



HOW TO APPLY FOR TYPE-APPROVAL OR TYPE-ACCEPTANCE OF RADIO EQUIPMENT

What is type-approval?

Radio equipment (including radiocommunications equipment and Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment emitting radio frequency energy intentionally) shall meet minimum technical requirements prescribed by the Telecommunications Authority (TA). The technical requirements for radio equipment commonly in use in Hong Kong are prescribed normally in the form of HKTA specifications for the purposes of ensuring electrical safety, prevention of interference and public network connection. Radio equipment which has been evaluated against and meets the relevant HKTA specification may be granted a type-approval.

2. The TA has accredited Local Certification Bodies and recognized Foreign Certification Bodies (hereafter collectively referred to as “Certification Bodies (CBs)”) to provide services for type-approval of radio equipment. For further details about the equipment certification arrangement in Hong Kong, please refer to the Information Note [OFTA I 421 “Hong Kong Telecommunications Equipment Evaluation and Certification \(HKTEC\) Scheme”](#).

Is it mandatory for radio equipment to obtain type approval?

3. Under the HKTEC Scheme, radio equipment is classified under the “Voluntary Certification Scheme” (VCS) or the “Compulsory Certification Scheme” (CCS).

4. Radio equipment classified under the VCS can be used or marketed in Hong Kong without obtaining type-approval. However, it is incumbent on manufacturers, suppliers or dealers to ensure that their radio equipment meet the prescribed technical requirements. The manufacturers, suppliers or dealers may apply to a Certification Body (CB) for type-approval of radio equipment against the relevant HKTA specifications on a voluntary basis. In general, voluntary type-approval applies to

radio equipment which is exempted from licensing under the Telecommunications Ordinance. More details about the exempted radiocommunications equipment can be found in Information Note [OFTA I 402 “Technical Performances for Radiocommunications Apparatus covered by the Telecommunications \(Telecommunications Apparatus\) \(Exemption from Licensing\) Order”](#).

5. Radio equipment classified under the CCS must be granted a type-approval before it can be used or offered for sale in Hong Kong. Such equipment include high power radiocommunications apparatus, the use of which is generally subject to licensing control.

How can type approval be obtained?

6. Type-approval of radio equipment can be obtained through one of the following methods -

- (a) Based on the result of tests on samples of the radio equipment conducted or arranged to be conducted by the CB against the relevant HKTA specification;
- (b) Based on the result of tests on samples of the radio equipment against the relevant HKTA specification or equivalent and other relevant documents and information produced by a Recognized Testing/Certification Agency (RTA) (please see para. 8 below); or
- (c) Based on the result of tests on samples of the radio equipment against the relevant HKTA specification or equivalent and other relevant documents and information produced by a testing agency other than (a) and (b) above, provided that the CB has evidence that the testing agency is competent to perform the relevant test in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, such as documented evaluation performed by qualified personnel according to appropriate procedures (please see para. 8 below).

7. Classification of radio equipment under VCS and CCS can be found in the Schedule. The classification will be updated from time to time by the TA when required.

Which testing/certification agencies are recognized to conduct evaluation of radio equipment?

8. The TA recognizes testing/certification agencies meeting prescribed requirements for carrying out the evaluation against the HKTA specifications or equivalent. Applicants may appoint the Recognized Testing/Certification Agencies (RTAs) to conduct evaluation of their radio equipment. More details about RTAs can

be found in Information Note [OFTA I 411 “Recognized Testing/Certification Agency \(RTA\) for Evaluation of Telecommunications Equipment”](#). In addition, testing agencies which have been assessed by the CB as competent to perform the relevant test in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, such as documented evaluation performed by qualified personnel according to appropriate procedures, may also be acceptable.

What is the procedure of applying for type-approval?

9. The procedure consists of two stages -

A. Document evaluation

- (i) the submitted technical specification or service manual is examined to verify if the radio equipment is likely to pass the equipment evaluation in stage B; and
- (ii) the test report and other relevant documents and information produced by an RTA or a competent testing agency as specified in para. 8 above is examined to see if equipment evaluation is necessary.

B. Equipment evaluation - where necessary, equipment samples are requested to be submitted for laboratory testing against the relevant HKTA specification by the CB.

10. Normally, the manufacturers, suppliers or dealers of the radio equipment are the persons that will apply for type-approval. Please approach a CB for the detailed procedures. The lists of CBs, their contact information and scope of services are available from OFTA’s website at <http://www.ofta.gov.hk/en/tec/lcb.html> and <http://www.ofta.gov.hk/en/tec/fcb.html>.

What is type-acceptance?

11. For radio equipment without relevant HKTA specification for type-approval evaluation, a type-acceptance procedure is available. Some CBs have also been accredited by the TA to provide services for type-acceptance of radio equipment. Manufacturers, suppliers or dealers can submit the technical specifications of the equipment to a CB for consideration. Testing of equipment samples may be required. The applicant will be informed of the result of the type-acceptance evaluation.

How to find out whether a model of radio equipment has been type-approved or type-accepted?

12. For type-approved or type-accepted radio equipment, manufacturers, suppliers or dealers can affix on a voluntary basis a label prescribed by the TA to the equipment or to the packing materials. Although labelling is voluntary, manufacturers, suppliers and dealers are encouraged to use labels prescribed by the TA for consumer guidance. More details about the labelling arrangement can be found in the Standardisation Guide [HKTA 3211 “Standardisation Guide for Labelling of Telecommunications Equipment”](#) issued by the TA.

13. In addition, the list of all type-approved or type-accepted radio equipment can be found from OFTA’s website at <http://app1.ofta.gov.hk/apps/cte/content/listEquip.asp?lang=E>. With information on the type of a radio equipment, its brand name and model number, users may check against the list whether that radio equipment has been type-approved or type-accepted.

Can a type-approved or type-accepted radio equipment be modified?

14. Modification to type-approved or type-accepted radio equipment requires prior approval from the issuer of type-approval or type-acceptance, i.e. CB or the TA. Supporting documents should be submitted to show that the radio equipment to be modified continues to comply with the required technical performance. However, cosmetic change (e.g. change in colour) is not considered as a “modification”.

How to obtain HKTA specifications and information notes?

15. HKTA specifications and information notes can be obtained through one of the following methods -

- (a) OFTA’s Internet Home Page. The Home Page address is <http://www.ofta.gov.hk>;
- (b) Hard copies will be available upon written request to -

Senior Telecommunications Engineer,
Standards Section,
Office of the Telecommunications Authority,
29/F Wu Chung House,
213 Queen’s Road East, Wanchai,
Hong Kong.

How to obtain additional information?

16. Additional information may be obtained from -

Senior Telecommunications Engineer,
Standards Section,
Office of the Telecommunications Authority,
29/F Wu Chung House,
213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai,
Hong Kong.

Tel No. : +852 2961 6388
Fax No. : +852 2838 5004
Email : standards@ofta.gov.hk

Office of the Telecommunications Authority
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Schedule : Classification of Equipment Type

Equipment Type	Relevant HKTA Specification	Classification
SAR certification for type approved mobile equipment for use in the public mobile radiotelephone service	HKTA 2001	VCS
Mobile Equipment for use in the public mobile radiotelephone service including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSM, PCS and GSM/PCS dual-mode • 3G mobile CDMA Direct Spread (UTRA FDD) • 3G mobile cdma2000 Spread Spectrum • LTE (E-UTRA FDD) 	HKTA 1033 HKTA 1048 HKTA 1054 HKTA 1057	
TV antenna amplifier	HKTA 1019	
Radio equipment exempted from licensing	HKTA 1035	
Short Range Devices operating in the 433 MHz band	HKTA 1061	
Model control and radio equipment operating in the 27 MHz band	HKTA 1041	
Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • operating in the 865 – 868 MHz and / or 920 – 925 MHz Bands 	HKTA 1049	
Cordless telecommunications apparatus (CTA) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.7/47 MHz cordless telephone • 864.1/868 MHz cordless telephone • 46/49 MHz cordless telephone • PHS • DECT • Bluetooth • 2.4 GHz cordless telephone • 5.8 GHz cordless telephone • 254/380 MHz cordless telephone • 2.4 GHz wireless LAN equipment • 5 GHz wireless LAN equipment 	HKTA 1006 HKTA 1015 HKTA 1026 HKTA 1027 HKTA 1034 HKTA 1039 HKTA 1039 HKTA 1039 HKTA 1045 HKTA 1039 HKTA 1039	
409 MHz short-range portable radio	HKTA 1044	
Medical implant communication system	HKTA 1052	
Public paging receiver	HKTA 1004	
Equipment for use in Maritime GMDSS radio services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiotelephone equipment operating on the frequency 2182 kHz • Radiotelephone distress frequency watch receiver • MF and HF single sideband radiotelephone transmitters and receivers • Radiotelephone alarm signal generating devices • Narrowband direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships (NAVTEX) • HF narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships • 406 MHz emergency position-indicating radio beacon (EPIRB) • Ship earth stations capable of 2-way communications • 1.6 GHz float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) operating through the geostationary INMARSAT satellite system • Float-free VHF emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) 	HKTA 1218 HKTA 1223 HKTA 1224 HKTA 1225 HKTA 1257 HKTA 1258 HKTA 1259 HKTA 1260 HKTA 1261 HKTA 1262	CCS

Equipment Type	Relevant HKTA Specification	Classification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VHF radio installations capable of voice communications and digital selective calling Shipborne MF radio installations capable of voice communications and digital selective calling Shipborne MF/HF radio installations capable of voice communications, narrow-band direct-printing and digital selective calling Shipborne integrated radiocommunications system (IRCS) Survival craft two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus Marine radar transponder (SART) Inmarsat enhanced group call (EGC) equipment and Inmarsat Standard-C ship earth station for direct-printing 	<p>HKTA 1263</p> <p>HKTA 1264</p> <p>HKTA 1265</p> <p>HKTA 1266</p> <p>HKTA 1277</p> <p>HKTA 1281</p> <p>HKTA 1282</p>	CCS
Wireless microphone equipment not exempted from licensing	HKTA 1008	
Citizen Band (CB) radio equipment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CB radio transceiver for use on-board craft and vessels CB radio transceiver operating in the 27 MHz band 	<p>HKTA 1022</p> <p>HKTA 1050</p>	
Land Mobile Radio Equipment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angle modulated VHF and UHF land mobile radio equipment Public paging transmitter Angle modulated VHF and UHF land mobile radio transceiver intended primarily for data application Angle modulated 800 MHz trunked radio equipment TETRA trunked radio equipment Base station and repeater equipment for use in the public mobile radiotelephone service including GSM, PCS, GSM/PCS dual-mode, CDMA direct spread (UTRA FDD), cdma2000 spread spectrum and LTE (evolved UTRA FDD) 	<p>HKTA 1002</p> <p>HKTA 1004</p> <p>HKTA 1010</p> <p>HKTA 1016</p> <p>HKTA 1047</p> <p>HKTA 1020</p> <p>HKTA 1043</p> <p>HKTA 1053</p> <p>HKTA 1056</p>	
Fixed Link Equipment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1429-1530 MHz fixed link transceiver 38 GHz digital fixed link equipment 23 GHz digital fixed link equipment 5 GHz wireless access equipment 	<p>HKTA 1003</p> <p>HKTA 1036</p> <p>HKTA 1037</p> <p>HKTA 1042</p>	
Other equipment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSB equipment for voluntary fitting in small craft in the 1.605-27.5 MHz frequency band Angle modulated VHF maritime for voluntary fitting in small craft Industrial, scientific & medical (ISM) equipment 	<p>HKTA 1001</p> <p>HKTA 1005</p> <p>HKTA 1007</p>	

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