



Market Access to Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia Conformity Program Transition



Starting January 1, 2018, the Saudi Standards Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) will gradually replace the current conformity program with the Saudi Product Safety Program (SALEEM). This initiative is central to the country's National Transformation Program 2020, which aims to build consumer confidence in products sold in the market and guarantee fair trade while also controlling products placed in the Saudi Market. Here's what you need to know to ensure your company's products continued market access to Saudi Arabia.

SCOPE OF SALEEM

SALEEM will develop mechanisms, procedures and comprehensive technical regulations for the import/export of goods with the goal of ensuring consumer safety by guaranteeing the absence of flaws from poor product performance or rapid product deterioration. SALEEM Technical Regulations will be similar in concept to EU Regulations and will define:

- Obligations of the Economic Operators
- Products' Essential Requirements, including Marking and Packaging
- Applicable Conformity Assessment Procedures (Modules of Conformity Assessment)
- Certification Output and the Process to Obtain It

The Saudi Product Safety Program will include more than 45 Technical Regulations for both Local and Imported Products in 4 Sectors: Construction, Chemical Products, Machinery, and Others.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

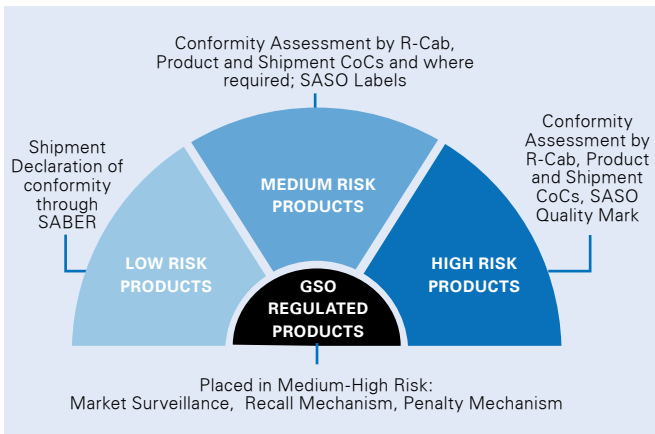
The registration process differs for regulated and unregulated products. Low-Risk Products are unregulated and do not require a Product CoC from an R-CAB. However, the Supplier is still responsible for preparing a Technical File for each product in order to be issued a Shipment Declaration of Conformity (S-DOC) through SABER.

SABER is a new web-based certification and communication System introduced by SASO. Suppliers can use the SABER System to submit product Technical files and Declaration of Conformity, and to apply to R-CABs for Product CoC and Product Shipment CoC. SABER is expected to be available for use sometime in February 2018.

For regulated products, Suppliers can use the SABER System to apply to a Registered Conformity Assessment Body (R-CAB). An R-CAB must perform the relevant Conformity Assessment Procedures (CAPs) to verify that MRPs, HRPs, and GSO Regulated Products meet the applicable technical regulations' essential requirements. Once a regulated product has been tested for flaws and certified for safety and performance by an R-CAB, a Product CoC shall be issued through SABER declaring that the product is approved for the Saudi Local Market. Suppliers must also use SABER to apply for a Product Shipment CoC by submitting a product Technical File that includes additional information on the shipment details and proof of approval from an R-CAB.



PRODUCT RISK CATEGORIES



WHY CHOOSE TÜV RHEINLAND?

TÜV Rheinland is a Registered Conformity Assessment Body (R-CAB) for the SALEEM Program and can provide the Testing, Inspection and Certification Services under SALEEM Program.

The SALEEM process was officially implemented January 1, 2018. TÜV Rheinland will continue to accept SASO Certificates (CoCs) for a period of time during the transitions. Customers are encouraged to start product registration in the SABER System before June 2018. Contact your regional TÜV Rheinland representative today to learn more about how you can prepare for these changes.

The SALEEM program further classifies products into three risk categories: Low-Risk Products (LRP), Medium-Risk Products (MRP), or High-Risk Products (HRP) when determining which Technical Regulations must be applied.

Low-Risk Products (LRP) are not regulated by SALEEM and will have free access to the market. While there will be no technical regulations issued specifically for these products, LRP will still most likely be subject to the Packaging Technical Regulation.

Medium-Risk Products (Sanitary Ware, Tiles, Bricks, Blocks, Insulation, Cladding Materials, Textiles, Low Voltage Electrical Appliances, etc), High-Risk Products (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Appliances and Accessories, Reinforced Steel Bars, Cement, Ready Mixed Concrete), and GSO Regulated Products (Children’s Toys, Low Voltage Electrical Appliances and Equipment), will be regulated by SASO Technical Regulations issued by SALEEM. In addition to these requirements, HRPs must also obtain SASO Quality Mark Authorization.

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