

# Market access to the UAE for Personal Protective Equipment

**ESMA certification (ECAS and EQM)**



# About ESMA certification

The Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA) has released new guidelines and approved standards for the UAE Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Regulation. All PPE manufacturers, importers and traders distributing products within the UAE must now comply with this regulation.

BSI has been designated notified body status for ESMA for provision of ECAS and EQM certification. This means we are ready to work with organizations wishing to place PPE on the market in the UAE to help ensure that your products are compliant.

With over 50 years' experience in certifying PPE and a global footprint, BSI is ideally placed to support you with your application.



## Your routes to certification

ESMA certification is based on the UAE Cabinet Decision No. 34 of 2016 – UAE PPE Regulation. There are two possible certification routes. They are:

<b>Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS)</b> Self-declaration for category I PPE Mandatory for category II PPE	<b>Emirates Quality Mark (EQM)</b> Mandatory for category III PPE Optional for category II PPE
Certificate validity is for one year.	Certificate validity is for three years.
No factory assessment required.	Factory assessment is required. Note, we can combine these assessments with existing Kitemark, PPE Regulation Module D, ISO 9001 or ISO 13485 assessments.
There is a limit to the number of models that can be listed on one certificate.	There is no limit to the number of models listed on a certificate.
Supporting test reports may not be more than five years old.	If a product has not been changed, there is no limit to the age of a supporting test report.

To comply with the requirements of ESMA, EQM assessments may need to be carried out at your manufacturing locations wherever they may be located globally.

Specific PPE products will also need to be tested as part of an ECAS application.

With a worldwide network of assessors and accredited PPE testing laboratories it makes sense to work with BSI for ESMA certification for PPE. What's more as we are already a Certification Body for CE marking and Kitemark this can also be used to achieve UAE ESMA certification.

# PPE risk categories

Your ESMA certification route will depend of the category of PPE you are placing on the market. See below for an overview of categories of PPE:



**Category one** includes exclusively the following minimal risks:

- Superficial mechanical injury
- Contact with cleaning materials of weak action or prolonged contact with water
- Contact with hot surfaces not exceeding 50 °C
- Damage to the eyes due to exposure to sunlight (other than during observation of the sun)
- Atmospheric conditions that are not of an extreme nature.



**Category two** includes risks other than those listed in Categories one and three

- Superficial mechanical injury
- Contact with cleaning materials of weak action or prolonged contact with water
- Contact with hot surfaces not exceeding 50 °C
- Damage to the eyes due to exposure to sunlight (other than during observation of the sun)
- Atmospheric conditions that are not of an extreme nature



**Category three** includes exclusively the risks that may cause very serious consequences such as death or irreversible damage to health relating to the following:

- Substances and mixtures which are hazardous to health
- Atmospheres with oxygen deficiency
- Harmful biological agents
- Ionising radiation
- High-temperature environments the effects of which are comparable to those of an air temperature of at least 100 °C
- Low-temperature environments the effects of which are comparable to those of an air temperature of – 50 °C or less
- Falling from a height
- Electric shock and live working
- Drowning
- Cuts by hand-held chainsaws
- High-pressure jets
- Bullet wounds or knife stabs
- Harmful noise

## The ESMA certification journey

To achieve ESMA certification follow these seven steps

### Formal application to ESMA/BSI

This is a two-stage process. Applications can be initially sent to [ESMA@bsigroup.com](mailto:ESMA@bsigroup.com)  
A formal application must also be made at the same time to the ESMA on-line portal at [eservices.esma.gov.ae](http://eservices.esma.gov.ae)

The information submitted at application stage for either the ECAS or EQM route will then be reviewed by BSI.

We will issue a BSI quotation for the certification service you have selected (either ECAS or EQM).

When our quotation is accepted, we will start work to complete the certification process for ESMA. (This could include testing, reviewing of test results and in some instances factory visits).

Once the documentation to support this has been reviewed, is complete and satisfactory, ESMA certification will be granted and certificates will be issued by BSI.

The ESMA database will be updated to list your certified product(s)

For EQM an on-going surveillance cycle will start to ensure quality standards remain. For ECAS there will be an annual renewal process for certification.

# Why BSI?

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The BSI Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) team have a combined experience of over 100 years working in the PPE industry, from manufacturing to product testing and certification. We lead the way in certification of respiratory, head, eye and face protection, hearing protection, suits, hand and footwear.

All our experts are passionate about ensuring products have been tested to the highest level, so that they will perform as expected and protect people, property and the environment, and will provide the protection they claim to achieve.

Our unique offering of certification and market access solutions for PPE including, CE marking, Benchmark certification, ESMA certification and BSI Kitemark certification enables manufacturers to export and sell their products around the world.



## Our products and services

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### Knowledge

The core of our business centres on the knowledge that we create and impart to our clients.

In the standards arena we continue to build our reputation as an expert body, bringing together experts from industry to shape standards at local, regional and international levels.

In fact, BSI originally created eight of the world's top 10 management system standards.

### Assurance

Independent assessment of the conformity of a process or product to a particular standard ensures that our clients perform to a high level of excellence. We train our clients in world-class implementation and auditing techniques to ensure they maximize the benefits of standards.

### Compliance

To experience real, long-term benefits, our clients need to ensure ongoing compliance to a regulation, market need or standard so that it becomes an embedded habit. We provide a range of services and differentiated management tools which help facilitate this process.

Find out more

Call: +44 345 080 9000

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visit [bsigroup.com](https://www.bsigroup.com)

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