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Nemko News in Brief for August 2021 (Finalized)

Dear Reader,
While still being summer vacation time in many parts of the world, also August has been filled with global news head-lines concerning various disasters. Most are believed related to global climate changes, such as the heatwave and large number of wildfires in southeast Europe, especially in Greece and Turkey. Extreme fires were also in Siberia and Bolivia, and once again in California (USA). Japan experienced extreme rain and flooding, like the previous month in central Europe, especially Germany. Then earthquake + tropical storm hit Haiti. Incidentally, UN just pub-lished their new climate report to make the world more alert on the fast irreversible climate changes.

Other headlines have concerned again more Corona infected people in many countries, but less seriously ill due to vaccination and the younger groups now affected.
Also, the surprisingly quick Taliban takeover by in Afghanistan and unexpected signals of more liberal attitude, and then the chaotic evacuation of foreigners and migrators at the Kabul airport which was stopped by a bomb attack by local IS terrorists, killing many, including some US military personnel.
Both the climate changes and the situation in Afghanistan are in fact reflected amongst of the articles below.
It is hoped that you find these as well as the other topics covered to be of interest.

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Wishing you a continued nice late summer 😊
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 reg-istration.

New Russian requirements for registration of conformity declarations   *(Based on blog by Lars Hjerpseth)*

In the January issue of this newsletter it was reported that the Russian Ministry of Economic Development had again announced some changes to their Regulation N 478 (from 31 July last year).
The changes concern the procedure for registration of EAC/GOST Declarations of Conformity (DoCs) for products to be marketed in the EAEU member countries (i.e. Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan + the associat-ed/observing member countries Moldova, Uzbekistan and Cuba), and entail that foreign manufacturer must specify certain numbers when applying for EAC DoC or GOST DoC to be registered in the Russian database.
Implementation was initially stated to be 1 January this year, later put on hold until 1 July, but then extended to 1 September.
The numbers involved are Global Location Number (GLN) and Global Trade Item Number (GTIN)
which are used internationally to identify uniqueness, i.e. GLN for parties and locations and GTIN for trade items, e.g. products.

GLN is a 13-digit number which identifies the manufacturer, its registered office, the production locations etc. and can show transnational business partnerships across the globe. The use of GLN (or "*other individual identifier* ") is mandatory.

An alternative to GLN is to use coordinates of the Russian space-based satellite navigation system GLONASS, which like GPS operates with global coverage and equal precision.

With use of GLONASS coordinates, the system will automatically confirm whether the specific production site has passed the relevant Russian verification procedures.
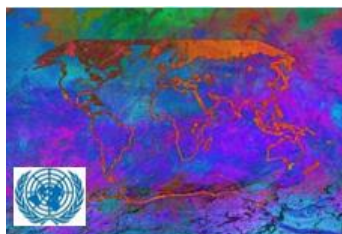
GTIN is a barcode shown on packaging distributed to the public. It is not mandatory to use but must be registered whether it is shown on the product packaging or not.

Apparently, the Russian authorities have lately hurried the implementation to prevent the influx of counterfeit goods as an EAEU-China Free Trade Agreement draws closer.

Nemko can assist customers with meeting the new requirements to gain market access for their products in Russia as well as in the other EAEU countries.

For further information and/or assistance, please contact Lars.Hjerpseth@nemko.com

UN published milestone report about the world climate *(Based on this article)*

Early August, the United Nations (UN) released a report on climate change, based upon the first major scientific assessment since 2014. It is issued by the IPCC *(Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change),* which is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change.

The report conveys a clear warning about the world being dangerously close to runaway warming, – and that humans are undoubtedly to blame.

"The alarm bells are deafening" says U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres in a statement. *"This report must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels, before they destroy our planet."*

Already, greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere are high enough to guarantee climate disruption for decades if not centuries, scientists warn in the report. That is on top of the deadly heatwaves, powerful hurricanes and other weather extremes that are happening now and are likely to become more severe.

Drawing on more than 14,000 scientific studies, the report gives the most comprehensive and detailed picture yet of how climate change is altering the natural world – and what still could be ahead.

Scientists warn that warming more than 1.5 Celsius above the preindustrial average could trigger runaway climate change with catastrophic impacts, such as heat so intense that crops fail or people die just from being outdoors. Apparently, the Earth has not been that warm since the Pliocene Epoch roughly 3 million years ago – when the first ancestors to humans were appearing and oceans were 25 meters higher than today.

The 1.1 Degree C warming already recorded appears enough to unleash disastrous weather. This year, heatwaves killed hundreds in the Pacific Northwest and smashed records around the world. Wildfires fueled by heat and drought are sweeping away entire towns in the U.S. West, releasing record emissions from Siberian forests, and driving Greeks to flee their lands by ferry.

According to the report, it is too late to prevent these particular changes, some of which are considered irreversible, and that the best the world can do is to slow them down so that countries have more time to prepare and adapt.

A vital question raised now is how many more irreversible changes can be avoided and how.

Boosting the development of renewable energy is clearly a factor in this context, and entails major challenges and opportunities, not least for us in the electro technical industry.

More information about the UN report is available e.g. here and here.

The UK postpones requirement for mandatory UKCA marking

(Based on Yammer announcement by Vinay Kerai 24 Aug.)

The UK Government recently confirmed that mandatory UKCA marking is postponed until 1 January 2023. Thereby, businesses will have an extra year to start using the UKCA-conformity marking, i.e., their 'version' of European CE-marking after Brexit. One is, however, encouraged to be ready for full implementation of the new UK regime as soon as possible.

To allow businesses time to adjust, CE-marked products in scope of this guidance that meet EU requirements (where these match UK requirements) can continue to be placed on the UK market until 1 January 2023 where EU and UK requirements remain the same. This includes products which have been assessed and accepted by a designated European Notified Body.

Apparently, the extended timeline is much due to current lack of capacity for handling the various effects of this change, not least to enable the retesting of decades worth of CE-marked items for the new UKCA specification. So, the postponement shall provide time for necessary capacity to be built and for retesting to take place.

After 1 January 2023, the UKCA marking must be used for placing safety regulated products on the UK market. In the meantime, however, manufacturers/exporter exporting to the UK must still ensure to comply with the new importer responsibilities; amongst other regarding.an authorized UK based representative and associated legal responsibilities. Guidance about these matters may be found at and via this website, and all the relevant product safety regulations can be seen here.

As reported in the March issue of this newsletter, in addition to being a long standing *'EU Notified Body'*, Nemko is already appointed *'UK Approved Body'* for certification of radio equipment.
For further information about this, please contact Vina.Kerai@nemko.com

Afghanistan implements approval requirements for radio devices *(Based on blog by Tom Tidwell)*

Although, these days, everything in Afghanistan appears to be chaotic, at least in certain technical areas, it may still be regulatory control.

The Afghanistan Telecom Regulatory Authority (ATRA) published recently a regulation with type approval procedures for radio and wireless products throughout the country. These procedures cover all equipment in for radio communications, unless otherwise noted by ATRA, and require all approved devices to bear the ATRA approval mark.
Guidelines are provided regarding the labelling requirements for imported devices.

The regulation shall ensure effective use of the frequency spectrum, avoid interference with other communications systems, and guarantee the health and safety of device users. It will also ensure compliance with both national and international standards.

So, since 1 May, all radio and wireless products being placed on the market in Afghanistan must receive type approval, including:
-Short range radio devices
-Fixed radio transmitters
-Mobile terminal equipment
-Broadcasting equipment
-Satellite transmitter equipment
-Frequency-dependent medical equipment and devices

The following three different type approval procedures apply depending on the situation:
Provisional Type Approval: ATRA can award a temporary permit that is valid for up to six months for the use of equipment in a trial, demonstration, or for research purposes on a noncommercial basis or for the testing of equipment in an accredited test laboratory in Afghanistan.

Simplified Type Approval: A simplified process to be used in cases where the device has already acquired suitable evidence from a foreign National Regulatory Authority (NRA) or Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) recognized for complying with ATRA standards.

Standard Type Approval: If there is no certificate of compliance that demonstrates a device is complying with ATRA standards, it must go through this paperwork process.

The type approval process involves testing and verification of a device to ensure its compliance with all essential requirements and applicable technical standards. If already having certification by an approved certification body, such as Nemko, the simplified type approval process may be used.

For more information or/and assistance with type approval for Afghanistan, please contact Tom.Tidwell@nemko.com

New European standards for radio equipment *(Based on Yammer announcement by Vina Kerai 11 Aug.)*

The European Commision has published a list of new European Harmonized Standards for radio/wireless equipment, and includes the following three newly introduced standards:

1. **EN 303 258 V1.1.1;** for Wireless Industrial Applications Equipment operating in the 5725 to 5875 MHz frequency range with a power limit of 400 mW. An important standard that provides a solution for the application needs of Wireless Industrial devices which previously could not meet the EN 300 440 low power limits (25 mW).

2. **EN 303 204 V3.1.1;** for Short-range Devices which operate with other short-range devices in network topologies supporting applications in the frequency range of 870-876 MHz and allows power levels up to 500 mW. The types of equipment that are within the scope, include terminal nodes, network nodes, and network access Points.
3. **EN 303 276 V1.2.1;** for Maritime Broadband Radiolink equipment operating within the bands 5852 to 5872 MHz and 5880 to 5900 MHz for ships and offshore installations engaged in coordinated activities.

Also, the following three up-issued versions of standards are cited in the new list:
-EN 302 208 V3.3.1
-EN 302 609 V2.2.1
-EN 302 066 V2.2.1

The Date of Withdrawal (DOW) for the earlier editions of these standards is 20 January 2023, after which date these editions can no longer provide '*presumption of conformity'* with the European Radio Directive (RED).

It should be noted that the UK designated standard list for Radio has not been revised yet, so there is presently some divergence in the radio standards list between the EU and the UK.

For more information, please contact Vina.Kerai@nemko.com

Coming events

Nemko USA's 2021 International Market Access Seminar, 27-29 September in Carlsbad, California.

For information and registration, please click this link.

IEC Academy courses and webinars

Information may be seen here.

GSO courses in the Arabic Gulf Region

Information about themes, places and times may be seen here