from manufacturer or authorized manufacturer representative.
- Technical Construction File (TCF) detailing technical specs, components, operation mechanism, circuit diagram etc.
- Lab reports (EMC/RF/Safety) from internationally accredited labs and those recognized by UCC. The reports should be signed by an authorized representative of the Lab.
- Proof of previous TAs granted by other regulatory agencies worldwide
- Type approval application fees
- Sample of equipment if necessary or blue print of equipment

On fulfillment of the above requirements, the documents are reviewed and TA certificate issued or denied

UCC maintains an updated list of type approved equipment on its website (www.ucc.co.ug)

Current TA Process

The following equipment must be type approved for use or sale in Uganda;

 All radio and communications apparatus including (fixed and mobile terminals, RF Transceivers, UHF/VHF equipment, STBs, facsimile Transceivers)

Equipment for TA

The following standards are recognized (not necessarily acceptable) in Uganda;

- ETSI
- = IEC/ISO
- FCC

STANDARDS

- Counterfeiting of Type approved products
- Enforcement
- Testing facilities hence dependence on applicant submissions and other regulatory agencies

Challenges

- Uganda in collaboration with GSMA have worked out an IMEI DB that will help deny access to mobile terminals not approved by UCC
- Uganda is the process of enacting new type approval regulations that will provide for labeling. This will address counterfeiting as well
- Consideration of implementingTesting facilities
- Collaboration with other government agencies such as URA (revenue collection), UNBS (standards body) and the Police in enforcement of UCC mandate

Addressing Challenges

THANK YOU