

The Legal Inspection Requirements for Self-ballasted Fluorescent Lamps

By the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), Ministry of Economic Affairs

Introduction:

Self-ballasted fluorescent lamps (hereinafter "the commodities") have been subject to mandatory inspection under the Commodity Inspection Act by the Bureau of Standards Metrology and Inspection (BSMI) since 1 March 2001.

In order to encourage industries to reduce the use of chemical substances in electric products and, more importantly, to raise consumers' concerns on effective utilization of resources to reduce the environmental burden, the BSMI proposes that the manufactures or importers shall follow the requirements stipulated in Section 5 "Marking of presence" of CNS 15663 and clearly mark "the presence conditions of the restricted substance(s)" on the body, packages, stickers, or the instruction books of the commodities. Those who utilize website as a means to announce "the presence conditions of the restricted substance(s)" of the commodities shall also clearly mark the website address on the body, packages, stickers, or the instruction books of the commodities.

In addition, the BSMI intends to revise the Description of Goods of the commodities and adopt the revised standards CNS 14125 and CNS 14115, which were promulgated on 10 June 2014 and 4 March 2009 respectively.

The conformity assessment procedures remain the same, i.e. Registration of Product Certification (RPC) or Type Approval Batch Inspection (TABI).

Proposed date of implementation:

1 January 2018

Table of the commodities (HS/CCCN codes) covered and their applicable inspection standards:

Description of Goods	Inspection Standards	C.C.C. Code (the first 6 digits are the same as HS Code)(for reference)	Conformity Assessment Procedures
Self-ballasted fluorescent lamps	CNS 14125 (2014-06) excluding the sections "Low Temperature Starting Time" & "UV Radiation" CNS 14115 (2009-03) CNS 15663 (2013-07) Section 5 "Marking of presence"	8539.31.00.00.7B	RPC Scheme (Modules II+III) or TABI Scheme

The two kinds of conformity assessment procedures are as follows:

1. Registration of Product Certification (RPC) Scheme (Modules II+III)

Under this II+III combination of modules used in this scheme, domestic manufacturers or importers must have their products type-tested in advance (Module II) by the BSMI or the BSMI-recognized testing laboratories before applying for registration of their products. Manufacturers or importers will also be required to ensure by declaration (Module III, conformity-to-type declaration) that all products whether made at their manufacturing facilities or imported at the port of entry are in conformity with the prototypes submitted for type-test at Module II stage.

After being certified and registered by the BSMI, products will be allowed to use the Commodity Inspection Mark with the letter 'R' and the identification number given by the BSMI. Furthermore, these products can clear customs directly without any further inspection if not being sampled by RPC border check procedures. The application fee and annual fee for RPC are both NT\$5,000 (about US\$170) for each certification, and the RPC certification is valid for 3 years. If there are any serial products, an extra NT\$3,000 (about US\$102) of application fee will be charged for every application in each certification.

The fees for type testing vary by products and depend on the fee policies of the testing laboratories.

2. Type-approved Batch Inspection (TABI) Scheme

Under this scheme, manufacturers or importers shall have their products type-tested by the BSMI or the BSMI-recognized testing laboratories, and then file an application for Type Approval to the BSMI in Taipei or its local branches, depending on where the factory or the shipment is located.

After manufacturers or importers have obtained a type-approval certificate, they are still required to file an application for batch inspection to the BSMI each time before their products are released from the production premises or arrived at the port of entry. The BSMI will then review the application and the related documents while additional samples may be required for further testing if it is deemed necessary. Products will be allowed to use the Commodity Inspection Mark with the letter 'T' and the identification number given by the BSMI after they have passed the inspection. The application fee for a Type Approval is NT\$3,500, and a Type Approval certificate is valid for 3 years.

The fees for type testing vary by products and depend on the fee policies of the testing laboratories.

Further information on the two schemes can also be found on the BSMI web site:

<http://www.bsmi.gov.tw/wSite/ct?xItem=8673&ctNode=811&mp=2>

Related requirements:

1. The revised inspection standards and requirements of the commodities listed above will come into force on the date of announcement. The original inspection requirements will be valid till 31 December 2017. The applicable inspection schemes, conformity assessment modules of RPC and the duration of certificates will remain unchanged.
2. Applications of the Certificate:
 - (1) Replacement:

Before 31 December 2017, the certificate holders shall prepare documents related to the location of the marking of presence, samples of the marking of presence (see Table 1 and Table 2), and the "Declaration of the Presence Condition of the Restricted Substances Marking" to apply for replacing the certificate(s) from the BSMI or its branches. Otherwise, certificate(s) will be rescinded. After replacement of certificate, the expiry date of the replaced certificate is the same as that of the original certificate.
 - (2) New application or extension:

From the date of publication, applicants shall prepare Type-Test report in accordance with the revised or the original inspection standards, documents related to the location of the marking of presence, sample of the marking of presence (see Table 1 and Table 2), and the "Declaration of the Presence Condition of the Restricted Substances Marking" to apply for certificate(s). The validity period of a new certificate will be 3 years from the date of issuance while an extended one lasts 3 years since the next day of the previous expiration date. If applicants apply for certificate(s) in accordance with the revised or the original inspection standards (without Section 5 "Marking of presence" of CNS 15663), the expiry date of the certificate will be only valid till 31 December 2017. From 1 January 2018, applicants shall file a new application or extension only in accordance with the revised inspection standards.
3. The certificate holders of the commodities shall follow the content stipulated in Section 5 "Marking of presence" of CNS 15663 to clearly mark "the presence condition of the restricted substances" on the body, packages, stickers, or the instruction books of the commodities. Those who utilize website as a means to announce "the presence condition of the restricted substances" of the commodities shall also clearly mark the website address on the body, packages, stickers, or the instruction books of the

commodities. The requirements of Section 5.3 of CNS 15663 are not applicable to the positions of the markings.

4. The Commodity Inspection Mark:

- (1) The Commodity Inspection Mark shall be printed by the certificate holders. The identification number of the Commodity Inspection Mark consists of “A Roman Letter (R or T)”, “Designated Code (5 digits)” and “the presence condition of the restricted substances” (e.g., RoHS or RoHS(XX,XX)).
- (2) The identification number shall be placed below or right next to the graphic symbol and “the presence condition of the restricted substances” shall be indicated in the second row.
- (3) The size of the Mark can be applied proportionally on a prominent location of the commodities. However, the Mark shall be displayed clearly and use materials that are not easily altered. The content shall be in a clearly identifiable and indelible form affixed permanently to the commodity.
- (4) For RPC scheme, the examples of the Commodity Inspection Mark are listed below:



- (5) For TABI scheme, the examples of the Commodity Inspection Mark are listed below:



- (6) “RoHS” indicates “the content of restricted substance(s), other than exemptions stated in CNS 15663, does not exceed the reference percentage value of presence condition.

“RoHS(XX,XX)” indicates the content of restricted substance(s) (element XX, element XX, ...), other than exemptions stated in CNS 15663, exceeds the reference percentage value of presence condition.

Restricted substances: indicates Pb, Cd, Hg, Cr⁺⁶, PBB, and PBDE.

Examples:

- RoHS(Pb): indicates that the percentage content of Pb in certain parts of the commodity exceeds the reference percentage value specified in Annex A to CNS 15663.
 - RoHS(Cd, Cr⁺⁶, PBB): indicates that the percentage content of Cd, Cr⁺⁶, and PBB in certain parts of the commodity exceeds the respective reference percentage value specified in Annex A to CNS 15663.
5. The C.C.C. Code listed in the table is used for reference only. The commodity listed in the table shall still complete the inspection procedures before entering into the market even though their C.C.C. Code is identified differently by the Customs Administration, Ministry of Finance or Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs.
 6. The inspection standards of the products listed in the table shall be the version published in this announcement. If any updated version is available, the BSMI shall publish the implementation date of the updated version in further announcement.

Table 1. Example of markings for the presence condition of the restricted substances exceeding the reference percentage value

Equipment name: Energy-saving light bulbs, Model: XXX(*)						
Unit	Restricted substances and its chemical symbols					
	Lead (Pb)	Mercury (Hg)	Cadmium (Cd)	Hexavalent chromium (Cr ⁺⁶)	Polybrominated biphenyls (PBB)	Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE)
Cap	○	○	○	○	○	○
Tube	○	○	○	○	○	○
Filler	○	-	○	○	○	○
PCB	Exceeding 0.1 wt %	○	○	○	○	○
<p>Note 1: "Exceeding 0.1 wt %" and "exceeding 0.01 wt %" indicate that the percentage content of the restricted substance exceeds the reference percentage value.</p> <p>Note 2: "○" indicates that the percentage content of the restricted substance does not exceed the reference percentage value.</p> <p>Note 3: The "-" indicates that the restricted substance is exempted.</p>						

Table 2. Example of markings for the content of restricted substances other than exemptions not exceeding the reference percentage value

Equipment name: Energy-saving light bulbs, Model: YYY(*)						
Unit	Restricted substances and its chemical symbols					
	Lead (Pb)	Mercury (Hg)	Cadmium (Cd)	Hexavalent chromium (Cr ⁺⁶)	Polybrominated biphenyls (PBB)	Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE)
Cap	○	○	○	○	○	○
Tube	○	○	○	○	○	○
Filler	○	-	○	○	○	○
PCB	○	○	○	○	○	○
<p>Note 1: "○" indicates that the percentage content of restricted substance does not exceed the reference percentage value.</p> <p>Note 2: The "-" indicates that the restricted substance is exempted.</p>						

(*)The "name and type" can be omitted if the position of the "markings for the presence condition" clearly identifies the corresponding commodity. Multiple types could be shown together if "the markings for the presence condition" are applicable.