

Legal Inspection Requirements for Drones (less than 2 kilograms in weight)

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

Introduction:

Nowadays, drones are frequently used for multiple purposes, such as, photography and light shows. In order to enhance consumer safety, the BSMI will add drones (less than 2 kilograms in weight) into the scope of legal inspection. Two alternative conformity assessment procedures are made available for the choice of applicants, i.e. Registration of Product Certification (RPC) or Type-Approved Batch Inspection (TABI).

Proposed date of implementation: 1 July 2024

Scope of covered products:

Description of Goods	Inspection Standards (proposed revisions underlined)	C.C.C. Code (the first 6 digits are the same as HS Code)(For reference)	Conformity Assessment Procedures
Drones (less than 2 kilograms in weight that are equipped with cameras, positioning and navigation systems or connection ports)	1、CNS 15598-1: 2020 2、CNS 15936: 2016 3、CNS 16197: 2023 4、CNS 14674-2: 2023 5、For those equipped with positioning and navigation systems or connection ports: related requirements for geographical information in the “Regulations of Drone” by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications	8806.21.00.00-5 8806.22.00.10-2 8806.91.00.00-0 8806.92.00.10-7	RPC Scheme (Modules II+III) or TABI Scheme

Description of the two kinds of conformity assessment procedures

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

Under this scheme, domestic manufacturers or importers must have their products type-tested in advance (Module II) by the BSMI or BSMI-designated 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 made at their manufacturing facilities or imported are in conformity with the prototypes submitted for type-test at Module II stage.

2. Type-Approved Batch Inspection (TABI) Scheme

Under this procedure, manufacturers or importers shall have their products type-tested by the BSMI or BSMI-designated testing laboratories, and file an application for Type Approval to the BSMI or its branches.

After manufacturers or importers obtain a Type Approval certificate, they are required to file an application for batch inspection to the BSMI each time before their products are released from the production premises or arrive 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.

After the products have passed the inspection, they will be allowed to use the Commodity Inspection Mark with the letter ‘T’ and the identification number given by the BSMI. The application fee for the Type Approval is NT\$3,500, and a Type Approval certificate is valid for three 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 website:

<https://www.bsmi.gov.tw/wSite/lp?ctNode=9768&CtUnit=4132&BaseDSD=7&mp=2>

Locations to apply for Registration of Product Certification:

The BSMI or its branches.

Locations to apply for Batch Inspection:

1. Domestic manufacturers or consigned manufacturers: submit inspections to the BSMI or the branches of the BSMI according to the jurisdiction of the place of production. If necessary, the manufacturers can apply for cross-jurisdictional inspections.
2. Importers or entrusted importers: report to the BSMI or the branches of the BSMI for inspection according to the jurisdiction of the port where the imported goods arrive. If necessary, the manufacturers can apply for cross-jurisdictional inspections.

Time required for Registration of Product Certification:

14 working days. (This period does not include the time for corrective actions by the applicant due to deficiencies in the documents or samples. Extra 7 working days may be required if additional tests are required.)

Related requirements:

1. The inspection for the listed commodity, no matter imported and domestically produced, will begin from 1 July 2024. The import regulation code is C02. From the announcement date, the BSMI can accept applications for Type Approval Batch Inspection and Registration of Product Certification for the listed commodity.
2. Those who apply for a certificate to the BSMI from the date of announcement shall provide the type test report that meets the inspection standards. The certificate shall be issued after the examination by the BSMI. The validity period of the certificate shall be three years from the date of issuance. (If the issuance date is before 30 June 2024, the date will be counted from 1 July 2024)
3. The technical documents and their attachments required for type testing shall comply with the requirements specified in the "Directions Governing Type Approval of Electrical and Electronic Commodities."
4. Type testing should be done at the BSMI designated testing laboratories which possess all the inspection capabilities on the standards listed in the above table.
5. For the listed commodity that has certificates issued by BSMI, the provisions of the "Regulations Governing the Use of Commodity Inspection Mark" shall be followed. From the date of obtaining the certificate of Registration of Product Certification, the commodity inspection mark can be printed on a prominent place of the commodity according to the regulations.
6. The definition of drones are unmanned aerial vehicles that are operated by way of signal link through remote control device or operated by autopilot or other unmanned aircrafts announced by the Civil Aeronautics Administration, Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC). Other definitions are as below:
 - (1) Remote control equipment: means the equipment that is part of the drone system used for controlling the drone.
 - (2) Signal links: mean the data interface between the drone and the remote control system used for the purpose of controlling the flight of drone.
 - (3) Maximum take off weight: means the designed weight of a drone comprising of its frame, fuel, battery, loaded equipment and payload.
7. The C.C.C. Codes listed in the table are used for reference only. The commodity shall still comply with the requirements before entering into the market, even though its C.C.C. Code is identified differently by the Customs Administration, Ministry of Finance or Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs.

8. The inspection standards of the commodities listed in the table shall be the version published in this announcement. When there is an updated version available, the BSMI will publish the implementation date of the updated version in further announcements.
9. If the listed commodity falls within the jurisdiction of the MOTC, drones shall conform to MOTC's related regulations, including "Civil Aviation Act" and "Regulations of Drone."
10. For commodities with combined features that are subject to other mandatory inspection requirements, such as toys shall comply with the respective inspection standards. If it is accompanied by accessories that are subject to other mandatory requirements (such as Secondary Lithium Batteries, Chargers for Lithium Batteries, Power Supplies etc.), the accessories shall meet the requirements of the relevant inspection standards.