



IECEx conformity mark licensing system



It is commonly stated that “a picture is worth a thousand words”. Within the world of conformity assessment we also hear the statement that a “test report is worth more than a thousand opinions”. Obviously, there is value in a picture or perhaps a logo, a symbol or a mark, confirming that a product has been tested to, and complies with, an international standard for safety.

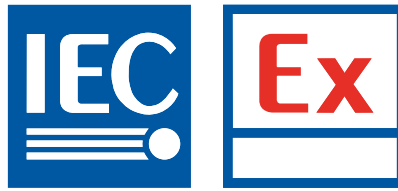
Recognition and trust

In an increasingly busy modern world of global markets, we see the daily reliance on logos and symbols as pictures that engender recognition and trust – think of the “intel inside” logo as one example of the increasing and already widespread use of marks on products, packaging and other material to demonstrate conformity with specifications, standards or simply customer expectations of safety and/or performance.

The IECEx conformity mark

In response to the growing industry support and use of the IECEx System and the consequent demand for an international mark, the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) established the IECEx conformity mark licensing system. The IECEx conformity mark is intended to provide greater assurance, and ultimately enhanced confidence, for governments, safety regulators, customers, industry and end users operating in explosive (Ex) atmospheres. Ex environments are present in many more locations that most people realize.

The IECEx conformity mark provides immediate evidence that products bearing it are covered by an IECEx certificate of conformity. The IECEx conformity mark takes the basic form shown here:



Manufacturers that hold IECEx certificates of conformity for products AND that have been independently assessed against the additional requirements of the IECEx conformity mark licensing system are entitled to apply a unique mark logo that includes a mark license number under the Ex box. More information on the IECEx conformity mark licensing system can be found in IECEx 04, *IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx System) – IECEx conformity mark licensing system - Regulations*.

Application of the IECEx conformity mark

The mark can be applied to products covered by the many IECEx certificates linked to their mark license. This mark license is issued to a manufacturer by an accepted IECEx certification body (ExCB) that has entered into a mark license agreement with the IEC.

IECEx certificates of conformity:

- attest that the specified products or equipment conform to all relevant requirements of the IEC, ISO or ISO/IEC International Standards specified on the certificates. These standards define the world's most respected and strictest requirements for equipment supplied to and operated in explosive atmospheres
- demonstrate that the marked products comply with the requirements of the relevant standard(s) without any national differences and/or essential differences in requirements (EDRs)
- confirm that the manufacturer is operating a dedicated quality management system, meeting the specific IECEx requirements

- attest that the manufacturer is under ongoing surveillance by an internationally assessed and recognized ExCB

The IECEx conformity mark licensing system is available to manufacturers that hold valid IECEx certificates of conformity to provide an instant visual indication that the Ex product(s) is/are covered by an IECEx certificate of conformity. Many forward-thinking and proactive manufacturers around the world have already elected to apply an IECEx conformity mark to some or even all of the Ex product range, thereby assisting their customers, inspectors and regulators with this instant visual indication of compliance with international safety standards.

Display of the IECEx conformity mark

In accordance with the IECEx rules, manufacturers holding an IECEx conformity mark license can display this IECEx conformity mark:

- on their IECEx certified products covered by an IECEx conformity mark license
- on the packaging of their IECEx certified products
- on promotional material about their IECEx certified products
- on websites and other digital media about their IECEx certified products

How to obtain the IECEx conformity mark

If, as a manufacturer, you see value in applying the IECEx conformity mark to your product(s), you are encouraged to discuss the next steps with your choice of ExCBs listed on the IECEx website. A prior review of guide IECEx 04A will assist your preparation for this discussion.



List of IECEx conformity mark licenses

If you are a regulator, designer, installer or user of Ex equipment, you may be interested in viewing the offerings from manufacturers that have taken the extra step in providing certified equipment to meet your needs. All IECEx conformity mark licenses and details of the associated IECEx certificates of conformity are searchable and freely available for view and for downloading on the IECEx website.



Information about IECEx



IECEx conformity mark licensing system – Approved ExCBs



IECEx certificates/reports



IECEx 04, *IECEx conformity mark licensing system - Regulations*



IECEx 04A, *Guidance for making applications for and use of IECEx conformity mark*



IEC System for Certification
to Standards Relating to
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