

## Nemko News in Brief for March 2022

Dear Reader

The news headlines in March have of course been mostly about the ongoing war in Ukraine and the many aspects and consequences of this, including people killed and injured, unprecedented flow of refugees, nuclear threats, and increasing oil & gas prices, as well as uncertainty about the trustworthiness of all provided information.

At the same time, it largely affects trade with the involved countries, also for electrical/electronic products, as mentioned in the first article below.

Other headlines have included:

- New Corona-wave in China causing lock-down for millions of people, including in parts of Shanghai. With a large proportion of the people being fully vaccinated, however, the cases of serious illness might be low.
- Dangers of climate change are mounting rapidly and threaten the ability of both nature and humanity to adapt.
- A passenger plane carrying 132 people crashed in a southern China mountain area, leaving no survivors.
- Powerful tornados hit southern states of USA killing one person and causing multiple injuries and widespread material damage.

So, not much positive global news seen this past month, unfortunately

Hopefully, you will find something of interest, whether considered positive or not, in the following articles of his newsletter.

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Best regards

[T.Sollie](#)

Editor

**P.S.** If you know of colleagues or others you think should get this monthly newsletter, please refer to [this link](#) for registration.

### Trade of electrical goods also affected by the war



The ongoing war in Ukraine with resulting sanctions on Russia and Belarus has major consequences. In addition to the colossal damages on affected humans locally, it does amongst other affect trade, both locally and globally. Trade of electrical and electronic products is by no means an exception.

Nemko has long standing cooperation with partner certification bodies in both Ukraine, Russia and Belarus, as well as with bodies in other countries in that region.

The Ukraine certification body *UkrTest* is closed at this time and cannot provide certification services.

Nemko has a backup solution with a different Ukrainian partner who will be able to provide Certificates and Declarations of Conformity with the governing Technical Regulations for electrical safety, EMC, RoHS, and eco-design (as applicable).

For the certification bodies in Russia and Belarus, it is not possible to pay any invoices and it is impossible/difficult to send test samples.

So for manufacturers/exporters to obtain [EAC certification](#) to get market access for their electrical/electronic products to the [EAEU](#)-region, Nemko can assist with this through our partner certification body in [Armenia](#).

For further information and/or for assistance with market access to various countries, please contact [Lars.Hjerpseth@nemko.com](mailto:Lars.Hjerpseth@nemko.com)

## First smart phone with TCO 9.0 certification (Based on text provided by Amy Huang)



The Swedish body [TCO Certified](#) claims to be the world-leading sustainability certification body for IT products, having comprehensive criteria designed to drive social and environmental responsibility throughout the product life cycle. Their scheme covers 11 product categories including computers, mobile devices, display products and data center products, which are independently verified for compliance, both pre- and post-certification. *TCO Certified's* criteria are upgraded every third year. The latest upgrading *TCO-9.0* was implemented in December 2021.

Nemko Shenzhen is a TCO recognized lab and provides both product testing and verification of relevant documents. During the past years, Nemko Shenzhen has tested many displays and notebooks for certification and verification to different generations of TCO criteria. For the first time, one has now tested a smart mobile phone, the *GT 2 pro series* smart phones from Chinese smart phone brand *Realme*. This turned out to be the first mobile phone to obtain *TCO 9.0* certification.

The *GT2 Pro* is *Realme's* first high-end flagship mobile phone and is claimed to be the world's first bio-based mobile phone.

To obtain *TCO 9.0* certification, the product must have unique features in terms of environmental sustainability. In addition to basic testing of safety, emission, visual ergonomics etc. and verification of hazardous substances being within the acceptable limits, it must meet requirements for various sustainability criteria, including circularity, and socially as well as environmentally responsible manufacturing.

For further information, please contact [Amy.Huang@nemko.com](mailto:Amy.Huang@nemko.com)

## Saudi Arabia news



### New Saudi WLAN regulations (Based on Yammer announcements by Vanessa Wen)

The Saudi Arabian *Communications & Information Technology Commission (CITC)* has published new Regulations for [WLAN](#). (These replace the 'Wireless local area network (WLAN/Wi-Fi)-Usage Regulations' from 2008).

The Regulations apply to the use of the WLAN Frequency Bands within the country in order to enable sharing with other non-WLAN services and applications, i.e. not to cause harmful interference with other services and applications.

Other than the WLAN Frequency Bands and Applied Technical Conditions, the Regulations officially enable the use of [WiFi 6 E](#) in Saudi Arabia over the entire [5925-7125 MHz band](#).

The published Regulations can be seen in full at this link: [PL-PM-002-E-WiFi Regulations.pdf \(citc.gov.sa\)](#)

For further information please contact [Vanessa.Wen@nemko.com](mailto:Vanessa.Wen@nemko.com)

### RoHS regulation in effect from July this year (Based on Yammer announcements by Lars Hjerpseth)

As reported in earlier issues of this newsletter, the Saudi regulation for restriction of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic products was published by the authority [SASO](#) (Saudi Standards & Metrology Organization) in July 2021, but implementation of has been postponed two times. The latest was 6 months from 5 January this year, whereby **it will be in effect from 4 July**. Different types of products will be included at different times, starting with small household appliances 4 July, large appliances 2 October and ITC equipment 31 December. Other product types will follow next year.

The regulation concerns the following six chemical substances: Lead, Mercury, Cadmium, Hexavalent chromium, Polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs), and Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs).

The limits for these are in line with the European RoHS Directive, while this Directive has since 2015 also restricted four additional substances.

Another important difference from the European RoHS Directive is that self-declaration will not be sufficient.

The manufacturer or importer must arrange for necessary testing/assessment and certification of the products by a designated Notified Body, such as Nemko.

A detailed guideline for how to comply with this new regulation is available [here](#).

For further information and assistance with necessary testing/certification for market access to Saudi Arabia and/or to other countries in the Arabic Gulf region, please contact [Lars.Hjerpseth@nemko.com](mailto:Lars.Hjerpseth@nemko.com)

## India postponed expansion of mandatory telecom certification



*(Based on Yammer announcements by Vanessa Wen)*

The Indian governmental Telecommunications Engineering Center, [TEC](#) recently announced extension of the date of implementation of the Phase IV of [MTCTE](#) (*Mandatory Testing and Certification of Telecom Equipment*), to **1 July this year**, (which already applies for Phase III products).

Basically, the necessary testing must be performed by an Indian laboratory designated by TEC, but this requirement is according to the same announcement relaxed for some product categories. So, for certain Phase IV products, test reports from foreign labs can on certain conditions be used for TEC certification until 30 June this year. (which already applies for Phase III products).

The list of products involved as well as the announced extension and amendment appear from this publication: [TEC announcement No. 52-2/2021-TC/TEC112](#).

For foreign test reports to be accepted, the laboratory must be a recognized lab of an MRA (Mutual Recognition Agreement) partner country or/and accredited by an ILAC member body, and also must be in a non-border country. The foreign test reports can be maximum two years old, while those from TEC designated India labs can be up to 5 years old.

Nemko India can offer most of the required testing for telecom products which need certification by TEC for accessing the Indian market. The TEC designation certificates for Nemko India can be seen [here](#).

For assistance please contact [India@nemko.com](mailto:India@nemko.com)

Also, roll-out of the MTCTE Phase V is under preparation, which is proposed to include another series of products, (including e.g. servers, IP terminals and 5G user equipment, while this is still under discussion, especially whether to include servers at this time)

For further information, please contact [Vanessa.Wen@nemko.com](mailto:Vanessa.Wen@nemko.com)

## The status of 5G and aviation safety



In telecommunications, 5G is the fifth-generation technology standard for broadband networks, and is successor to the 4G which today provide connectivity to most current mobile phones.

The 5G entails improved and updated communication technologies, as well as the use of new frequency bands and larger bandwidths, and it can tackle more sectors

and challenges than previous generations.

It is paving the way for a fully digitalized and connected world and will ultimately change the way we work and live. When it is gradually being implemented in various sectors, some worries about negative effects are emerging, such as in the aviation industry.

One is concerned that radio signals from newly activated wireless telecommunications systems may interfere with flight operations. The 5G services use frequencies close to those used by radio altimeters which is an important part of safety equipment in aircrafts.

Because a new combination of power levels, frequencies, proximity to flight operations, and other factors, aviation authorities, such as the [FAA](#) in USA, are imposing restrictions on flight operations using certain types of radio altimeter equipment close to antennas in 5G networks.

Radio altimeters provide highly accurate information about an aircraft's height above the ground. Data from these altimeters informs other safety equipment on the plane, including navigation instruments, terrain awareness, and collision-avoidance systems, which are especially vital for low-visibility landings.

The international aviation- and telecommunication industries, and their regulators, have been discussing and weighing these interference concerns for years, but 5G has intensified the sharing of information between the parties and the agreeing on measures to reduce the risk of disruption. The issues will not be resolved overnight. An instant measure, however, is to ensure that the altimeters are safe wherefore e.g. the FAA has now an approval scheme in operation for this.

Further information may be seen e.g. [here](#)

## Access to recording of cyber security webinar



On 22 March, Nemko hosted a successful webinar covering the technical requirements of the cyber security standard for IoT products, ETSI/EN 303 645. This standard is expected to be very relevant for the coming inclusion of cyber security into CE marking. The webinar created high interest and a lot of questions from the participants.

A recording of the webinar is available from [this link](#).

For further information, please contact [Geir.Horthe@nemko.com](mailto:Geir.Horthe@nemko.com)

## Coming events:

### **12-14 April - MD&M West Tradeshow at Anaheim Convention Center, California, USA**

For information and registration, please click [here](#) (Nemko may be visited at booth #2073)

### **19 April - EMC Mini Exhibition & Symposium at Fullerton Hotel, Fullerton, California, USA**

For information and registration, please click [here](#)

### **20-21 April - Nemko USA customer seminar in Round Rock, Texas:**

For information, please click [here](#)

**Similar seminars are planned in Toronto Canada in June and in San Diego, California in September.**

The venues and times will soon be decided and announced.

### **20-22 September - The IEEE/PSES symposium in San Diego, California, USA**

For information and registration, please click [here](#)